Mission

Respectful of each person’s self-worth, the St. Thomas Aquinas High School community, seeks to develop each student’s God-given talents in a safe and caring atmosphere of sharing and challenge.

School Motto

Honor the past, embrace the present, envision the future.

Vision Statement

St. Thomas Aquinas High School is a four-year, college preparatory school, which educates young men and women according to the traditions of the Catholic faith. The school seeks to develop each student’s God-given talents in a safe and caring atmosphere of sharing and challenge. Through a comprehensive program of Catholic teachings, quality education and personal development, St. Thomas offers to its students religious experiences, academic challenges, innovative approaches, athletic programs, and social and cultural opportunities, and service to others.

The entire program focuses on the individual student, made in the image and likeness of God, who receives attention, affirmation, and challenge.

Statement of Beliefs

We believe that each person in our school community, having been created in the image and likeness of God, has dignity and importance.

We believe that the entire school community shares in the responsibility to help all students develop their God-given talents to the best of their ability.

We believe that the entire school community shares the responsibility of creating a safe atmosphere of caring, sharing, and challenge.

We believe that students learn most effectively through diversified programs of educational opportunities, religious experiences, athletic programs, social and cultural opportunities, and service.

We believe that all individuals in our school community deserve personal attention and recognition.
Goals

Among its goals, St. Thomas Aquinas High School, in an atmosphere of discipline and order, strives

- to model for our students the daily practice of Christian living;
- to invite our students to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ;
- to provide a program that serves the spiritual, cultural, physical, and academic needs of a diverse student population;
- to challenge our students to achieve academic success and excellence;
- to instill a sense of STA Raider pride and tradition in our school and community;
- to instill in our students a hunger to learn so that learning becomes a life-long commitment;
- to help identify and develop student leaders through academic and extra-curricular programs;
- to create a dynamic school atmosphere, fostered by an environment of mutual respect and personal attention;
- to develop in our students a social conscience and a commitment to community service;
- to provide opportunities to develop responsibility and self-confidence in our young people and to promote critical thinking; and
- to broaden our program through the STA Innovation Initiative and use of technology.
ACADEMIC INFORMATION

2016-2017

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

24.0 credits (Class of 2017)
24.5 credits (Class of 2018, Class of 2019 and Class of 2020)

Twenty-four (24) credits must be taken at St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

- 4 credits Theology
- 4 credits English
- 4 credits Mathematics
- 3 credits Science
- 3 credits Social Studies
  - (World History) (American History)
  - (Economics/American Government)
- 2 credits World Languages—in the same language, 2 years at STA
- .5 credit Personal Fitness (must be taken by the beginning of Sophomore year)
- .5 credit Health (must be taken by the beginning of Sophomore year)
- 1.0 credit Fine Arts
- 2.0 credits Electives
- .5 credit—Online Course (with Administrative Approval) (Class of 2018, Class of 2019 and Class of 2020)

CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

For graduation from St. Thomas, a student is required to have four (4) years of high school and a minimum of twenty-four (24) credits for the Class of 2017 and 24.5 for the Class of 2018, Class of 2019, and Class of 2020. All students must be enrolled in a minimum of six (6) subjects each year.

Advanced Placement Programs of the College Board are also offered in the following areas: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Comparative Government and Politics, Computer Science A, Computer Science Principles, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Environmental Science, European History, French Language and Culture, Human Geography, Italian Language and Culture, Latin, Macroeconomics, Music Theory, Physics 1, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C: Mechanics, Psychology, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture, Statistics, Studio Art: 2-D, Studio Art: 3-D, Studio Art: Drawing, United States Government and Politics, United States History, and World History.

In May, all Advanced Placement students will sit for every Advanced Placement examination for which they are registered. The fee for each AP examination is set by the College Board and will be billed to tuition statements. Any AP student who does not take the AP exam in May, without Administrative approval, will forfeit the AP weight for each course.
Dual Enrollment courses that are offered include World Religions, Multi-Cultural Studies, Philosophy II, Ethics, and Differential Equations.

Students are required to maintain a 2.0 cumulative G.P.A. in order to receive a diploma. Also, students must maintain a semester 2.0 G.P.A. (unweighted) in order to participate in athletics or extracurricular activities.

Any Senior deficient in credit will not receive an academic diploma until all necessary credit requirements are fulfilled. Participation in the graduation ceremony requires satisfactory completion of all school requirements and is at the discretion of the Administration. Receipt of the diploma presumes that all academic requirements have been met and that the student has satisfactorily completed the graduation ceremony.

Credits are determined on a semester basis. A passing grade of 60% allows a student to earn one-half (0.5) credit each semester in a given course.

Any loss of credit must be made up at St. Thomas Aquinas High School or at an accredited high school. A full credit in Theology must be earned each year to allow a student re-admittance to St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

All required courses for graduation must be taken at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. St. Thomas Aquinas High School offers courses to meet the academic needs of its students.

**Weighted Courses**

* = 0.5
** = 1.0
**** = 2.0
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

YEARBOOK JOURNALISM HONORS**
Yearbook Journalism Honors includes Level I through Level IV, depending on the student’s year of involvement. This one-credit, honors English elective involves the student in preparing the award-winning yearbook, *Veritas*. Students play a vital role in determining theme, end sheets, table of contents, division pages, and all other sections of the book. Additionally, students gather topical information such as quotes to write and edit all headlines, captions, and body copy while adhering to the rules of journalistic integrity. Students bear responsibility for the on-time electronic submission of PDF files to the publisher and the concurrent reproofing of PDF files. Finally, students select various graphic elements, including fonts, photographs and other graphics.

LITERATURE
This course assists freshmen in understanding literature through critical reading comprehension skills with the use of computer programs. Pre-reading, reading, and post-reading strategies scaffold reading comprehension and the presentation of fiction, literary nonfiction, short stories, novels, poetry, and drama. Students also review basic reading and language arts skills in order to help them to achieve more positive results in all areas of study.

ENGLISH I
In this freshman course, students read for comprehension and critical thinking. They will read significant pieces from all the major literary genres: short stories, poetry, drama, and literary nonfiction. Vocabulary assignments focus on learning prefixes, roots, and suffixes to identify the meaning of new words and to begin the process of PSAT, SAT, ACT and ACT Aspire preparation. Students receive a firm foundation in grammar and usage in addition to the mechanics of correct sentence structure. Writing assignments provide students with the opportunity to express themselves clearly in grammatically correct and coherent paragraphs and multi-paragraph essays.
ENGLISH I HONORS**
This honors course for freshmen offers a challenging program in the basic skills of communication: reading, writing, listening, and speaking; and an introduction to the literary genres: novel, short story, literary nonfiction, drama, mythology, and poetry. Grammar, usage, and punctuation receive particular emphasis. Students complete a vocabulary program that stresses prefixes, suffixes, and roots along with SAT words, move from writing single paragraphs to three-paragraph and five-paragraph essays, read classical novels and plays, and focus on PSAT, SAT, ACT and ACT Aspire verbal and writing skills.

ENGLISH II
In this sophomore course, students extend their understanding of the major genres of literature: short stories, literary nonfiction, drama, poetry, and novels. They also continue their study of vocabulary in preparation for the PSAT, SAT, ACT and ACT Aspire. The grammar component of this course helps students to further develop the skills necessary to speak and write clearly and coherently. Students will be writing multi-paragraph essays and enhancing their ability to analyze literature.

ENGLISH II HONORS**
This accelerated course for sophomores with above average ability in English challenges students with an intense study of the major genres of literature: short stories, literary nonfiction, drama, poetry, and novels. They continue their study of vocabulary in preparation for the PSAT, SAT, ACT and ACT Aspire. Students also continue their study of grammar and composition, with special attention paid to an awareness of syntax and diction in literature. Students enrolled in this course will analyze literature as a basis for expository essays, supported by literary research.

ENGLISH III
This survey course challenges juniors to read classic works from American Literature, study vocabulary in preparation for the PSAT, SAT, and ACT, and learn research skills, including research in the STAR Lab and on the Internet. Students continue to work on honing their
understanding of correct grammar and syntax. All students in this course write an MLA-style literary research paper during the second semester.

**ENGLISH III HONORS**
This course challenges juniors with selections from American literature, including period selections and twentieth century works. Students write analyses of literature and use literary criticism for their research papers. Vocabulary study continues in preparation for the PSAT, SAT, and ACT. All students in this course write an MLA-style literary research paper during the second semester.

**ENGLISH IV**
This course for seniors presents a chronological study of the greatest literature of the British Tradition. Students will begin their study with the Medieval Period, where they will study *Beowulf* and Chaucer. Then, they will move into the English Renaissance, where they will study Shakespeare’s *Macbeth* and the great Renaissance poets. They will work their way through the literature of the Victorian period and into the literature of WWI and WWII. Students become acquainted with significant authors and literary genres and prepare for writing courses in college. Students will continue their work on grammar and vocabulary building.

**ENGLISH IV HONORS**
This course for seniors presents a chronological study of the greatest literature of the British Tradition. Students will begin their study with the Medieval Period, where they will study *Beowulf* and Chaucer. Then, they will move into the English Renaissance, where they will study Shakespeare’s *Macbeth* and the great Renaissance poets. They will work their way through the literature of the Victorian period and into the literature of WWI and WWII. Students become acquainted with significant authors and literary genres. They will write in-depth analyses of this literature. In addition, this course provides a further study of how to use correct grammar and syntax through a challenging writing program, studying essay samples from masters. Vocabulary study continues through the first semester.
LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This course for juniors and seniors focuses on literary nonfiction. Students on both levels study vocabulary and prepare for the PSAT, SAT, ACT. Additionally, all students enrolled in this course learn about and produce a research paper and sit for the English Language and Composition Advanced Placement Exam in May.

LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This course engages seniors in the careful reading of literary works. They study the major genres: drama, novel, essay, short story, informational texts and poetry. Student writing includes research topics and sample Advanced Placement examination questions. All students enrolled in this course sit for the English Literature and Composition Advanced Placement Exam in May.

MASS COMMUNICATION: CREATIVE WRITING HONORS**
This course for juniors and seniors delves into all the possible fields of creative writing, including advertising, magazine writing, entertainment writing, newspaper journalism, poetry, and script writing. During the first semester, students analyze and produce well-written materials as well as learn the proper techniques and standards of each field. The second semester focuses primarily on scriptwriting for every literary genre.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT
FINE ARTS--FORENSICS

FORENSICS I HONORS**
This introductory course exposes students to all aspects of public speaking, including extemporaneous speaking, original oratory, humorous/dramatic interpretation, oral interpretation, and Congressional debate. Each student gains experience in speaking in front of the class and develops a professional presentation style in both manner and speech. Throughout the year, students engage in improvisational exercises that develop stage presence and comfort.
Students’ feeling confident and comfortable while speaking in front of a group serves as the ultimate goal for this class. Students must also compete in tournaments throughout the year.

**FORENSICS II HONORS**
Forensics II Honors demands increased student preparation and time commitment. Students participate in extemporaneous speaking, original oratory, humorous/dramatic interpretation, oral interpretation, and congressional debate. Students may also choose to participate in Public Forum debate or Student Congress. Students attend local and national tournaments, based on merit.

**FORENSICS III HONORS**
This advanced course in forensic speaking focuses on local and national tournament experience, including the administrative, organizational, and higher level performance aspects of tournaments. As mentors, students train and assist the Forensic I and II students as well as critiquing and advising the more advanced students. Performance, mentoring, organization, and writing skills comprise the criteria for assessing students in Forensics III Honors as well as their personal initiative and self-motivation. Students must attend tournaments throughout the year and may also judge events at tournaments.

**FORENSICS IV HONORS**
This advanced course in forensic speaking focuses on local and national tournament experience, including the administrative, organizational, and higher level performance aspects of tournaments. As mentors, students train and assist the Forensic I, II, and III students as well as critiquing and advising the more advanced students. Performance, mentoring, organization, and writing skills comprise the criteria for assessing students in Forensics IV Honors as well as their personal initiative and self-motivation. Students must attend tournaments throughout the year and may also judge events at tournaments.

**DEBATE I HONORS**
This introductory honors course exposes students to all aspects of debate, focusing specifically on Public Forum and Congressional debate. Each student gains experience speaking in front of
the class. Throughout the year, students engage in research and writing exercises that aid in debate and argumentation. Quizzes, performance projects, a semester exam, essays, and a final exam assess student achievement. Students’ feeling comfortable and confident in speaking and debating in front of a group serves as the ultimate goal for this class that also emphasizes the synthesis of ideas and theory writing. Students must participate in tournaments throughout the year.

**DEBATE II HONORS**

This advanced honors course exposes students to all aspects of debate, focusing specifically on Public Forum and Congressional debate. Each student gains experience speaking in front of the class. Throughout the year, students engage in research and writing exercises that aid in debate and argumentation. Quizzes, performance projects, a semester exam, essays, and a final exam assess student achievement. Students’ feeling comfortable and confident in speaking and debating in front of a group serves as the ultimate goal for this class that also emphasizes the synthesis of ideas and theory writing. Students must participate in local and national tournaments, based on merit.

**DEBATE III HONORS**

This advanced honors course requires initiative and self-motivation and exposes students to all aspects of debate, focusing on Public Forum and Congressional debate. Students participate in local and national tournaments, based on merit, and may have the opportunity to judge certain tournaments throughout the year. Performance, mentoring, and organizational skills assess student achievement. Students’ feeling comfortable and confident while speaking and debating in front of a group serves as the ultimate goal for this class. Competing in local and national tournaments is expected.

**FINE ARTS--MUSIC**

**ADVANCED BAND HONORS**

Instructional priorities include instrumental technique, musicianship, critical listening, cultural growth, basic music theory, creative self-expression, rehearsal and concert etiquette,
self-discipline, responsible citizenship, effective communication, problem solving, and the production of quality performances. Students have opportunities to audition for the All-State Band in September and All-County Band in November and participate in the Florida Bandmasters Association (FBA) solo/ensemble and concert/sight-reading assessments. Members of the Concert Band participate in solo and ensemble assessments as well as the FBA sight-reading assessment. This course requires participation in all rehearsals, concerts, parades, FBA marching assessments, and other school-sponsored activities, as announced, during the school year. This class is open to any student who wishes to play an instrument.

**MARCHING BAND HONORS**
Students will participate in the activities of the STA Marching Raiders. Activities may include, but are not limited to, the study of the chosen program of music for the season, rehearsals of the marching routine to accompany music. The STA Marching Raiders perform during the football season, as well as parades and events at STA. The band also performs at the FBA (Florida Bandmasters Association) marching assessment. The STA Marching Raiders have a mandatory band camp during August two weeks prior to the opening of school.

**BAND CORPS HONORS**
This course, designed for baton twirlers and Color Guard members, enables students to develop basic skills in creating, performing, and evaluating choreographed performances as an independent ensemble and in cooperation with the Marching Band. Dance, equipment manipulation, precision, and the relationship between music and dance receive emphasis. Baton twirlers and Color Guard members attend summer marching rehearsals--Band Camp--beginning two weeks before the start of school. Students in the Marching Band start rehearsals during the first week of school. The twirlers and Color Guard participate in the Music Performance Assessment (MPA) in the fall and in the Florida Bandmasters Association solo/ensemble assessment in the spring. This course requires participation in all music rehearsals, concerts, parades, marching assessments, and other school-sponsored activities, as announced, during the school year.
**ORCHESTRA HONORS**
The Orchestra program provides a morning class for those students who play wind and percussion instruments. Instructional priorities include instrumental technique, musicianship, critical listening, cultural growth, basic music theory, creative self-expression, rehearsal and concert etiquette, self-discipline, responsible citizenship, effective communication, problem solving, and production of quality performances. Students audition for the All-State Concert/Symphonic Bands and All-County Band and participate in the Florida Band Association (FBA) solo/ensemble and concert/sight-reading assessments. This course requires participation in all music concerts and other school-sponsored activities, as announced, during the school year.

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE I HONORS**
Jazz Ensemble I Honors, a course open to all students who have developed their musical abilities, requires readiness for improvisation, excellence in sight-reading and performance, and an extended range and accuracy on their instruments. This course meets daily and continually reinforces a wide range of musical styles within the jazz genre. Students audition for the All-State Jazz Band, participate in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment, and engage in extra-curricular activities including all music concerts and other school sponsored activities, as announced, during the school year. This class is by “Audition Only.” Attendance at performances is required.

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE II HONORS**
This course for advanced jazz musicians applies complex theoretical and compositional structures. Students gain a thorough familiarity with improvisation by studying many jazz artists, auditioning for the All-State Jazz Band, and participating in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment. This class is by “Audition Only.” Attendance at performances is required.

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE III HONORS**
This course continues Jazz Ensemble II Honors and serves as an avenue for those students who seriously wish to pursue their study of Jazz, applying more complex theoretical and
compositional structures. Students gain a thorough familiarity with improvisation by studying many jazz artists, auditioning for the All-State Jazz Band, and participating in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment. This class is by “Audition Only.” Attendance at performances is required.

**JAZZ ENSEMBLE IV HONORS**

This course continues Jazz Ensemble III Honors as an avenue for those students who seriously wish to pursue their study of jazz, applying more study into improvisation studies. Students gain a thorough familiarity with improvisation by studying many jazz artists, auditioning for the All-State Jazz Band, and participating in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment. This class is by “Audition Only.” Attendance at performances is required.

**JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE I HONORS**

This ensemble course focuses on the concepts and techniques that include jazz interpretation, vocal improvisation, and scat singing. Students acquire improvisational skills and scat singing techniques through specific exercises and guided practice, developing personal spontaneity and creativity. This class is by “Audition Only.” Performers have the option to auditions for the All State Jazz Band Vocalist and participating in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment. Attendance at performances is required.

**JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE II HONORS**

Students in this class perform challenging literature and jazz pieces from all of the various musical eras written for small vocal ensembles. This group will concentrate on vocal improvisation (scatting), performing with a combo, and learning the basics that are essential to all musicians. Repertoire is chosen to represent a wide range of jazz/contemporary historical periods and styles. Concentration will also be on solo singing, singing in a small group, and emphasis on part balance. This class is by “Audition Only.” Performers have the option to auditions for the All State Jazz Band Vocalist spot and participating in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment. Attendance at performances is required.
**JAZZ VOCAL ENSEMBLE III HONORS**

Students in this class perform challenging literature and jazz pieces from all of the various musical eras written for small vocal ensembles. This group will concentrate on vocal improvisation (scatting), performing with a combo, and learning the basics that are essential to all musicians. Repertoire is chosen to represent a wide range of jazz/contemporary historical periods and styles. Concentration will also be on solo singing, singing in a small group, and emphasis on part balance. This class is by “Audition Only.” Performers have the option to auditions for the All State Jazz Band Vocalist spot and participating in the Florida Bandmasters Association Jazz assessment. Attendance at performances is required.

**CLASSICAL GUITAR I HONORS**

In this course, recommended for students who wish to advance their musical understanding of the guitar as a solo and an ensemble instrument, students learn basic music fundamentals which enable them to read musical notation presented to them. Students learn the basics of music theory as they analyze music in class, play music selected from the 16th to the 20th centuries, and have opportunities to perform during the school year. Students have the opportunity to audition for the All-State Guitar Ensemble in October. Students have the opportunity to perform at the FMEA Guitar Ensemble Festival. The group performs at required concerts and other performances during the year.

**CLASSICAL GUITAR II HONORS**

This course builds on the fundamentals learned in Classical Guitar I and teaches students to sight-read music. Additionally, the theory in Classical Guitar II enables them to analyze music, developing an understanding of chord structure and harmony. Students play music selected from the 16th to the 20th centuries and have opportunities to perform during the school year. Students have the opportunity to audition for the All-State Guitar Ensemble. Students have the prospect to perform as soloist or an ensemble member at the FMEA Guitar Ensemble Festival. This course requires participation in all music concerts and other school-sponsored activities, as announced, during the school year.
**CLASSICAL GUITAR III HONORS**
This course, recommended for students who wish to advance their musical understanding of the guitar as a solo and ensemble instrument, enables students to perform music at sight and use the indicated markings found in the music. They rely on the music theory studied in Levels I and II to write music for guitar solo and/or ensemble and have opportunities to perform during the school year. Students have the opportunity to perform at the FMEA Guitar Ensemble Festival. The group performs at required concerts and other performances during the year.

**CLASSICAL GUITAR IV HONORS**
This course continues Classical Guitar III Honors as an avenue for those students who seriously wish to pursue their study of guitar, applying more study into writing a guitar ensemble. Students gain a thorough familiarity by studying many classical guitar artists, audition for the All-State Guitar Ensemble, and participate in the Florida Guitar Association assessments in February. The group performs at required concerts and other performances during the year.

**PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE I HONORS**
Students with little or no experience in an instrumental ensemble develop basic musicianship and ensemble performance skills through the study of basic, high-quality music in diverse styles. Student musicians focus on building foundational music techniques, music literacy, listening skills, and aesthetic awareness. Public performances may serve as a culmination of specific instructional goals. Members of the Percussion Ensemble class participate in FBA solo and ensemble assessments. This course requires participation in all rehearsals, concerts, and other school-sponsored activities, as announced, during the school year. This class is open to any student who wishes to play an instrument. Students may be required to attend and/or participate in rehearsals and performances outside the school day to support, extend, and assess learning in the classroom. This course may also require students to obtain a musical instrument (e.g., borrow, rent, purchase) from an outside source.

**MUSIC THEORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**
Students in AP Music Theory will be introduced to the elements of music theory and composition and will learn how these elements are used in music. The emphasis will be on rules
of theory and composition, ear training, sight singing, analysis, and keyboard skills. The course is designed both for students who desire to prepare for music as a career as well as those who desire it for personal enrichment. While the main emphasis is placed on music of the Common Practice Period (1600-1750), music of other style periods will also be studied. Students will sit for the AP Music Theory examination in May.

FINE ARTS--DRAMA

THEATRE APPRECIATION I HONORS**
This introductory course exposes students to all aspects of the theatrical experience, stressing the production of plays and provides in-depth experiences in the study and practice of theatre arts and literature. Students trace the history of drama and analyze plays while focusing on acting, set design, lighting design, make-up, costume design, and public relations. In order to fulfill the requirements for Theatre Appreciation I Honors, students must attend each of the STA drama productions. Quizzes, essays, projects, class participation, and work ethic serve as criteria for student assessment.

THEATRE APPRECIATION II HONORS**
This advanced course presents all aspects of the theatrical production process. Students can become part of the production team, planning and designing all STA productions. From conception to production, students may apply for positions in sound, lighting, costumes, make up, and public relations. To fulfill the requirements for Theatre Appreciation II Honors, students attend one performance of both productions and complete after-school work and assignments. Quizzes, projects, class participation, and work ethic comprise the criteria for student assessment.

THEATRE APPRECIATION III HONORS**
This advanced course is for those students interested in pursuing a career in technical theatre, architecture, public relations, or fashion design. Students will utilize the knowledge gained from Theatre Appreciation I Honors and Theatre Appreciation II Honors to lead design teams for the school productions. To fulfill the requirements for the class, students will design sets, costumes,
lighting, sound or publicity for the two school productions as well as create designs for other plays read for class. Designs, quizzes, projects, class participation and work ethic comprise the criteria for student assessment.

**ACTING I HONORS**
This introductory course exposes students to the various aspects of the acting process and provides in-depth experiences in the study and practice of acting. Students focus on improvisation, analysis, characterization, vocal and physical performance, audition process, and presentation. Each student gains experience performing in front of the class. To fulfill the requirements for Acting I Honors, students audition for both the fall and spring productions as well as attend both STA drama productions during the year. Quizzes, projects, class participation, rehearsal etiquette, and work ethic provide the criteria for student assessment. The students’ appreciation of and respect for the details and hard work entailed in a fine arts performance serve as the ultimate goal of the course.

**ACTING II HONORS**
This advanced course further exposes students to all aspects of the acting and directing process and provides in-depth experiences in the study and practice of acting. Additionally, improvisation receives emphasis as students prepare and perform scenes with others. To fulfill the requirements for Acting II Honors, students audition for both the fall and spring productions as well as attend both STA drama productions during the year. Quizzes, projects, class participation, rehearsal etiquette and work ethic provide the criteria for student assessment.

**ACTING III HONORS**
This advanced course exposes students to all aspects of the acting and directing process and provides in-depth experiences in the study and practice of acting and directing. Students focus on analysis, characterization, vocal and physical performance, audition process, and presentation. Acting III Honors requires students to mentor and direct students in Acting I and II, to audition for both the fall and spring productions and to attend both STA drama
productions during the year. Quizzes, projects, class participation, rehearsal etiquette and work ethic provide the criteria for student assessment.

FINE ARTS—STUDIO ART

POTTERY I HONORS**
Open to students in all grades, Pottery I Honors teaches the four hand-building methods of construction: pinch, coil, slab, and hollowed-out, as well as pottery painting and surface decoration using various ceramic paints and glazes. Students practice general studio etiquette while learning ceramic vocabulary.

ART 2D AND 3D HONORS**
Art 2D/3D Honors, a full-year course open to all students, divides the year into three sections: drawing, painting and pottery. In drawing, students sketch from direct observation and study advanced graphite rendering techniques. In painting, students mix and blend color and expand values. In pottery, students use white clay in the creation of beginning to intermediate, hand-built projects.

STUDIO ART: 2D DESIGN (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
STUDIO ART: 3D DESIGN (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
STUDIO ART: DRAWING (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
Advanced Placement Studio Art, a full-year course open to students in Grades 10 through 12, offers seriously interested students the practical experience of art. Instead of taking a written exam, AP students prepare and submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. These AP courses stress visual thinking along with creativity, mastery of skills, critical analysis, and composition. Design, learning to “see like an artist,” and advanced problem solving receive emphases. Taking informed risks, creativity in creating images and objects, and personal expression remain central to the course. Dedication, self-discipline, and the discovery and development of the individual artistic “voice” serve as keystones of the program. In May, all students enrolled in the course are required to submit a Drawing portfolio, a 2D Design portfolio, or a 3D Design portfolio, based on Advanced Placement guidelines.
ART HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
The AP Art History course is a full-year course open to students in Grades 11 and 12, equivalent to a two-semester introductory college course that explores the nature of art, art making, and responses to art. It investigates the specific course content of 250 works of art in 10 content areas, characterized by diverse artistic traditions from prehistory to the present. The course fosters in-depth, holistic understanding of the history of art in the global art world, engaging with its forms and content. Students experience research, discuss, read, and write about art, artists, art making, responses to, and interpretations of art. All students will sit for the AP Art History Exam in May.

FINE ARTS--FILM

FILM I HONORS**
The year-long Film I Honors course covers four areas of study: film history and its effect on American culture, the science and technology of filmmaking, film criticism and appreciation, and practical filmmaking. Students write, produce, and edit their own short films.

FILM II HONORS**
Building on the foundations established in the first year course, Film II Honors exposes students to a broader range of movies for study and discussion. In addition, Film II Honors students will mentor other pupils on filmmaking and oversee the production of student films.

FILM III HONORS**
At this level of course study in the Film program, students will learn and implement advanced directing, cinematography, and editing skills while being responsible for further research and analysis through self-directed studies.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY I HONORS**
Digital Photography I Honors, an after-school course open to all who love photography and can supply their own digital camera, teaches the skills necessary for shooting effective color and black-and-white photos and processing prints digitally. Students learn the history, technique,
and application of photography in the digital medium through demonstrations, group discussions, lectures, assignments, computer work, and photographing student life.

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY II HONORS**
Digital Photography II Honors provides students the opportunity to sharpen and expand skills acquired in Digital Photography I Honors. Assignments expand and showcase the rudiments of photography, requiring students to demonstrate a maturing understanding of subject, light, and composition as well as a continual evolution of graphic manipulation software. Additionally, the mentoring of students in Digital Photography I Honors provides both a review and expansion of photographic and software techniques taught in the first course. Finally, each student in Photography II Honors submits individual work for competition and a portfolio judged in summation.

**FINE ARTS--DANCE**

**DANCE TECHNIQUES I HONORS**
This course enables students to develop basic knowledge, skills, and individual artistic abilities through dance movement and performance within a cultural and historical context. Course content includes various dance techniques, repertory work, benefits of dance, and the cultural and historical impact of dance. Students are required to perform in at least one production per semester. Students in this class will need to obtain appropriate footwear and dance attire.

**DANCE TECHNIQUES II HONORS**
This course enables students to develop intermediate level knowledge, skills, and individual artistic abilities through dance movement and performance within a cultural and historical context. Course content includes various dance techniques, repertory work, benefits of dance, and the cultural and historical impact of dance. Students are required to perform in at least one production per semester. Students in this class will need to obtain appropriate footwear and dance attire.

**DANCE TECHNIQUES III HONORS**
This course enables students to develop advanced knowledge, skills, and individual artistic abilities through dance movement and performance within a cultural and historical context.
Course content includes various dance techniques, repertory work, benefits of dance, and the cultural and historical impact of dance. Students are required to perform in at least one production per semester. Students in this class will need to obtain appropriate footwear and dance attire.

**DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY I HONORS**
This course enables students to develop advanced knowledge, skills, and individual artistic abilities through dance movement and performance within a cultural and historical context. Course content includes various dance techniques, repertory work, basic choreographic principles, benefits of dance, and the cultural and historical impact of dance. Students are required to perform in at least one production per semester. Students in this class will need to obtain appropriate footwear and dance attire.

**DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY II HONORS**
This course enables students to develop advanced knowledge, skills, and individual artistic abilities through dance movement and performance within a cultural and historical context. Course content includes various dance techniques, repertory work, intermediate/advanced choreographic principles, benefits of dance, the cultural and historical impact of dance, and technical stage production skills. Students are required to perform in at least one production per semester. Additionally, the student produces choreographic works. Students in this class will need to obtain appropriate footwear and dance attire.

**DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY III HONORS**
Students study the historical works of professional choreographers in various genres. They learn to understand, apply, and respect each choreographer’s movement design, artistic intent, and intellectual property. Course content includes various dance techniques, advanced choreographic principles, benefits of dance, the cultural and historical impact of dance, and technical stage production skills. The students will also learn how to audition and cast dancers. Students are required to perform in at least one production a semester. Additionally, students will produce their own work. Students in this class will need to obtain appropriate footwear and dance attire.
COMPUTER/GRAPHIC ARTS DEPARTMENT

GRAPHIC DESIGN/NEWSPAPER JOURNALISM HONORS**
Graphic Design/Newspaper Journalism Honors includes Level I through Level IV, depending on the year of the student’s involvement. This one-credit, honors elective gives students the opportunity to conceptualize and produce the school’s digital newspaper. While learning to develop creative concepts, students work with a variety of software to produce digital publications with dynamic content. Students play a vital role in compiling content, developing the theme, composing articles, and designing page layouts for each issue. In addition to gathering information, research material, conducting interviews, and providing diverse visual elements, students write and edit all articles and headlines while adhering to the rules of journalistic integrity. This course provides the opportunity to explore key components of online newspaper production, including the roles of editor-in-chief, managing editor, copy editor, photo and graphics editor, reporters and photographers.

COMPUTER GRAPHIC ART HONORS**
During this full-year course, students will work with a suite of art programs. The emphasis will be on acquiring the knowledge and skills to develop and practice artistic techniques. Areas of study will include digital art, graphic art, e-publishing, print publishing and acquiring the artistic skills necessary to create original works. Students will produce artwork using bitmap and vector-based programs. They will have the opportunity to explore 2D and 3D drawing attributes available in current professional art software. Students will also create digital publications with dynamic content, suitable for multiple platforms.

ANIMATION DESIGN HONORS I**
This full-year course concentrates on experimentation and innovation through an understanding of 2D and 3D art in motion, sequence, and time, using traditional, digital and cinematic techniques as well as through exposure to the history and theory of traditional and computer-aided animation. Drawing, character development, narrative skills, animation design, the principles of animation, and production techniques receive emphasis. Students gain a solid foundation in drawing and digital media for animation as well as additional coursework in visual
storytelling, digital techniques, and the principles of animation. Students complete projects in the form of motion studies and animated shorts as well as a digital portfolio highlighting their professional and creative objectives. Students plan, storyboard, and produce hands-on animation projects and author a demo reel highlighting their work.

**ANIMATION DESIGN HONORS II**
This full-year course expands on the skills developed in Animation Design Honors I by providing a structured studio experience where students develop additional portfolio-quality work. Students cooperatively design projects with their individual, professional, and creative objectives in mind and implement advanced production techniques including pitching ideas, storyboarding, and the completion of the pieces for inclusion in their portfolio. Students will expand on their knowledge of traditional and digital forms of animation and may learn and utilize intermediate 3d modeling, texturing, lighting, and animation skills.

**ANIMATION DESIGN HONORS III**
This full-year course expands on the skills developed in Animation Design Honors II by continuing to provide a structured studio experience where students develop additional portfolio-quality work. Students cooperatively design projects with their individual, professional, and creative objectives in mind and implement advanced production techniques including pitching ideas, storyboarding, and the completion of the pieces for inclusion in their portfolio. Students will continue to expand on their knowledge of traditional and digital forms of animation and may learn and utilize advanced 3d modeling, texturing, lighting, and animation skills.

**COMPUTER SCIENCE A (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**
In this full-year course requiring a strong mathematics and science background, students develop programs to solve problems using Java. Designing useful computer programs entails the development and analysis of algorithms, data structures, and typical applications. An understanding of the basic hardware and software components of computer systems and the responsible use of these systems remain an integral part of this course. All students in this course sit for the Computer Science A Advanced Placement exam in May.
COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This AP course cultivates a logical approach to technology and an understanding of how computation can be an essential advantage in future academic and employment endeavors. While this is not a programming course, students will be introduced to the fundamental concepts of computer science. The knowledge gained in this course can be applied within any field impacted by computing and technology. The course requires a commitment to actively researching and presenting concept proposals for emerging issues in the world. Students will need to apply creative, critical and analytical thinking to succeed. In May, all students will submit a capstone project, as well as sit for the written portion of the Computer Science Principles AP exam.

CINEMATOGRAPHY I HONORS**
Cinematography I Honors offers to students an opportunity to learn the basic concepts involved in the production of a finished, well-edited video/film product, suitable for viewing by the STA student audience. Some of these concepts include, but are not limited to, camera composition and angles, lighting, sound, editing, special effects, directing, producing, scriptwriting and live switching. The filming of school activities (before, during, and after school) is a vital part of the coursework.

CINEMATOGRAPHY II HONORS**
The course is designed for students that have already completed the Cinematography I Honors course. These students will shoot and edit school projects. These include Raider Report, all football game highlight videos and live stream any activities needed for the STA weekly, news segment. Students will also be instructed in Factory FX software and Adobe After Affect. All students are required to help in after-school video shoots such as sports, drama, Cailini, and any other school event.

CINEMATOGRAPHY III HONORS**
The course is designed for students that have already completed the Cinematography II Honors course. These students will partner with Cinematography II students to shoot and edit school
projects. These include Raider Report, all football game highlight videos and live stream any activities needed for the STA weekly, news segment. Students will also be instructed in Factory FX software and Adobe After Affect. All students are required to help in after-school video shoots such as sports, drama, Cailini, and any other school event.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

AEROBICS/PERSOAL FITNESS
This course is designed for healthy individuals wanting to participate in group aerobic exercise. The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop basic-level knowledge of aerobic activities and fitness and to maintain or improve an individualized level of fitness. The students start and maintain a safe exercise program by learning the appropriate levels of exercise intensity and progressions involving aerobic activities including Pilates, strength training, cardiovascular fitness and individual and group aerobic dance activities. Aerobic dance for fitness activities will include dance choreography and group aerobic dance presentations. Students will understand the physical and mental benefits of aerobic exercise and how it pertains to the students’ overall wellness.

PERSONAL FITNESS
Personal Fitness meets the physical and motivational needs of the students, challenges their physical skills and abilities, and develops an understanding of the importance of health and exercise in their lives. The course provides a basic knowledge of the rules and techniques of the sports activities taught. Fitness and strengthening techniques enhance the student’s knowledge base for a healthier lifestyle while the students receive in-depth attention to technique and performance in attitudes, practices, and skills developed in previous years.

HEALTH
Health, a required one-semester course for all freshmen, provides the basis for continued methods of developing knowledge, concepts, skills, behaviors, and attitudes related to student health and well-being. The course covers the following major content areas: wellness, mental
and emotional health, community and environmental health, nutrition, consumer health, personal health, alcohol, medicines and other drugs, intentional and unintentional injury, health promotion, and disease prevention. Students have the opportunity to explore the effect of health behaviors on an individual’s quality of life and to understand health as a lifetime commitment by analyzing individual risk factors and health decisions that promote health and prevent disease. Students assume individual responsibility for becoming competent, healthy consumers and learn a variety of instructional strategies, including technology, to develop health literacy for a lifetime.

**DANCE FITNESS**
Dance Fitness enables students to develop the basic knowledge and skills in dance movement, apply these to an exercise regimen, and relate dance to overall personal health. Content includes various dance techniques, choreography, the benefits of dance, stamina building, strength and flexibility, injury prevention, and nutrition.

**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

**ALGEBRA I**
Algebra I, a full-year course, focuses on the basic language of mathematics. Students learn the fundamental skills and concepts of algebra, real world problems, and other areas of math. Topics include the solution of linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, factoring, the simplification of radicals, rational expressions, and preparation for the PSAT.

**ALGEBRA I HONORS**
This full-year course uses the basic language of mathematics to solve real world problems by defining variables, writing expressions, and formulating an appropriate equation or inequality to represent a given situation. Solution techniques make use of factoring, systems of equations, and the quadratic formula. Algebra I Honors includes PSAT preparation and requires a TI 84 Plus (Silver Edition) graphing calculator.
GEOMETRY
This full-year course provides a study of the basic vocabulary, postulates, and theorems of Euclidean geometry. Through inductive and deductive reasoning, students encounter the fundamental theorems of logical reasoning. Additional topics include areas and volumes of three-dimensional figures along with preparation for the PSAT.

GEOMETRY HONORS**
This course offers a rigorous full-year approach to plane and solid Euclidean geometry. After studying the fundamental vocabulary and postulates of geometry, students use deductive reasoning to prove geometrical theorems. Additional topics include coordinate geometry, right triangle trigonometry, indirect proofs, exposure to non-Euclidean geometry, and PSAT preparation.

ALGEBRA II*
This full-year course continues the study of algebraic concepts taught in Algebra I. Topics include linear, quadratic, polynomial, and inverse functions along with PSAT/SAT preparation, including the Algebra II concepts recently added to the College Board exams.

ALGEBRA II HONORS**
This full-year course focuses on topics of intermediate algebra and advanced algebra as a springboard to higher levels of mathematics. Students learn to analyze real world situations while developing skills on a TI 83 or 84 Plus graphing calculator required for the course. Furthermore, they develop the ability to recognize and identify different families of functions and relations to derive equations necessary to solve given problem situations and prepare for the PSAT/SAT exams.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA
This full-year mathematics course reinforces and expands the basic language, skills, and concepts of Algebra II, including a study of polynomial, power, and rational algebraic functions. College Algebra develops problem-solving skills by clarifying procedures in a step-by-step
manner and helps students acquire a solid foundation for studying algebra in college by presenting alternative approaches to complex concepts.

**PRE-CALCULUS***
This full-year mathematics course, an in-depth study of right triangle and circular trigonometry, exponential functions, and their logarithmic inverses, develops an understanding of the relationships among algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Pre-Calculus requires a TI 83 or 84 Plus graphing calculator.

**PRE-CALCULUS HONORS**
This full-year course combines the appropriate use of technology, including the required TI 83 or 84 graphing calculator, with standard “paper and pencil” analytic techniques and highlights the characteristics of the 12 basic functions of math. Students study the fundamental concepts of algebra, trigonometry, and analytic geometry and learn the role these concepts play in calculus and real-life problems.

**CALCULUS HONORS**
This full-year calculus course covers differential and integral calculus topics: limits, slopes, tangent lines, derivatives and integrals, and the transcendental functions. Students use these topics to solve real world problems involving velocity, related rates, maxima, and minima and apply them to business, economics, and the life and physical sciences. The course requires a TI 83 or 84 Plus graphing calculator.

**CALCULUS AB (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
Equivalent to a one-semester, college level, first course in calculus, this full-year course bases its content on the syllabus of the Advanced Placement Program as outlined in the CEEB booklet *Advanced Placement Course Description Mathematics Calculus AB*. Calculus AB AP requires a College Board-approved graphing calculator that students select from the list of approved calculators on the AP Central website (www.collegeboard.org). All students enrolled in this course sit for the Calculus AB Advanced Placement Examination in May.
CALCULUS BC (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
To elect Calculus BC Advanced Placement, a college level, full-year, second course, students must successfully complete Calculus AB Advanced Placement. The course bases its content on the syllabus of the AP Program as outlined in the CEEB booklet Advanced Placement Course Description Mathematics Calculus BC. Calculus BC AP requires a College Board-approved graphing calculator that students select from the list of approved calculators on the AP Central website. All students enrolled in this course sit for the Calculus BC Advanced Placement Examination in May.

STATISTICS HONORS**
In this full-year, introductory, non-calculus-based course, students learn about graphical displays and numerical summaries of data. They design experiments and studies while learning the basics involved in the rules of probability and various distributions: the normal distribution, the t-distribution, the chi-square distribution, and sampling distributions. They construct and interpret confidence intervals and draw conclusions about hypotheses using a statistical process. This course requires a graphing calculator, preferably a TI-84 or TI-84 plus.

STATISTICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This full-year course in statistics, equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course, follows the syllabus of the Advanced Placement program in the CEEB booklet Advanced Placement Course Description in Statistics. In Statistics, AP students analyze data, use rules of probability, design experiments, and draw conclusions about hypotheses using the statistical process. All students enrolled in this course take the Statistics Advanced Placement Examination in May. This course requires a graphing calculator, preferably a TI-84 or TI-84 Plus.

MATH FOR COLLEGE
This is a full-year course that will prepare students for college-level mathematics and math-based courses. The topics that will be covered include whole number, integer and rational number arithmetic, linear equations and inequalities in one variable, factoring laws of exponents and basic graphing. Problem solving involving real-life scenarios is an integral part
of this course. This course will teach students to understand and communicate concepts of algebra in the language of mathematics, both orally and written. Due to the nature of this course, calculators will not be permitted.

**DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS  Dual Enrollment ****

This course provides an introduction to topics involving ordinary differential equations and demonstrates their usefulness for modeling physical and other phenomena. The basic content of the course includes: first order differential equations, mathematical models, linear equations of second order, the Laplace transform, numerical methods, nonlinear systems, and systems of differential equations. Upon completion, students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the theoretical concepts, and select and use appropriate models and techniques for finding solutions to differential equations-related problems with and without technology.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

**BIOLOGY I**
In this one-year laboratory course, students learn about some of the types of life that make up the world in which they live and gain some idea of man's place among living things. Students study the basic concepts of plant and animal life, along with the fundamentals of structure, function, ecological relationships, genetics, and evolution.

**BIOLOGY I HONORS**
This one-year laboratory course exposes students to an in-depth study of biological concepts in order to achieve a greater appreciation of science in general and a deeper understanding of the biological world in particular. The course integrates career opportunities, scientific research, and public issues related to biology.

**BIOLOGY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This one-year, laboratory-based course involves students in learning and implementing correct scientific procedures to collect and analyze data. Integrated throughout this course for juniors
and seniors, the major themes from the AP Biology curriculum requirements include ecology; cell structure and function; biochemistry; animal, plant, and microbe classification; structure and physiology; and genetics. This course does not involve animal dissections. All students enrolled in this course sit for the Biology Advanced Placement Examination in May.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY HONORS**
This one-year course for juniors and seniors deals with the study of the physiological processes of man in relation to his gross anatomical structure along with a discussion of the pathology of each system. Designed to suit the needs of a wide variety of medical and biological science careers, this course includes laboratory exercises and dissections: rat, cat, and various mammalian organs.

CHEMISTRY I
This one-year, “chemistry for the non-chemist” course concentrates on the fundamentals of chemistry. Practical applications and real-life experiences help students maximize understanding of core concepts by incorporating experiments and models.

CHEMISTRY I*
This introductory one-year course in general chemistry leads the student through the results of laboratory investigations to an understanding of the methods and principles of modern chemical theory. Topics include the structure of matter, scientific measurement, formula writing, balancing equations, mass relationships, gas laws, and properties of various elements and their families.

CHEMISTRY I HONORS**
This one-year, comprehensive course in chemistry for above-average students relies on theories, laboratory investigations, practical applications, and problem solving. Some of the topics include measurement; reactions; stoichiometry; atomic structure; periodicity; bonding; kinetic theory of solids, liquids and gases; solutions; acid-base theories; and nuclear chemistry.
CHEMISTRY II HONORS**
This one-year non-laboratory course continues the study of chemical concepts introduced in the prerequisite Chemistry I courses and adds new topics including electrochemistry, redox reactions, thermochemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium, solution chemistry, and the fundamentals of organic chemistry.

CHEMISTRY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This rigorous, math-based laboratory course, equivalent to one year of college-level General Chemistry, offers students an in-depth understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. Additionally, it contributes to the development of the students’ ability to think clearly and to express ideas orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. Topics covered emphasize chemical calculations and mathematical formulation of principles. All students enrolled in this course sit for the Chemistry Advanced Placement Examination in May.

PHYSICS*
This one-year laboratory course, generally considered the ordering of the phenomena detected by one’s senses, describes the “world around us.” From the study of motion to the study of radiation, this course serves as a broad introduction to the basic principles of classical physics.

PHYSICS HONORS**
Physics deals with the fundamental principles that govern the behavior of the physical universe, playing a role in nearly every aspect of life. It also involves a relatively small number of fundamental ideas in building a coherent view of the physical universe. From the study of motion to the study of radiation, this one-year laboratory course serves as a trigonometry-based introduction to the principles of classical physics.

PHYSICS C: MECHANICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This one-year laboratory course provides a rigorous and systematic college-level introduction to Newtonian Mechanics. Students apply mathematical methods, using algebra and calculus to study macroscopic and non-relativistic simple one-body, two-body, and selected many-body
problems. The course includes elements of the Newtonian theory of gravity and simple applications to astronomy. All students enrolled in this course sit for the Physics C: Mechanics Advanced Placement Examination in May.

**PHYSICS C: ELECTRICITY AND MAGNETISM (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism is the secondary equivalent of a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in physical science or engineering. The course explores topics such as electrostatics; conductors, capacitors, and dielectrics; electric circuits; magnetic fields; and electromagnetism. Introductory differential and integral calculus is used throughout the course. All students enrolled in the course sit for the Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism Advanced Placement Examination in May.

**PHYSICS 1 (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
Advanced Placement Physics 1 is an algebra-based introductory college-level physics course designed to develop critical thinking and reasoning skills through inquiry based learning to support future advanced course work in the sciences. All students will sit for the AP Physics 1 examination in May.

**MARINE BIOLOGY**
This two-semester overview helps students develop a significant understanding of the physical components of the marine environment and the ecology of life in the oceans. Students learn how to classify marine fauna and flora into respective taxonomic groups and discern among different types of marine communities through laboratory exercises and dissections.

**MARINE BIOLOGY HONORS**
This two-semester laboratory course provides a basic understanding of the physical-chemical properties and biological processes that operate in the oceans. This course emphasizes the ecological principles governing marine life throughout the world and stresses the processes and adaptations that structure marine associations and permit their persistence through time.
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
The goal of this course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE HONORS**
Students will explore the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world; to identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made; to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems; and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
This course serves as the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science. It provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world; to identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made; to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems; and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

INTEGRATED SCIENCE II HONORS—CRIMINALISTICS HONORS**
This one-half credit laboratory course, taught throughout the year after school, introduces the students to the basic concepts of forensic science and its history along with the criminal justice system. Topics include crime scene investigation, physical evidence, fingerprints, criminal psychology, blood spatter analysis, profiling, document forgery, forensic anthropology, entomology, and the criminal justice system.

GENETICS HONORS**
This one-year laboratory course provides students with a strong foundation in human genetics, achieved through the study of microbiology, human inheritance, and genetic technology.
**BIO-TECHNOLOGY HONORS**
Students will explore the fundamental principles of biotechnology, career pathways and biotechnology applications (medical, pharmaceutical, and agricultural). Topics of study include DNA, RNA, and protein technologies; genetic diagnostics; healthcare and pharmaceuticals; food biotech (GMOs); nutrition science; aquaculture; coastal and marine biotech; arid zone and desert biotech; bioinformatics; nanobiotechnology; cloning; stem cells; and bioethics. Laboratory activities and projects reinforce concepts and principles presented.

**ROBOTICS I, II, and III HONORS**
In these one-year, half credit after school courses, students will be introduced to physics and engineering concepts illustrated throughout the design, building, and programming of robots. The students in this class will be working towards competing in US FIRST Robotics competitions. For each of these competitions, an objective for the robot is announced at the beginning of the year, and the students have to tailor their building and design to produce a robot that can score points at each competition. Students will learn to program the functions of their robot with LEGO NXT Mindstorms, LabView, and RobotC. Additionally, students will learn to work with engineering design software such as Solidworks and CAD programs.

**INDEPENDENT RESEARCH I, II, III, and IV HONORS**
In these one-year, half credit after school courses, the student will design and conduct a research experiment following the steps of the scientific method. Starting with a hypothesis, the student will design and conduct an experiment collecting, graphing and analyzing data.

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

**WORLD HISTORY**
The World History course, a chronological study of world events from the earliest civilizations to the present, traces the development of civilization and societies. The full-year course integrates a number of themes that form the patterns of civilization: political change and economic
development, the influence of geography on cultures, the growth of science and technology, and the effect of contact among cultures including creativity in the arts. As students study the past, they begin to understand better the challenges of the present and the major issues of the future.

**WORLD HISTORY HONORS**

World History Honors, designed to offer students a full-year study of events, developments, and ideas of humankind’s past that have influenced the world today, begins with an overview of ancient civilizations and continues with a greater emphasis through the modern era. The interaction of geographic determinants on the cooperation and conflict among people emerges as an integral component of the curriculum. Reading primary sources and discussing current events develop students’ critical thinking skills.

**WORLD HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**

World History AP focuses on a global perspective of the world and human interactions from before the first millennium to present day. Six key themes outline this full-year course: relationship of change and continuity, impact of interactions among major societies, impact of technology and demography on people and the environment, systems of social and gender structures, cultural and intellectual developments and interactions, and changes in functions and structures of states. Students refine analytical skills and mental habits such as understanding historical and geographical context, making comparisons across cultures, using documents and other primary sources, and recognizing and discussing different interpretations and historical frameworks. All students sit for the World History Advanced Placement Exam in May.

**AMERICAN HISTORY**

American History is a full-year course that surveys the American experience from an overview of the Colonial Period through the Civil War and continues with an in-depth focus to the present day, while examining the evolution of America politically, economically and culturally. This course deals with current events from their historical perspective and their impact upon current American history. While using primary sources to help solidify the study of the nation, students develop an understanding of the foundations of the past and gain insight into the present.
AMERICAN HISTORY HONORS**
In American History Honors, a full-year course, students focus on major events in the nation’s history from the founding of the colonies to the present. The essential difference between American History and American History Honors lies in the approach to the general content and in the preparation required of the students. The Honors course uses a more critical analysis in reading and writing. This course provides opportunities to develop critical thinking skills, the steps of historical analysis, and the process of historical interpretation through the use of primary sources.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
United States History AP, a full-year study of America’s development as a nation, examines both the aspirations and achievements of the American people as it covers the ideas, institutions, and the processes that led to these achievements. This course comprehensively surveys the United States from the pre-colonial era through the present day. Advanced Placement United States History emphasizes the integration of primary sources in addition to informational texts and the writing of analytical essays. All students sit for the United States History Advanced Placement Exam in May.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
American Government, a semester course, prepares seniors for today’s political world through the study of the basic components of the American system. Emphasis is placed upon the Constitution, branches of government, and the federal bureaucracy. The students develop an awareness of the political process, how it operates, as well as the importance of civic participation in the democratic process.

ECONOMICS
Economics, a semester course, examines the American economic system and its component parts—business, government, and consumerism—as well as other economic systems. This course analyzes how markets operate and the conflicts over what should be produced, how it should be produced, and who should receive the products. Students analyze decision making
and its consequences. Further, students gain an understanding of economic factors, allowing them to become effective decision makers and participants in society.

**AMERICAN GOVERNMENT HONORS**
American Government Honors, an in-depth semester study of the American political system, concentrates on the political process, ideology, and civil rights and liberties in the first quarter; the second quarter focuses on the institutions of government. Writing essays, developing critical thinking skills, and understanding the promises and problems of the U.S. political system receive emphasis. The course prepares students to assume their proper role in the American democratic system.

**ECONOMICS HONORS**
Economics Honors, an in-depth semester study of the American economic system, concentrates on both macroeconomics and microeconomics. This approach blends a broad world view while stressing the importance of economic issues important to individuals. The course emphasizes the analysis of information in order to prepare students for their roles as members of the American economy. The course aims to impart an understanding of fundamental concepts so that students understand the economy in which they live.

**U. S. GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**
The U.S. Government and Politics AP program teaches U.S. constitutional government based on principles of philosophy, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties and interest groups, national institutions and policy processes, and law. This semester course enables students to develop a critical perspective of government and politics in the United States and emphasizes the techniques of evaluating, refuting, comparing, contrasting, analyzing, documenting, and supporting ideas. All students sit for the U. S. Government and Politics Advanced Placement Exam in May.

**MACROECONOMICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**
In Macroeconomics AP, a semester survey course, students examine a wide variety of areas: how total investment and consumption are determined, how central banks manage money and
interest rates, what causes international financial crises, and why some nations grow rapidly while others stagnate. Content also emphasizes how society organizes to utilize limited resources to satisfy the world’s needs and wants. All students sit for the Macroeconomics Advanced Placement Exam in May.

**PSYCHOLOGY HONORS**
This full-year course in Psychology seeks to develop in the student an understanding of and appreciation for what psychology has to offer the individual, groups, and society as a whole. Students acquire an understanding of human behavior, behavior interaction, and the progressive development of individuals. By analyzing the practical applications, research methodologies, and therapies used in the science of psychology, the student develops an insight into the behavior of themselves and others.

**PSYCHOLOGY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
The Psychology AP course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavioral and mental processes of human beings and animals and exposes them to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. All students sit for the Advanced Placement Psychology Examination in May.

**WORLD CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY HONORS**
This course is a year-long elective and can be taken after a student has completed a required World History course. It is an introductory approach to major world cultures. Themes of the course emphasize historical and contemporary cultural geography from a global perspective including religion, political trends, and family and social structure. Additionally the interdependency of countries and the advancement of globalization will be a consistent theme throughout the course. Students will interpret maps, graphs and other data while analyzing the relevant course themes.
HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
Human Geography AP, a discipline that uses a spatial approach to the understanding and analysis of cultures, surveys some of the concepts, methods, techniques, and applications of geographical analysis. In this full-year course, students study human environment interactions, including discussions of the growth and distribution of world populations, the impact of human beings on the environment, and the nature of resources. Other themes stress locational analysis and include patterns of land use, internal structures of cities, size and spacing of settlements, and spatial interaction. Students write frequently and regularly analyze maps, graphs, charts, and other primary source documents. All students sit for the Advanced Placement Human Geography Exam in May.

COMPARATIVE GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
Comparative Government and Politics AP, a full-year, college level, survey course, provides students with a coherent knowledge of different political systems and compares these systems in an effort to generalize about political structures, processes, institutions, and actors. Students study and analyze current issues involving the following countries: Great Britain, Russia, the People’s Republic of China, Mexico, Nigeria, and Iran. All students sit for the Comparative Government and Politics Advanced Placement Exam in May.

EUROPEAN HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
European History AP represents a full-year, college level, introductory course. Students learn the basic narrative of events and movements in European history from the Renaissance to the present and develop an understanding of the principal political, economic, cultural, and social themes in modern European history. The analysis of historical evidence and the expression of historical understanding in critical writing emphasize the advanced thought processes utilized in this course. All students sit for the European History Advanced Placement Exam in May.

WOMEN’S STUDIES HONORS **
This course provides a historical perspective of women throughout history, individual women who have shaped the past and present and contemporary issues that impact women today. Using a cross-disciplinary approach, the course seeks to enhance critical thinking skills.
Further, students will examine the historical development of gender norms, identities and roles as they have been impacted by cultural, historical, and political factors.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT HONORS I, II, III, IV**
Leadership Development Honors, a full-year course taught from Level I through Level IV, depending on the grade level of the student, offers proven leaders the opportunity to enhance their leadership skills. The content includes self-understanding, goal-setting, self-actualization, assertiveness, organizational theories, and management. Specific assignments, projects, and lectures center on the following: parliamentary procedure, problem solving, decision making, communication skills, group dynamics, time and stress management, public speaking, human relations, team building, and other group processes. The advanced levels of this course apply the leadership skills acquired in the first level and include specific assignments for school and community service projects.

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

GLOBAL STUDIES, PART I (The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture)
The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

GLOBAL STUDIES, PART I HONORS** (The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture)
The purpose of this honors level course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. The course and the work required will reflect a deeper exploration of Sacred Scripture. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word
of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. The students will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

**GLOBAL STUDIES, PART II (Who Is Jesus Christ?)**
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn whom he calls them to be.

**GLOBAL STUDIES, PART II HONORS** (Who Is Jesus Christ?)
This honors level course will focus on developing an understanding of Christology by exploring the person of Christ, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn whom he calls them to be. The students will be expected to deepen, through reading, research and discussion, how Jesus is the foundation and source of our faith.

**PHILOSOPHY I (The Mission of Jesus Christ: The Paschal Mystery)**
The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. 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 entails.

**PHILOSOPHY I HONORS** (The Mission of Jesus Christ: The Paschal Mystery)
This course builds on the early study of Christology by inviting the students to explore, at an honors level, this deeply theological truth of living as a person of Christian faith. Through this
course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. 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 entails.

**SOCIOMETRY (Jesus Christ’s Mission Continues in the Church)**
The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

**SOCIOMETRY HONORS** (Jesus Christ’s Mission Continues in the Church)
This honors level class will invite the students to explore the rich tradition of the Church and the people who have written its history. The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

**PHILOSOPHY II (Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ)**
The purpose of this course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.
PHILOSOPHY II HONORS** (Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ)
The Sacramental life of the Church is a rich experience for all who enter into it. In this honors course the students will come to understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

ETHICS (Life in Jesus Christ)
The purpose of this course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God’s plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ’s disciples.

ETHICS HONORS** (Life in Jesus Christ)
In this honors class the students will be challenged to explore the beliefs and teachings of the Church with regards to Ethics and morality. It will inform and guide them in deepening their knowledge in this critical theological area. It will help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God’s plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ’s disciples.

MULTICULTURAL STUDIES (Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society)
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church’s social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ’s concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church’s social teaching and mission.

MULTICULTURAL STUDIES HONORS** (Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society)
The Social teaching of the Church is an important aspect of living as a disciple today. This class will explore this rich tradition and its application to life today. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church’s social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ’s concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church’s social
teaching and mission. At the honors level students will look at source documents relating to Catholic Social teaching and integrate this knowledge into facing challenges in today’s world.

**WORLD RELIGIONS (Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues)**

The purpose of this course is to help the students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God’s Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.

**WORLD RELIGIONS HONORS** (Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues)

In this honors level class the students will explore the way in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God’s Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.

**ETHICS Dual Enrollment** (Life in Jesus Christ)

In this dual enrollment, college-level class, the students will be challenged to explore the beliefs and teachings of the Church with regards to Ethics and morality. They will be challenged to deepen their academic knowledge through research and writing on the subject matter. It will inform and guide them in deepening their knowledge in this critical theological area. It will help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God’s plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ’s disciples.
PHILOSOPHY II Dual Enrollment **** (Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ)
This is a dual enrollment college-level class. The students will be challenged to explore at a deeper academic level the richness of the Sacramental life of the Church and how it is lived today. The Sacramental life of the Church is a rich experience for all who enter into it. In this honors course the students will come to understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

MULTICULTURAL STUDIES Dual Enrollment **** (Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society)
In this college-level, dual enrollment class, the students will deepen their knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching and its application in our lives today, as individuals and members of the broader community. The Social teaching of the Church is an important aspect of living as a disciple today. This class will explore this rich tradition and its application to life today. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church’s social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ’s concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church’s social teaching and mission. At the honors level students will look at source documents relating to Catholic Social teaching and integrate this knowledge into facing challenges in today’s world.

WORLD RELIGIONS Dual Enrollment **** (Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues)
In this dual enrollment, college-level class, the students will explore the way in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God’s Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ
from the Catholic faith. The students will study at a deep level the belief of the Catholic Church in its relation to other religions of the world.

**WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

**WORLD LANGUAGE—SPANISH**

**SPANISH I**
This is an introductory course to the Spanish language and culture focusing on functional communicative proficiency and the acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. The language skills of interpretive listening, interpersonal communication, presentational speaking and writing, and interpretive reading are developed through a topical approach to contextual language acquisition utilizing a functional approach of hearing and seeing the language in use and moving from guided practice to open-ended expression incorporating higher order critical thinking skills.

**SPANISH I HONORS**
This is an introductory course to the Spanish language and culture focusing on functional communicative proficiency and the acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. The language skills of interpretive listening, interpersonal communication, presentational speaking and writing, and interpretive reading are developed through a topical approach to contextual language acquisition utilizing a functional approach of hearing and seeing the language in use and moving from guided practice to open-ended expression. Topical content in this course will be covered at an advanced level incorporating higher order critical thinking skills.

**SPANISH II**
This is an intermediate course in Spanish language and culture designed for students who must complete their basic language requirement. The course fosters the continued acquisition and refinement of basic language skills of interpretive listening, interpersonal communication, presentational speaking and writing, and interpretive reading through contextual language teaching utilizing a natural approach to language acquisition and spiraling of previously learned
vocabulary and grammar structures. The course also provides an appreciation of the Hispanic culture through readings and videos of various Spanish-speaking countries.

**SPANISH II HONORS**
This is an intermediate course in Spanish language and culture focusing on expanding communicative proficiency through the acquisition of advanced vocabulary and grammar structures. The language skills of interpretive listening, interpersonal communication, presentational speaking and writing, and interpretive reading are broadened through contextual language teaching utilizing a natural approach to language acquisition and spiraling of previously learned vocabulary and grammar structures. The course also provides an appreciation of the Hispanic culture through readings and videos of various Spanish-speaking countries. Topical content in this course will be covered at an advanced level incorporating higher order critical thinking skills.

**SPANISH III**
An intermediate course, Spanish III, fosters the continued acquisition and refinement of basic language skills while promoting proficiency in grammar, writing and listening competencies. Situational vocabulary presented strengthens the student’s conversational abilities. The course also provides an appreciation of the Hispanic culture through a study of various Spanish-speaking countries.

**SPANISH III HONORS**
Spanish III Honors, an advanced course designed for the student who has achieved a high level of proficiency in Spanish, continues expanding communicative proficiency. The curriculum includes further development of language skills with conversation that uses advanced vocabulary. The study of grammar continues on an advanced level with an emphasis on a variety of reading and writing exercises and cultural studies.
SPANISH IV HONORS**
This advanced course reviews, refines, and strengthens reading, writing, listening, and comprehension skills in the Spanish language. Additionally, the curriculum includes language development with a strong emphasis on conversation and reading comprehension, using advanced situational vocabulary. The study of grammar continues on an advanced level and includes a variety of reading and writing exercises.

SPANISH FOR SPEAKERS II HONORS**
An intermediate course intended for students who have attained fluency in Spanish in a Hispanic home, Spanish for Speakers II Honors focuses on improved aptitude in reading, writing, and grammar skills while continuing to develop existing communicative proficiency and higher level vocabulary. Interdisciplinary studies, advanced critical thinking skills, and an introduction to literature refine the Spanish speaker's use of the language.

SPANISH FOR SPEAKERS III HONORS**
This course requires the student to have acquired not only a high degree of aural and oral fluency, but also a more sophisticated level of vocabulary, reading and writing extensively in Spanish. Advanced grammar and orthography comprise an integral part of Spanish for Speakers III Honors. Hispanic culture and history play a strong role in this curriculum as the student reads major writers of the Hispanic world and studies a selection of their works in a critical, analytical manner.

SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
The AP Spanish Language and Culture course prepares students for the Advanced Placement exam in May. All students taking this course sit for the exam. The course is designed to increase the fluency with which students express themselves in the target language. It also develops their ability to understand the language and the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world in tangible and intangible ways. Throughout the course, students study and are exposed to a wide array of topics and social practices in order for them to develop a truly international perspective and an appreciation of the Hispanic world. The three modes of communication (interpersonal,
interpretive, and presentational) are foundational to the AP Spanish Language and Culture course. The course provides students with opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency in each of the three modes while exploring the six themes of the AP Spanish Language and Culture course: Families and Communities, Science and Technology, Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, World Challenges, and Personal and Public Identities. All students will sit for the Spanish Language Advanced Placement exam in May.

**SPANISH LITERATURE AND CULTURE (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**

The course is designed for native Spanish speakers to enrich and advance their reading potential by covering selected works from the literature of Spain and Latin America. The purpose of this course will be to prepare students to read and understand literary texts of selected genres in Spanish and to analyze its form and use of certain literary terms. Emphasis is placed on approaching the study of literature through global, historical, contemporary, and cultural contexts. A key objective of this course is to relate the literary content of texts to the historical, sociocultural, and geopolitical contexts in Spanish. Reading comprehension will be greatly enhanced by the literary selections. All students will sit for the Spanish Literature Advanced Placement exam in May.

**WORLD LANGUAGE—LATIN**

**LATIN I HONORS**

The Latin I program introduces the forms, the syntax, and vocabulary of Latin in a progressive, cumulative sequence, enabling students to proceed on an orderly systematic path to knowledge of the language. The reading passages are based on Latin literature and proceed in chronological order thus giving the students a solid base for Latin AP. The course emphasizes the influence on English and other romance languages. Finally, it presents the development of the culture and civilization of Rome and its impact on modern civilizations.

**LATIN II HONORS**

Latin II Honors strengthens skills acquired in Latin I Honors and continues the progressive development of students as they read and comprehend Latin of increasing complexity. The
readings present unadapted works by a variety of authors representing multiple genres. Supplemental readings provide mythology and the history of the Middle Ages as it pertains to the former Roman Empire.

**LATIN PROSE HONORS**
In Latin Prose Honors, students use and expand their vocabulary and syntax by reading the works of a variety of significant Roman prose writers, including Sallust, Pliny, Livy, and Cicero. With emphasis on the Age of Cicero, students study the history, culture, and authors of each period.

**LATIN POETRY HONORS**
In Latin Poetry Honors, students use, expand, and hone the vocabulary and syntax skills acquired in their previous years of Latin. Additionally, they study the poetry of Ovid, Horace, and Vergil, placing special emphasis on mythology along with the history and culture of the Augustan Age.

**LATIN (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**
This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Latin exam and will cover the *Aeneid*, Vergil’s most famous work, and *De Bello Callico*, Julius Caesar’s account of the conquest of Gaul. The goal of the curriculum is to prepare students to read, translate, understand, analyze, and interpret the content of the AP Latin syllabus as outlined in the *AP Latin Course Description* (the “Acorn” book). As part of the course, students will review Latin grammar and vocabulary, poetic meter, the culture and history of Rome, the characteristics of epic poetry, the geography of the ancient world, Julius Caesar’s life and military career, Vergil’s life and influences, and essay writing. All students sit for the Latin Advanced Placement Exam in May.

**WORLD LANGUAGE—FRENCH**

**FRENCH I**
This is an introductory course to the French language and culture focusing on functional communicative proficiency and the acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. The
four language skills of speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing are developed through contextual language teaching utilizing an eclectic approach moving from guided practice to open-ended expression incorporating higher order approach to language acquisition of hearing and seeing the language in use and critical thinking skills.

**FRENCH I HONORS**
An introductory course to the French language, French I Honors provides students with the basic proficiency necessary to function in a French-speaking culture and to appreciate the role of the Francophone cultures in a global context. Students learn vocabulary and grammatical structures and practice them in context, using everyday situations for communication. The teacher uses a balanced-skills approach to emphasize listening, comprehension, and speaking.

**FRENCH II HONORS**
This course focuses primarily on the gradual expansion and refinement of vocabulary and structures, while at the same time reviewing basic elements of Level I. The balanced-skills approach continues, with more emphasis on reading and writing. Cultural study incorporates an appreciation of traditions and daily life in the Francophone world.

**FRENCH III HONORS**
This advanced course for students who have mastered the basics of the French language and who wish to continue expanding communicative proficiency continues the development of language skills and emphasizes conversation, using more advanced situational vocabulary. The study of grammar continues on an advanced level with a variety of reading and writing exercises in French.

**FRENCH IV HONORS**
This advanced course reviews, refines and strengthens reading, writing, listening and comprehension skills in the French language. Additionally, the curriculum includes language development with a strong emphasis on conversation and reading comprehension, using advanced situational vocabulary. The study of grammar continues on an advanced level and includes a variety of reading and writing exercises.
FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)****
The AP French Language and Culture course prepares students for the Advanced Placement exam in May. All students taking this course will sit the AP exam. This course is designed to train students in the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational aspects of communication. The course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and is designed to increase the fluency and level of sophistication with which students express themselves in French. It also develops their ability to understand the language and the cultures of the French-speaking world in tangible and intangible ways and to analyze, reflect on, and discuss contemporary issues. Therefore, throughout the course, students study and are exposed to a wide array of topics and social practices in order for them to develop a truly international perspective. They are given the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency and increasing cultural awareness while exploring the six themes of the AP French Language and Culture course: Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics.

WORLD LANGUAGE—ITALIAN

ITALIAN I
This is an introductory course to the Italian language and culture with the focus on practical communicative proficiency and the acquisition of the fundamentals of applied grammar. The four language skills of listening comprehension, reading, speaking and writing are developed through a contemporary approach to contextual language teaching, and uses a natural approach to language incorporation higher order critical thinking skills.

ITALIAN I HONORS**
This introductory course to the Italian language and culture focuses on communicative proficiency, develops the four language skills—speaking, listening, reading, and writing—through contextual language teaching, and uses a natural approach to language
Students experience a gradual shift from guided practice to open-ended expression, incorporating higher order critical thinking skills.

**ITALIAN II HONORS**

This intermediate course in Italian language and culture, intended for those students who successfully complete Italian Honors I, focuses on expanding communicative proficiency. Students broaden their speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills through contextual language learning, a natural approach to language acquisition, and the spiraling of previously learned vocabulary and grammar structures.

**ITALIAN III HONORS**

This advanced course is designed for the student who has mastered the basics of the Italian language and who wishes to continue expanding communicative proficiency. The curriculum includes further development of language skills with conversation that uses advanced vocabulary. The study of grammar continues on an advanced level with a variety of reading and writing exercises and cultural studies.

**ITALIAN IV HONORS**

This advanced course in Italian language and culture reviews, refines, and strengthens reading, writing, listening, and comprehension skills. Additionally, Italian IV Honors emphasizes conversation and reading comprehension, using advanced, situational vocabulary. The study of grammar continues on an advanced level, as students read and examine a variety of literary and cultural texts and engage in writing exercises in Italian.

**ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)**

This course prepares the student for the Advanced Placement Italian Language Examination in May. The three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) are foundational to the AP Italian Language and Culture course. These modes are implemented as students explore the six themes of the AP Italian Language and Culture course: Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communities, and Beauty and Aesthetics. The AP course provides students with
opportunities to demonstrate their proficiency in each of the three modes. The AP Italian Language and Culture course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The course strives to promote both fluency and accuracy in language. The course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. Students develop awareness and appreciation of cultural products, both tangible and intangible; practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions that underlie both practices and products). All students sit for the Italian Language and Culture Advanced Placement Exam in May.