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# Planning Guide

## Four-Year Plan

*Freshman - Minimum Credit Requirement = 13*

*Typical Credits = 15*

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
Theology	1	Theology	1
English	1	English	1
Mathematics	1	Mathematics	1
Science	1	Science	1
Physical Education	.5	Physical Education	.5
Health OR Fine Art	1	Health OR Fine Art	1
World Language	1	World Language	1
Elective	1	Elective	1
<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.5 to 7.5</b>	<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.5 to 7.5</b>

*Sophomore - Minimum Credit Requirement = 12.5*

*Typical Credits = 14.5*

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
Theology	1	Theology	1
English	1	English	1
Mathematics	1	Mathematics	1
Science	1	Science	1
Wellness	.25	Wellness	.25
Social Studies	1	Social Studies	1
World Language	1	World Language	1
Elective	1	Elective	1
<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.25 to 7.25</b>	<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.25 to 7.25</b>

*Junior - Minimum Credit Requirement = 13*

*Typical Credits = 15*

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
Theology	1	Theology	1
English	1	English	1
Mathematics	1	Mathematics	1
Science	1	Science	1
Guidance: ACT Prep	.5	Wellness	.25
Social Studies	1	Social Studies	1
Elective	1	Guidance: College Planning Portfolio	.5
Elective	1	Elective	1
		Elective	1
<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.50 to 7.50</b>	<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.75 to 7.75</b>

*Senior - Minimum Credit Requirement = 12.5*

*Typical Credits = 14.5*

First Semester	Credits	Second Semester	Credits
Theology	1	Theology	1
English	1	English	1
Social Studies	1	Social Studies	1
Wellness	.25	Wellness	.25
Elective	1	Elective	1
Elective	1	Elective	1
Elective	1	Elective	1
Elective	1	Elective	1
<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.25 to 7.25</b>	<b>Total credits per semester</b>	<b>6.25 to 7.25</b>

# Planning Guide

## Sample Schedules

The Program of Studies is a valuable resource in helping students, with input from their parents, select courses that are engaging, challenging and prepare the student for the next level of study. Course selections are based on the student's interest and the student's desire to complete a rigorous college preparatory curriculum.

The sample schedules included in this book are designed to provide a glance at some possible four-year plans with a focused area of interest. The sample schedules are not intended to be set in stone, but rather are provided to offer a starting point for selecting courses.

The course selection process includes consultation with teachers, college counselors and parents and culminates in course selections being made in late February or early March of each year.

# Sample Schedules

## Business Focus

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>9</b>		English 9	English 9
		Theology	Theology
		PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
		Math	Math
		Intro to Physics	Intro to Chemistry
		World Language	World Language
		Fine Art	Health
		Introduction to Business	Fine Art

## Honors and AP Focus

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>9</b>		Honors English 9	Honors English 9
		Theology	Theology
		PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
		Honors Algebra II	Honors Algebra II
		Honors Biology	Honors Biology
		World Language	World Language
		Health	Fine Art
		AP Human Geography	AP Human Geography

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>10</b>		English 10	English 10
		Theology	Theology
		Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
		Math	Math
		Biology	Biology
		World Language	World Language
		World History	World History
		Business	Business

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>10</b>		Honors Eng 10	Honors Eng 10
		Theology	Theology
		Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
		Honors Precalc	Honors Precalc
		Honors Chemistry	Honors Chemistry
		World Language	World Language
		AP US History	AP US History
		Fine Art	Elective

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>11</b>		Advanced Comp	American Literature
		Theology	Theology
		ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
		Math	Math
		Chemistry	Chemistry
		World Language	World Language
		Business	Business
		Social Studies	Social Studies

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>11</b>		AP Comp	AP Comp
		Theology	Theology
		ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
		AP Calc AB	AP Calc AB
		AP Chemistry	AP Chemistry
		World Language	World Language
		Engineering or BioMed	Engineering or BioMed
		AP US Government	AP US Comparative Gov

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>12</b>		English (choice)	English (choice)
		Theology	Theology
		Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
		Math	Math
		Science	Science
		World Language	World Language
		Business	Business
		Social Studies	Social Studies

		Semester One	Semester Two
<b>12</b>		AP Lit	AP Lit
		Theology	Theology
		Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
		AP Calc BC	AP Calc BC
		AP Physics	AP Physics
		AP World Language	AP World Language
		Engineering or AP BioMed	Engineering or AP BioMed
		AP Euro	AP Euro

# Sample Schedules

## Journalism Focus

	Semester One	Semester Two
9	English 9	English 9
	Theology	Theology
	PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Intro to Physics	Intro to Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Health	Elective
	Fine Art	Fine Art

	Semester One	Semester Two
10	English 10	English 10
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Biology	Biology
	World Language	World Language
	Journalism Option	Journalism Option
	Social Studies	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
11	Adv. Comp	American Lit
	Theology	Theology
	ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Chemistry	Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Journalism Option	Journalism Option
	Social Studies	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
12	English (choice)	English (choice)
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World Language	World Language
	Journalism Option	Journalism Option
	Social Studies	Social Studies

## Learning Support

	Semester One	Semester Two
9	English 9	English 9
	Theology	Theology
	PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
	Algebra Concepts	Algebra Concepts
	Intro to Physics	Intro to Chemistry
	English Comp	English Comp
	Learning Lab	Learning Lab or Fine Art
	Fine Art	Health

	Semester One	Semester Two
10	English 10	English 10
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness/BSM Hour/QS
	Geometry Concepts	Geometry Concepts
	Biology	Biology
	World Language	World Language
	Social Studies	Social Studies
	Elective/Acd Support	Elective/Acd Support

	Semester One	Semester Two
11	Adv. Comp	American Lit
	Theology	Theology
	ACT Prep / BSM Hour/QS	Wellness / BSM Hour/QS
	Math	Math
	General Chemistry	General Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Social Studies	Social Studies
	Elective/Acd Support	Elective/Acd Support

	Semester One	Semester Two
12	English (choice)	English (choice)
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour/QS	Wellness / BSM Hour/QS
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World Language	World Language
	Government	Social Studies
	Elective/Acd Support	Elective/Acd Support

# Sample Schedules

## Music with Elective\* Focus

\*ART, BIOMED, BUSINESS, ENGINEERING, JOURNALISM

	Semester One	Semester Two
9	English 9	English 9
	Theology	Theology
	PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Intro to Physics	Intro to Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Music	Music
	Health or Elective	Health or Elective

## STEM Focus

	Semester One	Semester Two
9	English 9	English 9
	Theology	Theology
	PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Fine Art	Intro to Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Health	Fine Art
	Engineering	Engineering

	Semester One	Semester Two
10	English 10	English 10
	Theology	Theology
	Music / BSM Hour	Music / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Biology	Biology
	World Language	World Language
	World History	World History
	Elective	Elective

	Semester One	Semester Two
10	English 10	English 10
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Biology	Biology
	World Language	World Language
	World History	World History
	Engineering or BioMed	Engineering or BioMed

	Semester One	Semester Two
11	Adv Comp	American Studies
	Theology	Theology
	ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Music / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Chemistry	Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	US History	US History
	Elective	Elective

	Semester One	Semester Two
11	Adv Comp	American Lit
	Theology	Theology
	ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Chemistry	Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Engineering or BioMed	Engineering or BioMed
	Social Studies	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
12	Fine Art	English (choice)
	Theology	Theology
	Music / BSM Hour	Music / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World Language	World Language
	Social Studies	Social Studies
	Elective	Elective

	Semester One	Semester Two
12	English (choice)	English (choice)
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World Language	World Language
	Engineering or BioMed	Engineering or BioMed
	Social Studies	Social Studies

# Sample Schedules

## Studio Art Focus

	Semester One	Semester Two
9	English 9	English 9
	Theology	Theology
	PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Intro to Physics	Intro to Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Health	Elective
	Art and Design	Art

## Two World Languages

	Semester One	Semester Two
9	English 9	English 9
	Theology	Theology
	PE 9 / BSM Hour	PE 9 / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Intro to Physics	Intro to Chemistry
	Health	Art
	World Language	World Language
	World Language	World Language

	Semester One	Semester Two
10	English 10	English 10
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Biology	Biology
	World Language	World Language
	Art	Art
	Social Studies	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
10	English 10	English 10
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness/BSM Hr/.5Music	Wellness BSM Hr/.5Music
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World History	World History
	World Language	World Language
	World Language	World Language

	Semester One	Semester Two
11	Adv. Comp	American Lit
	Theology	Theology
	ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Chemistry	Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	Art	Art
	Social Studies	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
11	Adv Comp	American Lit
	Theology	Theology
	ACT Prep / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Chemistry	Chemistry
	World Language	World Language
	World Language	World Language
	Social Studies	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
12	English	English
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World Language	World Language
	Art	Art
	Government	Social Studies

	Semester One	Semester Two
12	English	English
	Theology	Theology
	Wellness / BSM Hour	Wellness / BSM Hour
	Math	Math
	Science	Science
	World Language	World Language
	World Language	World Language
	Social Studies	Social Studies

# Policies and Procedures

## BENILDE-ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

This Program of Studies has been designed to provide information for students and parents as they make informed decisions regarding course selection during their years at Benilde-St. Margaret's. Students are strongly encouraged to discuss their course selections with their counselors, teachers, and parents. The high school experience is intended to be a four-year process in which students complete an extensive curriculum in preparation for post-secondary studies. Benilde-St. Margaret's offers a variety of elective courses that enhance a college preparatory curriculum. With this philosophy in mind, we will not allow students to complete their studies after the first semester of senior year.

The following is a summary of the courses that are required for graduation. One credit equals one semester of satisfactory completion of coursework, with the exception of Physical Education 9, Wellness 10, Wellness 11, Wellness 12 and College and Career Planning.

English:	8 credits	Theology	8 credits
Fine Arts:	2 credits	Science	6 credits
Guidance	1 credit	Social Studies	6 credits
Health	1 credit	Wellness/PE	2.25 credits
Mathematics:	6 credits	World Language	4 credits
Electives	7 credits	<b>Total credits</b>	<b>51.25</b>

The courses listed in this Program of Studies will not necessarily be the same as the final courses offered during the school year. The number of students registered for a course, scheduling priorities and personnel will determine final course offerings. Counselors are available to students and parents throughout the course selection process.

## COLLEGE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Colleges have a wide range of admission requirements. For specific requirements, students should contact the admissions office at the colleges or universities they are interested in attending. Students planning to attend college should have the following courses:

English	4 years	Social Studies	3 years
Math	3-4 years	Science	3-4 years
World Language	2-4 years		

The principle factors colleges consider in making admission decisions include the following:

1. Rigor of curriculum.
2. High school GPA (grade point average).
3. ACT and/or SAT test scores.

Highly selective colleges are interested in the pattern of high school courses taken by their applicants. Students interested in these schools should take the most rigorous courses available and should take all the science, math, English, social studies, and world language available.

Advanced Placement (AP) courses at BSM are first-year-college equivalent courses, approved by the College Board. They are designed to assist in preparation for the AP exams held annually in May. With enrollment in an AP course comes the expectation the student will take the exam in May. Students may earn college credit if their scores qualify.



# Policies and Procedures

## NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Students wishing to participate in inter-collegiate athletics on a Division I or Division II level must abide by NCAA guidelines. Students must register and be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. The NCAA selects courses from English, Math, Social Studies, Science and World Language to use in their core course guideline. Students should be aware some courses offered at Benilde-St. Margaret's School do not meet NCAA core course guidelines. Following is a list of courses offered at BSM that are **not approved** by the NCAA:

### **Not Approved**

Advanced Film Studies	English Composition	SLIP
Algebra Concepts	Film Studies	Sports Writing
	Geometry Concepts	Video Journalism
	Intermediate Algebra	

For additional information about DI or DII course, grade and test score requirements please go to the NCAA website: [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org). Select: "enter here">"resources">"US Students">"Eligibility Quick Reference Sheet"

## AUDITING A CLASS

Sometimes a student may need to take a course for review or to strengthen his/her skills in order to progress through the sequence in an academic area. This can be done through auditing a class. Although a student receives a grade that is reflected on his/her permanent record, he/she does not receive credit for the audited class. The grade is not computed into a student's cumulative grade point average. The student should make arrangements to audit a class by contacting his/her counselor.

## BSM HOUR

Each student will be scheduled for a BSM (**B**ody, **S**pirit, **M**ind) Hour during the regular school day for both semesters. During the BSM Hour all students will earn their Physical Education/Wellness credit. Physical Education meets two days per week for freshmen. For sophomores, juniors, and seniors, Wellness meets approximately one day a week. Students will also be required to attend sessions with their academic counselor during their BSM hour throughout the school year. In addition, students will have access to resource centers in various disciplines (Math and Writing) and have expanded opportunities for peer tutoring, music sectionals, college and career planning, fitness activities, technology assistance, meetings with counselors or the campus minister and time for individual and group work. The BSM Hour is an integral part of the academic mission of the school and is not optional.

# Policies and Procedures

## COURSE CHANGE POLICY

Students register for courses in the spring of each year, and it is important for students to select courses carefully. The BSM Program of Studies contains a listing of all courses offered, and prerequisite information is noted if appropriate. Course requests are carefully reviewed by each academic department after semester two grades have been posted. Students who do not meet the necessary course prerequisite will be placed in the appropriate level or may be asked to make an alternate course choice. Administration will place a student in a course necessary to fulfill graduation requirements if an alternate selection is not chosen. The administration reserves the right to cancel any course with insufficient numbers or where changes in personnel are required.

### *Changes prior to the start of school:*

In late May students will review their preliminary schedule and may make adjustments. All changes are subject to class space availability.

### *After the start of school:*

Based on the recommendation of your guidance counselor and appropriate department chair, a course change may be approved after the start of the school year, taking into account the following guidelines:

- All changes must be made by the date set by administration, usually the end of the first week of school.
- A change request form must be completed.
- Teacher and hour preference are not considered valid reasons for a schedule change.
- All changes are subject to available class space.
- All change requests must be made with the assigned guidance counselor.

### *Level Changes*

Students are placed in the course level most appropriate to their academic ability. Each department allows a four-week period at the beginning of first semester to confirm that a student is in the most appropriate course level. In some cases, a level change adjustment may become necessary to ensure the best possible academic experience for a student.

Level changes may be initiated by the student or teacher. Students are encouraged to speak with the instructor of the course if they feel they need a level change. The teacher will speak with the student's academic counselor, their department chair and a parent. If a change is warranted, the department chair will confirm the change with the academic counselor. Every effort is made not to disrupt the entire student schedule; however, it may be necessary to adjust one or more additional courses to accommodate a level change.

## AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA™

AP Capstone is an innovative diploma program providing students with an opportunity to engage in rigorous scholarly practice of the core academic skills necessary for successful college completion. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar: Biomedical Science and AP Research: Biomedical Science AND on 4 additional AP Exams of the student's choosing to receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but, not on the four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. The AP Capstone Program cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares them to make logical, evidence-based decisions.

## MN BILINGUAL AND MULTILINGUAL SEALS AND WORLD LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATES

Students in grades 10,11 or 12 who have demonstrated required levels of language proficiency in other than English, ASL or American Indian languages may be eligible to receive this seal or certificate. MN State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU) award college credit based on student's level of proficiency.

# Policies and Procedures

## **HONORS COURSES**

Honors courses are designed to challenge our most capable and motivated students by providing them with clearly stated expectations that specify the rigorous nature of the curriculum. Expectations may include the following criteria:

1. Clearly defined, measurable prerequisites for placement in the honors level course.
2. Material that is covered more extensively or at an accelerated pace.
3. Course activities and assessments that require students to demonstrate advanced skills in critical thinking, analysis, interpretation, and synthesis.
4. Course requirements may include completion of a significant project, presentation, or research paper.

## **POST-SECONDARY ENROLLMENT OPTIONS (PSEO)**

Students wishing to take college courses while in high school may want to consider PSEO. Juniors and seniors are allowed to apply for PSEO part time. Several guidelines and requirements have been set for BSM students to participate in this program. Detailed information regarding BSM's PSEO policy can be obtained from the student's guidance counselor.

## **SHORTAGE OF CREDITS**

Students are required to be making satisfactory progress toward graduation in order to be allowed to continue enrollment at Benilde-St. Margaret's School. If a student fails a course and is subsequently short the required number of credits toward graduation, it is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents to make arrangements to make up the failed course and the loss of credit. Credit may be recovered by enrolling in an approved course offered at BSM, or by completing an approved, online, course. The course must be approved by the appropriate BSM department head prior to enrollment.

## **STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM**

Students choosing to spend one or more semesters studying abroad will need to see their counselor to discuss arrangements. Issues concerning transfer of grades, and credits earned through studying abroad will be discussed. Prior to leaving, the student must have written consent from the principal. Students should be aware Benilde-St. Margaret's School graduation requirements will not be waived and will need to be completed in order for the student to graduate.

## **WITHDRAWALS FROM A COURSE**

### ***Withdraw Procedure***

After approved schedule changes have been made, withdrawals from a course are strongly discouraged.

A student may withdraw from a course during the first six weeks of the semester if consent is obtained from the student's parent/guardian, his/her counselor, and the teacher of the course. If a student withdraws from a course within the six-week period, a "W" is placed on the transcript. After the first six weeks of the semester, no withdrawals will be permitted except for serious and prolonged illness or other unavoidable emergencies. Students who withdraw from a class after the first six weeks of the semester will receive a "WF" on their permanent record.

### ***Withdrawal from a Yearlong Course***

When enrolling in a yearlong course, students should expect to remain in the course for both semesters. When applying to colleges, students are required to list their course of studies. A college will look for successful completion of a yearlong course. A grade issued for only one semester of a yearlong course may be a red flag to a college admissions office. Any student wishing to withdraw from a yearlong course must receive permission from the instructor of the course. Seniors should also consult with their counselor and college admission offices before making course changes.

# Business

## **Accounting I (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Alumni consistently report this to be the most valuable college preparatory class offered in the business department. This course provides a simple approach to learning fundamental accounting principles. Basic Accounting concepts covered include business transactions, financial statements, accounting systems and procedures. The course provides an accounting framework that will be valuable to any student who plans on taking college level business courses or plans to work in any type of business environment.

## **Accounting II (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Accounting I*

Accounting II builds on concepts from Accounting I to provide a more complex understanding of financial accounting with sections on inventory, specialized journals, and corporate accounting. The class also introduces students to managerial accounting concepts including margin analysis, capital budgeting, forecasting, and product costing.

## **Business Management (S1) (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors, and seniors.

Have you ever wondered what it takes to operate and manage your own business? This course gives students the knowledge to create a business while exploring various business concepts. The class includes units on entrepreneurship, product development, finance, marketing, ethics, and strategic and operations management. The course utilizes realistic business simulations to allow students to make managerial decisions for their own business.

## **Business and Personal Law (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Are you curious about the law and how it affects you? This course gives students a solid foundation in business and personal law topics that affect both individuals and organizations. The course provides a thorough analysis of the interplay between rights and duties and the regulatory structure that oversees it. Students will be challenged to think analytically as they study legal cases and view the business environment through a legal framework. The course includes sections on: ethics, sources of law, the court system, criminal tort, contract, consumer, and employment law.

## **Introduction to Business (S1) (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to freshmen.

The class is designed to give students an introductory understanding of business topics including accounting, marketing, business law, international business, economics and career exploration. Students will have the opportunity to explore areas of business they are interested in and can then further explore those concepts by taking more advanced and detailed business courses throughout their high school experience.

## **Investing & Portfolio Management (S1) (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This course covers the basic principles of investing from the perspective of a professional portfolio manager. Students in the class actively manage a live six-figure stock portfolio that is part of the BSM endowment fund. Students model the portfolio in Microsoft Excel and use it to create various analytical tools to help make sound investment decisions. Course content includes valuation models, risk assessment, analysis of financial securities, portfolio theory, investment banking, time value of money, and financial derivatives.

# Business

## **Personal Financial Management (S1) (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

Do you plan to live on your own someday? Apply for a credit card or a car loan? Set up a savings and checking account? Financial literacy among teens has been recognized as a necessity to assure financial success. Personal Financial Management helps students become financially literate by gaining knowledge in the areas of banking services, using credit wisely, planning savings and investments, selecting appropriate insurance coverage, buying or leasing a first car, and developing techniques for personal money management.

## **Sports and Entertainment Marketing (S1) (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

The Gophers, the Vikings, Disney World, movies, stadiums, salary caps, the Emmy's, NCAA, and endorsements. If these topics appeal to you, then you will like Sports and Entertainment Marketing. Fans and companies spend billions of dollars each year in sports. The entertainment industry is one of the largest exports of the United States. This class highlights marketing concepts through the lens of these industries. Some of the areas of discussion will be marketing products and services, public relations, promotions, legal issues, and marketing strategy. Students will produce an entertainment or sporting related project incorporating the knowledge and skills gained in the course and use marketing simulations gain real world knowledge. Example simulations include ticket pricing, stadium staffing, sponsorships, and promotions.

# English

## *Freshman*

***Enrollment in a yearlong English course is required. Placement is based on test scores and teacher recommendation. Enrollment in English Composition is concurrent with English 9.***

### **English 9 (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, required.

The goals of English 9 are to help the student grow in appreciation of literature, develop critical thinking skills, express him/herself in an articulate manner both orally and in writing, and to effect a better command of the English language. Writing skills, with a review of the fundamentals of grammar, are stressed with emphasis on paragraph structure and the five-paragraph essay format. Plays, essays, and novels are read, studied, and analyzed. A vocabulary program is also part of the curriculum. Students should anticipate a required reading over the summer.

### **English Composition (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to freshmen.

*Enrollment is based on the placement exam and/or teacher recommendation. Concurrent with English 9.*

This course seeks to improve reading and writing skills for students who have demonstrated difficulty in these areas. The aim of this class is to help those students with particular needs in language skills become more confident, so that they will be better equipped to deal with the demands of English 9 and beyond. The structure of this year long course, paired with English 9, promotes individualized instruction and deeper understanding in all areas of English Language Arts, particularly with writing and reading comprehension. This paired course will cover the reading and writing skills required in English 9, and will allow for deeper instruction in these skills. Text selection follows the core curriculum of English 9, and students have the opportunity to read other texts of their choosing during Silent Sustained Reading, which occurs every day. *This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

### **Honors English 9 (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to freshmen.

*Prerequisite: Score in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile on placement exam.*

This course is for students who possess superior language arts skills and have the desire to learn at an intense and accelerated pace. Students will examine the principal literary genres in a varied selection of approximately 15 texts, ranging from Greek drama to contemporary novels. The focus of the class will be critical analysis of the literature through discussion and writing. A vocabulary program is also included in the curriculum. Students should anticipate a required reading over the summer.

# English

## *Sophomore*

*Enrollment in a yearlong English 10 course is required. In addition, these elective options (listed under “Senior”) are available to sophomores:*

*Creative Writing*

*Debate*

*Eco-Writing*

*Journalistic Writing*

*Mythology*

*Shakespeare*

*Twentieth Century Drama.*

### **English 10 (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, required.

The English 10 reading program explores a variety of literary genres, the study of which will develop and advance those critical and interpretative reading skills introduced in English 9. The first semester focuses on literature covering novels and plays. The composition portion of this course reviews paragraph development and multi-paragraph essays, including an emphasis on research skills. Included in the second semester are a research unit and a speech unit in which students will gain experience in organizing and delivering formal and informal oral presentations. A vocabulary program is also part of the curriculum. Students should anticipate a required reading over the summer.

### **Honors English 10 (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores.

*Prerequisite: Honors English 9 with a grade of “B” or above in both semesters OR an “A” in both semesters of English 9 in addition to the English department placement test score.*

This course is intended for students who demonstrate superior language arts skills and have the desire to learn at an accelerated pace. Students read approximately 10 classic and contemporary novels and plays from Greek, European, and American literature and selected works of poetry. The intensive writing program includes multi-paragraph essays of various forms. Also included in the course are a research project and a speech unit in which students gain experience in organizing and delivering formal and informal oral presentations. A vocabulary program is also part of the curriculum. Students should anticipate a required reading over the summer.

# English

## *Junior*

*Juniors are required to take one of the following options:*

*Option 1: American Literature and Advanced Composition-one each semester*

*Option 2: Advanced Composition (S1) and American Studies (S2)*

*Option 3: AP Language and Composition- for the full year*

*In addition, with the two exceptions of AP English Literature and Composition, and Non-Fiction Writing, juniors may choose to enroll in any English electives listed under “Senior.”*

### **Advanced Composition (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit-open to juniors.

This course prepares students for college writing assignments developing fundamental writing skills. Students will gain familiarity with and feel confident using different forms of writing, including argumentation, critical analysis, narration, description, and researched writing. Students will master the basics of grammar, mechanics, and usages. They will develop their own voices as writers and learn how to make the structure and form of their writing match its content through the process of revision. In addition, as part of course activities, students will write a college-application essay.

*Students enrolled in Advanced Composition first semester must complete the required summer American Literature reading assignment.*

### **American Literature (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors.

This course focuses on developing a foundation in American Literature while examining American culture as seen through novels, poetry, history, and art. Students should anticipate required reading over the summer.

### **American Studies/English (S2)**

One semester, two credits, open to juniors.

*Prerequisite: In addition to a grade of “B” or higher in both sophomore and first quarter junior year English and Social Studies classes, students must enroll in first semester Advanced Composition. Semester two students must enroll in American Studies English and American Studies Social. This course fulfills the second semester American Literature English requirement.*

This course blends US historical events and themes in American literature to provide students with a comprehensive social, political, economic, and literary history. Five time periods each reflecting different epochs will be team taught: Great Depression, World War 2, Civil Rights, Cold War Conflict, and Challenges of Modern American Society. Having both literary and historical figures illuminating the human experience, American Studies fosters a deeper understanding of the principles, problems and issues basic to the establishment of our country. This understanding is essential for students to fully appreciate the complexities of history as it unfolds in modern times. Students enrolled in this course will meet two consecutive class periods.

### **AP Language and Composition (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors.

*Prerequisite: English 10 with a grade of “A” in both semesters OR Honors English 10 with a grade of “B” or higher in both semesters.*

*In addition, prospective students must take the department placement test to determine their readiness for this course.*

This accelerated writing course is taken in lieu of Advanced Composition and American Literature and is designed for those students who possess advanced writing skills. It is designed to further challenge those students as writers and to prepare them for more complex writing situations. Students will be required to complete a major writing project along with a variety of formal, informal, and in-class essays. In addition, students will be required to read several texts over the course of the year, focusing on American culture and rhetoric in fiction and nonfiction pieces. This is a reading- and writing- intensive course. **NOTE:** This course fulfills both the junior Advanced Composition and American Literature requirements.



# English

## *Senior*

*Enrollment in two English electives is required. One elective per semester.*

### **AP English Literature and Composition (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: A grade of "A" in both junior year English courses and/or "B" or higher in AP Language and Composition.*

This is an intense, college-level course in the reading and critical analysis of literature with a heavy emphasis on formal expository composition. A range of literature representative of different genres and historical periods will be studied, including approximately eight novels, a dozen short stories, six plays, and a wide selection of poetry. This yearlong course is a preparation for the AP Literature exam that is given in mid-May. Thus, it is expected that students taking this course will also take the AP Literature exam. Students should anticipate required reading over the summer.

### **Advanced Film (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Film Studies*

Advanced Film is for students who wish to continue their study of film beyond the Film Studies course. Students will analyze screenplays, write original screenplays, and study narrative structure in film. This course combines further analysis of film with more opportunities for digital filmmaking. Students will make a variety of short films (documentaries, narrative, and experimental).

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

### **Composition in the World of Sport (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

With the goal of developing each student's voice as a writer, this course focuses on teaching students the art of writing within the world of sports. Through composing recaps, profiles, feature stories, narratives, commentaries and research-based essays students will develop their writing skills and refine their writing style.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

### **Creative Writing (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

The class will expose students to a variety of forms of the written word in order to cultivate creativity and enhance students' forms of expression. Short essays, scripts, and poetry will be used as both examples and tools in this class, which offers students the opportunity to broaden their creative horizons, develop their own voices, refine their individual techniques, and share their writing in the classroom and beyond. Students will engage in college-level writing workshops and will compile their strongest writing into a final portfolio of their work at the semester's end.

### **Debate (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Students in this course will learn effective argumentation and the principles of debate. They will study valid persuasion techniques as a defense against irrational argument and use these techniques to influence others. Students will be involved in researching topics, learning debate techniques and terms, and improving speaking skills. Many types of debate will be covered in the class. No previous experience in debate is necessary, and students may enroll in the course without being on the school's debate team.

*Students who have experience in at least one season on a debate team may not enroll in the Debate course.*

# English

## **Film Studies (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

This course is for students who are genuinely interested in film as a contemporary means of communication and art. The course will cover a history of film along with various genres from classic to contemporary. Students will be expected to write often, putting into practice critical thinking skills as they respond to various films. Students will also have the opportunity to make their own digital short films. Because of the high level of writing and discussing, the course will be much more than just watching movies.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

## **Great American Novels (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

This discussion-based course is for students who want to have a grasp of American classics as they prepare for college. It picks up where American Literature leaves off, focusing on great novels from the Twentieth Century. Students will explore how American novels reflect the diversity of the American experience and consider what makes a novel “great.”

## **Immigrant Literature (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

This literature-based course is for students who value critical analysis and discussion of contemporary American culture and what it means to be an American. This course provides an opportunity to discuss how *story* and *memory* intersect among immigrants living in the United States, and how the many facets of identity shape our country. Students will read a variety of stories from immigrants both in Minnesota and around the world.

## **Mythology (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

This course covers a wide range of myths from various societies and time periods. While reading these stories of myth, students will examine universal archetypes, elements of culture, and human nature. Ultimately students will have the opportunity to critically examine contemporary culture and how their own story is part of it. The primary texts will be Edith Hamilton’s *Mythology* and Joseph Campbell’s *The Power of Myth*, but the course will also pursue many other avenues for studying myth in the modern world.

## **Non-Fiction Writing (S1)**

One semester, one credit course, open to seniors.

This course focuses on non-fiction essay writing and is geared toward students who have completed either Advanced Composition or AP Language and Composition. With an emphasis on the writing process, this class is taught as a writing workshop with students actively working in small and large groups. Students will cultivate their writing in a variety of genres, culminating in a final portfolio of revised and original content.

## **Science Fiction Literature (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

This course is for students who want to examine the genre of science fiction as important and deserving of intelligent consideration and commentary. Using short stories, this course examines the development of science fiction over time. Novels will be read in order to examine what this genre – which is filled with what seem to be non-realities and impossibilities – has to offer to our present day world and issues.

## **Shakespeare (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Several of the major plays of Shakespeare will be read and discussed in this course, with special emphasis on Shakespeare’s understanding of human nature as shown by his character portrayals. Shakespeare will be considered from the point of view of his timelessness, his showmanship, and his relevance for modern teenagers. This course is intended for the student seriously interested in interpreting, analyzing, and enjoying Shakespeare’s philosophy of life.

# English

## **Social Justice and the Written Word (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This course focuses on the writing that has inspired and accompanied social change. We will analyze historical and contemporary works and their place in the continuous dialogue for rights in our country's history. Students will study the relationship of medium and message through a wide variety of sources and voices in both primary documents and secondary texts, including pamphlets, letters, speeches, sermons, legal documents, poems, short stories, and beyond. Finally, students will practice the power of writing in a real-world context, empowering them to use their skills to make a difference in the world.

## **Twentieth Century Drama (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

This course introduces students to some of the most noted playwrights and the major dramatic movements of the twentieth century. We will look at a variety of plays as reflections of and reactions to their social and historical context and examine they tell us about our world and ourselves.

## **Summer Option with additional fee: Eco-Writing (S1)**

One credit course, offered as summer option, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

An additional fee of approximately \$1,500, which includes camp fees, will be charged to student tuition.

Eco-Writing is for students who love the outdoors and want to write about it. Students will attend class June 10-12, 2019 culminating with a week-long canoe trip at Lake Trails Base Camp in Oak Island, MN, from July 5-13, 2019. The class will expose students to legendary nature writers such as John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Sigurd Olson and Mary Oliver. Students will develop their own "listening point" and create field journals; they will also learn to write reflectively and persuasively about the world around them. A final project will be due the week following our return from camp.

**NOTE:** Sophomores and juniors enrolling in this course must enroll in the required English options available for that grade level. Seniors may use this elective as one of their two required English electives during their senior year. The overall minimum of 12.5 credits per semester is still required.

## *Journalism*

### **Editorial Leadership: *Knight Errant* (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: two semesters of Journalism classes, application, and teacher approval.*

**Seniors enrolled in Editorial Leadership must enroll in one additional English course each semester.**

**Juniors enrolled in Editorial Leadership must enroll in required English courses.**

Students who take this hands-on course will oversee production of the print and online editions of the *Knight Errant*. They will be responsible for all aspects of the publication. As the editorial board of the *Knight Errant*, students in this class will coordinate the work of the students in the Journalistic Writing, Video Journalism, Photojournalism, and Graphic Design classes, in addition to creating their own content for publication. Each student in the class will be assigned a specific leadership role.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

### **Journalistic Writing (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: application and teacher approval. This course may be repeated.*

**Sophomores and Juniors enrolled in Journalistic Writing must enroll in required English courses.**

Students who take this hand-on course will produce the written content for the print and online editions of the *Knight Errant*. They will work in conjunction with students in the Editorial Leadership class who will guide them through the writing process, from the conception of ideas to the final published product. Students in this class will explore the different styles of writing encompassed in the *Knight Errant*, including interview-based stories for the news, sports, and feature sections as well as opinion and review writing. With an emphasis on writing clear, concise, and engaging prose, this class will help students develop and hone their writing skills and provide them with an authentic audience for their writing.

# Fine Art

*All students are required to complete two semesters of a fine arts course, either art or music before graduation.*

## *Art*

*The art program at BSM provides students with the opportunity for developing creativity, imagination and effective visual expression, with a link to cultural history. Art & Design is a foundation course that fulfills one of two fine arts credits required for graduation. Following this prerequisite class, a student may enroll in classes involving more specific media and techniques.*

### **Art & Design (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

Art & Design is the foundational art course at BSM; students must successfully complete Art & Design before taking other art electives. The course is designed to introduce students to a variety of material, both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional. The course focuses on developing students' understanding of the artistic process, which includes:

Collaboration and Community Engagement	
Developing Craft	Reflecting and Evaluating
Engaging and Persisting	Stretching and Exploring
Envisioning and Observing	Understanding the Art World

### **3D Make it: Design and Build (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Art & Design.*

Makers are creative, resourceful, and curious people. This course will encourage students to problem solve, take risks, and develop projects that demonstrate how they can interact with the world around them. Students will work with 3D printers, laser and vinyl cutters plus more to create original art and design projects. Projects may include architecture, digital drafting, designing, and building 3D forms of various materials.

### **Product Design (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Art & Design*

*Can be paired with S2 Engineering II – refer to page 39 for information.*

Bring your ideas to life! Student designers use creative problem solving and ideation skills to produce meaningful products and services. Through self-directed design challenges, students will identify a need, ask questions and develop goals toward designing a solution. Students will analyze product impact using human centered and universal design concepts, community feedback, visual appeal, and marketing strategies. In this course, students will use sketching, 3D modeling, digital drafting, 3D printing, and rapid prototyping techniques to kickstart the next billion-dollar idea!

### **Ceramics I (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Art & Design.*

This introductory course will introduce both hand building and wheel throwing techniques. Students will learn to design and build forms using various methods and learn to throw functional objects using the potter's wheel. Students will learn to work with the properties of clay and glaze through progressively more challenging projects. All materials, tools, and equipment will be provided.

### **Ceramics II (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Ceramics I.*

This course continues the exploration of three-dimensional design and content. Students will continue to develop problem solving skills, persistence, and creativity, along with skills in wheel throwing, surface decoration and sculpture.

# Fine Art

## **Drawing & Painting I (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Art & Design.*

This introductory course is designed for students who like to draw and paint. Students will learn skills and techniques in a variety of drawing and painting materials which may include charcoal, chalk pastel, watercolor pencil, oil pastel, watercolor paint, acrylic paint, and oil paint. Class work focuses on developing skills and developing student voice.

## **Drawing & Painting II (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting I*

This course continues the exploration of a variety of drawing and painting media. Students will focus on developing skills and exploring both realistic and abstract subject matter. Students will often have free choice in use of materials and self-expression.

## **Graphic Design (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Art & Design*

This introductory course instructs students in design skills using core graphic programs such as Adobe Photoshop Illustrator and InDesign. The focus will be on developing student understanding of the fundamental principles of design while finding creative visual solutions to projects.

## **Photography I (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Art & Design.*

In this introductory course students will learn to use manual settings on a 35mm camera, compose strong photographs, develop film, print negatives, and basic digital skills using Photoshop Lightroom. Assignments will include composition techniques, portraits, landscapes and environment. All students are expected to provide their own 35mm film camera (automatic cameras are acceptable) and have access to a digital camera as well.

## **Photography II (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Photography I.*

This course may be repeated.

This course continues the exploration of photographic techniques and camera controls in both film and digital photography. Adobe Photoshop and Photoshop Lightroom skill sets will be expanded as well as additional darkroom skills building on the Photography 1 experience. The focus of the course is on developing a personal photographic style while building a digital skill set. All students enrolled in this class must have access to their own film and digital cameras.

## **Photojournalism (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Art and Design, Photography I and teacher approval.*

In this course, students will become a “reporter with a camera,” and work closely with the *Knight Errant* to cover a variety of photojournalistic subjects; general news, sports, features, speakers, environmental portraits, editorial illustrations, caption writing and photo essays. Students will learn to produce high-quality photographs that attract attention to a news story, and to develop a photojournalist’s eye. Students will utilize and build upon basic photography skills: composition, lighting, camera technique, color correction, etc. Additionally, students will communicate and collaborate with designers, writers and editors to conceptualize and produce visual content for the *KEQ* magazine.

# Fine Art

## *Studio Art*

***Studio level courses may be repeated. Students must have successfully completed the first two levels of one medium to be eligible for enrollment.***

### **Ceramics Studio (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisites: Ceramics II*

This advanced course is designed for students who want to further investigate sculptural and wheel thrown forms. Students will work with the teacher in determining projects and their objectives. The focus will be on improving skills students have begun to develop and on exploring the relationship between form, surface design, and original content. It is highly recommended to take this course prior to AP Ceramics.

### **Drawing & Painting Studio (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisites: Drawing & Painting II*

This advanced course is designed for students who have a desire to further develop technique and expression in drawing and painting. It is highly recommended to take this course before AP Drawing and Painting. Students will develop series of artworks throughout the semester based on designated themes but emphasizing student choice.

### **Graphic Design Studio (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisites: Graphic Design.*

This advanced course will focus on improving and expanding design skills while communicating and collaborating with the *Knight Errant* staff to create layouts for the newspaper and *KEQ* magazine. Students will have the opportunity to explore projects that fit personal interests while highlighting their strengths and challenging their ability to communicate design effectively.

### **Photography Studio (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisites:–Photography II.*

This advanced course is designed for students who have a desire to further investigate photography. Students and teacher will collaborate on the designing of projects that will improve photographic skills and aid in the creation of a student portfolio.

# Fine Art

## *Advanced Placement Studio Art*

*The AP Studio Art course allows students the opportunity to earn college credit. In place of a traditional written exam, students submit a portfolio of their work for review. The portfolio includes two sections: sustained investigation and selected works. The instructor will introduce the requirements of the College Board and assist students in developing their portfolios. The AP Studio Art courses are largely student-directed and self-motivation is necessary for success. AP Studio Art is an equal access course; however, the art department highly encourages students to complete levels I, II and Studio in their given medium to ensure a strong base of quality work to consider and build upon. Students who intend to submit a portfolio to earn college credit are highly recommended to take two semesters of their AP course.*

### **AP Studio Art: Photography/2-D Design (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisites: Photography I, II and Studio OR Graphic Design Studio*

This college level course is based on creating a portfolio. The work included in the portfolio may come from any semester of graphic design or photography. A base of 15-20 quality artworks is recommended before registering for this course. *The course may also explore AP with WE service as an opportunity to consider how classroom work applies to the real world and how student artists can become agents of change.*

### **AP Studio Art: Drawing & Painting (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisites: Drawing & Painting Studio OR teacher approval*

This college level course is based on creating a portfolio. It is highly recommended that students who intend to submit an AP portfolio enroll in two semesters of this course. On average, students enrolled in both semesters will complete 15 artworks. The AP portfolio requires a minimum of 20 artworks; students may use artworks created outside of class to reach the required number of artworks. AP Studio Art encourages students to explore their own interests in art. *The course may also explore AP with WE service as an opportunity to consider how classroom work applies to the real world and how student artists can become agents of change.*

### **AP Studio Art: Ceramics/3-D Design (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisites: Studio Ceramics or teacher approval.*

This college level course is based on creating an AP portfolio. The work included in this portfolio will come from several semesters of clay. A base of 15 quality artworks is recommended before registering for this course. A minimum of five semesters of clay, including 2-3 semesters of AP Ceramics is necessary to experience the content and produce the number and types of work required by the College Board. Students who intend to submit an AP portfolio are highly encouraged to take two semesters of this course.

# Fine Art

## *Music*

*The music department recognizes the importance of music in developing a student's self-esteem and the value of nurturing an appreciation for music. Outside of the formal course offerings, students may take part in the following extracurricular groups: Red Knots, Madrigal's Group, Jazz Band. These groups generally meet before or after school and do not satisfy a Fine Art requirement. The students can also be involved in the Metro West Conference Band, Choir and String Orchestra Festivals, Honor Band, Honor Choir and Honor String Orchestra, Small Group Contest, and spring tour.*

**Choir (S1) and/or (S2)** One semester, one credit, open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors.

This course is designed for students who like to sing. A wide selection of music is rehearsed and performed throughout the school year. Music includes sacred, classical, and contemporary tunes. Students will have an opportunity to work on solos and ensembles for a contest/festival. Attendance is required at all performances, including school liturgies, concerts and other performances scheduled by the director. It is recommended, but not necessary, to enroll in both semesters of choir. Based on enrollment and at the discretion of the instructors, students may be placed in one of the following choirs:

Concert Choir – open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Chamber Choir – open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

### **Concert Band (S1) and/or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

*Prerequisite: A minimum of two years of band experience.*

Students will perform a wide variety of music: overtures, marches, lighter classics, and pop tunes. Students will work on improving their rhythm, technique, and style. Public performances will include concerts, athletic events, and a contest/festival with an opportunity for solo and ensemble playing. Attendance is required at major performances, athletic events and other events scheduled by the director. It is recommended, but not necessary, to enroll in both semesters of this course.

### **String Orchestra (S1) and/or(S2)**

One semester, one credit open to freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Weekly private lessons outside of school are strongly encouraged.*

*String Orchestra participates in school liturgies.*

This course builds upon the skills developed in junior high, continuing to increase musical awareness, refinement of technique, and performance skills, including various styles and periods of music. The repertoire studied covers a large spectrum from classics to pop to contemporary and liturgical music. Performances in a variety of venues including school mass, community and school events, and seasonal concerts with band and choir will require some after-school and before-school participation. Practice retreats are scheduled in the fall and spring. Extended weekend tours out of state are planned every other year.

### **Band, Choir or String Orchestra with Wellness option (S1) and/or (S2)**

Band, Choir or Orchestra: One semester, .5 credit Wellness: One semester, .25

Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

Students in grades 10, 11 and 12 who have completed one full year of regular Band, Choir or Orchestra are eligible to enroll concurrently in .5 Band, Choir or Orchestra and .25 Wellness, with the music class counting as the student's wellness class. Band, Choir or Orchestra meets Tuesday-Friday, with Monday attendance being required as needed for concert preparation or sectional work. First semester juniors will be excused from Band, Choir or Orchestra on block days to attend the required ACT prep course. This option is designed for students who love music and desire to continue their participation as they maintain a full academic load. Enrollment based on instructor recommendation.



# General Electives

## Acting (S1)

One semester, one credit, open to all grade levels.

This course is designed to explore all aspects of dramatic performance. Students will study a variety of monologues, scenes, and short plays while working on skills of movement, breathing, articulation, and interpretation. Students who enroll in this class should be interested in performing; all levels of interest and ability in the acting process will be encouraged and developed.

## Coding and Agile Development (S1) (S2)

One semester, one credit, open to all grade levels.  
Preference given to freshmen.

In this class, students are introduced to AGILE project development, while using various coding languages. Students will use a set of principles for software development in which requirements and solutions evolve through collaboration between self-organizing, cross-functional teams. Students will work together to build software and hardware to interact with, and impact, the world around them.

## Coding & Video Game Design: Summer Option with additional fee

One credit course, offered as summer option, open to rising sophomores, juniors and seniors.  
An additional fee of \$1,105 will be charged to student tuition.

*Prerequisites: Coding and Agile Development or teacher recommendation.*

Coding & Video Game Design is an introductory course to video game programming and 2D and 3D design. This class provides students with the opportunity to design, program, and create fully functional video games. Students will become skilled in programming languages, design principles, and creative problem solving essential to developing software for consoles and PC's. **Students must still carry the minimum credit requirement for their grade level during the school year.**

Class Session			
June 17-20	12pm-4pm	July 8-11	12pm-4pm
June 24-27	12pm-4pm	July 15	12pm-4pm

## Teacher Assistant (S1) (S2)

One semester, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.  
.5 credit: 1-4 days/week plus 7 graded courses OR 1 credit: 5 days/week plus 7 graded courses

Students have the opportunity to use their expertise in a subject area by serving as an assistant to a teacher. Students should contact the instructor they are interested in assisting. Students are placed in TA positions two weeks after the start of the semester. Students will receive a P (pass) /NP (no pass) notation on their transcript.

## Technology Integration Assistant (S1) (S2)

.5 credit: 1-4 days/week plus 7 graded courses, open to all grade levels  
*Students must submit an application form. Admission based on the application and availability of staff position.*

Develop your technology skills working in the BSM technology helpdesk and assisting students and teachers with software and hardware needs. The knowledge and skills gained through this class include being able to troubleshoot issues with Mac/iOS operating systems, projectors, interactive displays, wireless networks, printing, scanning, 3D printing, and laser cutting. Students will also become more proficient with multiple software platforms including Office, Google apps, iOS & Adobe Creative Suite. Students will work with teachers and students on projects that support teaching and learning at BSM. Students may opt to pursue CompTIA A+ certification (testing fee of approximately \$195). Students will receive a P (pass) NP (no pass) notation on their academic transcript.

# General Electives

**Yearbook I - *Sangraal* (YR)** Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Students must submit an application form. Admission will be based on the application, and availability of staff positions.*

This course will allow students to learn about graphic design principles, photography, journalism, Adobe InDesign and Adobe Photoshop through a hands-on manner while producing the senior high yearbook. Staff members will be actively engaged in the production process throughout the school year. Staff responsibilities will range from conducting interviews, taking photographs, writing copy planning, and designing page layouts.

**Yearbook II - *Sangraal* (YR)** Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Yearbook I and instructor approval.*

Yearbook II is open to students who have been assigned editorial positions on the upcoming *Sangraal* staff. The production process will be further explored through performing editorial duties, such as supervising staff members, editing proofs, and communicating with the production plant.

**Yearbook III - *Sangraal* (YR)** Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: Yearbook II and instructor approval.*

Yearbook III is open to students who have been assigned editorial positions on the *Sangraal* staff.

# Guidance/Learning Support

*The Benilde-St. Margaret's guidance department provides many services to students and parents. For more detailed information regarding all services provided, students and parents are encouraged to visit the BSM website ([www.BSMschool.org](http://www.BSMschool.org)) click on "Academics" then, select "Guidance".*

## **Academic Support (S1) and/or (S2)**

Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

One or two semesters, no credit.

This course provides students the opportunity to receive academic and organizational support in a supervised study hall format. This class supports students with a documented diagnosis that affects their ability to perform in a school setting.

## **College/Career Planning (S1) and (S2)**

Two semester course, .5 credits each semester, required of all juniors.

The purpose of the College/Career Planning requirement is to provide students with the best possible support in choosing, applying for, and committing to a college or university and potentially a career path. Following is an outline of the support BSM offers juniors by semester:

**Semester One:** The ACT score is a key metric used by colleges for both admissions decisions and scholarship awards. For this reason, BSM has partnered with Breakaway Test Prep to provide current juniors with a 13-week ACT and PSAT test preparation course during the school day. The course starts the week after Labor Day and runs for thirteen weeks. It meets once per week during the student's BSM hour block day. Juniors will be exempt from their wellness requirement during first semester only, which allows them the time for both the ACT prep class and approximately one hour a week of homework for the test prep course. The goal of this first semester course is to help students do their very best on the ACT and PSAT tests. Providing the test preparation course during the school day makes it easier for all students to engage in a proven method of preparation. Students will receive a P (pass) / NP (no pass) grade, based on attendance and homework completion, on their academic transcript.

**Semester Two:** This semester course includes an all-day event on college and career planning, completion of a portfolio of work, and attendance at the BSM College Fair. During the all-day event students will attend sessions on a variety of helpful topics to aid them in the college planning and application process. Each student is required to complete a portfolio of work building on the information they receive at the event. Students will be required to use online resources to complete their portfolio. Students are required and parents are encouraged to attend an individual meeting with their guidance and college counselor. This meeting will be scheduled by the guidance office during the spring of junior year. Students will receive a P (pass) /NP (no pass) grade, based on their portfolio, on their academic transcript.

## **Learning Lab (S1) and/or (S2)**

One or two semesters, .5 credits per semester, open to freshmen.

Students will receive academic and organizational support in this study hall supervised by the learning specialist. Students will receive a P (pass) /NP (no pass) notation on their academic transcript. This class supports students with a documented diagnosis that affects their ability to perform in a school setting.

## **Quiet Study (S1) and/or (S2)**

Open to all grade levels. One or both semesters. No credit.

Quiet Study is an option available to students during their BSM Hour. The student will create an individual organizational and support plan with their counselor.

# Guidance/Learning Services

## Think, Learn, Communicate (TLC) (S1) or (S2)

One semester course, one credit, open to freshmen.

Do you want to learn more about yourself and relate to others in a more effective way? Would you like to improve your self-confidence? Would you like to meet and get to know other students? Well, this may be the course for you! This course focuses on personal development and is designed to empower the student to reach their full potential in high school and beyond by teaching students how to improve self-confidence, relationships with family and friends, and academics. Specifically, the course includes three essential strategies for self-discovery:

**T**hinking-taking healthy risks, monitoring moods, attitudes and emotional IQ;

**L**earning-improve organization, goal setting, decision making, eliminating distractions and develop study skills;

**C**ommunication-improving listening assertiveness and conflict resolution skills.

This is a great course for students to meet other students as there is a great deal of self-reflection and class discussion.

# Health, Phy Ed and Wellness

## **Health (S1) (S2)**

One semester, one credit, required of all freshmen.

The health curriculum will provide students with knowledge of various health topics in order to help them make responsible decisions. The students will self-evaluate and develop goals for improvement. Topics covered include mental health, stress management, nutrition, fitness, substance abuse, social health, and CPR/AED.

## **Physical Education 9 (YR)**

Two semesters, .5-credits per semester, required of all freshmen.

This is an activity-based course that involves instruction and participation in individual as well as team sports. The different team sports include but are not limited to speedball, flag football, volleyball, cricket, and floor hockey. In addition, individual activities include weight training and conditioning, physical fitness testing, orienteering, heart rate monitor training, and archery.

## **Wellness with Band, Choir or Orchestra option: see FINE ART/MUSIC**

## **Wellness 10 (YR)**

Two semesters, .5 credits per year, required of all sophomores.

Sophomores participate in a wellness activity approximately one day per week. Options include a variety of fitness programs, recreational games, outdoor activities, sports nutrition, relaxation and stress reduction. Wellness activities are also available to students on a drop-in basis during their BSM hour.

## **Wellness 11 (S2)**

One semester, .25 credits per year, required of all juniors.

There is no Wellness requirement during first semester for juniors, which allows time in the daily schedule for the required ACT prep course. Second semester Wellness activity options include a variety of fitness programs, recreational games, outdoor activities, sports nutrition, relaxation and stress reduction. Wellness activities are also available to students on a drop-in basis during their BSM hour.

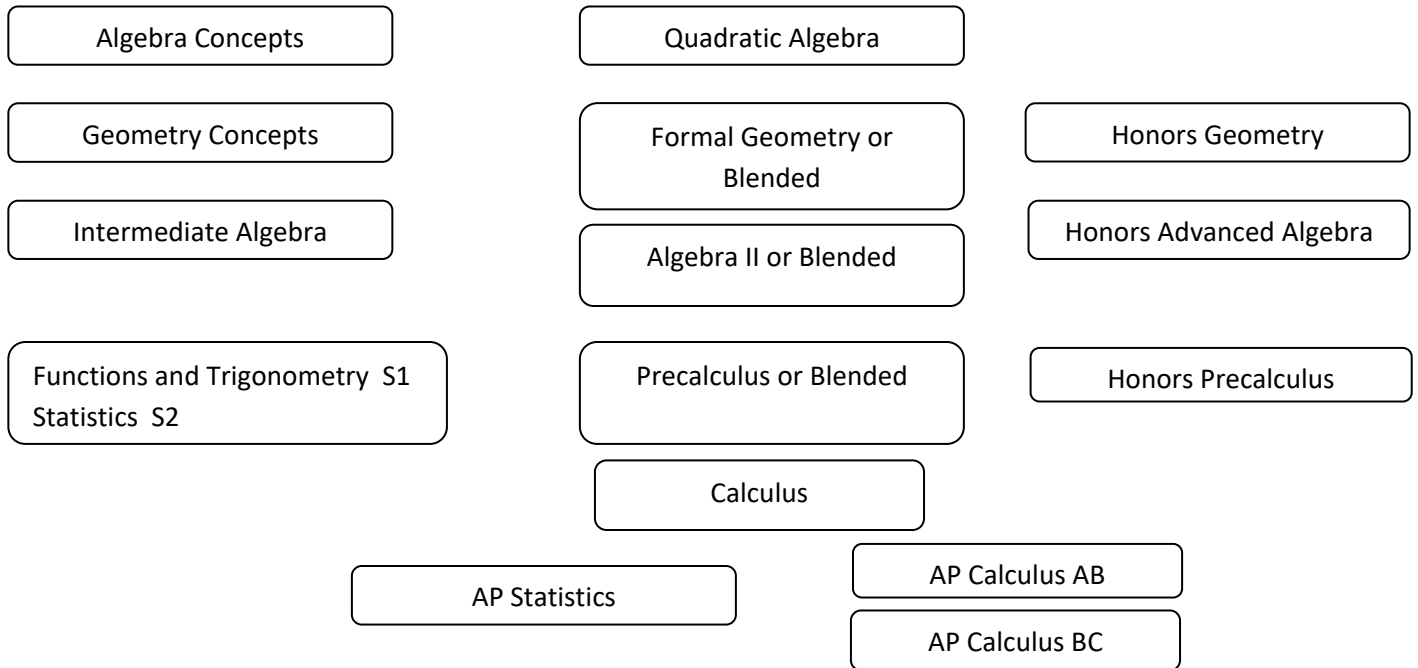
## **Wellness 12 (YR)**

Two semesters, .5 credits per year, required of all seniors.

Seniors participate in a wellness activity approximately one day per week. Options include a variety of fitness programs, recreational games, outdoor activities, sports nutrition, relaxation and stress reduction. Wellness activities are also available to students on a drop-in basis during their BSM hour.

# Mathematics

*In grades 9-12, each student is required to complete three years of mathematics courses. The beginning course is determined by placement test scores, teacher recommendation, and previous courses completed. Placement may be reevaluated based on academic progress. Students are encouraged to take four years of mathematics courses during grades 9-12.*



## Algebra Concepts (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Middle school teacher recommendation, student's EXPLORE test score.*

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to take more time with algebraic concepts that may be difficult and to give students more individualized attention. A scientific calculator is required, TI-30 recommended.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

## Geometry Concepts (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Algebra Concepts.*

This course is designed to provide students more time with difficult geometric concepts and to give students more individualized attention. While the deductive character of Geometry is preserved, emphasis is shifted from formal proofs to practical application and strengthening algebraic skills. A scientific calculator is required, TI-30 recommended.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

## Intermediate Algebra (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Geometry Concepts or Formal Geometry.*

This course offers an in-depth review of algebra with an introduction to many Algebra II topics including matrices, polynomials, logarithms, and exponential functions. The course is designed primarily to meet the needs of those students who need to strengthen their algebra skills before taking the Algebra II course. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

# Mathematics

## Quadratic Algebra (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> grade Algebra that **DOES NOT** cover quadratics, polynomials, and rational functions*

This course is designed for those students who completed an Algebra course including linear and exponential functions. This course will complete the Algebra curriculum by covering quadratic, polynomial, rational, and radical functions. Additional topics may include probability, piecewise linear functions, absolute value functions, transformations of all functions, and basic trigonometry. A scientific calculator is required, TI-30 recommended.

## Formal Geometry (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Quadratic Algebra or 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra that covers quadratics, polynomials, and rational functions.*

This course is designed to develop logic and reasoning skills as the student studies Euclidian Geometry, covering topics including congruence and similarity, properties of 2 and 3 dimensional figures, perimeter, area, and volume. Concentrated work with proof-writing follows a carefully sequenced development of the logic of geometry. A scientific calculator is required, TI-30 recommended.

## Formal Geometry Blended Online (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Quadratic Algebra or 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra that covers quadratics, polynomials, and rational functions.*

This course follows the same curriculum as formal geometry but allows the student the opportunity to learn in a blended instructional experience. The class combines online resources with a classroom supported environment using a flexible assessment schedule. A scientific calculator is required, TI-30 recommended.

## Algebra II (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Formal Geometry OR*

*Intermediate Algebra with a grade of "B" or higher in both semesters of Intermediate Algebra.*

This course is designed to continue to strengthen algebra skills while introducing more advanced topics. This course emphasizes facility with algebraic expressions and forms, especially linear and quadratic forms, powers and roots, and functions based on these concepts. Students study absolute value, rational, logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial, and other special functions both for their abstract properties and as tools for modeling real-world situations. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

## Algebra II Blended Online (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Formal Geometry with a grade of "B" or higher in both semesters.*

This course follows the same curriculum as Algebra II but allows the student the opportunity to learn in a blended instructional experience. The class combines online resources with a classroom supported environment using a flexible assessment schedule. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

# Mathematics

## Functions & Trigonometry (S1)

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Algebra II*

This one-semester course offers a less rigorous alternative to precalculus and integrates graphic and algebraic concepts to study functions and real-world applications of functions. The course previews precalculus work in functions, logarithms, finance, and trigonometry. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

## Statistics (S2)

One semester, one credit.

*Prerequisite: Algebra II.*

This one-semester course offers an in-depth introduction to the field of statistics. Students will learn how to organize, interpret, and display numerical data. Data will be analyzed using statistical tools such as the normal distribution, the binomial distribution, and measures of center and spread. Students will also be introduced to probability theory as it relates to statistics. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

## Precalculus (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Algebra II or both Functions and Trigonometry and Statistics (FST) with a grade of "B" or higher.*

This course is intended for students with a strong background in Algebra II, trigonometry, and geometry. Attention is focused on expanding the depth and breadth of concepts, both old and new, as well as on the refinement of manipulative skills. The course provides work in varied mathematical areas such as functions, logarithms, trigonometry, sequences, combinations, probability and conics. An emphasis is placed on integration and application of concepts. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

## Precalculus Blended Online (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Algebra II with a grade of "B" or higher.*

This course follows the same curriculum as Precalculus but allows the student the opportunity to learn in a blended instructional experience. This class combines online resources with a classroom supported environment using a flexible assessment schedule. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

## Calculus (YR)

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Precalculus with a grade of "C+" or higher in both semesters OR Honors Precalculus with a grade of "C" or higher in both semesters.*

This course is intended to give students a thorough study of differentiation and integration among other topics covered in a first semester college calculus course. The course is designed to allow more time to explore difficult concepts and to give students, who will need to take calculus in college, a head start. It is not intended to prepare students for the AP Calculus test nor are students expected to take the AP Calculus test. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.



# Mathematics

## *Honors*

### **Honors Geometry (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Quadratic Algebra or 8<sup>th</sup> grade algebra covering quadratics, polynomials, and rational functions with a grade of "A" in both semesters of Algebra.*

Honors Geometry provides an in-depth and very challenging study of geometry at an accelerated pace including rigorous proof and logic-based problems. Strong algebra skills are essential. This course is designed to develop logic and reasoning skills as the student studies topics such as congruence and similarity, properties of 2 and 3 dimensional figures, perimeter, area, and volume. Concentrated work with proof-writing follows a carefully sequenced development of the logic of geometry. A scientific calculator is required, TI-30 recommended.

### **Honors Algebra II (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Formal Geometry with a grade of "A" in both semesters OR  
Honors Geometry with a grade of "C+" or higher in both semesters.*

This course provides an in-depth and very challenging study of advanced algebra at an accelerated pace. Strong algebra skills are essential. This course is designed to continue to strengthen algebra skills while introducing more advanced topics. This course emphasizes facility with algebraic expressions and forms, especially linear and quadratic forms, powers and roots, and functions based on these concepts. Students study absolute value, rational, logarithmic, trigonometric, polynomial, and other special functions both for their abstract properties and as tools for modeling real-world situations. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

### **Honors Precalculus (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Algebra II with a grade of "A" in both semesters OR  
Honors Algebra II with a grade of "C+" or higher in both semesters.*

This course provides an in-depth and very challenging study of Precalculus at an accelerated pace. Strong algebra skills are essential. This course is intended for students with a strong background in advanced algebra, trigonometry, and geometry. Attention is focused on expanding the depth and breadth of concepts, both old and new, as well as on the refinement of manipulative skills. The course provides work in varied mathematical areas such as functions, logarithms, trigonometry, sequences, combinations, probability, and conics. An emphasis is placed on integration and application of concepts. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

# Mathematics

## *Advanced Placement*

### **AP Calculus AB (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Precalculus with a grade of “B” or higher in both semesters OR Honors Precalculus with a grade of “B – “or higher in both semesters.*

This is a rigorous course designed to reinforce and utilize the content of previous courses while acquiring the skills of differentiation and integration and an in-depth application of these concepts. This is material that would be included in a first semester calculus sequence at the college level. The course includes, but is not limited to, all topics in the current Advanced Placement Calculus AB curriculum. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

### **AP Calculus BC (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB with a grade of “B” for the year in AP Calculus AB.*

This rigorous course covers the same differential and integral calculus topics that are included in the AP Calculus AB curriculum, plus many additional topics including polynomial approximations and series. This is material that would be included in a second semester calculus sequence at the college level. The course includes, but is not limited to, all topics in the current AP Calculus BC curriculum. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

### **AP Statistics (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisite: Algebra II or FST with a grade of “B” or higher OR Precalculus with a “C+ or higher.*

This is a rigorous course designed to teach students how to organize, display, and interpret data. An emphasis will be placed on the four major themes of the AP Statistics curriculum: exploring data, sampling and experimental design, anticipating patterns with probability and simulation, and statistical inference. A TI-Nspire graphing calculator is required.

# Science

*All students are required to complete six semesters of science.*

*Engineering\* and Biomedical courses are science electives that do not fulfill the BSM science graduation requirement.*

*\*Freshman enrolled in a full year of Engineering I are not required to enroll in Introduction to Physics.*

## *Freshman*

*Students who have previously taken Physical Science, or have an aptitude and desire, may opt to test out of Introduction to Chemistry and Introduction to Physics. The test must be completed in May and includes both Intro to Chemistry and Intro to Physics. Students who successfully test out are eligible to take Biology or Honors Biology as a freshman.*

### **Introduction to Physics (S1)**

one semester, one credit, required of freshmen.

This project-based course gives students an introduction to physics and engineering. Students will learn fundamental science skills through which teamwork and cooperative learning will be emphasized. Topics covered will include measurement, the metric system, motion, forces, energy, and electricity. Activities will include projects, laboratory work, formal assignments, inquiry-based activities, lectures, and demonstrations.

**Freshman enrolled in a full year of Engineering I are not required to enroll in Introduction to Physics.**

### **Introduction to Chemistry (S2)**

one semester, one credit, required of freshmen.

This course gives students an introduction to basic chemistry. This laboratory-based course focuses on developing problem-solving skills necessary for scientific investigations. Topics covered will consist of physical and chemical properties, using properties to classify matter, the periodic table, chemical formulas, and nomenclature. Activities will include projects, laboratory work, formal assignments, inquiry-based activities, lectures, and demonstrations.

## *Sophomore*

*A yearlong Biology course is required of sophomores and eligible freshmen. Additionally, sophomores who qualify may enroll in Biomedical Science I or Engineering as an elective.*

### **Biology (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, required of sophomores and eligible freshmen.

*Prerequisite: Physical Science or Physical Science Concepts.*

This course examines the biological world with an emphasis on real-world applications. Topics covered will include cell biology, molecular basis of inheritance, and interdependence of organisms, living systems, and the behavior of organisms. Students will use technology in the classroom and be involved in many laboratory activities such as DNA gel electrophoresis, and fetal pig dissection.

### **Honors Biology (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, required of sophomores and eligible freshmen

*Prerequisites: A minimum grade of "A-" in Introduction to Chemistry and Introduction to Physics in addition to satisfactory completion of a summer assignment.*

Honors Biology is a rigorous course designed to challenge students who have a great curiosity and ability in science. The faster pace of this course covers the same material as the regular Biology course while allowing additional topics related to medicine and anatomy to be covered. Because of the faster pace, students will be expected to be hard workers, motivated learners, and able to grasp scientific concepts quickly.

# Science

## *Junior*

*A yearlong Chemistry science course is required during junior year. Placement is based on test scores and teacher recommendation. Juniors may also choose to take Ecology, Biomedical Science I, or Biomedical Science II.*

### **General Chemistry (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

This laboratory-based course focuses on the key concepts of chemistry. Students will develop their problem-solving and critical thinking skills by collaborating on research projects and laboratory experiments. This course will focus on the following topics: measurement and the metric system, states of matter, atomic structure, kinetic molecular theory, mixtures and compounds, solutions, the periodic table, chemical formulas, chemical reactions, bonding, gas laws, and stoichiometry.

### **Chemistry (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Introduction to Chemistry and a minimum grade of “C+” in each semester of Quadratic Algebra OR Algebra II with a “C” in each semester.*

This course is intended for those students who seek a solid chemistry background in preparation for college or desire a complete understanding of chemical principles. Students will study the structure, properties, and changes in matter as well as the laws, principles, and theories describing matter. Classroom activities will include lectures, demonstrations, problem solving, and experiments.

### **Honors Chemistry (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II with a minimum grade of “A-” or better in each semester.*

Honors Chemistry is a rigorous course designed to challenge students who have a great curiosity and ability in science. Students should be self-motivated and enjoy challenges. Problem solving skills are very important. The faster pace of this course covers the same material as the regular Chemistry course while allowing additional topics to be covered. Because of the faster pace, students will be expected to be independent problem solvers, motivated learners, and able to grasp scientific concepts quickly.

## *Senior*

### **AP Chemistry (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of **one** of these options:*

- *Chemistry or Honors Chemistry*
- *Precalculus with a grade of “B” or Honors Precalculus with a grade of “B-” or higher in both semesters. In addition, students enrolling in AP Chemistry as a first-year of chemistry must successfully complete the online summer curriculum. The summer curriculum will cover a minimum of chapters 1-3 including on line simulations, worksheets, quizzes, and tests.*

This course is a second-year chemistry course, designed to be the equivalent of the general course taken during the first year of college. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement exam. It is structured around the six big ideas as described the AP Curriculum Framework; including the structure of matter, properties of matter, chemical reactions, the rates of chemical reactions, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. A special emphasis will be placed on the seven science practices, which capture important aspects of the work in which scientists engage. Learning objectives will combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills during multiple hands-on laboratory investigations.

# Science

## Senior

### Ecology (YR)

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

Ecology will provide hands-on, often outdoor, learning experiences through project-based problem-solving activities. Students will learn about the interrelationships of living things and their physical environments. Students will engage in the study of environmental topics affecting the world in which they live.

### Forensic Science (YR)

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: "C" in first semester of Chemistry.*

Are you intrigued by CSI? Does a statement like, "We're not quite sure of the C.O.D but there is some GSR on our vic," resonate with you? If so, this class might be for you! Forensic science is a challenging investigative course that applies scientific principles and technological practices from biology, chemistry, and physics for the purpose of justice. Some major themes of study will include: collecting physical evidence, glass and soil, fingerprints, hair and fiber, DNA typing, chemical analysis, sound waves, blood splatter analysis, entomology, casts, impressions, and tool marks. This is a year-long course that will require critical thinking, problem solving and an investigative and curious mind as we build upon these themes at an advanced level.

### Physics (YR)

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of three years of mathematics through Algebra II with a grade of "C+" or higher in Algebra II OR Honors Algebra II with a "C" or higher.*

This course is designed for students who have a natural curiosity about how the world works. Have you ever wondered why you get pushed to the outside of a car when going around a curve? Why do spaceships "slingshot" themselves past other planets? Why does your hair get more "static-y" during the winter? We'll focus on topics like kinematics and motion, forces, energy, momentum, electricity, magnetism, waves, light, and sound. Through labs and engineering challenges, students will gain a better understanding of how the rules of nature can explain our everyday experiences. Students will complete lab assignments and 1-2 major projects. This course is designed for anyone who has an interest in science.

### AP Physics I (YR)

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: "A-" in Honors Precalculus or successful completion of AP Calculus AB.*

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of Physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the topics of kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electrical charge and force, DC circuits, and mechanical waves and sound.

Students should have a basic algebra background before enrolling in this course. Students should also plan to spend at least 25% of instructional time doing hands-on laboratory work, with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations that allow opportunities to demonstrate foundational physics principles and apply important scientific practices.

# Science

## *Biomed Electives*

### *Sophomore, Junior and Senior*

*The Biomedical courses allow students to investigate the connections between biology, medicine, and technology. These rigorous electives give students the chance to pursue their interest in medicine and medical technologies by engaging in hands-on laboratory experiences while acting as biomedical professionals. Continuous enrollment in this elective program may provide the opportunity to receive an AP Capstone Diploma™. See Policies/Procedures for a full explanation of this option.*

#### **Biomedical Science I: Investigations (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisites: Biology with a minimum grade of “B” in each semester OR concurrent enrollment in Honors Biology. Students who don’t meet the requirement of Honors Biology should consider waiting until junior year to enroll in biomedical science. Order of enrollment preference: sophomores, juniors, seniors.*

This course is a hands-on, lab-oriented class designed for those students interested in medicine and medical technologies teaching them how the body works together to maintain health. Students will explore how the body works using Vernier technology, real life medical equipment, act as doctors to diagnose and treat fictitious patients, create and present models of different systems/organs in the human body. Coursework includes dissections, and case studies, simulations, and guest speakers. The course will culminate with students exploring a disease from beginning to end and creating and presenting their own patient case study.

#### **Biomedical Science II: AP Seminar: (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biomedical Science I: Investigations or teacher recommendation. Students will be required to complete a summer assignment.*

AP Seminar: Biomedical Science is first and foremost a science class. Students will focus their efforts on using the processes of biomedical science to study current areas of debate such as: genetic engineering in humans, animal use in research, effectiveness of stem cell therapies, pandemic preparedness, and cell phone radiation. Using the AP frame-work, Q.U.E.S.T. (Question, Understand, Evaluate Perspectives, Synthesize Ideas, and Team, Transmit, and Transform), will allow students to look deeply and thoroughly at complex issues through multiple lenses. Each topic addressed will have a series of experiments focused on the biomedical aspect. These experiments and the accompanying research techniques will offer a jumping off point for more questions and answers. The College Board will ask students to engage in two Performance Tasks: one as a team, the other as an individual. Each of these has a multimedia portion and an individual writing assignment. This course prepares the student for the AP Exam in May. College credit may be earned as part of the AP Capstone program. (see page 10 for Capstone program information).

#### **Biomedical Science III: AP Research: (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biomedical Science II: AP Seminar and teacher recommendation.*

Students will collaborate with other students, teachers, and/or professionals in their field of study to design and implement a research project or product. Students will focus on an area of personal interest in the biomedical field and study it in depth. Outcomes from the course may include publishing research findings, a professional poster symposium, participating in national research-related competitions, and/or an internship in the field. AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

# Science

## *Engineering Electives*

*Students explore mechanical and electrical systems through fabrication and assemblies, design processes utilizing 3D modeling tools and control systems incorporating sensor interfacing, data collection, motion control, and programming. Rather than a traditional information-push class dynamic, Engineering provides a learning environment whereby students pull learning elements from various resources while developing advanced problem skills. By engaging students in the iterative process of problem formulation, abstraction, analysis, design, prototyping, testing and evaluating; Engineering expands student development beyond information centrality and toward innovation and entrepreneurialism.*

### **Engineering I (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

Order of enrollment preference: sophomores, freshmen, juniors, and seniors.

Engineers today are creating the life-saving, world-altering marvels that will make for a safer, more connected, more equal, and even more awe-inspiring tomorrow. Engineering I is the introductory course in the BSM Engineering Program. In this first-year course students develop an engineer's perspective of effective problem solving and engineering design while exploring fundamental mechanical engineering concepts. Through iterative processes, students learn about experimentation, optimization, and performance.

### **Summer Option: Engineering I**

**An additional fee of \$2,100 will be charged to student tuition.**

**July 22 through August 16**

**6 hours per day**

Two credits, open to rising sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Students enrolled in this course must carry the minimum number of credits during the regular school year.

### **Engineering II (S1) and/or (S2)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors with instructor approval.

*Note: This course can be paired with Product Design to fulfill the prerequisite for Engineering III.*

*A full description of the Product Design course is found on page 20 of the Program of Studies*

Engineering II is the second-year course in the BSM Engineering Program. In Engineering II students continue to expand their engineer's perspective of effective problem solving and engineering design, all while gaining new skills with the introduction of digital fabrication, rapid prototyping, electrical systems, networking, industry standard 3D CAD software, computer programming, and preliminary development of an advanced project that will carry over to Engineering III. The skills students learn will help with the design and development of search and rescue robots. Engineering II students are eligible to apply to take part in the RoboCup trip.

### **Summer Option: Engineering II**

**An additional fee of \$2,100 will be charged to student tuition.**

**July 22 through August 16**

**6 hours per day**

*Note: The summer Engineering II option cannot be paired with Product Design.*

Two credits, open to rising sophomores, juniors and seniors with instructor approval.

Students enrolled in this course must carry the minimum number of credits during the regular school year.

**Engineering III (YR)** Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors with instructor approval.  
**Requires two semesters of Engineering II or one semester each of Engineering II and Art: Product Design**

Students use agile project management to work in cross-functional teams on a real-world engineering project. We will develop a search and rescue robot for international competition in the RoboCup RoboRescue league.

# Social Studies

## *Freshman and Sophomore*

### **World History-Foundations (S1) (S2)**

One Semester, one credit.

*First semester is required of all sophomores who did not enroll as a freshman*

*Second semester is open to freshmen meeting the enrollment requirements\*.*

World History is a year-long required survey course that explores key events and global historical developments since 1450 AD that have shaped the world we live in today.

The first semester of World History places a special emphasis on the development of Modern Europe. Our study begins during the Renaissance and Reformation and ends with Nationalism and the Age of Imperialism. Students will uncover patterns of behavior, identify historical trends and themes, and explore historical movements and concepts. Students will conduct critical analysis, build and refine their ability to read for comprehension, compare, categorize, summarize, and evaluate information. The curriculum and study skills lay the foundation for the continued exploration of various themes in world history.

\*Freshmen enrolling in World History should have a strong work ethic, established foundation in critical thinking skills, and above average reading level (e.g. a reading level in the top 20% on a nationally recognized reading test).

## *Sophomore*

### **World History-Thematic (S1) (S2)**

One Semester, one credit.

*Sophomores who completed World History-Foundations as a freshman must enroll in S1 of this course.*

***World History-Foundations is the prerequisite to World History-Thematic. Concurrent enrollment in both courses is not an option.***

*Prerequisite: World History-Foundations.*

The second semester is a thematic study of world history. Areas of study include *Global War, International Communism, Independence and Nationalism in the Developing World, Global Terrorism and, the United Nations.* Each student will apply the research, writing, and critical thinking skills developed during the first semester in his or her continued study and as they conduct a case study exploring a contemporary global issue or topic.

## *Advanced Placement Freshman and Sophomore*

### **Advanced Placement Human Geography (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits

*9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Prerequisite: Score in the top 15% in the English and Reading sections of a national standardized test taken in the past year.*

Advanced Placement Human Geography introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Using global examples, students will study topics such as population, the political organization of space, agriculture, development, culture, urbanization, and industrial processes. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. This course is a college level course designed for students who intend to take the AP exam in May for the potential of receiving college credit. Students must be self-motivated to complete the nightly homework and willing and able to read and write at a college level. A summer assignment will be required. Freshmen who complete AP Human Geography will be considered for continued acceleration in the Social Studies course offerings. Enrollment in this year long course fulfills the sophomore World History requirement.



# Social Studies

## *Junior*

### **American Studies/Social Studies (S2)**

One semester, two credits, open to juniors.

*Prerequisite: English and Social Studies with a grade of “B” or higher in both sophomore courses and first quarter junior year English and Social Studies classes.*

*Students must enroll in first semester United States History. Semester two students must enroll in American Studies English and American Studies Social Studies. This course fulfills the second semester United States History Social Studies requirement.*

This course blends US historical events and themes in American literature to provide students with a comprehensive social, political, economic, and literary history. Five time periods each reflecting different epochs will be team taught: Great Depression, World War 2, Civil Rights, Cold War Conflict, and Challenges of Modern American Society. Having both literary and historical figures illuminating the human experience, American Studies fosters a deeper understanding of the principles, problems, and issues basic to the establishment of our country. This understanding is essential for students to fully appreciate the complexities of history as it unfolds in modern times. Students enrolled in this course will meet two consecutive class periods.

### **United States History (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, required of all juniors.

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the problems of our evolving democracy and a realistic knowledge of our past through basic themes in United States history: states’ rights and nationalism, expansion and economic growth, Civil War, industrialization and trade, domestic issues, and wars. Within these themes, selected topics are dealt with: political parties, slavery, immigration, reform, the Depression, the New Deal, imperialism, alliances, the Cold War, Vietnam, Civil Rights, conservatism, and constitutional crisis. The content is presented in chronological order from the pre-Civil War era to the present. Ongoing skill development in reading comprehension, critical thinking, critical research, historic writing, and integrative technology compliment the content of this course.

## *Advanced Placement Junior*

### **Advanced Placement United States History (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors.

*Prerequisite: Approval from the teacher of most recent social studies course recommended.  
Students should expect a summer assignment.*

This college-level course is designed for juniors who have strong academic abilities, time management and study skills, along with a keen interest in United States History. The course is presented in chronological order from the Colonial Period to the Present. Various topics and events will be examined with an emphasis being placed on in-depth analysis of cause and effect relationships. Students are expected to actively participate in debates, simulations, speeches, presentations, and other classroom activities. The course will also focus on the “Course Themes” and “Historical Thinking Skills” required by the College Board for the APUSH class. Special emphasis is placed on learning the writing skills needed for the different types of essays required for the AP exam.

# Social Studies

## *Senior*

### **United States Government and Politics (S1)**

One semester, one credit, required of all seniors.

This course consists of a survey of political thought and experience in the United States. American government at local, state, and federal levels will be studied, with an emphasis placed upon the institutions of the federal government. Course topics include the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States of America, political process, political philosophy, civil rights, the role of government, current events, and the duties of a United States citizen.

### **Economics (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This survey course covers macro- and microeconomic theory, and it is designed to prepare students for an intro-level college economics course. Students will study the fundamental concepts of economics and the national economy and their links to the changing global economy. Course work will include the study of "consumerism," decision-making, various product markets, economic models and, the student's role in the factors of production and consumption. An ongoing analysis and discussion of current economic policies and trends is also a significant aspect of this course.

### **Psychology (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This course is a survey of the science of human behavior. Topics include psychology as a science, the psychology of learning, and biological influence on behavior, personality development, and abnormal psychology. Students will discover the many applications that psychology has on his or her life.

## *Advanced Placement*

### **Advanced Placement European History (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: United States History with a grade of "B+" or higher in both semesters OR*

*AP United States History with a grade of "B-" or higher in both semesters.*

*Approval from the teacher of most recent social studies course recommended.*

Advanced Placement European History is designed to provide the student with a fundamental understanding of the development of Western Society and culture from 1450-present. The course focuses on the politics, social, economic, intellectual, and diplomatic history of Europe. Critical thinking and writing skills are emphasized as students analyze historical documents and utilize historical thinking skills.

This course is taught at a level commensurate of an introductory college course, and it is expected that the student comes prepared for that level of commitment. A significant amount of reading and writing are requirements for the course, and all course work is geared toward preparation for the AP exam in May. Students with acceptable scores on this exam may be awarded college credit for this course.

# Social Studies

## *Advanced Placement*

### *Senior*

#### **Advanced Placement Microeconomics (S2)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: United States History with a grade of “B+” or higher in both semesters OR AP United States History with a grade of “B-” or higher in both semesters along with approval of teacher of most recent social studies course.*

Advanced Placement Microeconomics is a course designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of the principles of economics as they apply to individual decision-making units, including individual households and firms. Students taking the course will spend time examining the theory of consumer behavior, the theory of the firm, and the behavior of profit-maximizing firms under various market structures. They will evaluate the efficiency of the outcomes with respect to price, output, consumer surplus, and producer surplus. Students will have an opportunity to examine the behaviors of households and businesses in factor markets, and learn how the determination of factor prices, wages, interest, and rent influence the distribution of income in a market economy. Students will also consider instances in which private markets may fail to allocate resources efficiently and examine various public policy alternatives aimed at improving the efficiency of private markets.

#### **Advanced Placement United States-Government and Politics (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: United States History with a grade of “B+” or higher in both semesters OR AP United States History with a grade of “B-” or higher in both semesters along with approval of teacher of most recent social studies course.*

The United States government is a complex organization of structure and theory. This course combines both general concepts and specific institutions to develop an understanding of the government and political environment of the United States and why it functions as it does. Six areas of emphasis are covered in the course: constitutional underpinnings, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, special interest groups, and mass media: governmental institutions (including the three branches); public policy; and civil rights and civil liberties. This course will analyze both the theoretical and practical components of our political system and government structure through discussion, analysis, and fluency. Analysis of current news, reports, blogs, and debates will guide discussion of theory and practice.

#### **Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: United States History with a grade of “B+” or higher in both semesters OR AP United States History with a grade of “B-” or higher in both semesters along with approval of teacher of most recent social studies course.*

Comparative politics is the study of other countries’ political and economic systems and why they function as they do. Since this course examines the current systems of various countries, a strong emphasis is placed on current events in the course. The study of comparative government enables students to have a deeper understanding of global politics and U.S. foreign policy. Students will explore the impact of democratization, globalization and marketization on the development of government and politics. Six core countries are studied, as well as general concepts, such as political culture and political socialization, democracy, communism and post-communism, the political economy and supranational organizations such as the EU, UN, IMF and World Bank. Countries studied include: Great Britain, Russia, China, Mexico, Nigeria, and Iran.

# Theology

*Supported by academic rigor and spiritual experiences, we are committed to teaching and celebrating the Catholic faith while simultaneously appreciating differing faith perspectives. Through their theology classes, students will grow in their relationship with the loving God, while nurturing their loving relationships with others, self and creation. As a national service learning leader school, we have embedded service learning into our curriculum. We challenge students to become agents of positive social change in alignment with Catholic Social Teaching. Students are required to enroll in one theology course each semester.*

## *Freshman*

*Freshmen are required to choose between either the year-long seminar course OR one semester each, of Introduction to Scripture and Christology: The Person of Jesus*

### **Theology 9: Seminar (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits.

Theology 9 Seminar is a year-long course that covers the same fundamentals as the traditional freshman courses but, in a seminar style – relying on conversation, critical thinking, experiential learning, and in-depth processing. The course is designed to meet the needs of students at varying points on their faith journey – those of deep faith, those seekers and students who are unsure of the role faith plays in their life but are open to exploring. Topics covered will range from Revelation and relationship, Scripture and story, to the Incarnation and our call to holiness. Students will participate in one school sponsored service project and one individual project.

### **Theology 9: Introduction to Scripture (S1)**

One semester, one credit.

This course gives students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, students will come to encounter the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In this course, students will learn about the Bible, authored by God through inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. Students will learn to navigate the Bible and become familiar with the major sections of the Bible. Throughout the course students will be introduced to a broad range of service experiences as they relate to loving God and others. Students will participate in one school sponsored service project and one individual project.

### **Theology 9: Christology: The Person of Jesus (S2)**

One semester, one credit.

This course introduces students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God, and the second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course, students will understand Jesus Christ is the ultimate revelation of God. Students will participate in several service projects where they will experience a broad range of needs in our community. Through this service, students will both learn who Jesus is, come to know Him on a personal level, and experience Christ in others as they follow in His footsteps to serve one another. Students will participate in one school sponsored service project and one individual project.

# Theology

## *Sophomore*

*Sophomores are required to enroll in one semester each of Theology 10 as outlined below*

### **Theology 10: Jesus Christ's Mission in the Church (S1)**

One semester, one credit, required.

This course invites you into the reality of the Catholic Church as a visible sacrament of the Body of Christ in our world. In studying the scriptural and historical foundations, as well as the mystical reality of the Church's presence throughout time, you will come to understand both the institutional and eternal reality of the Church as well as your place within it. This course will explore what happens when ordinary people encounter the living God and how this manifestation of individual faith necessitates a call outward to build a community of prayer, worship, and service.

### **Theology 10: The Paschal Mystery (S2)**

One semester, one credit, required.

The word "paschal" comes from a Hebrew word meaning "the passing over" and in the Christian tradition, refers to the passion, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. The Paschal Mystery is a core belief of Catholicism. This course will focus on how we as believers share in the promise and hope of the Resurrection. Through servant leadership and service learning, students will enter into the lived experience of the Paschal Mystery.

## *Junior*

*Juniors will engage in a service practicum through the required curriculum. It is essential juniors take great consideration as to which semester they are enrolling in the Discipleship in Society class. This class requires 35 hours of service outside of class time. Be sure to consider all extra-curricular commitments when selecting the semester of this class. Every effort will be made to accommodate your request, but it is not guaranteed.*

### **Theology 11: Discipleship in Society (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, required.

The Sisters of St. Joseph, one of Benilde-St. Margaret's founding religious orders, are inspired to Jesus' invitation to love God and to love our neighbor. Their mission urges us to move from the center where we are comfortable to the margins of vulnerability. Through this course students will deepen and broaden their understanding of the Gospel message and the Church's social teaching. Students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and vulnerable, is present today in the Church's mission. Learning about the cycles of poverty and injustice that keep people oppressed, students will discern their roles in service to others. Each student will participate in a service practicum completing 35 hours with one agency during the semester.

### **Theology 11: Morality (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, required.

Through this course, students will discern how God is calling them to live a life of holiness through their actions. Students will learn moral concepts, philosophical and theological reasoning, and the tenets of the Catholic moral vision. Through various readings from Scripture, Church documents, and other literary and secular writings, students will use seminar-based discussion to address moral dilemmas facing their lives. Students will develop moral decision-making skills and learn to apply those skills through the formation and following of conscience. There is no service requirement for this course.

# Theology

## *Senior*

*Seniors are required to enroll in one Theology course each semester and may choose from the electives listed below. Courses may not be repeated.*

### **Christian Prayer and Spirituality (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This course is designed for students who have a more developed interest in theology and spirituality. This class will address the origins and sources of prayer in the Bible and in the life of Jesus, and how those sources have been interpreted through contemporary spiritual literature. This examination of Christian Spirituality will include familiarization with the theology and methodology in the studied traditions. Students will learn, take part in, and develop skills in composing prayer services and retreats.

### **Christian Vocations (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This course is a study of the adult Catholic Christian life and the process of discerning one's vocation in it. Students will learn about and reflect on their identity, their current belief about God, the universal call of all to holiness, the world of work and money, sexuality, marriage, and the religious life. This course utilizes self-reflection, discussion, and a variety of real-life scenarios and simulations to foster learning. Ultimately, students will learn what it means to live an adult Christian life dedicated to God, others, and self to achieve lasting happiness.

### **Faith in Action (S1)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

In the tradition of the founding order of St. Margaret's Academy, this course honors our Sisters of St. Joseph commitment to moving always toward the profound love of God and love of dear neighbor without distinction. Using Catholic Sacramental theology, students reflect on and advocate for social justice issues. Students become a sign of God's love through the Gospel call to Right Relationship. Students will learn about the power of human potential to bring positive change in the world. Focus will be placed upon steps of effective advocacy and issues will reflect the sign of the times in light of scripture. Each student will create an advocacy project on a topic of their choice that culminates with a justice fair.

### **World Religions (S1) or (S2)**

One semester, one credit, open to seniors.

This course invites you to explore, compare and contrast the world's religions. In a systematic and analytical, yet empathetic way, we will study the variety of beliefs and practices encountered in five major religions of the world. The religions should be studied in such a way that students acquire a sense of what it is like to belong to a particular religion and how that influences the way in which the followers of that religion understand themselves, the world and their relationships with others. The hope is that this course will offer students opportunities to think in new ways, opening possibilities for richer, deeper lives.

*This theology course is APPROVED by the NCAA.*

# World Language

*Each student is required to take two years of a single world language. Although students may begin a first or second world language at any point in their high school career, it is recommended that students begin as freshmen in order to take advantage of the full four-year curriculum. Many public and private universities require a minimum of two years of high school language study for admission. Studying a language for three or four years may exempt students from university exit requirements. Each university is different, so direct specific questions to the guidance department.*

## *Chinese*

### Chinese levels may be combined based on enrollment numbers

#### **Chinese I (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to freshmen and sophomores, and juniors.

This first-year Chinese fundamental course offers students a solid foundation in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will engage in simple Chinese conversations such as greeting, giving basic personal information, naming basic objects, showing preferences, and immediate needs. Students will recognize over 120 Chinese characters related to greetings, calendars, family members, animals, time, sports, and other daily activities and write about 120 characters in Pinyin and 50 Chinese characters related to daily activities. As students comprehend simple passages related to learned topics, they will develop critical thinking skills in Chinese. Teaching strategies incorporate technology such as typing in Chinese, use of various online tools, and making movies. Students will expand their knowledge and understanding of China's cultures and history as they compare Chinese culture with that of their own culture.

#### **Chinese II (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to freshmen and sophomores, and juniors.

*Prerequisite: Chinese I.*

This course is a continuation course designed for students who already have the basics of Chinese fundamental level I, or through some other relevant experience. This course emphasizes listening, speaking, and reading Chinese, plus some exercises to enhance writing skills. Students will develop their vocabulary capacity through reading and improve daily oral skills in Chinese. Communicating in Chinese II will enable students to use Chinese comfortably, appropriately in making travel arrangements, and in daily conversations: visiting friends making appointments, shopping, transportation, and discussing school life or weather. Additionally, the course will integrate the Chinese culture into the language learning and enhance the practices of Chinese language. This course will integrate technology in the learning of the Chinese language and follow National Standards for Foreign Language Education.

#### **Chinese III (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Chinese II.*

This is a third-year level course in intermediate modern Chinese. This course will further cultivate students' four basic language skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. There will be a continued emphasis on the proper and appropriate use of grammar patterns and expressions in genuine language communication, especially in listening and speaking. Students will attain the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) intermediate-low level of proficiency by the end of the school year. Students will read materials of about 400 Chinese characters on subject matters in the first 8 chapters of Integrated Chinese, level I. Students will write compositions of about 200 different characters on familiar daily life topics using grammatical patterns properly.

# World Language

## *Chinese*

### **Chinese IV (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Chinese III.*

This course is designed to build upon fundamentals to help students achieve greater fluency in oral expression and to emphasize the reading of Chinese character texts. Grammar will be taught through the use of sentence patterns and character writing will be practiced. Traditional and contemporary aspects of Chinese cultures will be taught. In this course, students will expand listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in standard Mandarin Chinese, attaining approximately the intermediate-low level on the ACTFL proficiency scale by the end of the school year. Students will be able to carry out a simple face-to-face conversation in various cultural contexts within the target culture. Students will learn and use more basic sentence patterns and be able to read simple stories about daily life. Students will narrate a simple story or describe an event of familiarity.

### **Chinese V (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Chinese IV*

This course will further cultivate students' four basic language skills, with a continued emphasis on the proper and appropriate use of grammar patterns and expressions in genuine language communication, especially in speaking and listening. Grammar and character writing will also be practiced. Students will attain the ACTFL intermediate-mid to high levels of proficiency by the end of the school year. Students will communicate within the Integrated Chinese level II book themes of food, shopping, college life (dorm life, selecting courses...), Chinese education, Chinese social status, and Chinese geography.



# World Language

## *French*

### ***Français pour Francophones I (YR)***

*Two semesters, two credits open to freshmen.*

*Prerequisite: Native speakers with a good understanding of grammar or students who were enrolled in a French immersion school for a minimum of five years.*

This course is designed for students with near native spoken fluency in French. The course will be conducted entirely in French and will include the study of literature and cultures of French-speaking countries. The content will focus on grammar instruction to build writing skills and students' understanding of structure and syntax, including spelling and accentuation. Methods will include discussions, student presentations, compositions, and projects.

### ***Français pour Francophones II (YR)***

*Two semesters, two credits open freshmen and sophomores.*

*Prerequisite: Français pour Francophones I*

This course is designed for students who have completed *Français pour Francophones I*. The course will be conducted entirely in French and will include the study of literature and cultures of French-speaking countries. The content will focus on grammar instruction to keep building writing skills and students' understanding of structure and syntax, including spelling and accentuation. Methods will include discussions, student presentations, compositions, and projects. The final exam in this course will serve as a placement test for the following year of French studies.

### **French I (YR)**

*Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.*

This first-level French course offers students a balanced approach to language learning, giving careful attention to the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will gain cross-cultural awareness as they compare and contrast the cultures of French-speaking countries and their contributions to the global society. Students learn to talk about themselves, their families and interests as well as explore units on schools, cuisine, and shopping. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and films.

### **French II (YR)**

*Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.*

*Prerequisite: French I.*

This second-level course is designed to develop and expand students' communication skills. The study of Francophone countries broadens to include Quebec and Senegal. Students read about and learn to discuss issues such as health and wellness, festivals, and film. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and films.

### **French III (YR)**

*Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.*

*Prerequisite: French II.*

This course is designed to improve the basic skills of listening comprehension, oral expression, reading, and writing through conversations, discussions, oral expression, readings, and practical writing activities. This course will refine and introduce new structures in grammar and vocabulary so students can express themselves in complete sentences. The study of Francophone customs and cultures includes an overview of French history, from Prehistory to the French Revolution, weekly current events from around the francophone world, and exploration of themes such as fairy tales, love and friendships, media, and society. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and films.

# World Language

## *French*

### **French IV (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: French III with an average grade of “B - “or higher.*

This course builds upon level III to improve the students’ ability to communicate in French and to develop a deeper understanding of Francophone customs and culture. Students work towards communicating a series of ideas with complete sentences and connectors. Thematic units will include personalities, French tale, *La Belle et la Bête*, driving and directions, fashion, French regions, African folk tales, *Le Petit Prince*, by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. Current events from the Francophone world will also be introduced and discussed on a weekly basis. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and films

### **French V (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: French IV with an average grade of “B” or higher.*

This advanced level course follows the history of France from 1800 to 1970 including Napoléon, the evolution in governmental systems from post revolution monarchy up to the current 5<sup>th</sup> republic, WW1 and WW2, French colonization and decolonization, and the demographic landscape of France today. For each time period, students will learn about the historical context, review and introduce new grammar concepts as well as study an authentic document related to this time frame in its entirety. Language is also used in context during debates, cooking classes and pre-AP activities. Students will continue to develop their language proficiency as they develop a more sophisticated vocabulary and grammar base, through the study of authentic sources various formats.

# World Language

## *Latin*

### **Latin I (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

This first-year course is designed for students with no prior Latin study. Students study the Latin language, Roman history and culture, and the connections between Latin and English, with a focus on grammar and vocabulary building. Through increasingly complex Latin readings, students move chronologically through the classical period, from early Roman literature to the writers of the early Roman Empire. Cultural and historical perspectives are broadened through supplemental materials and class discussions and projects.

### **Latin II (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Latin I or two years junior high Latin.*

This second-year course, designed for students who wish to continue their study of Latin, focuses on more complex Latin grammar, vocabulary expansion, and the culture and history of the classical world. Supplemental materials and class projects enhance understanding of the ancient Roman world.

### **Latin III (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Latin II.*

Latin III continues to expand students' command of Latin grammar and vocabulary, to gain sufficient proficiency to begin reading ancient Roman authors in the original language. Through the school year, Latin language units alternate with in-depth units on Roman history, from prehistoric Italy to Rome's domination of the Mediterranean world.

### **Latin IV (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Latin III.*

The Latin sequence continues in a course covering a variety of genres and authors, ranging from Pliny's letters to Cicero's speeches to the poems of Martial and Vergil. Supplemental materials and class projects enhance understanding of the works being studied and the milieu in which they arose.

### **Latin V (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: Latin IV.*

Latin V continues to broaden and deepen students' understanding of the Latin language, Roman history and culture, and their impact on the modern world. A variety of ancient Roman and medieval Latin writers will be read and discussed, sampling an assortment of genres and eras. Poetry and prose, history, philosophy, and drama will be introduced, with authors and works varying at the instructor's discretion.

# World Language

## *Spanish*

### ***Español Para Hispanohablantes I (YR)***

Two semesters, two credits open to freshmen

*Prerequisite: Native speakers with a good understanding of grammar or students who were enrolled in a Spanish immersion school for a minimum of five years.*

Designed for students with near native spoken fluency in Spanish, the course will be conducted entirely in Spanish. Circumlocution skills will be emphasized in order to progress while maintaining communication in Spanish. Through their study of literature, music, and movies, students will refine their grammar and learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Students will develop their writing skills, with special attention given to spelling and accentuation. Among other activities, students will discuss culture, debate topics, write compositions, and create projects. Of special note, students will practice their research and public speaking skills when they represent countries to propose solutions to global challenges in the Spanish Model United Nations. This course prepares students to take *Español Para Hispanohablantes II* the following year.

### ***Español Para Hispanohablantes II (YR)***

*Prerequisite: Español para Hispanohablantes I*

Two semesters, two credits open to freshmen, sophomores.

This course is designed for students who have completed *Español para Hispanohablantes I*. Through their study of literature, music and movies, students will refine their grammar and learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Students will develop their writing skills, with special attention given to spelling and accentuation. Among other activities, students will discuss culture, debate topics, write compositions and create projects. Circumlocution skills will be emphasized in order to progress while maintaining communication in Spanish. Of special note, students will practice their research and public speaking skills when they represent countries to propose solutions to global challenges in the Spanish Model United Nations. This course prepares students to take *Español Para Hispanohablantes III* the following year.

### ***Español Para Hispanohablantes III (YR)***

*Prerequisite: Español para Hispanohablantes II.*

Two semesters, two credits open to all grade levels

This course is designed for students who have completed *Español para Hispanohablantes II*. Through their study of literature, music and movies, students will refine their grammar and learn about the cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. Students will develop their writing skills, with special attention given to spelling and accentuation. Among other activities, students will discuss culture, debate topics, write compositions and create projects. Circumlocution skills will be emphasized in order to progress while maintaining communication in Spanish. Of special note, students will practice their research and public speaking skills when they defend opposing scholarly articles. This course will prepare freshmen to take AP Spanish Language and Culture the following year, while sophomores and juniors may elect to take AP Spanish Literature and Culture.

### **Spanish I (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

This first-level Spanish course offers students a balanced approach to language-learning, giving careful attention to the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will engage in conversations, express feeling, and exchange opinions on topics such as likes/dislikes, personality, school life, foods, hobbies, community, sports, family, and clothing. Within these topics, students will build an awareness of culture, including attitudes and lifestyles in Spanish-speaking countries. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate technology, music, and videos.

# World Language

## *Spanish*

### **Spanish II (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Spanish I or equivalent.*

This course builds on the fundamentals and skills presented in Spanish I. Students will engage in conversations, develop listening skills, and write in the Spanish language. Thematic units presented include the classroom, daily routines, downtown activities, children and play, emergencies, television programs, and cooking. Within these units, students will build an awareness of culture, including attitudes and lifestyles in Spanish-speaking countries. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and films.

### **Spanish III (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Spanish II with an average grade of “C” or higher OR  
Honors Spanish II with an average grade of a “C-”.*

This third-year Spanish course is designed to continue developing the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing through conversations, discussions, readings, and practical writing activities. This course will refine and introduce new structures in grammar as well as vocabulary. The study of Spanish-speaking people, their customs and cultures include units on art, health and fitness, and communities and volunteerism. Participation and conversation are integral parts of this course. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and films.

### **Spanish IV (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Spanish III with an average grade of “C” or higher.*

This fourth-year Spanish course is designed to start developing intermediate skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing through conversations, discussions, authentic readings, and composition writing. The study of Spanish-speakers and their culture will include units on fashion and the 20<sup>th</sup> century, technology, the environment, human rights, personalities and personality styles, individual and personal relationships, as well as entertainment. Participation and conversation are key components of this course and one main focus will be speaking in Spanish. Students will be engaged in a variety of activities by means of authentic materials, interactive technology, music and movies.

### **Spanish V (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Spanish IV with an average grade of “B-” or higher.*

This fifth-year Spanish course is designed to continue developing intermediate skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing through conversations, discussions, authentic readings, and composition writing. The study of Spanish-speakers and their culture will include units on diversity, the culinary arts, our societal issues, the economy, our free time, and 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges and advancements. Participation and conversation are key components of this course and two main focuses will be speaking and writing in Spanish. Students will be engaged in a variety of activities by means of authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and movies.

# World Language

## *Honors Spanish*

### **Honors Spanish II (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Spanish I with an average grade of “A-” or higher OR Spanish I with teacher recommendation.*

This second-level Spanish course is fast paced and rigorously builds upon the fundamentals taught in Spanish I. Students will engage in conversations, develop listening skills, and read and write in the Spanish language. Thematic units presented include the classroom, daily routines, downtown activities, children and play, emergencies, television programs, cooking outdoors, making travel plans, and tourist activities. Students will build an awareness of culture, including attitudes and lifestyles in Spanish-speaking countries. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music, and movies.

### **Honors Spanish III (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to all grade levels.

*Prerequisite: Spanish II with an average grade of “A-” or Honors Spanish II with a “B-” or higher.*

This third-year Spanish course is fast-paced and rigorously builds upon the knowledge and abilities students gained in Spanish II. Students will engage in conversations, develop listening skills, and read and write in the Spanish language. This course will refine and introduce new vocabulary and grammar structures. The study of Spanish-speaking people, their customs and cultures include units on art, health and fitness, community and volunteerism, pre-Colombian civilizations, Spanish civilization and colonization, and the environment and conservation. Participation and conversation are integral parts of this course. Teaching and learning methods actively engage students in a variety of activities, which incorporate authentic materials, interactive technology, music and films.

## *Spanish Internship*

### **Spanish Language Internship Program-SLIP (S1) (S2)**

One or both semesters, one credit per semester open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Spanish IV or above, near native Spanish speaking skills, an application, and teacher recommendation. Admissions based on availability of approved positions.*

Earn valuable experience that could lead to your future college/career choice or get a head start on your college and career planning by participating in an intern experience. Students will travel to a local primary immersion school twice a week. Through direct contact in the classroom, students will expand their cultural understanding of Latinos and serve as pronunciation models for K-6 students guiding them in classroom activities. Students must be at least 16 years of age and be able to provide their own transportation to and from the work site. The internship will take place during the school day. Students will check in twice a week with the teacher to discuss progress and complete online requirements. Students will complete quarterly papers as well as a semester service-learning project.

*This course does not meet the core course requirements of the NCAA.*

# World Language

## *Advanced Placement*

### **AP Chinese Language and Culture (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

This course will deepen students' immersion into the language and culture of the Chinese-speaking world as they are provided with intermediate to advanced level tasks across the three communicative modes. In doing so, they will practice pronunciation, vocabulary, idiomatic expressions, grammatical structures, and written characters. Students will attain the ACTFL intermediate-high to advanced-low levels of proficiency by the end of the school year. Students will develop an awareness and appreciation of the elements of the culture of Chinese-speaking people throughout the course as they explore the AP themes of geography and population, ethnic and regional diversity, travel and transportation, climate and weather, holidays and food, sports and games and current affairs.

### **AP French Language and Culture (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to seniors.

*Prerequisite: French IV or V with an average grade of "B+" or higher.*

This intense college-level course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement French Language and Culture Examination. The study of French-speakers and their culture will include the AP College Board units on families and communities, science and technology, beauty and aesthetics, contemporary life, global challenges, and personal and public identities. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the culture(s), incorporate interdisciplinary topics, make comparisons between and native language and target language and between cultures, and use the target language in real-life settings. Students will develop tools of communication for reading and listening to authentic sources in order to promote a deeper understanding of the French language and its many cultures.

### **AP Spanish Language and Culture (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Spanish IV or V with an average grade of "B+" or higher.*

This intense college-level course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Spanish Language Examination. The study of Spanish-speakers and their culture will include the AP College Board units on families and communities, science and technology, beauty and aesthetics, contemporary life, global challenges, and personal and public identities. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the culture(s), incorporate interdisciplinary topics, make comparisons between the native language and target language and between cultures, and use the target language in real-life settings. Students will develop tools of communication for reading and listening to authentic sources in order to promote a deeper understanding of the Spanish language and its many cultures.

### **AP Spanish Literature and Culture (YR)**

Two semesters, two credits, open to juniors and seniors.

*Prerequisite: Spanish IV, V or AP Spanish Language with an average grade of "B+" or higher.*

This intense college-level course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Spanish Literature Examination. The study of Spanish-speakers and their culture will include the AP College Board units on societies in contact, gender, time and space, interpersonal and social relationships, duality of being and the enigma of existence, and imagination and literary creation. Students will develop further tools for communication for reading and listening to authentic sources in order to promote a deeper understanding of the Spanish language and its many cultures. This class will explore history, culture, art, and literature through Latin American and Spanish authors, poets, and essayists. Literature in this class covers the Medieval & Golden Age, as well as the 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.