

2018-2019 Donovan Course Offering Catalog

ARTS DEPARTMENT

Survey of Visual Arts / 50.02117

(9th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This is a hands-on class that introduces art history, art criticism, aesthetic judgment and studio production: emphasizes the ability to understand and use the elements of art and principles of design through a variety of media, processes and visual resources; and explores master artworks for historical and cultural significance. This course is organized to develop the art skills of beginners, and to enhance the skills of the more experienced artists. Artwork created by students is displayed throughout the school. This builds student confidence and creates a stimulating environment.

Studio Art / 50.02147

(9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Studio Art students continue to refine and enhance their skills in this is a hands-on class that introduces art history, art criticism, aesthetic judgment and studio production: emphasizes the ability to understand and use the elements of art and principles of design through a variety of media, processes and visual resources; and explores master artworks for historical and cultural significance. This course is organized to enhance the art skills of the more experienced artists. Artwork created by students is displayed throughout the school. This builds student confidence and creates a stimulating environment.

AP Studio Art / 50.08137

(11th & 12th grade) Full Year, 1 credit

AP Studio Art – 2D Design, Drawing, or 3D Design - is a challenging course that is appropriate for the advanced student who is serious about art and is considering taking studio art courses at the college level and/or as a career direction. Students will produce a portfolio of 24-29 quality art works during the year in the area of 2D Design, Drawing or 3D Design. Students must submit a portfolio of their artwork along with a completed application form to be considered for acceptance in the course. Artwork created by students is displayed throughout the school. This builds student confidence and creates a stimulating environment.

Donovan Singers / 54.02117

(9th, 10th, 11th & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

In chorus, students are taught the fundamentals of singing, music reading, and ensemble performance. Music of a variety of styles is employed and the work of great choral composers and arrangers is explored. Students are taught the fundamentals of critical listening and music analysis. Great emphasis is placed on active participation and working together. Opportunities for individual singing are offered and all students are encouraged to take advantage. There is an expectation of performance outside of the school day for all students.

Drama Survey / 52.02107

(9th, 10th, 11th & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This course focuses on the Introduction of Drama/Theater. The course consist of students reading and interpreting plays, comparing film adaptations of plays, learning how to write their own plays in proper script style format, and the inner workings of a Theatre; including important roles, direction, set and costume design, and publicity.

Yearbook / 23.03217

(9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Students in this class will be members of the yearbook production staff and expected to take photos of school events throughout the yaer. The course is designed to expose the student to the skills of photography, journalism, page production, and to assist them in acquiring the responsible attitude necessary to meet the demands of a production schedule and a publication deadline.

COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Computer Applications / 11.41307

(9th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This course is designed to empower students through building a solid understanding of computers. This includes, but is not limited to, learning about the history of computers and computing, common computer components and how they are put together, networking and the Internet, as well as common computer applications and their uses.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English I / 23.06107

Literature and Composition

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

Literature and Composition will be an introduction to literary genres and the varying types of writing; involving intensive student engagement in reading and writing activities, with the goal of making students better communicators and deeper thinkers.

- Read, summarize, and analyze and explain a wide variety of printed materials including short stories, poetry, drama, and novels from a variety of literary periods.
- Become more effective oral communicators through participation in discussions of literature and writing.
- Expand recognition and usage of vocabulary and use a variety of strategies to determine and learn the meanings of unfamiliar words.
- Become more aware of the errors frequently made in writing and will work to rid their own writing of such mistakes.

English I H / 23.26107

Honors Literature and Composition

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

Honors Literature and Composition will be an advanced introduction to literary genres and the varying types of writing, involving intensive student engagement in reading and writing activities, with the goal of making students better communicators and better thinkers.

- Read, summarize, and analyze and explain a wide variety of advanced printed materials including short stories, poetry, drama, and novels from a variety of literary periods.
- Become more effective oral communicators through participation in discussions of literature and writing.
- Expand usage of advanced vocabulary and use strategies to determine the meanings of unfamiliar words.
- Become more aware of errors frequently made in writing and will work to rid their own writing of such mistakes.
- Develop reading skills through focused discussion which analyzes specific literary elements and strengthens written composition

English II / 23.06207

World Literature

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The World Literature course teaches students to use words descriptively, empathetically, and persuasively with regard to others and to other world cultures. Students will read texts from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe among others. They will research these cultures and literatures, and they will write about their research in extended papers. Studying world literature, Donovan students will come to understand more about the world, about its many peoples, and ultimately about themselves.

- Actively research a variety of cultures through primary texts.
- Develop analysis skills through a mixture of projects and writing activities.
- Strengthen communication skills through persuasive essays and frequent large group discussions.
- Continue to read a variety of literary genres including blogs, vignettes, dramas, short stories, poetry, and novels.

English II H / 23.26207**Honors World Literature**

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The World Literature course teaches students to use words descriptively, empathetically, and persuasively with regard to others and to other world cultures. Students will read texts from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Europe among others. They will research these cultures and literatures, and they will write about their research in extended papers. Studying world literature, Donovan High School students will come to understand more about the world, about its many peoples, and ultimately about themselves.

- Develop reading skills through focused discussion which analyzes specific literary elements.
- Make strong connections between the context of a written piece and the purpose of the piece itself.
- Actively research a variety of cultures through primary texts.
- Develop analysis skills through a mixture of projects and writing activities.
- Strengthen communication skills through persuasive essays and frequent large group discussions.
- Continue to read a variety of literary genres including blogs, vignettes, dramas, short stories, poetry, and novels.

English III / 23.06307**American Literature**

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course will focus on the study of American Literature. They will also examine the interactions between the writers' purpose, subjects, and audience expectations. Assignments will consist of expository, personal, and persuasive writing, oral expression, vocabulary development, and research and analysis. Assignments will involve an exploration and analysis of rhetorical and linguistic choices as well as literary, cultural, and historical topics germane to American literature

- Learn to think more critically and analytically through responses to questions about the literature we read and the comments of their classmates.
- Become more fluent and proficient writers, particularly in relation to the development and support of thesis statements and in the analyses of literature we read through multi-paragraph essays.

AP Language / 23.24307**Language and Composition**

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

AP Language is an introductory college level course in rhetoric and composition. Basically, this is a course designed to help you become a better critical reader and writer by focusing primarily on American non-fiction writing and attempting to analyze the author's purpose, intended audiences, and various strategies that he or she uses to make a point. When writing, students will be responding to thematic essays that are read, as well as "visual rhetoric." Students may analyze a single piece of writing or "synthesize" several essays to form/support their own opinions. Throughout the course of the year, students will also write a research paper.

- Effectively analyze and argue rhetorically on a given subject.
- Develop the skills necessary to argue both orally and through writing on a given subject.
- Research how authorial intent, audience expectations, and a variety of appeals work together to create either an effective argument or not.
- Synthesize a variety of primary and secondary sources to a coherent argumentative and research paper.
- Apply a variety of literary terminology to textual analysis through writing and daily discussion.
- Use a variety of nonfiction texts to analyze basic themes as they apply to American culture.

English IV / 23.06407**British Literature**

(12th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This is a survey course which encompasses major prose and poetry of English writers from the Anglo-Saxon period through the 20th century. Our goal is to acquire an understanding of the ideas and literary genres that define these periods and to build a foundation for advanced studies in English literature. All readings will be considered in a literary and historical context so that the student will gain an understanding of the historical, cultural and philosophical influences that shape the texts. Students will express their understanding of key concepts through class discussions, writing assignments, and a midterm and final exam.

- Closely read and critically analyze literature through annotation, free writing, and creating discussion questions and writing prompts,
- Read, summarize, analyze and explain a wide variety of printed materials including short stories, poetry, drama, and novels from a variety of literary periods
- Solidify their ability to write coherent and effective argumentative and expository essays
- Continue their discussion skills by daily large-group student-led class discussions over their readings.

AP Literature / 23.26507

Literature and Composition

(12th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

AP Literature is an introductory college level course in critical literary analysis. Developing careful reading and critical analysis skills by focusing on a work’s structure, style, and themes, as well as smaller-scale elements, and the ways in which writers use these to create meaning. Writing will be focused on analyzing literature through close reading.

- Read, summarize, analyze and explain a wide variety of printed materials including short stories, poetry, drama, and novels from a variety of literary periods;
- Recognize the social, cultural, and historical values a work embodies and reflects;
- Closely read and critically analyze literature through annotation, free writing, and creating discussion questions and writing prompts;
- Define, identify, analyze, and explain a variety of literary terms and techniques used by writers;
- Recognize the structure and style of a work and how it creates tone and theme;
- Identify figurative language, imagery, and symbolism in a work and their effectiveness in producing meaning.

Philosophy / 45.01457

(9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Philosophy means “the love of wisdom”. We shall not study the modern “armchair philosopher” who sits about talking all day, but rather the ancient philosopher who understood philosophy as “a way of life,” a particular commitment to living in a certain manner to help us overcome the obstacles of life and to reach happiness. All of Man wants to be happy. We shall look to particular thinkers such as Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle. We will look at current philosophers in the daily news, court cases, and in general everyday life. Themes include metaphysics, logic, politics, ethics, piety, justice, morality, happiness, and friendship.

Shofar / 23.03307

(9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

As a student-driven class, Shofar consists of students planning, generating, and distributing an original MDCHS publication. The course introduces students to the various roles of newspaper production, including reporting, editing, photography, design, and distribution. Students will create both digital and printed newspapers on a monthly basis.

LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Latin I / 61.04107

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

We explore and master the fundamentals of the Latin language. As a platform for our discovery, we follow the daily life of the Caecilii. This story allows us to develop the vocabulary we need to begin to translate Latin that grows in complexity. Readings about Roman slavery, the Forum at Pompeii, and the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius provide a deep historical context in which grammar, usage, and vocabulary are developed. Students spend time learning the mythological and historical story of Rome.

Latin II / 61.04207

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

We delve more deeply into the complex grammar that will allow us to read “real” Latin. We continue to follow the daily life Quintus Caecilius as he tells of his adventures in Alexandria and the British isles. We also explore the ceremonies and celebrations surrounding coming of age, death, and marriage. Studying the history the collapse of the Roman Republic and the full glory of Roman Empire prepare students for understanding the history behind the greatest Roman authors.

Latin III H / 61.24307

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

Students begin to read abridged and unabridged Latin texts. They continue to deepen their understanding of Roman history and culture through reading Caesar, Pliny, Cicero and the like. Through their encounters with the great historical writers of their day, the students are exposed to a wide variety of styles. Students also prepare for taking AP Latin in this course. Through *Vergil: A Legamus Reader* students begin to learn about the poetic voice of Vergil and his work the *Aeneid*. They read both the English translation and translate extensive passages.

AP Latin / 61.04707

(12th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

Students reach the deepest level of understanding and interpretation of two authors, Vergil and Caesar. They read the primary sources the *Aeneid* and *De Bello Gallico* and secondary articles. A great emphasis is placed on interpreting the texts and discussing the greater historical context of the work. Students develop an extensive vocabulary of terms and devices and are able to identify their purpose and function in the work. Students practice translation and analysis in high-stakes environments culminating in the AP Latin exam at the end of the course.

Spanish I / 60.07107

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This class is an introduction to the linguistic structures necessary for communication in Spanish. Emphasis will be placed on acquiring vocabulary and conversational skills as well as cultural and historical information on Spanish speaking countries. The students are expected to develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing as well as an appreciation of Latino culture. No prior experience with Spanish required.

Spanish II / 60.07207

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course begins with a review of Spanish fundamentals and then moves into more intensive work on vocabulary building and advanced grammatical structures. More advanced practice in the use of the spoken language, writing skills and cultural components are explored. Speaking the language is greatly stressed at this level as this course focuses on the development of oral fluency and vocabulary. This class is open to those who have successfully completed Spanish I at the high school level or equivalent in middle school as well as heritage speakers, upon consent of the instructor.

Spanish III H / 60.27307

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course is designed to develop advanced reading, writing and verbal skills in the Spanish language. Students at this level will be expected to converse and discuss topics in Spanish. This class is open to those having successfully completed Spanish II or the equivalent as well as heritage speaker on the recommendation of the instructor.

AP Spanish / 60.07707

(12th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

AP Spanish Language and Culture is designed to emphasize the use of Spanish for active communication in real-life tasks. The course focuses on developing the student’s abilities in the three modes of communication

(Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational) and strengthening cultural competencies through theme-based instruction. A variety of authentic resources are utilized including the following: newspapers, magazines, podcasts, blogs, advertisements, television programs, films, music, video clips, and literature. Grammar and vocabulary are also further developed through contextualized study.

Cultural Studies / 23.06707

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course offers a broad overview of the cultural experience – of what “culture” actually means. As the title suggests, the course focuses on the transition through history from individual societies' cultural isolation to modern day multiculturalism and cultural exchange: students will experience how cultures have influenced each other – in art, music and literature; but also in dress, language, even eating habits. Students will also engage in the discourse on “high culture/pop culture”. Ultimately this a course that studies the history and development of cultural values.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Algebra I / 27.06217

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This is the first course in a sequence which leads to the study of higher mathematics. Topics include rational numbers, equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring, graphing, systems of equations, rational expressions, radicals, relations, and functions.

Euclidean Geometry / 27.09727

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

Students make conjectures and investigate properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and solids. Conjectures are verified through deductive reasoning. Study includes a unit on formal logic. Vectors, symmetry, transformations, algebra, logic, calculators, and computers are used as tools to solve problems. Students should be able to successfully work independently as well as cooperatively and should have strong algebra skills. (prerequisite: Algebra I)

Euclidean Geometry Honors / 27.09767

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course is designed to develop critical thinking skills in a fast paced environment. Students should have a well-developed number sense and strong algebraic skills. Students are expected to communicate reasoning, both verbally and in writing. Topics include investigations into relationships with points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, polygons, similar figures, congruent figures, and circles. (Prerequisite: Algebra I or Algebra IH)

Algebra II / 27.06407

(10th & 11th grades) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course builds upon concepts learned in Algebra I and Geometry and expands to include the following topics: all types of functions and equations (linear, quadratic, absolute value, cubic, radical, rational, logarithmic, and exponential); inverse functions, matrices, and conic sections. Emphasis will be placed on preparing students for standardized tests such as the ACT and SAT.

Algebra II Honors / 27.26407

(10th & 11th grades) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course is designed to prepare students for the study of pre-calculus mathematics. Topics include linear functions and systems, inequalities coordinates in space, polynomial and rational expressions, radicals, irrational numbers, sequences, series, polynomial functions, exponents, logarithms, matrices, and conic sections. (prerequisite: Geometry)

Pre-Calculus Honors / 27.26247

(11th & 12th grades) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The formal study of trigonometry is included in this course. Students apply technology modeling and problem-solving skills to the study of trigonometric and circular function, identities and inverses, and their applications. Topics include: radian measure of an angle, graphing trigonometric functions, evaluating trigonometric functions, the unit circle, solving trigonometric equations, and verifying trigonometric identities. Also included is the proof and use of addition, subtraction, double, and half-angle formulas.

Statistics / 27.05107

(12th Grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

In this course, students learn how to collect, organize, and interpret data. Classroom surveys and experiments are used to generate data for student exploration. Emphasis is placed on the application of statistical methods and the appropriate use of technology. Descriptive and Inferential statistics will be examined.

AP Calculus AB / 27.07207

(12th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

An Advanced Placement (AP) course in calculus consists of a full high school academic year of work that is comparable to a calculus course in colleges and universities. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed geometrically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The connections among these representations are demonstrated through the use of the unifying themes of derivatives, integrals, limits, approximation, applications and modeling. A major objective of the class is to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam to be given in the spring.

Test Prep / 35.06607

(9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Test Prep is a course designed to help prepare students for the SAT and ACT test. In addition to reviewing the basic verbal and mathematical skills assessed on these tests, students have access to test-taking strategies specific to the exams, real student work samples with explanations, grading rubrics for self-assessment, practice tests with complete multiple-choice assessments, essay prompts, and study resources. Instruction, followed by collaborative, guided, and independent practice, provides the foundation for the course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Personal Fitness / 36.05107

(9th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This is an introductory course in which the students learn the fundamental concepts of physical fitness and motor skills. The students learn through observation and participation that will enable them to improve their current level of physical fitness. Emphasis is placed on cardiovascular endurance development. Students participate in fitness related activities as well as various team and lifetime sports. In addition, students develop individual skills, basic rules and strategies necessary to become successful in various sports.

Health / 17.01107

(9th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This course provides the student with a wide range of learning experiences on health related topics. As a result of these experiences, the student should have the knowledge to make and apply sound decisions regarding their own health and be able to acquire and maintain positive health behaviors and attitudes.

Team Sports / 36.02107

(10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Students will become familiar with the five concepts of fitness. Students are expected to progress to a more intermediate level of sports play. Students will be more familiar with rules and strategy. Students will be able to compete in an organized setting for team and individual sports.

Strength and Conditioning / 36.02207

(10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Students will become familiar with basic fitness concepts of strength and conditioning. By the end of the course students should possess an understanding of the five components of fitness, as well as an ability to participate in a number exercises.

Yoga / 36.05507

(10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Yoga is a great way to work on your flexibility and strength and just about everyone can do it! This class is not just for people who can touch their toes or want to meditate. This class is about joining the mind, body, and spirit while learning poses, control breathing, and developing flexibility. Students in this class engage in multiple styles of yoga practice that promote strength, mindfulness, and coordination while improving overall focus and stress reduction.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Biology / 26.01207

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

Biology is a course designed to teach students the detailed workings of the cell, genetics, evolution, the diversity of life, plant structure and function, animal structure and function, behavior and ecology. This course attempts to touch on all learning styles through lecture, group activities, computer lab activities, and laboratory work.

Biology Honors / 26.21207

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This academic level course is designed to introduce the concepts and laboratory techniques of biology. In this course students are expected to complete independent study and research in addition to learning the material presented during lectures, discussions, case studies and the various laboratory activities that accompany each unit. The course is geared to develop independent investigation of biological concepts and principles by enhancing critical thinking skills. Biology is a course designed to teach students the detailed workings of the cell, genetics, evolution, the diversity of life, plant structure and function, animal structure and function, behavior and ecology. This course attempts to touch on all learning styles through lecture, group activities, computer lab activities, and laboratory work. This course will prepare students to take AP Biology.

Chemistry / 40.05107

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This academic level course is designed to introduce the concepts and laboratory techniques of chemistry. The course is geared to develop independent investigation of chemical concepts and principles by enhancing critical thinking skills. This is to be accomplished through inquiry activities along with structured lecture and the active building of laboratory skills. (Prerequisite: Biology, Algebra 1, Departmental placement)

Chemistry Honors / 40.25107

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This academic level course is designed to introduce and fully develop concepts and laboratory techniques of advanced-level chemistry. The course is geared to create independent investigation of chemical concepts and principles through laboratory studies, active project based learning and by developing critical thinking skills. This is accomplished through inquiry activities, performance based assessment, along with structured lecture and the active building of laboratory skills. (Prerequisite: Biology, Algebra 1, Departmental placement)

Physics / 40.08107

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course addresses the basic concepts of physics by covering the physical principles of force, motion, heat, light, sound, electricity, magnetism, quantum theory, relativity, particle physics, and nuclear physics. The course also reinforces the relationship between science and mathematics. It serves to strengthen both critical thinking skills and mathematical skills through traditional problem solving approach. (Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 1, and/or co-requisite of Trigonometry, and Department Placement)

Honors Physics / 40.28107

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course addresses the concepts of physics by covering mechanics, heat, light, sound, electricity and magnetism, quantum theory, particle and nuclear physics. The course allows students to apply advanced mathematical concepts to physics problems, with an emphasis on vector resolution. Inquiry-based labs and projects are performed to further investigate topics covered during lecture. (Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 1, and/or co-requisite of Trigonometry and Department Placement)

Human Anatomy and Physiology / 26.07307

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

This course will offer a detailed study of the major organ systems, their functions and chemical processes within the human body. Students are given the opportunity to explore the organ system through dissections of animal organs and tissues, while integrating new and developing areas of study through the use of internet resources. This class is a two-semester sequence examining the structure and function of the human body and mechanisms for maintaining homeostasis within it. This class includes the study of cells, tissues and the 11 organ systems. Course is intended to be a science elective for juniors. (Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 1)

Earth Systems / 40.06407

(12th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to study and investigate the sciences that seek to understand Earth and its neighbors in space. These sciences include geology, oceanography, meteorology and astronomy. This is to be accomplished through a variety of activities including projects, laboratory investigations and other inquiry activities that will serve to improve critical thinking and scientific investigation skills.

AP Biology / 26.01407

(12th Grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The AP Biology course is designed to give students an introductory college-level course in biology. The scope of the curriculum is vast. Therefore, like a college course, students are expected to learn the material presented during lectures, discussions, case studies and the various laboratory activities that accompany each unit. The students will leave this class college ready and have a strong understanding of the concepts of biology and a clear understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of science. AP Biology is an intensive course with a strict schedule of topics and themes to be covered, including readings, quizzes, laboratory activities, and classroom activities. (Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Department placement).

Biotechnology / 25.56807

(10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of biotechnology. Included in this course is a basic overview of current trends and careers in biotechnology. Additionally, emphasis on basic laboratory skills along with the business, regulatory, and ethical aspects of biotechnology is included. The knowledge and skills gained in this course will provide students with a broad understanding of biotechnology and its impact on society and with a set of foundation skills for entry into multiple career and college pathways.

Forensic Science / 40.09307

(10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Forensic science is the application of scientific principles to matters of the law. Topics covered in this course include the following: investigation, evidence recovery/packaging, manner/cause of death, legal basis for search and scientific evidence, court testimony, and the analysis/interpretation of impression latent prints, drugs, fire arms, tool marks, and documents.

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

World History / 45.08307

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

World History is a course that explores various cultures throughout time and places to investigate what constitutes a well-functioning human culture. Similarities and differences between cultures are explored in an effort to retrace developing traditions within many cultures. This course will focus primarily on two developing traditions known colloquially as “the west” and “the east”. This course will take note of distinctive cultures, but also look at grander themes that unite such cultures beyond borders. This course will provide students with a broader understanding of who they are, where they come from, and how history applies to today’s world.

AP World History / 45.08117

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

AP World History is a rigorous, college-level course designed to explore human history from 8000 B.C.E. to the present. The course emphasizes the development of analytical/critical thinking and composition skills necessary for success at the collegiate level. To this end, the course devotes considerable time to the critical evaluation of primary and secondary sources, analysis of historiography (the principles, theories, or methodology of scholarly historical research and presentation) and inquiry into global connections that have shaped our present world. A special emphasis will be given to preparation for the National AP Exam, including historical writing through essay and document-based questions.

US History / 45.08107

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

US History explores the history of this land – our people, our institutions, and our actions. We will take a chronological approach to the study of US History, and explore each time period by looking at intellectual/cultural history, social/economic history, and political/diplomatic history. The course will balance a “birds-eye view” perspective (through the use of current scholarship on major themes in US History) with an “up close and personal” look at historical documents (letters, transcripts) and cultural products (paintings, photographs, and excerpts from literature). Additionally, students should expect to revisit and further develop understanding and mastery of key social studies concepts and skills from their 11th grade year.

AP US History / 45.28207

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

AP US History is designed to be the equivalent of a college-level freshman US History course and prepare students for the AP Examination in May. An emphasis is placed on analytical skills, the acquisition of factual knowledge, interpretation of documents, and writing critical essays. Students who do what is required of them will become better writers and more sophisticated critical thinkers. As a bonus, students who pass the AP US History exam will be recognized by nearly every university in the country as worthy of being awarded college credit. This is a college course in every way.

Government and Civics / 45.05707

(12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

This one semester course will explore American government and students will learn how to become active citizens in our democratic republic. The course is designed around three “dimensions” of citizenship: (1) Studying Government, (2) Observing Government and Political Behavior, and (3) Ongoing Civic Action and Participation.

All of our readings, activities, research, and action will be geared toward developing these dimensions of citizenship. As a senior-level, culminating Social Studies course, students will also need to demonstrate mastery and understanding of key Social Studies concepts and skills.

Economics and the Modern World / 46.06107

(12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

Economics – usually 2nd semester Senior Year focuses on global topics: 1) the globalized nature of economics in the 21st century, and 2) the individual’s role as a globally-informed citizen of the United States. Therefore, the topics and units of this course are designed to both help students analyze and understand the universal principles of the market economy and provide the skills necessary to be lifelong learners in Social Studies.

World Geography / 45.071107

(9th, 10th, 11th, & 12th grade) 1 semester, .5 credits

World geography is the study of how human activity is affected by the surface of the earth. This course deals with human interactions, cultures, and development based upon one’s location, climate and available resources. Major areas of study in this course include: government formation, economics, gender roles, societal hierarchies, art, religion, and interactions with other societies.

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Theology I / 99.00907

Introduction to Scripture & Jesus Christ

(9th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course, they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible, and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally. During the second semester, students are introduced to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course, students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn who he calls them to be.

Theology II / 99.01007

The Mission of Jesus Christ & the Church

(10th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ, and what life as a disciple entails. During the second semester, students learn that in and through the Church, they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has divine and human elements. In this course, students learn about the sacred nature of the Church.

THEOLOGY III / 99.01107

Sacraments & Morality

(11th grade) 2 semesters, 1 credit

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life. During the second semester, students learn that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God’s plans for their lives. Students learn about the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ’s disciples, and how to apply these principles of moral decision to various unique situations.

THEOLOGY IV / 99.01207**Catholic Social Teachings & Ecumenical/Interreligious Issues**

(12th grade) 2 semester, 1 credits

Semester 1 will introduce students to the Church's social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission. Semester 2 will help students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians, as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God's Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities, as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.