



Course Catalogue 2018-2019

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*Aquinas High School is accredited by the Western Association of Colleges and Schools (WASC)
and by the Western Catholic Educational Association (WCEA).*

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Academies

Healthcare Academy

The Healthcare Academy at Aquinas High School was developed in partnership with St. Bernadine Medical Center to create a unique student-hospital relationship founded on the core Catholic values of Aquinas High School. The program combines a four-year course of study which includes classroom instruction in advanced math and science with clinical knowledge provided by working professionals in a hospital setting. The program is designed for students who have a passion and interest in the area of healthcare and a desire to better prepare themselves for a future career in the field. Students in the program will take a more rigorous math and science course sequence, conduct independent research, intern with medical professionals, participate in medical simulations, and attend lectures provided by St. Bernardine Medical Center staff and other medical professionals. Students who complete the rigorous four-year program will be honored at our awards night, have special markings on their diploma, and most importantly, give themselves a foundation to succeed and set themselves apart in this highly competitive field.

Engineering Academy

The Engineering Academy at Aquinas High School was developed in order to create a unique engineering preparatory program founded on the core Catholic values of Aquinas High School. The program combines a four-year course of study which includes classroom instruction in advanced math, science, and specific engineering coursework and real-world mentoring experience by working professionals in a variety of settings. The program is designed for students who have a passion and interest in the area of engineering and a desire to better prepare themselves for a future career in the field. Students in the program will take a more rigorous math and science course sequence in conjunction with specific engineering courses and attend lectures and other engineering-based activities provided by various professionals in the field. Students who complete the rigorous four-year program will be honored at our awards night, have special markings on their diploma, and most importantly, give themselves a foundation to succeed and set themselves apart in this highly competitive field.

Law Academy

The Law Academy at Aquinas High School was developed in partnership with local entities and attorneys to create a unique student experience designed to afford members a more comprehensive hands-on approach to the law while remaining founded in the core Catholic values of Aquinas High School. The program combines a four-year course of study which includes advanced instruction in humanities, social studies, and English, with hands-on knowledge provided by working experts in a professional setting. The program is designed for students who have a passion and interest in the area of law and a desire to better prepare themselves for a future career in the field. Students in the program will take a more rigorous humanities, social studies, and English course sequence, conduct independent research, intern with law professionals, participate in law/trial simulations, and attend lectures provided by law professionals. Students who complete the rigorous four-year program will be honored at our awards night, have special markings on their diploma, and most importantly, give themselves a foundation to succeed and set themselves apart in this highly competitive field.

Visual & Performing Arts

The Visual and Performing Arts Academy (VPA) at Aquinas High School was developed to create a unique student opportunity to develop and enhance abilities and experiences in the identified areas while maintaining a focus on the core Catholic values of Aquinas High School. The program combines a four-year course of study which includes classroom instruction with experiences to perform in school and local performances. The academy is designed for students who have a passion and interest in this area and a desire to better prepare themselves for a future potential career in the field. There will be a strand that focuses on the performing arts and one that focuses on the visual arts. Both strands will identify requirements within their strand. Students in the program will take courses in their related to their strand, conduct independent activities, intern with professionals, participate in approved activities, and attend performances related to their study. Students who complete the rigorous four-year program will be honored at our awards night, have special markings on their diploma, and most importantly, give themselves a foundation to succeed and set themselves apart in this highly competitive field.

Please [click here](#) to access admission requirements and course sequences for each academy.

UC A-G Requirements

Aquinas High School provides a four-year curriculum that allows students to meet and surpass the University of California (UC) a-g curricular requirements.

The intent of the “a-g” subject requirements is to ensure that students have attained a body of general knowledge that will provide breadth and perspective to new, more advanced study. Courses from California high schools and online schools used to satisfy the “a-g” subject requirements must be approved by UC and appear on the institution’s “a-g” course list. These courses are to be academically challenging, involving substantial reading, writing, problems and laboratory work (as appropriate), and show serious attention to analytical thinking, factual content and developing students’ oral and listening skills. <http://www.ucop.edu/agguide/a-g-requirements/>

In order to be UC eligible, students must fulfill the following course requirements by obtaining a minimum grade of ‘C’ or higher in these courses:

History/social science (“a”) – *Two years*, including one year of world history, cultures and historical geography and one year of U.S. history, or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of American government or civics.

English (“b”) – *Four years* of college preparatory English that integrates reading of classic and modern literature, frequent and regular writing, and practice listening and speaking.

Mathematics (“c”) – *Three years* of college-preparatory math, including or integrating the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry.

Laboratory science (“d”) – *Two years* of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of the three disciplines of biology, chemistry and physics.

Language other than English (“e”) – *Two years* of the same language other than English or equivalent to the second level of high school instruction.

Visual and performing arts (“f”) – *One year* chosen from dance, music, theater or the visual arts.

College-preparatory elective (“g”) – *One year* chosen from the “a-f” courses beyond those used to satisfy the requirements above, or courses that have been approved solely in the elective area.

Meeting the UC a-g requirements does not indicate that all graduation requirements have been met to receive an Aquinas diploma; refer to the following pages in this catalogue to confirm Aquinas’ graduation requirements. UC a-g approval will be indicated in this document via the following label adjacent to the title of approved courses: (*UC-a*), (*UC-b*), (*UC-c*), etc.

Four year course of study

Freshman Curriculum

Ethics 1-Survey of Catholicism/Old Testament
English 1
Algebra 1
Biology
World geography/Geography
World Language
Physical Education/Health

Sophomore Curriculum

Ethics 2-New Testament/Morality
English 2
Geometry
Chemistry
World History
World Language 2
Visual & Performing Art Elective

Junior Curriculum

Ethics 3-Peace & Justice/Church History

English 3
Algebra 2
Science Elective

Senior Curriculum

Ethics 4-Comp. Religions/Christian
Vocations
English 4
U.S. Government/Economics
Electives (must choose 4...may be an
additional year of math, science, or world
language)

United States History
World Language 3
Visual & Performing Art Elective 2

Elective Courses:

Mathematics: H Trigonometry, H Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus AB, Consumer Math

World Language: Spanish 3, AP Spanish Language, French 3, AP French Language,
Latin 3 Honors and AP Latin

Social Science: Psychology, AP Psychology, AP European History, AP World History

Visual & Performing Arts: Drawing and Painting I,II,& III, AP Studio Art, AP Studio
2D, AP Studio 3D, Drama I, II, & III, Choir I & II, Instrumental Music I & II, AP Art
History, Photography I & II, Journalism I & II, Digital Media, Contemporary Film,
Digital Cinema, Broadcast Journalism, Graphic Design, Computer Science, Art
Appreciation, Ceramics, and Musical Theater Dance and Production.

Science: Physics, Anatomy & Physiology, AP Biology, AP Chemistry, Marine Biology
and Sports Medicine

Physical Education: Advanced Co-Ed P.E.

Honors Courses:

Mathematics: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus

English: English 1 and English 2

Language: Latin 1, 2, and 3

Science: Biology and Chemistry

College Prep: Engineering & Design, Principles of Engineering, Civil Engineering &
Architecture

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

Mathematics: Calculus AB

English: English Language and Composition and English Literature and Composition

Language: Spanish Language, French Language, and Latin
Science: Biology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science
Social Science: Human Geography, World History, European History, U.S. History, U.S. Government/Politics, Psychology
Visual & Performing Arts: Studio Art, 2D, 3D, and Art History

Aquinas Graduation Requirements

A passing grade in the following courses:

4 years English
4 years Ethics
4 years Social Science
3 years Mathematics
2 years Lab Science
2 years World Language
2 years Visual & Performing Arts
1.5 years Physical Education/ .5 years Health

English Department **Graduation Requirement - 40 Units** *UC Requirement – 40 units*

Freshman Seminar

Freshmen

One Year - 10 Units

Prerequisites: If an incoming freshman is required to take summer school for English, then he/she will automatically be enrolled in Freshman Seminar.

This course is designed to review basic writing skills with students who are in need of some reinforcement in order to succeed in high school. The curriculum for this class will include instruction in grammar and essay writing, with an emphasis on one-to-one instruction by the teacher. The class size will be limited to insure this occurs. Peer editing and conferencing will also be included. The instructor will also make contact with the English instructors to check on the progress of the students.

ELD (English Language Development)

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior

One Year - 10 Units

Prerequisites: Below 70 on the TOEFL *ora* first year International student

This course is designed to develop English Language learners' writing, reading, listening, and speaking skills through a workshop type setting. ELL's are also provided in depth guidance in the area of organization, study skills, and campus procedures in order to have a smooth transition into a new country and/or high school.

English 1(UC-b)

Freshmen (Required)

One Year - 10 Units

Prerequisites: The Ninth Grade Placement Exam (summer school if recommended)

This is the first course in a sequence of regular English language instruction. Emphasis is on the development of Basic English language skills, effective reading, clear and concise exposition of thoughts, and development of an effective, active vocabulary.

Honors English 1 (UC-b)**One Year - 10 Units**

Freshmen (Replaces English 1)

Prerequisite: Scoring at or above the 75th percentile on the placement exam and completing the summer reading requirement.

This first course in the English Honors/Advanced Placement program provides opportunity for those qualified to pursue special interests and abilities in greater depth and scope than is possible in regular classes. This course offers an introduction to basic writing skills and techniques and introduces the basic elements of literary genre. The course involves the close reading of prose and poetry in World Literature covering Sumerian-Hebrew literature to the Renaissance. Above all, it provides the necessary skills and training to advance in the Honors/Advanced Placement program.

English 2 (UC-b)**One Year - 10 Units**

Sophomore (Required)

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in English 1

Multicultural literature is surveyed and analyzed with attention to literary type, which includes short story, drama, poetry, non-fiction, legend, and novel. Exercises in vocabulary, grammar, and composition are integrated into the study. Students also produce a research project and a personal resume'.

Honors English 2 (UC-b)**One Year - 10 Units**

Sophomore (Replaces English 2)

Prerequisite: An "A" in English 1 or a "B" in Honors English 1 and completing the summer reading requirement.

This course continues the approach of English 1 Honors: to allow students capable of Honors work to write analytically, to study World Literature from the Renaissance to modern times, and to enhance their vocabulary skills for college-level reading and literary analysis. This course provides preparation for the Advanced Placement English classes.

English 3 (UC-b)**One Year - 10 Units**

Junior (Required)

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in English 2 or Honors English 2

This course is a continuation of the regular English language curriculum. Emphasis is on the development of vocabulary, skills of literary analysis, and effective communication through writing, which includes the techniques of basic research. The focus of this course is on a chronological study of American Literature, which parallels the American History course.

AP English Language & Composition (UC-b)**One Year - 10 Units**

Junior (Replaces English 3)

Prerequisite: An "A" in English 2 and passing the challenge test or a "B" in AP English 3; a score of 75% or higher on the Summer Reading Exam; submission of the Summer Writing Assignment. Consistent attendance is crucial.

This college-level course will include both the readings and the analysis of varieties of discursive prose and the study of the process of writing from the discovery of the topic to the preliminary drafts to the final draft. This course introduces students to the semantic, structural, and rhetorical resources of the language. Selected works in prose, fiction, and poetry, as well as an intensive vocabulary are included. Students enrolled in the course will be prepared to take the College Board's Advanced Placement test in Language and Composition, which is administered in May. Students also study American literature in a chronological form paralleling the American History course.

English 4 (UC-b)**One Year - 10 Units**

Senior (Required)

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in English 3

The literature of the British Isles is surveyed from the Anglo-Saxon period through the twentieth century. Integrated into the course are literary analysis, vocabulary exercises, grammar, and composition. Each of the four quarters culminates in a project germane to the genre(s) studied, demonstrating competency in each quarter's subject matter

AP English Literature & Composition(UC-b)

One Year - 10 Units

Senior (Replaces English 4)

Prerequisite: An “A” in English 3 and pass the challenge test, or a “B” in AP English 3; a score of 75% or higher on the Summer Reading Exam; submission of the Summer Writing Assignment. Consistent attendance is crucial.

This college-level course introduces and involves students in both the study and practice of writing and the analysis of literature. Through speaking, listening, and reading, students become more aware of the resources of language: connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax, and tone. Writing assignments include the critical analysis of literature, and include essays in exposition and argument. Students will be prepared to take the Advanced Placement examination in English Literature and Composition given in May of each year, which covers selections in literature from the sixteenth through the twentieth centuries.

Math Department
Graduation Requirement - 30 Units
UC Requirement – 30 units
UC Recommendation – 40 units

Algebra Essentials

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen

Prerequisites: None

This is a basic course for introducing all of the field properties early, along with the properties of equality and encourages students to use these properties as justifications for solving equations. The course will also provide complete coverage of polynomial operations and all factoring techniques to prepare students for work with rational expressions and quadratic equations.

Algebra I(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen (Required)

Prerequisites: An Entrance Exam Score between 31st - 74th percentiles.

This course is designed to develop an understanding of the basic properties of the real number system for further study. The course is using deductive reasoning in solving problems. It covers symbols, sets, equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring, fractions and their uses, rational and irrational numbers, basic quadratic equations and an introduction to relations, functions and their graphs. Through the whole year appropriate word problems are solved.

Honors Algebra I(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen (Replaces Algebra I)

Prerequisites: A score of at least 75th percentile on the Freshman Placement Exam.

This course is designed for the student who performs well in and has an above average ability for mathematics. It covers the topics of Algebra I and other related principles more quickly, and with more complex problems to provide a sound introduction to Algebra.

Geometry(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores

Prerequisites: 9th-May challenge the Honors Algebra I Final for placement in Geometry; 10th-At least a “C” average in Algebra I.

This course develops one’s ability to see and express spatial relationships using points, lines and planes. Emphasis is placed on formal deductive proofs, the geometry of triangles, parallelograms, quadrilaterals, and circles, as well as on computations of areas and volumes. This course will increase the student’s confidence in his/her reasoning abilities to make logical deductions.

Honors Geometry(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores (Replaces Geometry)

Prerequisites: An “A” in Algebra 1 or a “B” in Algebra Honors for both semesters.

This course is designed for the student who demonstrates an above average ability in mathematics. It covers the same topics as Geometry, using more complex problems, and is augmented by coordinate geometry and mapping.

Algebra 2(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors

Prerequisites: An “C” in Algebra I and Geometry; Note-Geometry must be taken previously.

This course covers the manipulative skills needed in advanced mathematics and in physical science. It covers systems of equations, rational and irrational numbers, quadratic equations and systems, relations, functions, complex numbers, polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions, progressions and permutations.

Honors Algebra 2(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors

Prerequisites: An “A” in Algebra I and Geometry both semesters, OR at least a “B” in Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry both semesters; Note-Geometry must have been taken previously.

This course covers the same topics as Algebra II, Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus with additional enrichment and more challenging problems. It is for those juniors who demonstrated exceptional ability in mathematics and who may intend to study Calculus AP in their senior year.

Honors Trigonometry (UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: Juniors: A “C” in Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry, OR a “B” in Algebra I and Geometry. Seniors: A “B” in both Geometry and Algebra 2. Co requisites: Honors Algebra 2

This is an 11th/ 12th grade preparatory course for students intending to take college level or AP Calculus. This year long course is based primarily on the California State Standards for Trigonometry. This course includes: trigonometric and circular functions and identities, inverse trigonometric functions, graphs, trigonometric equations, complex numbers, polar equations and parametric equations, exponential and logarithmic functions.

Honors Pre-Calculus(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: At least a “A” in Geometry AND in Algebra II OR at least a “B” in Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II.

This course covers the study of functions (linear, quadratic, and inverse functions) and Analytic Geometry (lines, conic sections). A small portion of this course consists of the study of Trigonometry (trigonometric and circular functions and their inverses, graphs and equations), exponential and logarithmic function sequences and series. Time permitting; a short introduction to vectors will be also presented. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared to enroll in Calculus, either at AHS or in their college freshman year.

AP Calculus AB(UC-c)

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites: At least a “B” in Honors Algebra II and Honors Trigonometry OR in Pre-Calculus. Summer work is required. Consistent attendance is crucial.

This course is a college-level calculus course. After an analytic preparation and study of limits, the course covers the derivatives of functions and integration. It includes applications of the derivative, definite integral and methods of integration. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test in Calculus A/B.

Consumer Math

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry or, Algebra A and Algebra B and Geometry

This course counts only for graduation requirements for Aquinas High School. It does not count for any UC or Cal State entrance requirement. This course focuses on practical math that will be utilized throughout life.

Physical Education Department Graduation Requirement - 20 Units

Coeducational Physical Education/ Health

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen (Required)

Prerequisites:None

Mental: Each student will gain understanding of games and the skills necessary to play them. During the health portion of the class students will become familiar with the essentials it takes to lead a healthy lifestyle. This includes the nutritional and physical aspects of taking care of one's body.

Physical: Every student taking this course should become more physically fit, gain new skills, and sharpen old ones. Students will be exposed to activities that will compliment a healthy lifestyle.

Social: All students will learn how to compete with a Christian attitude showing sportsmanship and ethics. They will also learn the skills necessary to function as a team.

Advanced Coeducational Physical Education

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors, or Seniors

Prerequisites:Passing Grade in Co-ed PE

This course is a continuation of Freshmen Physical Education.

Sports Manager

One Sport Season - 5 Units

All Students

Prerequisites: None

The student will perform many tasks for the team. These tasks will vary from team to team and seasons to season.

These tasks may or may not include: set up and takedown of equipment, record keeping (other than attendance), and various other tasks. Team statisticians are NOT eligible for any credit.

Strength and Conditioning

One Year - 10 Units

All Students

Prerequisites: Participant in a Varsity sport

Strength & Conditioning is a course designed to provide student athletes the opportunity to maximize their physical fitness and improve their athletic performance while learning how to train correctly. Students will participate in weight lifting, flexibility training, injury prevention, speed training, aerobic conditioning and interval training.

Training programs are designed by PLT4M which provides an extensive online database of instructional videos and an online profile for each student built to track their progress. PLT4M programs are not sport specific, they cater to the athlete as a whole and create workout programs for in-season athletes and off-season athletes. To take the class, students must be a varsity athlete and at least a sophomore.

Athletic Participation

One Sports Season – 5 Units

All Students

Students must participate in a JV or Varsity sport for its entire season.

Religion Department

Graduation Requirement - 40 Units & 100 Christian Service Hours

Christian Service Program Requirements:

Students are required to complete a total of 100 hours (25 per year that they attend Aquinas) in order to be eligible for graduation. 75 of those hours must be direct service and 25 may be indirect service. Direct service hours are preferred; therefore, students may choose to perform direct service for all 100 hours.

Direct Service Hours:

Definition – service hours that take place directly working with individuals through a non-profit agency or organization that cares for the poor, hungry or disadvantaged; children, a church (in some instances), coaching, or tutoring; and/or, the elderly, sick, disabled, or individuals with special needs. If the agency or organization you would like to work with is not a non-profit group, it must be preapproved by the Director of Campus Ministry.

*Examples: visiting senior centers, feeding the homeless, working with the disabled, assisting at a daycare facility, being a youth leader for youth ministry, Vacation Bible Study camps, teaching religious education and assisting during the liturgy as an alter server, lector, music minister, or usher.

Indirect Service Hours:

Definition – service hours that do not involve direct interaction with individuals through a non-profit agency or organization that serves the groups listed under direct service. These service hours are more along the lines of community service, when there is not a close, one on one interaction with the groups listed above.

*Examples: Aquinas events, working snack bars, assisting with tournaments, custodial/clerical work, fundraisers, marathons, walkathons, school/parish/festivals or meals (unless it is specifically serving the homeless or less fortunate), blood donations, beach cleanup, bake sales, etc. Again, all of these hours need to be completed through a non-profit organization or agency.

Ethics I

Freshmen (Required)

Prerequisites: None

First Semester: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture - The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In this course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. In addition, 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. Second Semester: Who is Jesus? - The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn who he calls them to be.

One Year - 10 Units

Ethics 2

Sophomore (Required)

Prerequisites: Passing Grade in Ethics 1

First Semester: The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery) - The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails. Second Semester: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church - The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to

One Year - 10 Units

the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

Ethics 3

One Year - 10 Units

Junior (Required)

Prerequisites: Passing Grade in Ethics 2

First Semester: Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Christ - The purpose of this course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life. Second Semester: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church - The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

Ethics 4

One Year - 10 Units

Senior (Required)

Prerequisites: Passing Grade in Ethics 3

First Semester: Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ, Vocations - The purpose of this course is to help students to understand the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live. In this course, students should learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course should be structured around married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. Students should learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian community. Second Semester: Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues - Seniors will be studying Religion in America: A Comparison, the second semester. This course will be an academic study of the major religions in our country, their traditions, and their history and development within the U.S.

Science Department
Graduation Requirement - 30 Units
UC Requirement – 20 units
UC Recommendation – 30 units

Introduction to Lab Sciences

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen

Prerequisites:None

This class will demonstrate to students the important mathematical skills and terminology vital in Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Included will be the basics of Biology, including cell biology and basic anatomy; the essentials of Chemistry, including the Periodic Table and laboratory fundamentals; and investigations of motion and forces. Work in the course will focus on group- and lab-work. Upon completion of this course students will be prepared for further scientific study, especially Biology, Chemistry, and Physics.

Biology(UC-d)

One Year - 10 units

Freshman/Sophomores (Required)

Prerequisites: Passing Grade in Earth Science

A college-prep science course. A survey of cell structure and function, plant and animal life. This course gives the student the opportunity to inquire into the nature of life through laboratory investigations. Dissection is a part of the course and participation is required.

Honors Biology(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen/Sophomores (Replaces Biology)

Prerequisites: “A” in Honors Earth Science OR Pass the Biology Entrance Exam with an 80% or higher.

This college-prep science course is designed for the student who performs well in and has an above average ability for science. Includes a survey of cell structure and function, plant and animal life. This course gives the achievement oriented student the opportunity to inquire into the nature of life through laboratory investigations. Dissection is a part of the course and participation is required. It covers the topics of biology and other related principles more quickly, and with more complex problems to provide a sound introduction to biology.

Honors Principles of Engineering(UC-g)

One Year – 10 Units

Freshmen

Prerequisites: “B” or better in Introduction to Design

Principles of Engineering (POE) is a high school-level survey course of engineering. The course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a post-secondary engineering course of study. Students have an opportunity to investigate engineering and high tech careers. POE gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based (APB) learning. Used in combination with a teaming approach, APB learning challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and problem solving skills based upon engineering concepts. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education.

Marine Biology

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing grade in Biology.

AP Biology(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” or better in Biology, “A” in Chemistry OR “B” in Honors Chemistry. Summer work is required.

This is a college-prep lab science course. The course of study will be divided into 1. Molecules and Cells, 2. Heredity and Evolution, and 3. Organisms and Populations. The course is designed for the student who desires to continue studies in biology, or related fields. Students in this course will be prepared to take the College Board Advance Placement Examination.

Chemistry(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors (Required)

Prerequisites: “C” in Algebra I or “C” in Algebra A and B and a Passing Grade in Biology

This is a college-prep lab science course. It requires strong fundamental math skills and covers the fundamentals of chemistry and problem solving to successfully prepare students for college science courses. Students will investigate and learn principals behind the way matter is composed and the way it behaves. They will learn the physical and chemical properties of matter that will provide them with a foundation for further studies in science and science-related fields.

Honors Chemistry(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors (Replaces Chemistry)

Prerequisites: “A” in previous science course and “A” in Algebra I or “B” in Honors Algebra I

Students in this course will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. This course differs from regular chemistry in the number of topics treated, the time spent on the course by students, and the nature and the variety of experiments done in the lab.

AP Chemistry (UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites:an "A" in Chemistry both semesters or "B" in Honors Chemistry both semesters; submission of the summer course work; A score of 70% or higher on the summer work assessment.

This course is designed to provide a solid first-year college chemistry experience, both conceptually and in the laboratory. The labs serve to supplement the learning in the lecture section of the course. Problem-solving skills, both on paper and in the lab, are emphasized. There are weekly labs during the first three quarters; during the last quarter, students take a total of five graded practice AP Exams. The exams are reviewed in class to increase students' awareness of test-taking strategies.

Physics(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra 2 Concurrently

This is a college-prep lab science course. This course will study Newtonian mechanics, light, energy and electromagnetism. Techniques and fundamental mathematics are taught and reviewed to insure success. Physics is highly recommended for college-bound students planning careers in math, science, engineering or medicine. This course is a continuation of our honors study program in science.

Anatomy and Physiology(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: A passing grade of “C” or better in 2 years of science

Anatomy and Physiology is a rigorous second year Biology course for students interested in biology, medicine and its related professions. Students will be introduced to many lab exercises that will help them to understand both the human body and the importance of correct laboratory procedures.

AP Environmental Science(UC-d)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: A "B" in Chemistry and Biology both semesters; submission of the summer course work; A score of 70% or higher on the summer work assessment.

The goal of this course is to provide students with the understanding of the relationships that exist in the natural world through the use of the different branches of science. This course will consist of mostly lectures, discussions, demonstrations, and research papers on past and current events that have had a massive impact on our environment.

Honors Civil Engineering & Design(UC-g)

One Year – 10 Units

Juniors

Prerequisites: Passing grades in Honors Intro to Design & Honors Principles of Engineering.

Students learn important aspects of building and site design and development. They apply math, science, and standard engineering practices to design both residential and commercial projects and document their work using 3-D architectural design software.

Sports Medicine (*UC-g*)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: "C" or better in Human Anatomy and Physiology

Aquinas High School's Sports Medicine Program strives to educate students and promote excellence in health care for athletics. It is a hands-on learning environment that will encompass everything from preventative health care, to interactive participation of care for injuries that occur through athletics. This course will rely on students being self-driven and translating textbook material directly into active application of training techniques. Sports medicine will teach students the essential building blocks of human anatomy and physiology needed for future education in the medical field. It will give students insight into the field of sports medicine, athletic training, along with many other careers in the health care industry. Students will get an opportunity to collaborate with professionals in the medical field through lecture, labs, and field work as student athletic trainers for different sports teams.

Social Sciences Department
Graduation Requirement – 40 Units
UC Requirement – 20 units

World Geography and Research(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshman (Required)

Prerequisites:None

As a whole, this course is designed to prepare young people to think creatively and critically. Thinking in this manner will help students to better function in today's changing world and the ever-increasing international landscape of culture and business. We will examine issues related to human rights, conflict, the developing world, the environment, trade and current events as they may apply to these regions. After an introductory unit related to basic geographical, cultural, and demographic terms and concepts, the regions that will be examined are: Eastern Europe and Russia, Latin America, The Middle East, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific World.

AP Human Geography(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshman (replaces World Geography and Research)

Prerequisites: Placed in honors program from Entrance Exam. Concurrent enrollment in Freshman Honors English. Completion of Summer work is required.

This course will be taught at the college level in preparation for the AP Exam in May. As a whole, this course is designed to prepare young people to think creatively and critically. Thinking in this manner will help students to better function in today's changing world and the ever-increasing international landscape of culture and business. We will examine issues related to human rights, conflict, the developing world, the environment, trade and current events as they may apply to these regions. After an introductory unit related to basic geographical, cultural, and demographic terms and concepts, the regions that will be examined are: Eastern Europe and Russia, Latin America, The Middle East, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific World.

World History (UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomore (Required)

Prerequisites:None

This course is designed to enlighten the student in the stories of people, events, and institutions from the earliest civilizations to modern times. As a result, it will touch upon and include all the Social Studies disciplines. People's beliefs, the way they meet their economic needs, the social and political institutions they form, and the culture they transmit from one generation to another are all part of history. So also is Geography, which tells the story of where events took place and the interactions between people and places. The key objectives of this course can help students go beyond the rote memorization of events and dates to gain an understanding of how and why those events occurred and their historical significance in today's world. "Those who do not know history are doomed to repeat it."

AP World History(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomore (replaces World History)

Prerequisites:3.0 GPA; "B" in AP Human Geography and "B" in Honors English I both semesters OR an "A" in World Geography and English I bothsemesters and pass the challenge test. Completion of Summer work is required.

The purpose of the AP World History course is to develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. This understanding is advanced through a combination of selective factual knowledge and appropriate analytical skills. The course highlights the nature of changes in international frameworks and their causes and consequences, as well as comparisons among major societies. The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge deployed in conjunction with leading interpretive issues and types of historical evidence. Focused primarily on the past thousand years of the global experience, the course builds on an understanding of cultural, institutional and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the

human stage prior to 1000 C.E. Periodization, explicitly discussed, forms the organizing principle for dealing with change and continuity from that point to the present. Specific themes provide further organization to the course, along with the consistent attention to contacts among societies that form the core of world history as a field of study.

Honors Philosophy

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors or Seniors

Prerequisites: Teacher Recommendation. Completion of summer work is required.

This course serves as an introduction to philosophical and critical thinking, providing the principles of good reasoning and logic. The course offers a survey of philosophical disciplines, their methods, doctrines, and leading ideas. Particular questions will be emphasized (for instance: Is knowledge possible? Does it come from reason or from experience? Are human actions free or determined? Are moral norms relative or absolute?). Specific concepts used to articulate philosophy and critical thinking will be analyzed (for instance: being, substance, justice, a priori, a posteriori, contingent, necessary, empirical, etc.). The course will primarily focus on Western Philosophy in general. There will be room for you to share your views and perspectives, but the primary objective is that you clearly understand the various perspectives of these ancient writers and philosophers.

AP Art History(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: 3.0 G.P.A.; “B” in AP U.S. History and AP English III both semesters OR “B” in Honors English II and “B” in AP World History both semesters. Completion of Summer work is required.

AP European History(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomore - Meets Sophomore history requirement

Prerequisites: 3.0 G.P.A.; “B” in AP World History or AP United States History both semesters OR an “A” in World History/United States History both semesters and pass a challenge test. Completion of Summer work is required.

The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live. This class focuses on the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role continuity and change in present day society and politics, and the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse.

United States History(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Junior (Required)

Prerequisites: Passing Grade in World History

This course explores American History from the American Revolution to the present. Major geographic, economic, political, artistic, social and technological developments are investigated to develop a historical awareness of, and appreciation for, the cultural diversity and common experiences of Americans.

AP United States History(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Junior (Replaces American History)

Prerequisites: 3.0 G.P.A.; “B” in AP World History both semesters OR an “A” in World History both semesters and pass the challenge. Completion of Summer work is required.

The Advanced Placement Program (AP) course and examination in United States History are intended for qualified students who wish to complete studies in secondary school equivalent to college introductory courses in U.S. history. The examination presumes at least one academic year of college-level preparation. The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The class prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP United States History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

United States Government(UC-a)

One Year - 10 Units

Senior (Required)

Prerequisites: Passing Grade in United States History

This course investigates the philosophy and functioning of the American system of government from the point of view of the citizen in a democratic society. Major principles and functions of federal, state and local governments are explored with special concern for the relationship between the individual and governmental institutions. Additionally, this course will explore U.S. economics while comparing with those of other countries.

AP U.S. Government(UC-a)/Macroeconomics(UC-g)

One Year - 10 Units

Senior (Replaces American Government)

Prerequisites: 3.0 G.P.A.; “B” in AP United States History both semesters OR an “A” in United States History both semesters and pass a challenge test. Completion of Summer work is required.

This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. Students will become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. Additionally, this course will explore U.S. economics while comparing with those of other countries.

Psychology (UC-g)

One Year - 10

Units

Juniors or Seniors

Prerequisites: “C” or better in World History or U.S. History and in previous English class.

The purpose of the introductory course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior of mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

AP Psychology (UC-g)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors or Seniors

Prerequisites: 3.0 G.P.A.; “A” in Psychology both semesters OR an “A” in United States History/World History both semesters or “B” in AP United States/AP World History both semesters. Completion of Summer work is required.

The Advanced Placement course in Psychology is open to qualified students who wish to complete studies in secondary school, equivalent to an introductory college course in psychology. The AP examination presumes at least one semester of college level preparation. The purpose of the AP course in Psychology is to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior of mental processes of human beings and animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

Visual and Performing Arts Department
Graduation Requirement - 20 Units
UC Requirement – 10 units

Drawing and Painting (UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

All students are eligible for this course

Prerequisites: None

Beginning Drawing and Painting is an introductory course designed for students to explore drawing and painting as a fine art medium with an emphasis in applying the fundamentals of elements and principles of design. Materials will include: pencil, charcoal, oil pastels, colored pencil, tempera, ink, acrylic paint and watercolor. Methods and techniques, as well as artistic philosophy, art criticism and vocabulary will be explored. Structured, mandatory critiques will be held periodically, along with a student art exhibition. There will be an introduction to creating and maintaining a working art portfolio. A survey of art history from the Stone Age through Contemporary will be presented via slide lectures.

Advanced Drawing and Painting(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing grade in Drawing and Painting

Advanced Drawing and Painting is an advanced course designed for students to further explore drawing and painting as a fine art medium with an emphasis in applying historical, philosophical and cultural research to personal development and creative expression. Materials will include: pencil, charcoal, oil pastels, colored pencil, tempera, ink, acrylic paint and watercolor. The student will also be introduced to printmaking and sculpting mediums. Methods and techniques, as well as analysis, critical assessment and vocabulary, will be explored. Structured, mandatory critiques will be held periodically, in addition to a student art exhibition. The continuation of maintaining and further developing a working art portfolio will be addressed. The further understanding of the elements and principles of art will be explored with references to artwork from various time periods.

Advanced Drawing and Painting 2

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” or better in Drawing and Painting (Art 1) with teacher recommendation OR “C” or better in Advance Drawing and Painting (Art 2) with teacher recommendation.

Advanced Drawing and Painting 2 is a course for students to continue the exploration and development of their drawing and painting techniques as a fine art medium. Personal development and creative expression in the student’s own artwork will be emphasized. Applying both contemporary and historical issues will be explored in relation to social, philosophical and cultural content. Methods and techniques, as well as analysis, critical assessment and structured critiques, will be explored. The continuation of maintaining and further developing a working art portfolio will be addressed, along with the introduction to preservation and documentation of student’s artwork.

AP Studio Art(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “C” or better in Advanced Drawing and Painting with teacher’s recommendation -or- “B” or better in Drawing and Painting with teacher’s recommendation. Summer work is required.

AP Studio Art is a course for students who are serious about developing their own skills and style(s) of art. Personal development and creative expression in the student’s own artwork will be emphasized. Applying both contemporary and historical issues will be explored in relation to social, philosophical and cultural context. The student will demonstrate works which will show quality of work, concentration of style and a breadth showing diversity in one’s ability. Methods and techniques, as well as analysis, critical assessment and structured critiques will be explored. The continuation of maintaining and further developing a working art portfolio will be addressed, along with an introduction of preservation and documentation of student’s artwork. The students will utilize their portfolio to submit a body of work for the AP Studio Art Exam.

AP Studio Art 2D(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “A” in Drawing & Painting with teacher recommendation or “B” in Advanced Drawing and Painting with teacher recommendation or “B+” in Advanced Drawing and Painting 2 with teacher recommendation “B” in AP Studio Art-Drawing with teacher recommendation

In this ‘2-D Design’ based media class students will build upon concepts and skills learned in previous art classes. While in this class student will focus on the various ‘2-D Design’ aspects of studio art. (There are three possible areas of focus: 2-D Design, 3-D Design or Drawing). The student will demonstrate works which will show Quality of work, a Concentration of style and a Breadth showing diversity in one’s ability to produce art. Structured mandatory critiques will be held periodically and a several student art exhibitions are planned for throughout the school year; both of these activities will require participation of every art student. Students will produce a portfolio of artwork consistent of a variety of style and techniques. This portfolio will be used to submit as the students’ body of work for the AP Studio Art Exam

AP Studio Art 3D(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” in Advanced Drawing and Painting 2 with teacher recommendation or “B” in AP Studio Art-Drawing with teacher recommendation or “B” in AP Studio Art-2D Design with teacher recommendation or “A” in a ceramics course with teacher recommendation

3-D Design is a course designed for advanced students who are serious about developing their own skills and style(s) of 3-D art. In this ‘Sculptural’ media class students will build upon concepts and skills learned in previous art classes. While in this class student will focus on the 3-D design aspects of studio art: depth, space, volume and surface. (There are three possible areas of focus: 2-D Design, 3-D Design or Drawing). The student will demonstrate works which will show Quality of work, a Concentration of style and a Breadth showing diversity in one’s ability to produce art. Structured mandatory critiques will be held periodically and a several student art exhibitions are planned for throughout the school year; both of these activities will require participation of every art student. Students will produce a portfolio of artwork consistent of a variety of style and techniques. This portfolio will be used to submit as the students’ body of work for the AP Studio Art Exam.

Ceramics I

One Year - 10 Units

All Students are eligible for this course.

Prerequisites: None

Choir (Choral Ensemble)

One Year - 10 Units

All students are eligible for this course.

Prerequisites: None.

This class is for beginning to advanced musicians. The choir performs intermediate to advanced level literature in various styles, including swing, jazz, modern rock, and classical. In addition to the techniques of rehearsal and performance, the students learn the theory and history of the music performed.

Advanced Choir(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Prerequisite: Passing mark in Choir and/or a passing audition with the instructor.

This course is designed to increase the vocal skill and performance levels of each student and to develop aesthetic and cultural values through critical listening. Students will sing a wide range of literature from a variety of time periods, continents, languages, cultures and styles. Students will perform advanced high school choral literature for performance in concerts and festivals.

Instrumental Music(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: None.

This course is a one-year course open to all students regardless of their experience performing on a musical instrument. The course is designed to begin or to increase the skill and performance level of each student-there is on-going development of individual and ensemble musical and technical skills. The course will also develop aesthetic evaluation skills such as critical listening.

Instrumental Music 2(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites:

This class is for intermediate to advanced musicians. The choir performs intermediate to advanced level literature in various styles, including swing, jazz, modern rock, and classical. In addition to the techniques of rehearsal and performance, the students learn the theory and history of the music performed.

Jazz Band

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing grade in Music 1

Drama 1(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

All Students are eligible for this course.

Prerequisites: None.

The course is designed to introduce the student (actor) to the front of the house as well as to the back of the house (stage or camera). Utilizing textbook, scripts, monologs, design, patterns, improvisations, acting, lectures and sound equipment, each student will experience the processes of dramas history and its unique and varied professions.

Drama 2(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing mark in Drama 1.

This course is a continuation of Drama 1. The student will take a more in-depth view into the theater and all of its intricacies.

Drama 3(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing mark in Drama 2.

Students will be selected by the instructor to assist in the production of the class. The student(s) will model the performance expectations of the instructor for Drama 1 and 2 students to follow.

Photography(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: "B" or better in Drawing and Painting (Art 1) with teacher recommendation.

Photography is an introductory black and white photography course. This course will provide students with opportunities to extend their knowledge and skills in the field of photography. This course will familiarize the student with photographic equipment, materials, methods, and processes.

Photography 2

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation. Passing mark in Photography

This course continues the principles set forth in Photography with particular attention being focused on varying lighting and advanced developing techniques.

Contemporary Film(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Prerequisites: None

Contemporary Film will journey through the ages of film beginning with the Silent Black and Whites to the Advanced Digital 3D Revolution happening today. Students will study basic techniques in writing, filming and editing as well as the basic functions and uses for specific equipment. Students will also learn the lingo and terminology of the film industry. Students will finish by putting together a short film written, directed, shot, and edited as the culmination of what they've learned throughout the year.

Digital Cinema(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing grade in Computer Science, Graphic Design and Digital Media

Digital Cinema takes a more advanced approach on learning the intricacies of what makes good movies. Students will study some of the greatest films by the greatest film-makers from around the world, searching for what sets them apart. The course will teach in-depth editing techniques, advanced scripting formulas, advanced shot setups and blocking, as well as specific sound editing techniques. This class will focus on different genre film making and students will be required to be on a team that produces monthly short films.

Broadcast Journalism(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: None

Broadcast Journalism will be responsible the Falcon TV show. The class will be responsible for writing, filming, and editing a show with On Air talent relating to every aspect of campus life. This show will be a team effort and completely student run.

Broadcast Journalism 2(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing grade in Broadcast Journalism.

Digital Media(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites:3.0 GPA and Adviser approval

The idea of the class is to merger computer software with real world applications. This will be accomplished by teaching students various digital media concepts using third party software and multimedia devices. Students will learn Adobe, Microsoft, Apple platforms and find ways to produce, alter, and display a finished product. We will work with various departments of Aquinas such as yearbook, journalism, and sports to create way to best present digital material for the school and their programs. Students will work with teachers, administration and outside vendors to learn how to take an idea through a workflow process and produce a visual presentation.

Yearbook

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” in prior year’s English course and Adviser approval

This course will involve advanced writing techniques and editing needed to succeed in our ever-advancing world. This course will produce the annual yearbook.

Journalism(UC-g)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors and Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” in prior year’s English course

This course is designed to teach students journalistic style writing, news reporting skills, and graphic design skills. The students will create a school newspaper monthly, and create all sports and activity programs for the school while implementing the skills they have learned in class.

Journalism 2

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites: “B” or higher in Journalism

Multimedia Journalism 2 is a continuation of Multimedia Journalism. This course focuses on newspaper writing, magazine writing formats, and graphic design. This is a yearlong course. The primary writing styles taught in this class include profile writing, review writing, news writing, feature writing, sports writing, and opinion pieces.

Art Appreciation(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Prerequisites: None

Art Appreciation can be thought of as the examination and understanding of art, its various mediums and methods, and critique of art. The historical context in which we understand art has been traced to the early foundations of mankind and formations of society. Art has been formed and shared as an expression of human’s inner thoughts and though appreciation of art, many constraints, confinements, and definitions of art, there has been many definitions that have been created. This course will not only look at the history of art, but also the modern defining of art. This course will question the definition of ‘art’, how we critique it, and create an understanding of what art can be and how we can form an appreciation of art no matter its medium or presentation in all forms and daily life. Through all mediums, forms, and cultures, art will be explored in as many ways as possible.

Honors Introduction to Design(UC-g)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshman

Prerequisites:Acceptance into Algebra 1 Honors and Biology (or higher)

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3D modeling software, and use an engineering notebook to document their work.

Musical Theater Dance and Production(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

All Grades

Prerequisites:None

This class is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of Musical Theatre Dance & Production. Students enrolled in this course will develop their knowledge of the historical and social significance of musical theater as well as study the roots of the American musical to present day. Students will examine how musical theater has been inspired by literature and how it evolves from the page to a performance.

Musical Theater Dance and Production 2(UC-f)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Prerequisites:Musical Theater Dance & Production

Musical Theatre Production II is an advanced course in which students continue to develop in many phases of musical theatre production, including actor training, choreography, vocal training, technical training, and the production process. Also, students will study the history of Musical Theatre in America, from the early 20th century to the beginning of the 21st century. This course is an in-depth approach to character/song/scene/musical show analysis and performance. This course is a continuing study of the history, styles, and works of the Musical Theatre genre. Students will rehearse and perform portions of musicals and other theatrical works. Students will study and perform choreography for the theatre. Also, students will continue training in basic musicianship skills, including vocal training and reading music.

Graphic Design

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors

Prerequisites: Passing grade in Computer Science

This class is designed to develop an understanding of how to prepare, implement, and finalize project workflow in print and digital media. Graphic Design is a class that begins instruction of the Adobe software applications. This course focuses on students becoming proficient in Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign. Students will learn concepts in vector graphics, logo creation and color layouts. Students will learn how to use color palettes, how to turn shapes into sophisticated logos and apply images to flyers, website layouts and other media platforms. Students will learn how create and use vector graphics for various end users. Students will visually create brochures, magazines, newspapers and other print and digital media. The goal of this class will give students exposure to real world applications and how different skills can lead to various careers in the ever-growing field of Digital Media.

Computer Science

One Year - 10 Units

All Grades

Prerequisites:None

Designed to be the first computer science course for students who have never programmed before. Computer Science is an optimal starting point for those interested in information systems, building apps and careers in programming/computer science and business. During the course students work individually and teams to create apps for mobile devices applying concepts of event-driven programming, branching and iteration, variables, and abstraction; the building blocks of creating with code. Through engaging tasks, students explore the impact of computing in society and build skills in digital citizenship and cyber security. Beyond learning the fundamentals of programming, students build computational thinking skills by applying computer science to collaboration tools, modeling, simulation, and data analysis. Students use their knowledge to build computers learning how both hardware and software optimally runs various devices. Students will learn basic web design and computer language to help with coding fundamentals. Students will work on both Apple and PC computers. Students will get real world classroom exposure to networking and how to use multi-platforms to create an final working product. The class will cover concepts such as the history of the Internet and Internet protocols as well as how wire and blue tooth integration is used in today's culture.

World Languages Department
Graduation Requirement 20 Units
UC Requirement – 20 units
UC Recommendation – 30 units

Spanish 1(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshmen

Prerequisites:None

This course is an introduction to the skills of listening comprehension, pronunciation, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish on an elementary level. It includes establishment of a basic vocabulary and an introduction to the basic grammar structures to facilitate the students' writing ability in the Spanish language.

Spanish 2(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomore

Prerequisite:“C” or better both semesters in Spanish 1

This course is a continuation of Spanish 1, with the principal goal being to build proficiency in the language. In addition, this course provides substantial cultural information in order to enhance the students' awareness of a world outside their own.

Spanish 3(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Junior or Senior

Prerequisite:“C” or better both semesters in Spanish 2

In this course, there will be further development of intermediate skills in listening, reading, writing, and speaking, and a continued emphasis on the acquisition of vocabulary and grammatical structures necessary for comprehension of standard spoken and written Spanish at the intermediate level.

AP Spanish Language & Culture(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Junior or Senior

Prerequisite:“A” in Spanish 3 both semesters or “B” in Honors Spanish 3 both semesters. A score of 70% on summer work is required.

This course will prepare students for the AP Spanish exam. It is an intensive study of comprehension, pronunciation, grammar, and linguistics. Students will be exposed to the reading of novels, short stories, poems and plays in Spanish as a means of enhancing their Spanish language skills. There will be extensive writing. Communication will be primarily in Spanish.

AP Spanish Literature & Culture(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Junior or Senior

Prerequisite:“A” in Spanish 3 both semesters or “B” in Honors Spanish 3 both semesters. A score of 70% on summer work is required.

AP Spanish Literature and Culture is designed to introduce students to the formal study of Peninsular Spanish, Latin American, and U.S. Hispanic literature. The course aims to develop students' critical reading and analytical writing skills in Spanish as well as their ability to make interdisciplinary connections and explore linguistic and cultural comparisons.

French 2(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomores

Prerequisites:“C” or better in both semesters of French I

This course is a continuation of French I. In addition, this course provides substantial cultural information in order to enhance the students' awareness of a world other than their own.

French 3(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Juniors

Prerequisites:“C” or better in both semesters of French 2

This course is a continuation of French 2 in which students participate at an in-depth level of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are developed beyond basic survival needs and include individual creative endeavors as well as an introduction to French literature. New material is presented using a variety of methods-visuals, gestures, and dramatizations.

AP French Language(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Seniors

Prerequisites:“B” or better in both semesters of French 3. Summer work is required.

This course should emphasize the use of language for active communication and help students develop the following:The ability to understand spoken French in various contexts. A sufficient French vocabulary in which students can read without the dependence of a dictionary. The ability to express themselves through written and spoken French.

Latin I (UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior

Prerequisites:None

Latin I will focus on basic grammar and vocabulary with heavy emphasis on comparison to English grammar and vocabulary. Students will work toward reading selections from actual Latin texts. The course will also consider the cultural, historical, religious and other dimensions of Roman life as a means to a deeper understanding of the language. Although Latin is not currently a spoken language, students will learn everyday phrases, terms and even prayers for enjoyment and to reinforce a more holistic approach to the curriculum.

Intermediate Honors Latin I(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Freshman, Sophomore, Junior

Prerequisites: None

This course will be based on a college text and move at a faster pace than regular Latin. Students will have more complex translations and expectations.

Latin II(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Sophomore, Junior or Senior

Prerequisites:“C” or better both semesters in Latin 1

Latin II will complete Wheelock's basic grammar. Students will work toward reading selections from actual Latin texts. The course will also consider the cultural, historical, religious and other dimensions of Roman life as a means to a deeper understanding of the language.

Intermediate Honors Latin II(UC-e)

One Year – 10 Units

Sophomore, Junior, or Senior

Prerequisites:“C” or better in both semesters of Int. Honors Latin I

This course will be based on a college text and move at a faster pace than regular Latin 2. Students will have more complex translations and expectations.

Intermediate Honors Latin III(UC-e)

One Year – 10 Units

Junior or Senior

Prerequisites:“C” or better in both semesters of Int. Honors Latin II

This course will be based on a college text and move at a faster pace than regular Latin 3. Students will have more complex translations and expectations. This course is a preparation for AP Latin.

AP Latin(UC-e)

One Year - 10 Units

Junior or Senior

Prerequisites: “B” or better both semesters in Latin 2. Summer work is required.

AP Latin is designed to provide advanced high school students with a rich and rigorous Latin course, approximately equivalent to an upper-intermediate (typically fourth or fifth semester) college or university Latin course. Students who successfully complete the course are able to read, understand, translate, and analyze Latin poetry and prose. Despite many similarities, Latin poetry and Latin prose have broadly different features and patterns; thus, the syllabus of required readings includes poetry and prose to ensure that students will be confident in handling both. This portion of the course is dedicated to prose and will focus exclusively on Caesar’s Gallic War. The Poetry portion of the AP Latin Curriculum will be studied and translated in the AP LATIN: VIRGIL course.