

# Course Bulletin 2013-2014



**Saint Joseph Academy**  
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS



*Saint Joseph Academy Motto:*  
*Ad astra per aspera*  
*“To the stars through difficulties.”*

# The Mission of Saint Joseph Academy

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*Conducted by the Marist Brothers  
of the School and serving the children  
of the lower Rio Grande Valley,  
Saint Joseph Academy provides  
religious and moral formation  
and a college preparatory  
education in the tradition of the  
Roman Catholic Church.  
It endeavors to form young men  
and women who will succeed in  
university studies, who know and  
love Jesus, and who actively participate  
in the worship and mission of the  
Church, including the Church's  
preferential option for the poor.*

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# School Administration and Department Chairpersons

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## **Administration**

<i>President/CEO</i>	Bro. Richard Sharpe, FMS
<i>Principal</i>	Mrs. Lori Trott
<i>Dean of the Middle Division</i>	Mrs. Lucy Williams
<i>Vice Principal for Student Services</i>	Mr. Benjamin Sandoval

## **Accreditation**

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)  
Texas Catholic Conference Education Department (TCCED)

## **Professional Affiliations**

Texas Association of Private & Parochial Schools  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
The College Board  
National Catholic Education Association  
Brownsville Association of Non-Public School Administrators  
National Association of College Admission Counselors  
National Middle School Association

## **Academic Department Chairs**

<i>Athletics</i>	Mr. Eduardo Lopez
<i>Business</i>	Mr. Rey Rosas
<i>English/Writing Across the Curriculum</i>	Mrs. Melissa Valadez
<i>Mathematics</i>	Dr. Stella Filizola
<i>Physical Education</i>	Ms. Monique Carre
<i>Religious Studies</i>	Mrs. Amanda Sampayo
<i>Science</i>	Mrs. Gracie Touchy
<i>Social Studies</i>	Mr. Kevin Hickson
<i>Target Languages/Montagne Project</i>	Mr. Manuel Gamez
<i>Technology</i>	Mr. Richard Schwartz

## **Guidance**

<i>Grades 7/8</i>	Mrs. Gina Barrera
<i>Grades 9/10</i>	Mrs. Rosie Campos
<i>Grades 11/12; Dept. Chair</i>	Mrs. Olga Cisneros
<i>Student Advocate</i>	Ms. Lindsay Irwin

## **Campus Ministry**

<i>Campus Minister</i>	Mr. Tony Cantu
<i>Campus Minister</i>	Mrs. Paty Daniels



*St. Joe has maintained 100% graduation and college acceptance rates, with the Class of 2012 accepted to 99 colleges and universities and selected to receive \$9.8 million in merit-based scholarships.*

# About the Program of Studies at Saint Joseph Academy

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**The educational experiences offered to students at Saint Joseph Academy are a reflection of the principles in our mission statement:**

## **To succeed in university studies**

Saint Joseph Academy's comprehensive curriculum in the arts and sciences emphasizes fundamental academic skills – the written and oral expression of ideas, problem solving, critical thought, and the competent use of current technology. Our students prepare themselves for university studies and for a lifetime of learning. Recognizing that our students come to us with a variety of ability levels, we offer classes that will meet them at their level and help them to grow in their aptitude for scholastic achievement. For those who seek opportunities for advanced learning, Honors and Advanced Placement Courses are offered in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, and Target Languages. Courses are also offered for students who enter with limited English language skills. The Champagnat Learning Center offers a variety of support services for students with diagnosed learning differences.

At Saint Joseph Academy, writing and research are incorporated into all subject areas. As part of an on-going information literacy initiative, students at every grade level receive training in the most up-to-date research practices. The curriculum, which has undergone extensive renovation under the direction of a nationally recognized authority in the field of curriculum and instruction, is designed to foster the critical

thinking, research, and writing skills students will need for success at the university level. In addition, faculty in all departments continue to participate in professional development to ensure that our students receive excellent instruction and have abundant opportunities to hone their writing skills in all their classes.

## **To know and love Jesus**

The study of Roman Catholicism, central to our curriculum, has two aims. First, students acquire a comprehensive understanding of the Roman Catholic tradition. Secondly, and even more importantly, students gain fuller access to the rich Catholic treasury of resources for developing a meaningful life of faith. These resources include a balanced and informed moral system based on a keen sense of social responsibility. While formal religious education takes place in religion classes, Christian values are reflected throughout the curriculum.

## **To actively participate in the worship and mission of the Church**

Through regular worship as a school community, opportunities for prayer and reflection, the Marist Youth Movement, retreat experiences, and a variety of voluntary service projects, the seeds of faith, love, and responsibility to the least favored have the opportunity to take root in the lives of students. Following the model of Saint Marcellin Champagnat, Saint Joseph Academy continually strives to build a genuinely Christian community in which students are offered love, acceptance, discipline, and challenge.

**Guided by these principles and goals, it is expected that graduates of Saint Joseph Academy will be able to:**

1. apply Roman Catholic teaching to the analysis of personal and social issues;
2. speak and write English clearly and fluently for formal and informal communication;
3. listen to and read English critically, intelligently evaluating the validity of spoken and written arguments;
4. communicate in a second language through the written and spoken word;
5. use critical thinking, mathematical problem-solving, and scientific methods to draw and apply conclusions;
6. apply a comprehensive understanding of our world - its geography, cultures, histories, and the natural and social processes that govern it – to the analysis of current events;
7. conduct and report research across disciplines;
8. use with skill the techniques of one (performing or visual) artistic medium;
9. utilize calculators, computers and the Internet as tools for research, word processing, data management, multi-media presentations, and reference.

**They are prepared to:**

1. participate in the worship and mission of the Church – particularly in service to the least favored – in an active and informed manner;
2. employ the principles and skills of fitness and exercise, wellness, safety, teamwork and good sportsmanship;
3. lead productive lives marked by respect, generosity and compassion, effective planning and decision-making, fruitful collaboration with others, and functional processes for solving personal, interpersonal and situational problems.



# Course Selection at Saint Joseph Academy

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This course bulletin has been prepared to assist students in making informed and responsible selection of courses for the 2012-2013 academic school year. Students should use the information contained within these pages and be realistic about their courses in terms of ability, background, interest, and future educational and occupational plans.

Students are encouraged to make their selections bearing in mind the general requirements for graduation as well as the prerequisites required for certain courses. Students should discuss their programs with their parents, their teachers, and their counselors before making their final decisions. **Students and parents should attend the course selection meeting for their grade level (see schedule below). All course selection sheets must be turned in to the Finance Office by February 15, 2013. All course selections must be accompanied by a non-refundable \$100 Reservation Fee in order to be scheduled for the 2013-2014 Academic Year.** The Reservation Fee will be credited to the \$600 Registration Fee due in March, which makes the March fee balance due \$500.

Each course listed in this bulletin is part of the proposed course offerings for the coming school year. **However, course offerings will be finalized after the course selection deadline on February 15, 2013, and courses**

**with insufficient registration will be canceled.** In that case, students will be asked to select another course. Scheduling conflicts may also require a particular student to choose an alternative course instead of an original preference.

Once a program has been chosen, the selection will be considered final, and it may be impossible to arrange a change, so students should be certain that their selection is deliberate, serious, and final. **Students wishing to request a change to their course selections should see the Principal during the month of June. After the first full class day, a fee of \$75.00 will be assessed for any schedule change. In order to make a course change, parents must give written permission for the change, and the \$75.00 fee must be paid at the time of the change.**

Schedule changes without a fee will be made if an incorrect class has been scheduled, if a class has been inadvertently omitted from a student's schedule, or if a teacher recommends that the student take a different course. Schedule changes will not be made so that students can/cannot have a particular teacher. Once the semester has begun, department chairs must also approve the change. All schedule changes must be made by the end of the second full week of class in the semester.

## **2013-2014 Course Selection and Re-Registration Schedule for Returning Students**

### **January 16, 2013**

*Course Catalog published and distributed to all students*

### **January 29, 2013**

*8th and 9th grade Parent and Student Course Selection Meeting*  
7:00 PM in the Middle Division Gym

### **January 30, 2013**

*10th and 11th grade Parent and Student Course Selection Meeting*  
7:00 PM in the Middle Division Gym

### **February 4, 2013**

*Course Selection Begins for all Grades*

1. All Course Selections must be accompanied by a non-fundable \$100 Reservation Fee in order to be scheduled for the 2013-2014 Academic Year. The Reservation Fee will be credited to the \$600 Registration Fee due in March, which makes the March fee balance due \$500.
2. All Course Selection Sheets are to be returned to the Finance Office window with the \$100 Reservation Fee.

### **February 15, 2013**

*Course Selection for Returning Students Ends*

- Decisions regarding the number of sections for required courses and undersubscribed elective courses to drop will be made.
- Staffing needs for the 2013-2014 Academic Year will be determined and the Master Schedule will be built based on the number of Course Selection Sheets returned.
- NOTE: Students who do not reserve seats by completing the course selection process by February 15, 2013 will not be scheduled and will not be guaranteed a seat for 2013-2014. Transfer students will be offered the remaining seats. **Late course selections will be scheduled only by course availability and not by prior requested classes.**

### **Course Selection Schedule for NEWLY ADMITTED Students**

### **February 26, 2013**

*Newly Accepted 7th through 12th Grade Student and Parent Course Selection Meeting*  
7:00 PM in the Middle Division Gym.

### Summer School

Students who fail one or two courses for the year may be given the opportunity to successfully complete that course in summer school, thereby making possible their continued enrollment in Saint Joseph Academy. Students needing summer school are required to take those courses at Saint Joseph Academy. Only when a summer school course is not offered at the Academy is a student allowed to take it elsewhere. Saint Joseph Academy will only recognize and accept for credit those summer school courses pre-authorized for that particular student by the Principal. **Note: In order to ensure a firm foundation in mathematics, seventh grade students who fail Pre-Algebra and eighth grade students who fail Algebra I will be required to repeat the course during the subsequent school year, rather than attending summer school for this purpose.**

### Shortage of Credits

Students are required to make satisfactory progress toward graduation in order to remain enrolled in Saint Joseph Academy. If students are found to be short of the number of credits for graduation, either because they have failed a course or because they have transferred to Saint Joseph Academy, it is their responsibility to make arrangements to make up the loss of credit either through a summer program or by other arrangement such as a correspondence course. Such arrangements must be made with the approval of the Principal. A student may only make up a total of 2 credits in this manner.

### Transfer Credits

Upon occasion, new Upper Division students will enter Saint Joseph Academy having taken courses for high school credit while they were in the 7th or 8th grade. In order to ensure that all of our Upper Division students have the solid foundation necessary for academic success, Saint Joseph Academy reserves the right to withhold credit for high school courses taken in another junior high school and require that students re-enroll in those courses at Saint Joseph Academy if it is deemed that the student would benefit from this course of action. Such decisions will be made by the school administration, in consultation with the appropriate department chairperson.

### Graduation

Diplomas are only granted to those students who have successfully completed the graduation requirements of Saint Joseph Academy. If a senior is short of the requirements at the time of graduation, the student will be allowed to participate in the commencement exercise, but will not receive a signed diploma until such time as the necessary credits have been completed.

### Incompletes

A student may be assigned an incomplete grade at the end of a marking period. Normally this is done when the student has been unavoidably out of school due to illness or unable to complete school work due to some unusual circumstance. School policy requires that students make up incompletes within the first two weeks of the next marking period. If the student does not make up the incomplete within the time allowed, the missing work will be assigned a grade of zero, and the course grade will be averaged accordingly. Any exception to this rule must be approved by the Principal.

### **Honors and Advanced Placement Courses**

Saint Joseph Academy is proud of its rigorous curriculum in the arts and sciences and offers opportunities for students who seek advanced study through our Advanced Placement and Honors courses. Initial GPA requirement for entry for Honors and Advancement Placement courses is 94 or above. In addition, placement in an Honors or AP course is based on the student's academic history, teacher recommendations, and departmental approval. Students maintain their placement in Honors or AP courses from year to year on the basis of a maintained average of 85 or above. As well, a demonstration of the initiative and dedication expected of Honors students. Students not currently enrolled in an Honors level course but who would like to be considered for such placement may apply through their current subject area teachers. Applications for Honors and Advanced Placement classes require parent approval. Once the application has been submitted, the request will be reviewed by the school administration, and a decision about placement will be made. Because of the increased difficulty of Honors and Advanced Placement courses, semester grades are weighted as follows: Advanced Placement: 1.10; Honors: 1.05.

### **Advanced Placement Courses**

Specially designated courses developed according to the College Board's Advanced Placement Program prepare qualified students to take the nationally administered Advanced Placement Tests for college credit. Our *Advanced Placement* courses currently include:

<b>Course:</b>	<b>Offered to:</b>
English Language and Composition	Juniors/Seniors
English Literature and Composition	Juniors/Seniors
Calculus AB	Juniors/Seniors
Biology	Juniors/Seniors
Chemistry	Juniors/Seniors
Physics	Juniors/Seniors
French Language	Seniors
Spanish Language	Sophomores/ Juniors/Seniors
Spanish Literature	Juniors/Seniors
United States History	Juniors

Every student in the AP classes is required to take the AP exam that is given in May. There is a fee for each exam. However, because the school subsidizes these exams, each student is charged according to a scale based on the number of AP classes in which the student is enrolled and billed with the tuition.

Placement in Advanced Placement classes is normally made at the recommendation of the Department Chairperson for the particular discipline. A student who does not receive departmental recommendation may appeal to the Principal by submitting the AP application form signed by both student and parent(s).

Since the AP curriculum is particularly challenging, it is recommended that students consider carefully the load being carried. Most qualifying students can handle two AP classes in addition to other honors courses and involvement in extra-curricular activities. It takes an exceptional student to handle three or four of these courses, especially in light of other extra-curricular involvement.

## Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment, a program of study offered by Saint Joseph Academy in partnership with The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College, allows high school students to earn college credits for courses taken at Saint Joseph Academy. College credits earned through dual enrollment can be simultaneously applied toward high school and college graduation requirements and may be transferred to other colleges or universities. Dual enrollment courses are college courses, and students should understand that the amount of work necessary to succeed in dual enrollment courses may be greater than that of high school courses. In addition, dual enrollment courses become part of a student's permanent college transcript. Failing a dual enrollment course or withdrawing from the course after the published deadline will negatively affect a student's future applications for college admission as well as their eligibility for financial aid. As a result, students and parents should be sure that the student is prepared to accept the serious responsibility associated with dual enrollment. Students must qualify for dual enrollment through a satisfactory score on the SAT or COMPASS test, as well as by teacher recommendation and administrative approval. Students interested in dual enrollment should discuss their options with the Saint Joseph Academy Dual Enrollment Coordinator, Principal, or the Dean of the Middle Division. Current dual enrollment offerings include Algebra II (College Algebra), Pre-Calculus, Calculus AB, and Statistics. Course availability will be based upon demand. Dual Enrollment course grades are weighted 1.03.

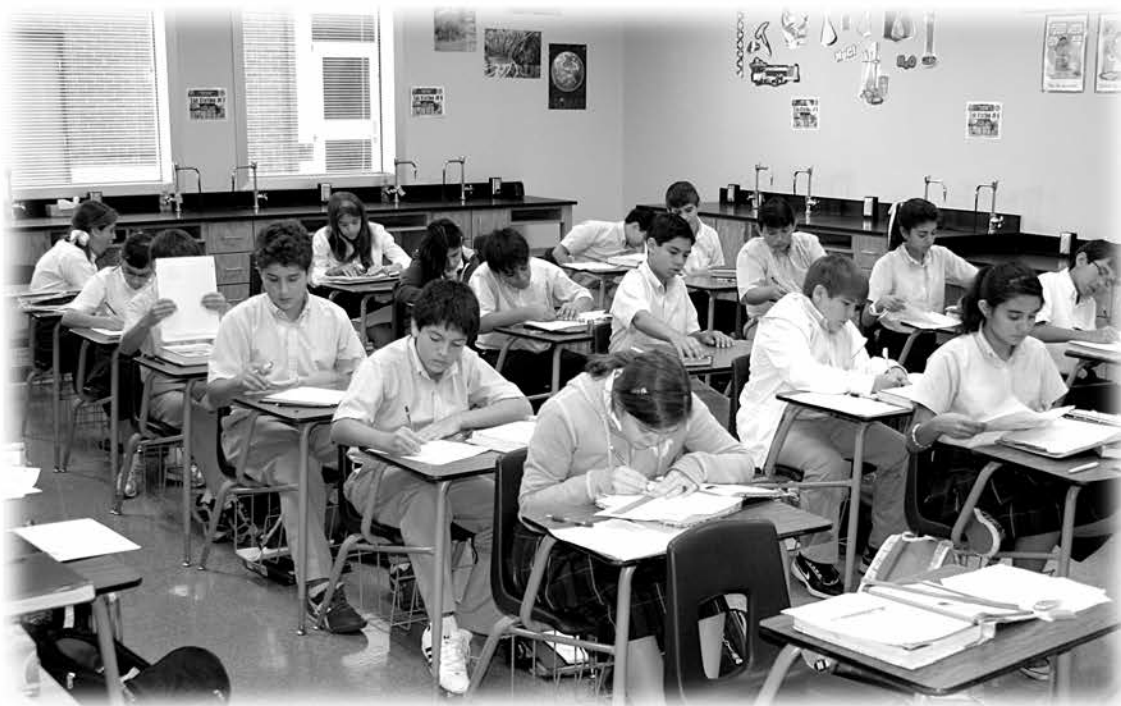
## Senior Electives

Seniors must take a full course load and be present for all seven daily class periods. For most seniors, this will mean a minimum of 7.0 credits, 5.0 or 6.0 of which are prescribed courses. Seniors may complete their credit requirements from the electives listed in this course bulletin.

## Writing Portfolio Requirement

Helping students become skilled writers is an important part of Saint Joseph Academy's mission of preparing our graduates for success in their college studies. All students in Grades 9 – 12 are required to complete a yearly writing portfolio containing specific samples of their writing. **The compilation of the writing portfolio will be under the direction of the student's English teacher. The completion of the annual writing portfolio is a graduation requirement for all students. Students whose portfolios are incomplete at the end of a semester will not receive an exam pass for semester exams until the portfolio requirement has been met.**





*The St. Joe tradition of pride remains a part of each  
and every student that has ever walked our campus.  
A special bond between SJA students lasts a lifetime.*

# Middle Division Program of Studies

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## 7th Grade

Religious Studies  
Language Arts 7 \*  
Mathematics \*  
Science 7 - Physical Science  
Texas History  
Computer Science  
Physical Education  
Electives \*\*: 

- Art
- Band
- Intro to Speech & Drama 7
- Intro to Interactive Reading 7
- Spanish IA\*\*\*
- Writing Workshop 7

## 8th Grade

Religious Studies  
Language Arts 8 \*  
Mathematics \*  
Science 8 - Environmental Systems \*  
U.S. History through 1877  
Education  
Health  
Electives \*\*: 

- Art
- Band
- Intro to Speech & Drama 8
- Intro to Interactive Reading 8
- Spanish IB\*\*\*
- Writing Workshop 8

\* Math, Science, and Language Arts courses have multiple levels; placement is made by the Assistant Principal for Academics based on entrance exam results, previous report card grades, and recommendations.

\*\* Middle Division students may choose one (1) elective. If Band is selected, this course will also satisfy the Physical Education requirement.

\*\*\*Spanish IA and IB are the equivalent of high school Beginning Spanish and are offered for non-native speakers of Spanish only.

Note: Middle Division students may earn credits toward high school graduation through successful completion of Algebra I, Science 8 – Environmental Systems, Health, and Spanish 1A/1B.

# Upper Division Program of Studies

**Requirements for graduation from Saint Joseph Academy include a total of 28 credits as described below and a completed Writing Portfolio**

(for portfolio requirement, see p. 11):

Religion	4.0 credits	Health	0.5 credit
English	4.0 credits	Fine Arts	1.0 credit
Mathematics	4.0 credits	Computer Science	1.0 credit
Science	4.0 credits	Physical Education	1.0 credit
Social Studies	4.0 credits	Fitness	0.5 credit
Target Language	3.0 credits	Speech	0.5 credit
Electives	0.5 credit		

## 9th Grade

Religion	1.0 credit
English	1.0 credit
Math	1.0 credit
Science	1.0 credit
Target Language I	1.0 credit
Geography	1.0 credit
PE	0.5 credit
Fine Art/Speech/*Health/Elective	0.5 credit

## 11th Grade

Religion	1.0 credit
English	1.0 credit
Math	1.0 credit
Science	1.0 credit
Target Language III	1.0 credit
Am. History	1.0 credit
PE/Fitness	0.5 credit
Speech/Fine Art/Elective	0.5 credit

## 10th Grade

Religion	1.0 credit
English	1.0 credit
Math	1.0 credit
Science	1.0 credit
Target Language II	1.0 credit
World History	1.0 credit
Computer Apps.	1.0 credit

## 12th Grade

Religion	1.0 credit
English	1.0 credit
Math	1.0 credit
Science	1.0 credit*
Economics	0.5 credit
Government	0.5 credit
Fine Art	0.5 credit
PE	0.5 credit
Electives	1.0 credit

\*unless satisfied at SJA in Grade 8

# Business

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## **Accounting - #2706**

Students investigate the field of accounting, including how it is impacted by industry standards as well as economics, financial, technological, international, social, legal, and ethical factors. Students will reflect on this knowledge as they engage in the process of recording, classifying, summarizing, analyzing, and communicating accounting information. Students will also formulate and interpret financial information for use in management decision-making.

**Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year elective course for juniors or seniors.**

## **International Business - #2704**

Business in a Global Economy focuses on social, cultural, political and economic factors, allowing students to see global differences in these areas. This course provides students with information on consumer behavior, market segmentation, marketing processes, foreign distribution, advertising, and selling.

**Credit: 0.5 This is a one semester elective course for juniors or seniors.**

## **Business Law - #2705**

This course is designed to help the student understand the core of business law fundamentals. Each student will understand the law of contracts, sales, bailment, commercial paper, insurance, business organization, property, and wills. In the consumer law section, students study protection legislation, warranties, product liability, truth in lending, advertising, and interest. Regulatory agencies, equal employment opportunities, and pension reform are also studied.

**Credit: 0.5 This is a one semester elective course for juniors or seniors.**

## **Business Management and Ownership - #2703**

This course helps the student to identify and differentiate between the various types of business ownership, examining the advantages and disadvantages of each. The student will learn the different functions of management and finance and gain an understanding of the United States marketplace. Other topics covered will include the uses of money and credit, investment opportunities, insurance protection, and techniques in marketing.

**Credit: 0.5 This is a one semester elective course for juniors or seniors.**



*No matter where you are or what you'll be doing,  
you will carry a piece of Saint Joseph Academy with you.*



# English

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## **Foundational Language Arts 7 - #2101**

This course concentrates on the development of students' reading and writing skills and is designed for the student who would benefit from an intense study of the basic principles of grammar, sentence structure, and the mechanics of writing, along with vocabulary development, reading practice, and an introduction to information literacy skills. Students will also be guided in the development of study skills, including organizational, test-taking, and time-management strategies. To allow sufficient time for in-depth study and writing practice, the Language Arts classes have a block schedule, alternating between one and two periods in length on alternate days. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **This course fulfills the Language Arts requirement for students in grade seven.**

## **Language Arts 7 - #2102**

This course includes a comprehensive study of grammar, writing, literature, and research skills. Students will learn new vocabulary through the study of classical roots. They will develop skills in writing effective sentences, paragraphs, and short essays and will be introduced to research methodology through the completion of a research report. Novel reading and book reports bring students closer to other cultures and time periods and introduce them to techniques of style analysis and close reading. Students will also be guided in the development of study skills, including organizational, test-taking, and time-management strategies. To allow sufficient time for in-depth study and writing practice, the

Language Arts classes have a block schedule, alternating between one and two periods in length on alternate days. **This is a full-year required course for students in grade seven.**

## **Honors Language Arts 7 - #2103**

Students accepted into this course have proven strong ability in reading and writing skills. While addressing the Language Arts curriculum for grade 7 (see above), independent thinking and expression are expected from students in this course. Students will employ critical thinking in conjunction with a deeper analysis of literature. These students should expect more reading and writing assignments that are of a more complex nature. To allow sufficient time for in-depth study and writing practice, the Language Arts classes have a block schedule, alternating between one and two periods in length on alternate days. **Prerequisite:** Administrative approval. **Weight: 1.05 This course fulfills the Language Arts requirement for students in grade seven.**

## **Foundational Language Arts 8 - #2104**

This course is designed as a continuation of Foundational Language Arts 7 and is intended for the student who would benefit from intense study of the basic principles of grammar, sentence structure and the mechanics of writing, along with vocabulary development and abundant reading practice in a variety of genres. Students will continue to receive instruction in the use of effective study skills and will develop their information literacy skills through the

completion of more extensive research projects. To allow sufficient time for in-depth study and writing practice, the Language Arts classes have a block schedule, alternating between one and two periods in length on alternate days.

**Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **This course fulfills the Language Arts requirement for students in grade eight.**

### **Language Arts 8 - #2105**

This course builds on the fundamentals of grammar, writing, literature study, and research methodology developed in Language Arts 7. Students will identify and correctly use various sentence types in the writing of multi-paragraph essays. They will learn new vocabulary through the study of classical roots. Reading selections from different genres, including novels and non-fiction books, introduce students to literary terms and continue their training in style analysis. Students will continue to receive instruction in the use of effective study skills and will develop their information literacy skills through the completion of more extensive research projects. To allow sufficient time for in-depth study and writing practice, the Language Arts classes have a block schedule, alternating between one and two periods in length on alternate days. **This is a full year required course for students in grade eight.**

### **Honors Language Arts 8 - #2106**

In this enriched course, students continue with the Language Arts curriculum for grade 8 (see above), while further strengthening literary analysis skills and writing development. Reading and writing assignments are of a more challenging nature. To allow sufficient time for in-depth study and writing practice, the Language Arts classes have a block schedule, alternating between one and two periods in length on alternate days. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Weight: 1.05 This course fulfills the Language Arts requirement for students in grade eight.**

### **Foundational English 9 with Writing Laboratory - #2107**

This course concentrates on the development of students' reading and writing skills and is designed for the student who would benefit from an intense study of the basic principles of grammar, sentence structure, and the mechanics of writing, along with vocabulary development, reading practice, and an introduction to information literacy skills. This course is to be taken with Writing Laboratory (#2117) and Speech Communication (#2118). **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0 This course fulfills the English requirement for freshmen.**

### **Writing Laboratory - #2117**

This course, which is to be taken in conjunction with Foundational English 9, is designed for students who would benefit from an intensive focus on writing skills. Students will develop skills in correct usage of grammar and mechanics while writing paragraphs, multi-paragraph essays, and research reports. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 0.5 This course will be counted as an elective credit.**

### **Speech Communication - #2118**

This course, which is to be taken in conjunction with Foundation English 9 provides students with a comprehensive study of oral communication. With tasks like the Radio Project, Impromptu and Manuscript speaking, and in-class discussions, students will develop the skills necessary to construct and deliver a speech. Students will write and effectively deliver speeches for various purposes and gain skill in making oral presentations in a variety of settings. Further, students will develop listening skills and learn to constructively critique speeches given by their peers. **Credit: 0.5 This is a required semester course for students in grades 9-12.**

### **Speech Communication - #2119**

*(Note: Students who are also taking Foundational English 9 should register for course #2118.)*

In this course, students will study all aspects of oral communication. With tasks like the Radio Project, Impromptu and Manuscript speaking, and in-class discussions, students will develop the skills necessary to construct and deliver a speech. Students will write and effectively deliver speeches for various purposes, gaining skill in making oral presentations in a variety of settings. Further, students will develop listening skills and learn to constructively critique speeches given by their peers. **Credit: 0.5 This is a required semester course for students in grades 9-12.**

### **English 9 - #2108**

This course concentrates on the further development of students' reading and writing skills. Students will read and analyze selections from a variety of literary genres and respond through the writing of multi-paragraph essays. Students will enhance their vocabulary through a study of Greek and Latin roots. Information literacy skills are taught in connection with a major research project. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for freshmen.**

### **Honors English 9 - #2109**

This course requires strong writing and reading skills, a naturally inquisitive nature, and the maturity necessary for independent work. The class will emphasize discussion, analysis, critical writing, and reading for literary appreciation. Vocabulary is further developed through the study of classical roots. Short stories, novels, non-fiction, and poetry will expand the students' familiarity with literary genres. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full year course which fulfills the 9th grade English requirement.**

### **English 10 - #2110**

This course builds on the integration of reading, writing, speaking, and listening concepts fostered in grade 9. Students' vocabularies are enhanced through the continued study of classical roots. Diverse literary selections taken from World Literature allow students the opportunity to further develop critical analysis and writing skills. Information literacy and MLA research skills are refined as projects become more complex. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for sophomores.**

### **Honors English 10 - #2111**

This course requires strong writing and reading skills, a naturally inquisitive nature, and the maturity necessary for independent work. The class will emphasize discussion, analysis, critical writing, and reading for literary appreciation. The focus will be on World Literature classics. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full year course which fulfills the 10th grade English requirement.**

### **English 11 - #2112**

This course centers on American Literature as it has developed from the Colonial Era to the present. Students continue to develop competency in writing for the purpose of literary analysis. Vocabulary study is based on the continued mastery of classical roots. Research techniques are honed through the preparation of a major research project. Special attention is given to preparation for college entrance examinations. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for juniors.**

### **Honors English 11 - #2122**

This course is an integrated study of literature and writing based on an intensive investigation of literary themes and patterns in American fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama. Instruction will focus on refining reading strategies, critical analysis, and increasing vocabulary. Writing

instruction will focus on refining, developing and applying writing process strategies to various types of essays. **Prerequisites:** Departmental recommendation and Administrative approval.

**Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full year course which fulfills the 11th grade English requirement.**

**Advanced Placement English  
Language/Composition - #2113**

This is a course which requires effective writing and critical reading skills. Through writing the students will come to understand and appreciate the heritage of the English, and hence American, language, its evolution through the ages, its different periods, styles, and purposes. Students will address various topics, learning to gather and disseminate information, control language, recognize authorial patterns, and describe their responses to these patterns. They will develop a broad working vocabulary and an interest in how language works. Students will take the College Board's national Advanced Placement English Language and Composition examination in May of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course which fulfills the 11th or 12th grade English requirement.**

**English 12 - #2114**

Language mastery and the integration of the four basic elements of the English curriculum continue in this more challenging course, based on the study of British Literature. Development of competency in the areas of close reading, critical analysis, research, and writing prepare the students for college-level work. Research projects increase in complexity. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for seniors.**

**Advanced Placement English  
Literature/Composition - #2115**

This course is designed to offer students with strong language skills an opportunity for a highly challenging curriculum and the possibility of college credit for high school work. Extensive reading, coupled with critical thinking and writing, literary criticism and analysis, prepare students for the College Board's national Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition examination. Students will be required to take this exam in May of the school year. Students are required to complete four research projects. **Prerequisites:** Successful completion of AP English Language/Composition in grade 11 and/or departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course which fulfills the 12th grade English requirement.**

# English Elective Courses

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The following English Department course offerings may be taken for elective credit.

## **Interactive Reading Seminar – #2124 (7th): #2125 (8th)**

This course, offered as an elective for students in grades seven and eight, provides the opportunity to read and discuss high-quality fiction and non-fiction texts in a unique seminar format. Students will regularly engage in discussion of the assigned texts, focusing on questions that have fascinated mankind throughout history. They will be expected to complete the required reading on a daily basis and share their thoughts about the selections through their writing and participation in the lively class discussions. Due to the highly interactive nature of the class, enrollment will be limited. **This is a full-year elective course for students in grades seven and eight.**

## **Writing Workshop – #2128 (7th); #2129 (8th)**

A laboratory approach to writing gives students the time and freedom to explore many forms of writing and to experience all stages of the composition process. The class serves as an immediate audience and as a support group in a relaxed, productive setting. Emphasis is on the development of the writer's own personal writing process and style. Requirements are a genuine interest in writing, a willingness to share writing with other students, and the keeping of a writer's journal. Due to the highly interactive nature of the class, enrollment will be limited. **This is a full-year elective course for students in grades seven and eight.**

## **Advanced Interactive Reading- #2126**

This course, offered as an elective for students in grades nine and ten, provides the opportunity to read and discuss high-quality fiction and non-fiction texts in a unique seminar format. Students will regularly engage in discussion of the assigned texts, focusing on questions that have fascinated mankind throughout history. They will be expected to complete the required reading on a daily basis and share their thoughts about the selections through their writing and participation in the lively class discussions. Due to the highly interactive nature of the class, enrollment will be limited. Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for freshmen and sophomores.

## **Contemporary Latin American Literature - #2127**

This course will introduce students to the study of Latin American literature and culture. Students will focus on the poetry, short stories, personal essays, and drama of Latin America representing a variety of literary genres. The literature, written originally in Spanish, will be read in English translation. As students study these texts, discussion and related writing assignments will encourage critical thinking, clear argumentation, and the development of personal connections to literature. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for juniors and seniors.**



### **Advanced Creative Writing - #2123**

In this course students explore writing as art. Students will read, analyze, and create works of fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry. Creative writing features include consideration of audience, figurative language, cross-genre writing, performance, and publication. Students also practice evaluating their own work and the work of their peers. This course provides the time, instruction, and skills necessary to pursue meaningful creative writing. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students.**

### **Journalism/Newspaper Publication - #2116**

Students enrolled in this course will be involved in producing the school newspaper, the Hound Collar. Emphasis will be on the development of journalistic skills, including the following: interviewing, note taking, news writing, editorial writing, feature writing, surveys, polls, reviews, and sports writing, as well as layout and design principles, headline writing, and caption writing. Students will learn to design and lay out newspaper pages using the computer publishing program Pagemaker 5.0. Students will be expected to meet rigid deadlines. Prerequisite: 85 average in English and instructor approval. Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year elective course for Upper Division students which may fulfill the Computer Science graduation requirement. **This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

### **Learning Center - #2120**

This is a special course for selected students with documented learning differences. The purpose is to enable students to develop skills and organizational techniques to increase their ability to function as independent learners. Enrollment in this course is made possible either as part of the student's accommodation plan, or by recommendation of the Saint Joseph Academy Learning Center Committee. **Prerequisite:** Recommendation from Saint Joseph Academy Learning Center Committee. **Credit: 0.5**

# Fine Arts

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## **7th Grade Art - #2601**

This course has an emphasis on the basic elements and principles of art. Additional projects include painting and drawing. The elements and organizing principles of art are studied and applied in all projects. There is an art history component that supplements this studio course. Each student will have the opportunity to work with the teacher, independently, and in groups. **This course is an elective course for students in grade seven.**

## **8th Grade Art - #2602**

This course emphasizes the basic elements and principles of art. Additional projects may include crafts and media exploration. There is an art history component that supplements this studio course. Each student will have the opportunity to work with the teacher, independently, and in groups. Students will be responsible for quizzes and/or tests that cover art history and art techniques. **This course is an elective course for students in grade eight.**

## **Two Dimensional Design - #2603**

This course has an emphasis on the basics of two dimensional design, drawing, painting, and printmaking. Students will also study the elements of design, as organized by the principles of design. Students will have the opportunity to work on individual and group projects and will gain experience in critiquing their own art and that of others. **Credit: 0.5. This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students.**

## **Three Dimensional Design - #2604**

This course has an emphasis on the basics of three dimensional design, ceramics, crafts, and sculpture. Students will study the elements and principles of design as it relates to form. Students will have the opportunity to work on individual and group projects and will learn to critique their own art and that of others. **Prerequisite:** Two Dimensional Art. **Credit: 0.50 This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students.**

## **Art Portfolio - #2605**

The Art Portfolio course is designed for students who wish to pursue careers in the arts or in art-related fields such as architecture, landscape design, fine arts, or design. Students will experience an independent course of study under the direction of the instructor in order to produce a consistent body of work to be submitted with their college applications. Students are particularly encouraged to consider enrolling in this course during the spring semester of the junior year and/or the fall semester of the senior year in order to prepare their portfolios for use with their college applications. **Prerequisite:** Two Dimensional Design and Three Dimensional Design or approval of the instructor. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students. This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

**Band: Beginning/Advanced:****Beg. - #2610; Adv. - #2611**

This is a performance course divided into two sections, Beginning and Advanced Band, in which students learn and apply the fundamentals of tone production, intonation, rhythm, musical expression, and interpretation of various styles of music on a standard woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. The Beginning class is available to all students (7-12) interested in learning to play a band instrument. The Advanced class is reserved for those with one or more years of instrumental experience. Ensembles formed within the course include: Concert Band, Jazz Ensemble, and Wind Ensemble. All students will be required to participate in Concert Band and /or Wind Ensemble. **Accommodations can be made for students involved in other activities upon request and discussion.**

These ensembles and bands will require three or four after school rehearsals per week throughout the year, as well as occasional evening and Saturday rehearsals in preparation for performances. Attendance at required rehearsals and performances will be closely monitored and graded.

All students are expected to learn solos and small ensembles and to participate in solo and ensemble festival. The Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble are formed from all three sections, primarily from the Advanced Band, by audition only and make up the select group of students that participate in band festivals and region, area and all-state auditions. **Credit: 1.0; A full-year elective course in grades 7-12. All classes satisfy the Fine Arts requirement. This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

**Jazz Band - #2613**

The Jazz Band is a select ensemble consisting of any combination of jazz players from a small combo up to a full jazz "big band." The purpose of this course is to educate players in the area of jazz realization and improvisation through the study of standard repertory, improvisation texts, listening assignments, and rehearsal. After school rehearsals may be required. This ensemble will perform regularly throughout the year.

**Prerequisite:** Audition and consent of the instructor. **Credit: 1.0. This is a full-year elective course for Upper Division students. This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

**Girl's Choir - #2614**

This course is open to girls in grades 9-12 who are interested in performing a varied repertoire of choral music representing styles from diverse cultures and musical periods.

Choir members will also learn to read rhythmic and melodic notation, while developing an appreciation for choral music as an art form and as an aid to worship. Girls' choir members perform at school liturgies, fine arts evenings, concerts, and other school and community events. In addition to the daily class period, one evening rehearsal each week is required, along with occasional additional rehearsals, which are scheduled as necessary. **Prerequisite:** Approval of the instructor. **Credit: 1.0. This is a full-year elective course for Upper Division girls. This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

**Intro to Speech and Drama- #2616**  
**(7th); #2617 (8th)**

This course is designed to develop the skills necessary to become a confident and effective communicator. Students will participate in many different types of performance activities that will benefit both students who would like to become more confident about presenting in front of the class and those who are interested in developing their acting and improvisation skills. During the course, students will create television commercials, practice news room broadcasting, and perform oral interpretations, improvisations, radio skits complete with sound effects, monologues, and a movie scene. **This is a full-year elective course for students in grades seven and eight.**

**Theatre Arts - #2606**

This course is designed as an introductory study of the theatre arts that surveys the total art form. The intention of this course is to develop understanding and enjoyment of theatre and how it operates as a unit. The students will study the elements of theatre and examine how they work together to bring magic and enjoyment to a live audience. The course will cover the following topics: the performance space, set construction, theatre history, and the American musical. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students.**

**Study of Acting - #2607**

Designed as an introduction to the study of acting, this course will cover the following topics: the actor's vocal, physical, and psychological resources, an introduction to the mechanics of stage movement, exercises in sensory, imaginative, emotional, and pantomimic responsiveness, the characterization process in scripted and unscripted scene work, and the varying acting philosophies of Uta Hagen, David Mamet, and Constantine Stanislavsky. Attendance at SJA and Camille Playhouse productions will be required. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students.**

**Stagecraft - #2615**

Stage Craft is a hands-on course in which students are responsible for building, painting, and electrically wiring the set and props for the Fall Drama or Spring Musical. Students will learn shop safety, painting techniques, masking techniques, electrical wiring if necessary, the proper use of tools, and the hardware necessary for set construction and will apply this knowledge in the actual hands-on construction of the set. \*The course may be repeated on advanced levels (Stage Craft II, III, IV) with the permission of the instructor. These students will be given project responsibilities, group leadership roles, and possibly aid in set and lighting design. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for Upper Division students. This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

**Yearbook - #2612**

This course is devoted to the production of a published work: the Red & White yearbook. Students develop skills in layout, design, story writing and photography. Students are expected to produce work of a high quality and meet rigid deadlines. **Prerequisite:** Recommendation of the instructor; primary consideration given to students in grades 11 and 12. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year Fine Arts elective open to Upper Division students (see above). This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**



*You are forever connected to St. Joe  
as St. Joe is forever connected to you.*



# Library Media Center

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## **Mission Statement**

The goal of is to create a dynamic student centered program that will provide quality materials in a variety of formats and promote an understanding of the individual's right to access information. The Library Media Center's program must be the center of academic life at Saint Joseph Academy allowing for the development of life long learners who are not only skillful consumers of information but active contributors to society in the information age.

## **Program Description**

The Library Media Centers are staffed by a full time Library Media Specialist and part time Library paraprofessionals. The program and policies of the centers are directed by our Library Media Specialist who along with the trained paraprofessionals works with students on both an individual and classroom basis. Our program is designed to promote critical and recreational reading, the ethical use of information and technology, develop research skills and strategies, and encourage students to become lifelong learners.

## **Research & Writing Initiative**

In collaboration with the faculty and staff of Saint Joseph Academy, the Library Media Department will promote the development of research and writing skills with our student patrons to prepare them for work at the college level. Students will learn how to be discerning consumers of information and to make a positive contribution to the Saint Joseph learning community through effective participation in groups and the production of information. Students will be exposed to the skills necessary to meet the criteria established by the American Association of School Librarians (AASL) for

information literacy standards and the indicators for each standard (HYPERLINK "[http://www.ala.org/aaslTemplate.cfm?Section=Information\\_Power&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=19937](http://www.ala.org/aaslTemplate.cfm?Section=Information_Power&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=19937)" [www.ala.org](http://www.ala.org)). These skills will be taught by the Library Media Specialist in collaboration with the faculty for various research projects and reading assignments that will include but not be limited to: utilization of the OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) for the library's collection, subscription reference databases, web evaluation, plagiarism and copyright issues, ethical use of technology, and the efficient utilization of print resources.

## **Library Aide Internship - #2121**

As a library aide, the student will learn the basic processes of library circulation including check-in, check-out, shelving books, processing periodicals, preparing new books and library materials to be circulated, basic cataloging skills, and how to interact with the public in a professional setting. Other duties will include but not be limited to the preparation of bulletin boards, bookmarks, signs and promotional materials. The course will require the student to learn and understand the Dewey Decimal system, assist students and teachers in finding materials, and use several different software applications such as word processing programs, in-house library applications, and web based programs.

**Prerequisite:** An application process is required prior to registration for this class which will include references from other faculty members and final approval from the Library Media Specialist. **Credit: 0.5 This is a semester elective course open to students in grades 9 – 12. This course may be taken multiple times for elective credit.**

# Mathematics

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## **Math 7 - #2201**

This course, which satisfies the mathematics requirement in grade seven, concentrates on building and reinforcing basic mathematical skills. Emphasis is given to basic operations involving whole numbers, decimals, fractions, and integers. Other skills emphasized are introductory algebra concepts such as factorization, greatest common factor, and least common multiple. **This is a full-year course that satisfies the mathematics requirement for students in grade seven.**

## **Pre-Algebra - #2202 (Grade 7); #2204 (Grade 8)**

This course covers the transition from previous mathematics study into the study of algebra. Basic operations involving decimals, fractions, and integers are reviewed and strengthened. Solving equations and word problems that involve rational numbers, proportions, percentages, and graphing are included. **This is a full-year required course for students in grades seven or eight.** *In order to ensure a firm foundation in mathematics, seventh grade students who fail Pre-Algebra will be required to repeat the entire course in grade eight rather than attending summer school for this purpose. Additionally, seventh grade students who have not demonstrated mastery of Pre-Algebra concepts may, upon departmental recommendation and administrative approval, be required to repeat Pre-Algebra in grade eight.*

## **Honors Pre-Algebra - #2203**

This course, designed for students in grade seven who have a strong mathematics background, provides an enriched curriculum in preparation for the study of algebra. While students continue to gain experience in computation and problem-solving, their understanding of mathematical structure and reasoning are reinforced.

Concepts will include solving first degree equations, word problems involving rational numbers, proportions, percentages, linear equations, inequalities, and an introduction to trigonometry. Emphasis will be given to problems requiring higher order thinking and application of problem-solving strategies.

**Prerequisite:** Administrative approval.

**Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course that fulfills the Pre-Algebra requirement.**

## **Algebra I – #2205 (Grade 8); #2207 (Grade 9)**

This course presents to the student the study of real numbers, equations, and inequalities in one variable, polynomials, systems of linear equations and inequalities, relations and functions, exponents and radicals, and an introduction to quadratic equations. Problem solving and graphing are also included. **Prerequisite:** Pre-Algebra. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for students in grades eight or nine.** *In order to ensure a firm foundation in mathematics, eighth grade students who fail Algebra I will be required to repeat the entire course in grade nine rather than attending summer school for this purpose. Additionally, eighth grade students who have not demonstrated mastery of Algebra I concepts may, upon departmental recommendation and administrative approval, be required to repeat Algebra I in grade nine.*

## **Honors Algebra I - #2206**

Honors Algebra I presents to the student the study of real numbers, equations, and inequalities in one variable, polynomials, systems of linear equations and inequalities, relations and functions, exponents, radicals, and quadratic equations. Special emphasis is given to problem solving, critical thinking strategies, and graphing.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year required course that satisfies the Algebra I requirement.**

### **Geometry - #2208**

Geometry stresses the basic structure of a mathematical system and proficiency in developing proofs. The course includes concepts of space geometry integrated with plane geometry, the review and use of algebraic skills, and units on trigonometry, area and volume, constructions, coordinate geometry, and transformations. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for freshmen or sophomores.**

### **Honors Geometry - #2209**

Honors Geometry stresses the basic structure of a mathematical system and a strengthened proficiency in developing proofs. Properties of two and three dimensional geometric shapes will be analyzed and mathematical arguments about geometric relationships will be developed. The course includes concepts of space geometry integrated with plane geometry, the review and use of algebraic skills, and units on trigonometry, area and volume, constructions, coordinate geometry, and transformations. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course that satisfies the Geometry requirement.**

### **Algebra II - #2210**

With an emphasis on equation solving and the application of equations to problem solving, the course includes the following among its topics: relations, linear equations, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational numbers, quadratic equations, and an introduction to trigonometry and conic sections. **Prerequisite:** Geometry. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for sophomores or juniors.**

### **Algebra II (Dual Enrollment) - #2211**

With an emphasis on equation solving and the application of equations to problem, solving, this course includes the following among its

topics: relations, linear equations, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational numbers, quadratic equations, and an introduction to trigonometry and conic sections. Much attention is paid to the derivation of formulas and the application of material to real life situations. There is a strong emphasis placed on the practical application of problem solving equations. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I, Geometry, a COMPASS Math score of 39 or better, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.03 This is a full-year course for sophomore or juniors. Credit for UTB MATH 1314: 3 hours.**

### **Honors Algebra II - #2212**

This course is designed to expand a student's ability to analyze and identify equations to problem solving and relationships among functions. Topics include: relations, linear equations, polynomials, quadratic equations, simplifying radicals, computing rational expressions and equations, using complex numbers, applying concepts of probability using permutations and combinations, and an introduction to trigonometry and conic section. Problems will be solved algebraically, numerically, and graphically. **Prerequisite:** Geometry, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05. This is a full-year required course for sophomores or juniors.**

### **Honors Algebra II (Dual Enrollment) - #2213**

This course includes the following among its topics: relations, linear equations, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational numbers, quadratic equations, an introduction to trigonometry, arithmetic and geometric series, and statistics. Attention is paid to the derivation of formulas and the application of material to real-life situations through the use of projects. There is a strong emphasis placed upon the practical application of problem-solving equations. This course will require independent study by the highly motivated student. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I, Geometry, a COMPASS Math score of 39 or better, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0;**

**Weight: 1.05. This is a full-year required course that satisfies the Algebra II requirement. Credit for UTB Math 1314: 3.0 hours.**

#### **Pre-Calculus - #2214**

This course provides students with a firm foundation in the theory and use of functions and their graphs. Polynomial, rational, piece-wise, exponential, and logarithmic functions are explored. A comprehensive treatment of trigonometry which deals with the trigonometric functions, their graphs, and solutions of right and oblique triangles is included. **Prerequisite:** Algebra II. **Credit: 1.0. This is a full-year required course for juniors or seniors.**

#### **Pre-Calculus (Dual Enrollment) - #2225**

This integrated course is the culmination of the process of acquiring the fundamental skills of algebra, geometry and trigonometry necessary for the study of calculus. Advanced topics in algebra include the number system, equations and inequalities, quadratic functions and equations, theory of equations, and the conic sections. A complete treatment of trigonometry, which includes the trigonometric functions and their graphs, polar coordinates, and the solution of right and oblique triangles, is provided. Fundamental concepts of plane geometry will be interwoven throughout the algebraic and trigonometric topics to provide a sound knowledge of geometry. **Prerequisite:** Algebra II (Dual Enrollment), a COMPASS math score of 39 or better, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.03; This is a full-year course for juniors or seniors that satisfies the Pre-Calculus requirement. Credit for UTB MATH 1412: 4 hours.**

#### **Honors Pre-Calculus - #2215**

This integrated course is the culmination of the process of acquiring the fundamental skills of algebra, geometry and trigonometry necessary for the study of Calculus. Advanced topics in algebra include the number system, equations and inequalities, quadratic functions and equations, theory of equations, and the conic sections. A complete treatment of trigonometry

which includes the trigonometric functions and their graphs, polar coordinates, and the solution of right and oblique triangles is provided. Polynomial, rational, piece-wise, exponential, and logarithmic functions are explored. Fundamental concepts of plane geometry will be interwoven throughout the algebraic and trigonometric topics to provide a sound knowledge of geometry. **Prerequisites:** Honors Algebra II, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course that satisfies the Pre-Calculus requirement.**

#### **Honors Pre-Calculus**

##### **(Dual Enrollment) - #2216**

This integrated course is the culmination of the process of acquiring the fundamental skills of algebra, geometry and trigonometry necessary for the study of calculus. Advanced topics in algebra include the number system, equations and inequalities, quadratic functions and equations, theory of equations, and the conic sections. A complete treatment of trigonometry, which includes the trigonometric functions and their graphs, polar coordinates, and the solution of right and oblique triangles, is provided. Fundamental concepts of plane geometry will be interwoven throughout the algebraic and trigonometric topics to provide a sound knowledge of geometry. This course will require independent study by the highly motivated student. **Prerequisites:** Algebra II (Dual Enrollment), a COMPASS Math score of 39 or better, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course that satisfies the Pre-Calculus requirement. Credit for UTB MATH 1412: 4 hours.**

#### **Calculus I - #2217**

Calculus includes the algebraic study of functions and their graphs. Limits and their applications, derivatives, anti-derivatives and the integration of the algebraic and trigonometric functions will be covered. Applications of derivatives and anti-derivatives will also be covered in this course. **Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course for juniors or seniors.**

### **Honors Calculus I - # 2226**

This course covers the algebraic study of standard, trigonometric, parametric, exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs. Topics to be included are limits and continuity, derivatives of functions and their applications, the anti-derivative, the definite integral, and integration of functions with applications.

**Prerequisite:** Honors Pre-Calculus, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight 1.05. This is a full-year course for junior or seniors.**

### **Calculus I (Dual Enrollment) - #2218**

This course covers function, limits, and continuity; the derivative; differentiation of algebraic functions; the derivative as a rate of change; maximum and minimum problems with applications; Rolle's Theorem; the Mean-Value Theorem; higher derivatives; concavity; techniques of graphing; antiderivative; the definite integral and integration with applications. **Prerequisite:** Dual Enrollment Pre-Calculus, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval.

**Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.03 This is a full-year course for junior or seniors. Credit for UTB MATH 2413: 4 hours.**

### **Advanced Placement Calculus AB - #2218 (Dual Enrollment); #2219 (non-Dual Enrollment);**

Calculus includes the algebraic study of functions and graphs. Limits and their applications to derivatives and anti-derivatives and the integration of algebraic and trigonometric functions are treated. The study of calculus is extremely demanding in class application, and it requires daily, lengthy study and homework time. Content of the course will be supplemented by College Board AP material. Students will be required to take the College Board's national Advanced Placement examination in May of the school year through which university credit may be earned aside from dual enrollment credit. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course for juniors or seniors. Credit for UTB MATH 2413: 4 hours.**

### **Advanced Placement Calculus BC - #2221 (Dual Enrollment); #2222 (non-Dual Enrollment)**

Advanced Placement Calculus BC covers all of the topics included in Calculus AB, and in addition views more theoretical aspects of Calculus. Topics associated with the course are: Transcendental Functions, Differential Equations, Integration Techniques, L'Hopital's Rule, Improper Integrals, Special Sequences, and Special Series. Students will be required to take the College Board's National Advanced Placement Examination in May of the school year in which university credit may be earned.

**Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.10; A full-year course for seniors. Credit for UTB MATH 2414: 4 hours.**

### **Elementary Statistics - #2223 (non-Dual Enrollment); #2224 (Dual Enrollment)**

This course introduces the student to statistics, both descriptive and inferential. Topics include measure of central tendency and dispersion, combinations, permutations, probability, probability distribution, the Central Limit Theorem, estimation, test hypothesis, correlation, and regression. **Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus.

**Credit: 1.0; Weight for Dual Enrollment Statistics 1.03; A full-year course for juniors or seniors. Credit for UTB MATH 1342: 3 hours.**





*The wonderful St. Joe traditions and legacies that  
you cherish as a student will stay with you as an alumnus.*



# Physical Education

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## **Foundations of Personal Fitness - #2807**

This course represents a new approach in physical education and the concept of personal fitness. The basic purpose of this course is to motivate students to strive for lifetime personal fitness with an emphasis on the health-related components of physical fitness. The knowledge and skills taught in this course include teaching students about the process of becoming fit as well as achieving some degree of fitness within the class. The concept of wellness, or striving to reach an optimal level of health, is the corner stone of this course and is exemplified by one of the course objective, namely, having the students design their own personal fitness program. **Credit: 0.5; A one-semester required course for Upper Division students.** *Note: Credit in Fitness may also be earned through enrollment in Advanced Band and/or participation in Varsity-level athletics. For more information, students should see the Assistant Principal for Academics.*

## **Physical Education**

**Girls: #2801 (7th); #2803 (8th); #2805 (Upper Division)**

**Boys: #2802 (7th); #2804 (8th); #2806 (Upper Division)**

An integral part of a total education, this course meets the needs of students and helps them to strive both individually and in groups. Fitness conditioning, aerobic conditioning, and skills in a series of specific sports and physical activities are explained, demonstrated, practiced, and utilized by the students. Knowledge of rules, strategies, and skill techniques are taught by lecture, demonstration, experience, and testing. The course aims at developing in students an appreciation for and a desire to continue physical activity throughout life. Students are required to dress out daily in the school's physical education uniform. **Credit: 0.5 for Upper**

**Division PE; 1.5 credits must be taken in grades 9-12 to fulfill the graduation requirement.** *Note: Credit in Physical Education may also be earned through participation in Varsity-level athletics. For more information, students should see the Assistant Principal for Academics.*

## **Health - #2808 (8th); #2809 (Upper Division)**

This course presents various facets of maintaining personal and family well-being in such topics as physical growth, anatomy, family life and sex, nutrition, emergency care, first aid, major serious diseases, communicable diseases, and substance abuse. **Credit: 0.5; A one-semester required course for students in grades 8-12.**

## **Physical Conditioning - #2825**

In this course, students will learn a variety of conditioning techniques that can be used outside of class to improve all aspects of physical fitness and performance. Students will explore how to improve upper, lower, and core body strength and endurance as well as cardiovascular endurance, agility, speed, and power. Students will participate in activities such as circuit training, running plyometrics, jump ropes, speed and agility training, weights, and periodic large-group games. This course will require a great deal of self-discipline and commitment as it will be taught early in the morning. Prerequisite: Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 0.5. A one semester course for students in grades 9-12 which satisfies 0.5 credit of the Physical Education requirement; may be taken multiple times with departmental recommendation and administrative approval.**

# Religious Studies

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## **Religious Studies 7:**

### **Introduction to Jesus - #2001**

This course focuses on Jesus and deals with His depiction in the four Gospels. Specifically, this course will analyze Jesus' role as friend, son, brother, teacher, and king. To illustrate these roles, students will identify Jesus' characteristics in figures from Church and secular history and describe the contemporary moral implications of Jesus' life and teachings. Special emphasis will be placed on the life of St. Marcellin Champagnat, founder of the Marist Brothers. **This is a full-year required course for seventh grade students.**

## **Religious Studies 8:**

### **Life in Christ - #2002**

This course deals with the building of Catholic character values and provides a summary of basic Catholic teaching. The course seeks to equip students with a working knowledge of Catholic doctrine and practices while developing Christian life skills. Students will be challenged to develop their conscience in the light of Church teachings regarding virtue and morality. **This is a full-year required course for eighth grade students.**

## **Religious Studies 9:**

### **Sacred Scripture - #2003**

This course is aimed at introducing students to the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures, especially as they apply to contemporary Catholic perspectives and practices. Students will consider the concepts of salvation history, revelation, culture, and literary forms as they relate to the Bible. In the first semester, this course will provide students with a general overview of Hebrew Scriptures, with special attention paid to the Torah. The New Testament will be examined

in the second semester, with emphasis placed on the four Gospels and the Acts of the Apostles.

**Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for freshmen.**

## **Religious Studies 10:**

### **Church and Worship - #2004**

Tenth grade students will study the Church and its methods of worship and its methods of worship and prayer. In the first semester, students will grapple with the question: What is the Church. Students will explore the history of the Church, its evolving understanding of itself, and the tension between being "in the world but not of the world." Special emphasis will be placed on ministry in the Church. During the second semester, students will explore the sacraments as sacred signs that celebrate God's love for us and Jesus' presence in our lives and in the Church. Students will also explore other kinds of prayer and spirituality. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for sophomores.**

## **Religious Studies 11:**

### **Social Justice - #2005**

This course challenges students to confront injustice, violence, and victimization with hearts and minds inspired by Catholic social teaching. Issues discussed will include the option for the poor and vulnerable, the rights and responsibilities of workers, the right to life and self-determination, and care for creation. Sustained and special emphasis will be given to the Christian response to war and violence. Students will engage these issues with the assistance of Sacred Scripture, Catholic theology, and their informed conscience. This course will include a major research and presentation component. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for juniors.**

### **Senior Religious Studies Courses:**

*Students choose (two) 2 Religious Studies Electives each year from the list below.*

Exception: Call to Ministry is a full-year course and would fulfill a student's senior year Religious Studies requirement. Courses may not be repeated.

#### **New Course! Christian Identity - #2009**

This course will help the students grow and deepen their faith as they embrace their own spiritual path. It will encourage and engage them to explore different ways to express their faith commitment at the service of the Church by helping the less fortunate. Thus, enabling the students to understand their responsibility and witness the "Marks of a Marist Student." Additionally, the course will present different opportunities for the students to engage in various Christian ministries developing in them the awareness of discipleship, following the steps of Jesus who came to serve and not to be served.

**Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for seniors..**

#### **World Religions - #2008**

This course offers students an introduction to the belief systems, practices, traditions, and cultures of the world's great religions. Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism will receive particular attention. Students will be invited to find similarities between the doctrines, worship styles, and spiritualities of Catholicism and the various religions studied in this course.

**Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for seniors.**

*The Following Courses are  
Application - Only Courses.*

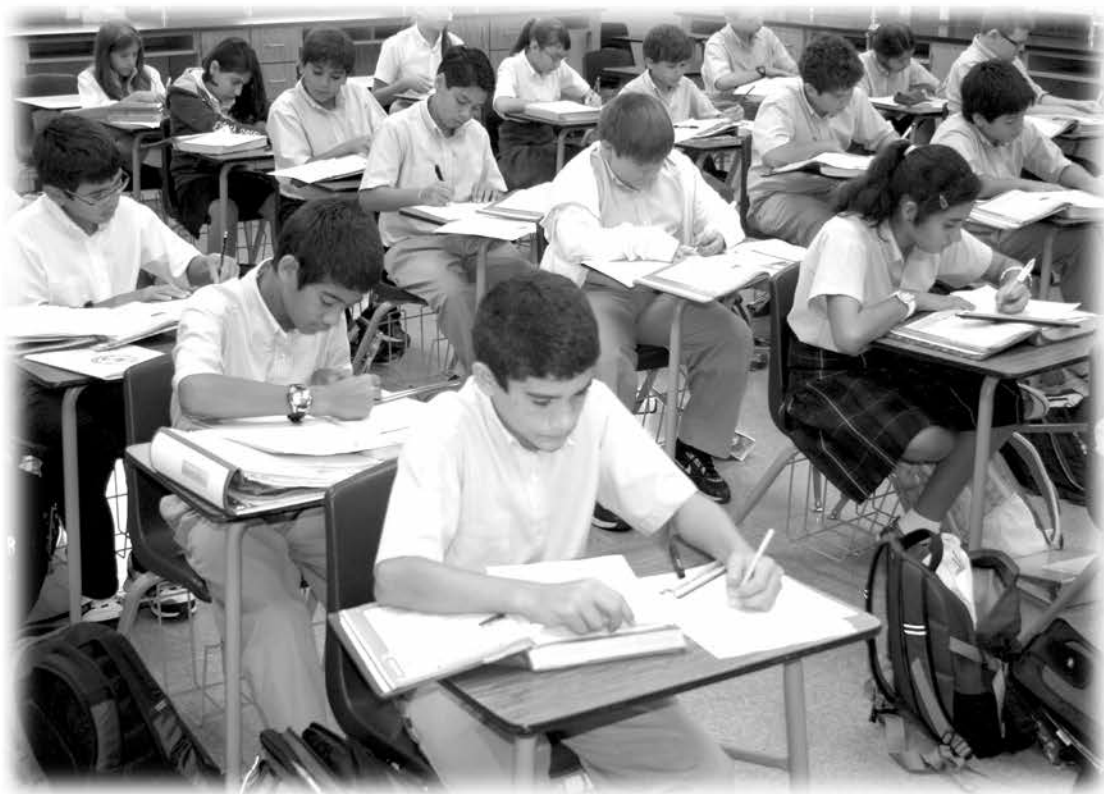
#### **Call to Ministry (CTM) - #2006**

This course will involve the student not only academically, but also experientially by providing a lived experience of service both within the Saint Joseph Academy community and their parishes. Students will come to an understanding

of what ministry is and actively participate in it by preparing and coordinating the school's Masses and retreat program. Students will gain an overview of liturgical ministries, the ministry of retreats, and peer counseling skills. Ethical and practical matters in ministry will also be discussed. Through prayerful reflection, students will be challenged to take what they have learned and live it out in service to the church and the global community. Involvement in ministry outside of the school will also be expected. Prerequisites: Students wishing to be considered for admission must submit a written application by the course deadline and participate in an interview conducted by a committee appointed by the administration. This interview must be completed by Tuesday, February 21, 2012. Criteria considered in selection include a student's leadership potential, good academic and disciplinary standing, and active faith involvement in ministry service to the school/community. Students must also have participated in the Encounter program in order to be eligible for selection as a member of the Call to Ministry class. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course for seniors which fulfills the senior Religious Studies requirement.**

#### **Christian Service - #2007**

Students will be scheduled in a two-period block during which they will be assigned a service project in the community. Through prayerful reflection, students will be challenged to take what they have learned and live it out in service to the church and the global community. Prerequisites: Students wishing to be considered for admission must submit a written application by the course deadline and participate in an interview conducted by a committee appointed by the administration. This interview must be completed by Tuesday, February 21, 2012. Criteria considered in selection include a student's leadership potential, good academic and disciplinary standing, and active faith involvement in ministry service to the school/community. **Credit: 1.0 This is a one-semester two-period block for seniors which fulfills one semester of the senior Religious Studies requirement.**



*Saint Joseph students are the  
future leaders of our community.*

# Science

In all science courses offered, students conduct field and laboratory investigations using safe, environmentally appropriate, and ethical practices. The use of technology is incorporated throughout the science curriculum to gather and organize data. Students use the scientific method, critical thinking and scientific problem solving to interpret and analyze information to draw informed conclusions, make inferences, or to propose possible solutions. Students will also use critical thinking to make informed decisions in real-life situations and in evaluating the impact of research on scientific thought, society, and the environment.

## **Science 7: Physical Science - #2301**

This course builds on the scientific processes and concepts introduced in previous years, integrating the physical sciences to conduct scientific inquiry. It is the expectation that students will experience the content of Physical Science through inquiry learning. Hands-on laboratory investigations, individual studies, and group activities constitute a major portion of the learning experience. Using available technology, students will investigate forces and motion, the chemical and physical properties of matter, the ways in which matter and energy interact within the natural world, and the forms and properties of energy. Conservation of matter and energy is an underlying theme throughout the course. Physical Science will provide the knowledge, prerequisite skills, and habits of mind needed for problem solving and decision making about matters of scientific and technological concern. Physical science provides a basic foundation for advanced studies in chemistry and physics. **This is a full-year required course for students in grade seven.**

## **Science 8:**

### **Environmental Systems - #2303**

In Environmental Systems, students conduct field and laboratory investigations concerning a variety of topics. These topics include: biotic and abiotic factors in habitats; ecosystems and biomes; interrelationships among resources and an environmental system; sources and flow of energy and changes within an environmental systems. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course for students in grade eight that satisfies one (1.0) science credit required for high school graduation.**

## **Honors Science 8:**

### **Environmental Systems - #2304**

This course includes all the major concepts and skills taught in the Environmental Systems course. The course differs in that the student is expected to develop a higher level of critical thinking, problem solving, and ability to apply concepts through a more rigorous, faster paced, more in-depth curriculum. This course will require a great deal of self-discipline and independent study. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0. Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course for students in grade eight that satisfies one (1.0) science credit required for high school graduation.**

## **Biology - #2305**

Students in Biology study a variety of topics that include: structures and functions of cells and viruses; growth and development of organisms; cells, tissues, and organs; nucleic acids and genetics; biological evolution; taxonomy, metabolism and energy transfers in living organisms; living systems; homeostasis; ecosystems; and plants and the environment. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for freshmen.**



### **Honors Biology - #2306**

This course includes all the major concepts and skills taught in Biology, but with an emphasis on higher level skills and problem solving. The students are expected to apply the learned concepts at a faster pace and with a more in depth curriculum. The course will require a great deal of self-discipline and independent study.

**Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course which fulfills the Biology requirement.**

### **Chemistry - #2308**

In Chemistry, students study a variety of topics that include: scientific measurement, characteristics of matter, atomic structure and bonding, chemical nomenclature, chemical equations, stoichiometry, the states of matter, thermochemistry, behavior of gases, chemical periodicity, reaction rates and equilibrium, solutions, acids and bases, neutralization and salts, redox-reactions, nuclear fusion and fission. Students will investigate how chemistry is an integral part of our daily lives. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for sophomores.**

### **Honors Chemistry - #2309**

This rigorous course is designed for highly motivated students. In comparison to the regular Chemistry course, it demands a higher level of critical thinking, application of concepts, self-discipline, and a great deal of independent study. Topics will be examined in greater depth and at a faster pace. In addition to the core topics covered in the Chemistry course, this course covers: phase diagrams, thermo-chemical equations, calorimetry and standard heats of formation, departures from the gas laws, the quantum concept, the photoelectric effect, quantum mechanics, bond dissociation constants, equilibrium constants, buffers, and an introduction to Organic Chemistry. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 . This is a full-year course which fulfills the Chemistry requirement.**

### **Physics - #2311**

This course studies the fundamental concepts of mechanics using vectors and dimensional analysis. It goes on to study the sources of all motion and energy, and how that energy is both transferred and conserved. Mathematics is the language of physics; therefore a solid experience covering the basic concepts of Algebra and Geometry in order to solve problems using scientific data is required. Knowledge of the trigonometric functions of sine, cosine, and tangent is essential. Students study a variety of topics that include motion, forces, energy, matter, heat, thermodynamics, and the characteristics and behavior of sound and light **Credit: 1.0. This is a full-year required course for juniors or seniors.**

### **Honors Physics - #2312**

This course covers the topics outlined in the regular Physics course, but with a more rigorous, in-depth mathematical approach. This course is for highly motivated students with exceptional mathematical capabilities. Students can expect to be challenged in a direction that is parallel to that of the general motion of the class, however in a much deeper sense, laying the in-roads to sound understanding of the discipline of Physics. **Prerequisites:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course which fulfills the Physics requirement.**

### **Aquatic Science - #2318**

Aquatic Science is a lab-oriented course in which students study the interactions of biotic and abiotic components in aquatic environments, including impacts on aquatic systems. Investigations and field work in this course may emphasize fresh water or marine aspects of aquatic science depending primarily upon the natural resources available for study near the school. Students who successfully complete Aquatic Science will acquire knowledge about a variety of aquatic systems, conduct investigations and observations of aquatic environments, work collaboratively with peers, and develop critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. Topics include components of the aquatic



ecosystem, cycles within the aquatic environment, and adaptations of aquatic organisms. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course for students in Grade 12 that satisfies one (1.) science credit required for high school graduation or may be taken for elective credit.**

#### **Environmental Systems - #2316**

In Environmental Systems, students conduct field and laboratory investigations concerning a variety of topics. These topics include: biotic and abiotic factors in habitats; ecosystems and biomes; interrelationships among resources within ecosystems; sources and flow of energy and changes within biomes. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course for students in Grade 12 that satisfies one (1.0) science credit required for high school graduation. Students who have completed Science 8: Environmental Systems at Saint Joseph Academy are not eligible to enroll in this course.**

#### **Honors Anatomy and Physiology - #2315**

This course is designed to give students an in-depth introduction to the anatomy and physiology of the human body. It will provide students with an opportunity to study the structures and functions of several important organ systems, from the molecular level to the level and interactions of the entire body. The student will learn how the body functions, how to maintain its normal functions, and the consequences of injury and disease. Students will come to understand the interrelationships among the various organ systems, which maintain a healthy functioning individual. Important lifestyle and health related issues will be stressed, providing students with important information to be applied in their own lives. **Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, Physics. **Credit 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year elective course for juniors or seniors.**

#### **Advanced Placement Biology - #2307**

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory course taken by first year biology majors. The coursework and laboratory assignments are equivalent to those conducted at the college level. The AP Biology course aims to provide students with factual knowledge in a conceptual framework and is designed to be taken by students after successful completion of a first course in high school biology and high school chemistry. In accordance with the College Board guidelines, the topics within the course cover these three main areas: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and plants. Students will be expected to take the AP Biology examination in May. Any student seriously considering a career in science or any health-related profession should consider enrolling in this course. **Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, Physics; Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.5; Weight: 1.10. This is a full-year elective course for juniors or seniors.**

#### **Advanced Placement Chemistry - #2310**

This course is designed to be the equivalent of the general Chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college and meets the objectives prescribed by the AP Chemistry Course description published by The College Board. A primary goal of the course is to attain a depth of understanding of fundamental concepts and a reasonable competence in dealing with general chemistry problems. The course develops the student's abilities to think critically and analytically and to express his/her ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. Students will be expected to take the AP Chemistry examination in May. Any student seriously considering a career in science, engineering, or a health-related profession should enroll in this course. **Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, and Physics; concurrent enrollment in Calculus preferred; Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.5; Weight: 1.10 This is a full year elective for juniors or seniors.**

### **Advanced Placement Physics - #2313**

The Physics B course includes topics in both classical and modern physics. A thorough knowledge of algebra and basic trigonometry is required for the course; the basic ideas of calculus may be introduced in connection with physical concepts, such as acceleration and work. Understanding of the basic principles involved and the ability to apply these principles in the solution of problems are the major goals of the course. The Physics B course seeks to be representative in topics covered in similar college courses and is grouped into five general

areas: Newtonian mechanics, fluid mechanics and thermal physics, electricity and magnetism, waves and optics, and atomic and nuclear physics. Students will be expected to take the AP Physics examination in May. Any student seriously considering a career in science or physics as a basis for life sciences, medicine, geology and related areas should consider enrolling in this course. **Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, Physics; Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.5; Weight: 1.10 This is a full year elective course for juniors or seniors.**

# Social Studies

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## **Texas History - #2401**

Texas History covers the geography, history and government of the state from its beginnings to the present. Students analyze major social, political, and economic trends. The emphasis is placed on the cultural achievements of the diverse Texas population. **This is a full-year required course for students in grade seven.**

## **United States History Through 1877 - #2402**

Eighth-grade U.S. History surveys American history from pre-colonial times through 1877. Students analyze key economic, political, social, and cultural trends, focusing on economic regionalism, the development of democracy, and the diversity of American society and culture. Geography skills are integrated throughout the course; civics is taught as a logical sequel to the Constitutional Period, and students are encouraged to seek connections between history and literature. **This is a full-year required course for students in grade eight.**

## **World Geography - #2403**

This course is designed to prepare students for life in a globalized world. It is an overview of the earth and its life, its differing environments, their effects upon peoples, and the response which nations and regions make to their environment. Through the study of geographic principles and the cultural foundations of other nations, students will build the skills and awareness needed to successfully understand their role and responsibilities as citizens of the world. Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for freshmen.

## **World History - #2405**

This course focuses on the major historical events, individuals, patterns and trends in world history. Attention is directed to the ancient and classical civilizations, the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Reformation in Europe, the Age of Revolution, and the development of modern nations. Introductions to Asian, African, and Latin American cultures encourage an appreciation of the diversity and richness of the human experience. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for sophomores.**

## **Honors World History - #2406**

Honors World History is designed to offer motivated students a more challenging course in World History. This course is as outlined for the regular World History course, but with more rigorous in-depth treatment of the different topics. Students will read and write extensively on selected themes and will regularly analyze and interpret a variety of primary sources. **Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.05 This is a full-year course which satisfies the World History requirement.**

## **United States History Since 1877 - #2407**

Building on the foundations of United States History 8 and World History, this course examines the history of the United States in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Students are encouraged to view the country's history in a global context, as they analyze the emergence of the United States as a world power, major economic and political developments, and the great social and cultural movements of the time. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year required course for juniors.**

### **Advanced Placement**

#### **U.S. History - #2409**

Honors American History is designed to offer motivated students a more challenging course in American History from colonial times to the present. Students will read and write extensively on selected themes and will regularly analyze and interpret a variety of primary sources. The program will prepare participants for the Advanced Placement Examination in May which students will be required to take and through which they can receive university credit.

**Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course which fulfills the U.S. History requirement.**

#### **American Government - #2412**

As a study of the organization and functioning of local, state, and federal governments, this course emphasizes the current realities of government operation and the interplay between social change and government. The United States Constitution and the Texas Constitution are studied. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester required course for seniors.**

#### **Honors American Government - #2413**

Honors American Government is designed to offer motivated students a more challenging course in American Government. This course is as outlined for the regular American Government course, but with more rigorous in-depth treatment of the different topics, including experiential assessments such as mock trials. Students will read and write extensively on selected themes and will regularly analyze and interpret a variety of primary sources.

**Prerequisite:** Departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 0.5; Weight: 1.05 This is a one-semester course which satisfies the American Government requirement.**

### **Economics - #2410**

This is an introduction to the basic concepts of economics. The course considers the role of the individual as a consumer and producer, and investigates the importance of money and banking, pricing, the gross domestic product, the free enterprise system, principles of the market, and the government influences on the economy. Alternative economic systems are also studied.

**Credit: 0.5 This a one-semester required course for seniors.**

#### **Honors Economics - #2411**

Honors Economics is designed to offer motivated students a more challenging critical-thinking course in Economics. This course is as outlines for the regular Economics course, but with more rigorous in-depth treatment of the various topics. Students will read and write extensively on selected themes and will regularly analyze and interpret a variety of primary sources. **Prerequisite:** Department recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 0.5; Weight 1:05 This is a one-semester course with fulfills the Economics requirement.**

# Social Studies Electives

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The following course offerings from the Social Studies Department may be taken for elective credit.

## **American Cultures- #2414**

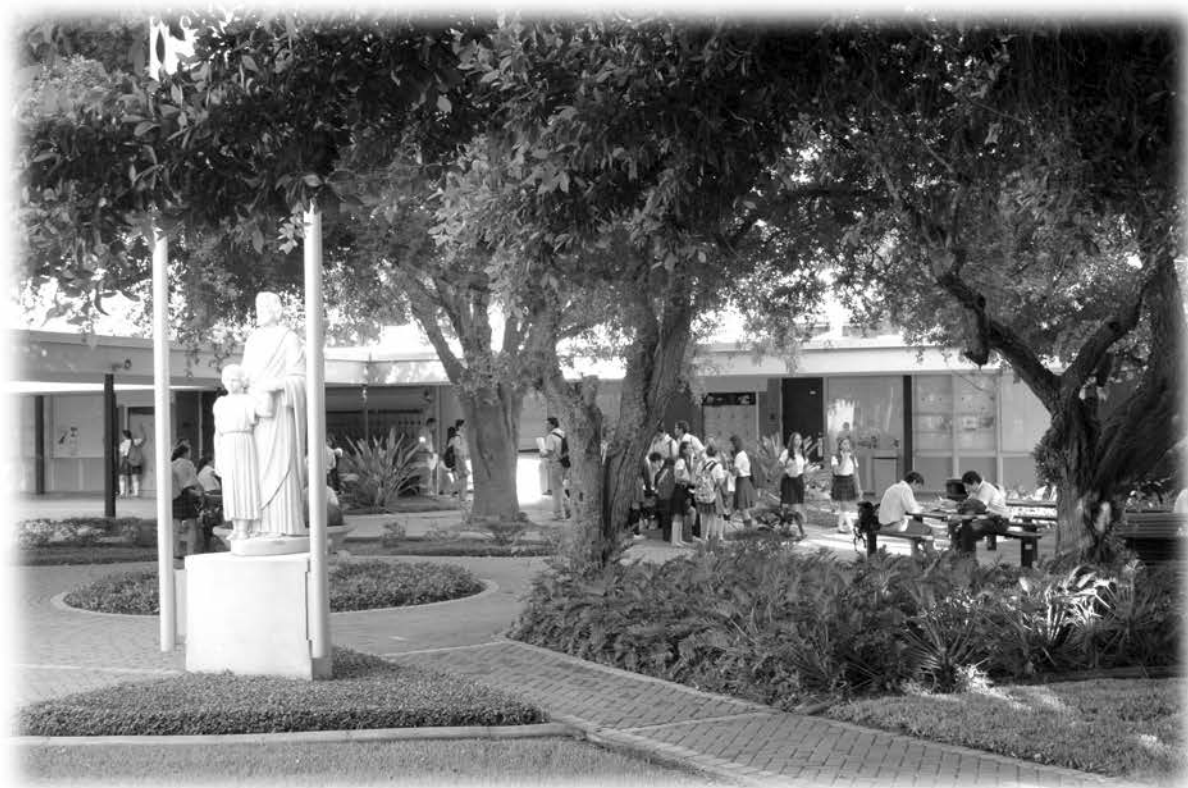
This course provides students with the opportunity to explore the contributions of various ethnic groups to American culture. Students will examine the history, cultural development, struggles, and accomplishments of diverse ethnic groups, with special emphasis on Native American, African American, and Mexican American contributions to the American cultural identity. Through reading of primary and secondary sources, independent research, class discussion, and presentations by guest speakers, students will develop an appreciation of the many influences that have created American cultural traditions. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for juniors and seniors.**

## **Modern History – 1946 to the Present - #2415**

In this course, students will investigate some of the issues and challenges facing society in the contemporary period. Using the foundations of history and geography to analyze current events, students will examine both global and domestic issues from the post-World War II era to the present. Through study of current informational sources and a variety of related readings, independent research, and class discussion, students will seek to understand current events and issues, their implications for the United States, and possible means by which they might be addressed. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for juniors and seniors.**

## **Women's History - #2416**

The purpose of a Women's History course is to supplement the material that is frequently lacking in most history books and curricula. The Women's History course will focus on the important role that women have played in history in regards to their own rights as well as the rights of their respective communities. The course will focus on women who refused to stand behind and allow injustice as well as those who have become pillars of their societies because of their activism and courage. Students will explore the relationship of race and gender in the development of individual rights. In addition to learning the history of women's movements, the course will examine the most pressing issues for women of the 21st century. Students who successfully complete this course will demonstrate knowledge through an ability to describe some of the ways social inequalities develop, function, and change, as well as some of the possibilities for social change. **Credit: 0.5 This is a one-semester elective course for juniors and seniors.**



*We maintain the highest quality of Marist,  
Catholic education for our St. Joe students.*



# Target Languages

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## **Spanish IA - #2501**

This course provides an introductory program for non-Spanish speakers. The students are exposed to the basic skills of listening, speaking and writing. Students gain an early start in a second language or continue the study of Spanish that began in elementary school while attaining high school credit. Credit: 0.5; This course represents the equivalent of the first semester of Upper Division Beginning Spanish. **By completing both Spanish IA and IB, students can earn credit for Beginning Spanish. No credit will be awarded unless both Spanish IA and IB are completed.**

## **Spanish IB - #2502**

This course provides a continuation of the introductory program for non-Spanish speakers begun in Spanish IA. The students continue to develop in the basic skills of listening, speaking and writing in Spanish. Prerequisite: Spanish IA; Credit: 0.5 This course represents the equivalent of the second semester of Upper Division Beginning Spanish. **By completing both Spanish IA and IB, students can earn credit for Beginning Spanish. No credit will be awarded unless both Spanish IA and IB are completed.**

*Upper Division Target Language Courses:*

## **Beginning Spanish - #2503**

This course provides an introductory program for beginners who are non-Spanish speakers. The introductory course helps students attain an elementary proficiency in the four basic skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These skills are developed through the study of the phonological system, grammatical structures, basic communication and vocabulary in a sequential manner. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full year course for beginners that satisfies the first year of the Target Language requirement.**

## **Intermediate Spanish - #2504**

This course is a comprehensive review of the topics presented in Beginning Spanish. It is offered to introduce new structural elements, verb tenses, and functional vocabulary. This course will allow students to pursue proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, writing and higher-level communication in the language. **Prerequisite:** Beginning Spanish or departmental recommendation based on placement exam. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

## **Advanced Spanish - #2505**

This course offers the student a solid review of the topics presented in Intermediate Spanish while focusing on advanced Spanish grammar; structural elements of grammar and stylistics, syntax, oral communication, and the assimilation of culture and literature. **Prerequisite:** Intermediate Spanish or departmental recommendation based on placement exam. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

## **Honors Spanish - #2506**

There are three points of focus in this program. Grammar includes mastery of advanced grammar, structural irregularities in morphology as well as syntax. Correct writing emphasizes proper accentuation, spelling and composition skills. Reading develops skills in literal comprehension and literary analysis and appreciation. This course is offered to students who are native speakers with a high degree of ability in oral and written Spanish. **Prerequisite:** Advanced Spanish or departmental recommendation based on placement exam. **Credit: 1.0; Weight 1.05 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

### **Advanced Placement Spanish Language - #2507**

This course is designed to offer students with strong Spanish language skills an opportunity for a highly challenging curriculum. Extensive reading, writing, and critical thinking and analysis are required to prepare the students for the Advance Placement Language examination that they are required to take in May. Successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam may earn the student college credit. The language course prepares the students in verb functions and applications, idiomatic expressions, reading comprehension, and both speaking and listening skills. **Prerequisites:** Honors Spanish and/or departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

### **Advanced Placement Spanish Literature- #2508**

This course is designed to offer students with strong Spanish language skills an opportunity for a highly challenging curriculum. Extensive reading, writing, and critical thinking and analysis are required to prepare the students for the Advanced Placement Spanish Literature Examination that they are required to take in May. Successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam may earn the student college credit. The literature course requires extensive writing and reading of both contemporary and classical writers. **Prerequisites:** AP Spanish Language and/or departmental recommendation and administrative approval. **Credit: 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

### **French I - #2509**

This course introduces the French sound system and basic grammatical structure. It builds an essential vocabulary, enabling the student to begin conversing, reading, and writing in French. The study of the language is complemented by references to French culture, assisting the student in comprehending the totality of the foreign language experience. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

### **French II - #2510**

The course reviews structures and vocabulary of the first year French, and presents new structural material within an audio-visual framework, to develop the student's ability to better understand the spoken language. The course emphasizes reading and writing as well as develops an appreciation of France and her people through the presentation of cultural material. **Prerequisite:** French I. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

### **French III - #2511**

This language course prepares the students in verb functions and applications, idiomatic expressions, reading comprehension and aural or listening skills. **Prerequisites:** French II. **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement.**

### **Advanced Placement French - #2512**

This course is designed to offer students with strong French language skills an opportunity for a highly challenging curriculum. The primary goal is to prepare them to express themselves coherently in the spoken and written form with reasonable fluency. Students are also exposed to the world of literature, history and current events through literary texts, videos, audio files, newspapers and magazines articles that serve as a tool to comprehension and bring forth analytical, Socratic and spontaneous discussions.

Students enrolled in the class should have a more than basic command of French grammar and ample vocabulary. The four basic language skills will be emphasized: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Extensive training in the organization and writing of compositions will be a focal point of the course. Critical thinking and analysis are required to prepare the students for the AP Language examination that they are required to take in May. Successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam may earn the student college credit. **Prerequisites:** Successful completion of French III, departmental recommendation, and administrative approval. **Credit 1.0; Weight: 1.10 This is a full-year course that satisfies one year of the Target Language requirement or may be taken for elective credit.**

# Technology Applications

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## **Computer Literacy and Keyboarding - #2701**

Required of seventh grade students, this course begins with students mastering the essentials of typing through the use of the computer. Students will learn to type material by touch and to develop, through drills, speed as well as accuracy. By the second quarter, students will begin covering word processing, database, and spreadsheet applications, as well as an introduction to the Internet and Power Point presentations. The course also includes the history of computer development, computer ethics, computer use and its place in the present day. **This is a full-year required course for students in grade seven.**

## **Computer Applications and Usage - #2702**

In this course, students will sharpen existing technology skills and learn about many aspects of owning and using a computer. Topics include the following: advanced use of Microsoft Office applications, basic understanding of networks, effective use of web searches and web sites, editing images and audio files, and an introduction to webpage design. Through the introduction of the Python coding language, students will independently find solutions to computer-related problems, demonstrate algorithmic thinking, and design programs, **Credit: 1.0 This is a full-year course that satisfies the Technology Applications graduation requirement.**

Students may also satisfy the Technology Applications graduation requirement through enrollment in Journalism (English Department).

# Upper Division Course Planning Worksheet

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Department	Name of Course	Credits
Religious Studies		
English		
Math		
Science		
Social Studies		
Target Language		
Fine Arts		
P. E.		
Technology Applications		
Business		
Other Elective		

**Must Total  
7 Credits**



*A Marist School is a center of learning, of life,  
and of evangelizing. As a school, it leads students  
“to learn to know, to be competent, to live together  
and most especially, to grow as a person.”*