The finest education emphasizes thinking over memorization, creativity over repetition and ethics over earnings.

MPS GUIDELINES FOR SCHEDULING

1. You must select the equivalent of eight courses per term. Only in rare cases will a student have a lighter course load.

2. Give thoughtful attention to your course selections. Get advice from your teachers, counselor, and parents. See Course Drop Policy below.

3. Select courses beginning with those required, followed by electives. List electives in order of priority. If you are electing term courses, be sure to select a combination to equal a full year of credit.

4. HONORS/IB courses are for two groups of students: (1) those seeking greater challenge and achievement and/or (2) those pursuing some aspect of the IB program. Mercyhurst Prep offers these courses for students who desire advanced academic challenges. There are certain prerequisites and criteria for each honors course. These are listed before the course description. In general, students desiring to take honors level courses should have a genuine desire to learn at a faster pace and study material in more depth. General criteria are:
   - **Knowledge:** Any student wishing to enroll in an honors course who is currently in:
     - a college prep course must have a yearlong grade of A
     - an honors course must have a yearlong grade of B.
   - **Skills:** Proficiency in basic skills of reading, writing, speaking, research, and technology
   - **Work Ethic:** Self-motivated to learn. The student's attitude is superior in regard to cooperation, participation, and attendance.
   - **Performance:** Ability to apply knowledge, skills, and work ethic in various performance-based activities. This ability may be measured in the manner of an audition, essay, portfolio, interview, or teacher recommendation.

5. Your guidance counselor will review your course registration form before you are scheduled. If there are any problems, a meeting will be scheduled with you.

6. Classes with fewer than ten students will not be taught unless required by the state or IB.

7. A copy of this booklet is available online at [www.mpslakers.com](http://www.mpslakers.com).

8. Mercyhurst Prep reserves the right to place students in course levels appropriate to their ability and/or academic performance.

   **Course Drop Policy**

Students should select courses carefully, paying close attention to course prerequisites and descriptions. The MPS Master Schedule is built during the summer months based on the spring requests of students. It is important that much thought go into those requests made in March. Parent signatures are required on request forms to ensure that necessary discussion regarding course selection has taken place between student and parent. It is extremely difficult to make changes to a student’s schedule once the master schedule is finalized in late July.

In addition, students are discouraged from dropping classes because we believe that it is in the student’s best educational interest to develop skills to succeed in challenging classes in order to attain the skill level required to succeed in college and in the work world.

In the event of an extreme circumstance, schedule changes will be considered only if the following conditions are met:

- The student has demonstrated sufficient effort in the attempt to succeed, including regular attendance at help sessions with the teacher and/or in or out of school tutoring.
- The student has consistently completed course assignments and tasks and he/she has demonstrated genuine effort on such.
- With input from the teacher and counselor, the academic dean has determined that the course is not the most appropriate placement for the student.
- After dropping the class, the student still has six yearlong courses.
If there is a change in a student schedule, for any reason, the work already completed will be shown on the transcript as **WP** (withdrew passing) or as **WF** (withdrew failing).

Students and parents should be aware that in some cases, even if the above conditions are met, a student may be unable to drop a class if the requisite schedule change is not possible or if the replacement course is closed due to high numbers in the class.

Students should select courses carefully, paying close attention to course prerequisites and descriptions.

**MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th><strong>COLLEGE PREP</strong></th>
<th><strong>HONORS/IB</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Language</td>
<td>2 years</td>
<td>3-4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Arts</td>
<td>1 year (3 terms)</td>
<td>2 years (6 terms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>4 years (1 term each year)</td>
<td>4 years (1 term each year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>1 year (3 terms)</td>
<td>1 year (3 terms)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology</td>
<td>2 terms</td>
<td>3 terms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Research, Speech &amp; Digital Learning</td>
<td>Research, Speech &amp; Digital Learning</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A minimum of twenty-five hours of community service is required each year, earning ¼ credit for the student each year.

One full credit in community service is required for graduation.

A summer reading program is required for grades 9-12.
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE - A UNIQUE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The aim of the International Baccalaureate program is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. IB learners strive to be:

- Inquirers: They develop their natural curiosity.
- Knowledgeable: They explore concepts, ideas, and issues that have local and global significance.
- Thinkers: They exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively.
- Communicators: They understand and express ideas confidently and creatively.
- Principled: They act with integrity and honesty.
- Open-minded: They understand and appreciate their own culture and are open to perspectives, values, and traditions of others.
- Caring: They show empathy, compassion, and respect towards the needs and feelings of others.
- Risk-takers: They approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought.
- Balanced: They understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for themselves and others.
- Reflective: They give thoughtful consideration to their own learning and experience.

THE IB AT MPS

MPS students are encouraged to pursue the internationally recognized IB diploma. Alternatively, they may earn IB certificates in individual curriculum areas at the Standard Level or Higher Level.

I. Requirements for IB diploma:

Students must sit for exams in the following 6 subject areas:

A. Language A-English Literature-Higher Level
B. Language B - French or Spanish-Standard Level
C. History-Higher Level
D. Experimental Sciences (1)
   - Biology-Higher Level
   - Chemistry-Higher Level
E. Mathematics (1)
   - Mathematics-Higher Level
   - Mathematics-Standard Level
   - Math Studies-Standard Level
F. One of the following:
   - Art/Design-Higher or Standard Level
   - Music-Higher or Standard Level
   - Dance-Standard Level
   - Religions of the World-Standard Level
   - Art History-Standard Level
   - Sports, Exercise and Health Science-Standard Level
   - A second science at Standard or Higher Level
   - A second mathematics at Standard or Higher Level

II. Additional requirements (for diploma candidates)

A. Course in Theory of Knowledge
B. 4,000 word extended essay in a chosen subject area
C. CAS (Creativity, Action and Service)

MPS International Baccalaureate students share with their counterparts all over the world many benefits by their participation in the program, including:

1. Participants are challenged with rigorous academic standards and, in working to meet them, experience personal growth, satisfaction, and increased self-confidence.
2. The IB curriculum challenges students to develop skills in the highest levels of thinking and writing.
3. Students may earn advanced standing and/or college credit in tertiary level educational institutions.
4. Students may receive scholarships to certain universities.
5. IB student graduates report a very high level of preparedness for even the most rigorous university studies.
One of the most effective and humanizing ways that people of different cultures can have access to each other’s experiences and concerns is through works of literary merit (Salma Jayyusi-The Literature of Modern Arabia).

The English curriculum provides a comprehensive program of studies in the areas of literature, critical thinking, vocabulary, grammar, composition, oratory, and study skills. Students will become proficient in expressing themselves through a wide variety of expository and creative writing assignments and speech activities. Students will begin the study of literature with a genre format as freshmen and continue their sophomore and junior years of study using a chronological approach to American then British literature, concluding their senior studies with an overview of world literature. The department strives to encompass the study of language and literature for both creative and functional purposes.

We provide our students with the literary skills not only to judge and evaluate what they have read and heard but also to help them broaden and deepen their personal experiences of the written word. Our students approach great literature with a confident knowledge that it is always relevant, is capable of expanding their world views, and always promotes critical thinking, which can only lead to intelligent dialogue as our students develop a global perspective. This, in turn, helps the students develop attitudes of tolerance, empathy and genuine respect for stories different from their own.

Each student will take a freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior yearlong English course. We encourage students to take additional electives for educational and personal fulfillment. The English curriculum choices provide excellent background, not only for college, but for enjoyment and a lifelong interest in literature.

Please note: There is mobility among College Prep, Honors, Standard Level IB, and Higher Level IB based on teacher and/or department recommendations.

Required Term Course: Research, Speech and Digital Literacy
Term Electives: Creative Writing, Everything Harry Potter, Journalism II
Yearlong Elective: Journalism I
INTRO TO GENRES - COLLEGE PREP
#1021 Freshman 1.00 credit Yearlong

In this course the student is introduced to literary terminology, analysis, and criticism of several genres of literature by authors from around the world: the short story, the novel, drama, non-fiction and poetry. A variety of materials containing strategies and guidelines designed to improve organization, study, and test-taking skills will be presented early in Term I. The year will include a review of English grammar as needed and opportunities to master composition skills, varied and effective sentence structure, the thesis driven essay, and elements of academic writing. Oral language activities for freshman year will include expressive oral reading, discussion, and speech techniques. Vocabulary building through etymological study is an integral part of this course and the foundation for vocabulary enrichment during freshman year as well as in subsequent English courses at MPS.

INTRO TO GENRES – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#1022 Freshman 1.00 credit Yearlong

Freshman English Honors/MPS Pre-IB is an accelerated course of study which is the foundation for the high school student’s English program. Each student will become proficient in writing expository, narrative and descriptive writing as well as the standard thesis-driven essay. Knowledge of literary terminology will enable the student to analyze various genres: novel, short story, poetry, drama, and non-fiction works. Oral language activities will encompass general speech techniques, discussion, and dramatic reading. Systematic vocabulary and root study will enhance ability in oral and written expression and standardized test taking. The student will receive instruction and opportunity for practice in such fundamental areas as summarizing, note-taking, test-taking, outlining, and academic writing.

RESEARCH, SPEECH, AND DIGITAL LITERACY – COLLEGE PREP
#1105 Freshman (required) .33 credit Term course

This multifaceted course will give freshmen a foundation in basic public speaking skills, research and writing, as well as an awareness of digital media in an increasingly digital age. The public speaking portion will address the student’s ability to communicate in interpersonal situations, small groups, and with mass audiences. Not only will students examine the mechanics and development of communication and public speaking, but they will also address the anxiety that may accompany speaking in front of people by practicing ways to alleviate stress in those situations. The research writing portion of the class will allow students to engage in each stage of the research process, ending with the completion of a research paper. Students will practice MLA writing style and gain comfort with using parenthetical citations, formatting their papers in MLA style, and writing a works cited page. They will also explore the use of MPS’s databases and learn to identify credible sources. Prewriting, drafting, proofreading and editing skills will be emphasized. A brief unit on digital literacy will be introduced and practiced, and students will be exposed to the standards for the 21st century learner in terms of digital citizenship, ethics, and information literacy.

AMERICAN LITERATURE – COLLEGE PREP
#1003 Sophomore 1.00 credit Yearlong

Follow the evolution of the American Dream from the Puritans through the Rationalists, Romantics, Transcendentalists, Realists, Modernists, and the Post-Modernists. College Prep American Literature, a year-long sophomore level course, encourages students to embrace this search and explore life’s essential issues through the American and some world literary tradition. Students will engage with this unique tradition through its diverse perspectives and genres. Thematic emphasis is placed on the human experience in America and other global venues, especially as it relates to the student’s own life experience. Through instruction and active participation, students will continue to develop the skills needed for literary discussion, analysis, and comparison expected on this level of study. Systematic vocabulary and etymology focus will complement the literary study. Research skills and techniques will be advanced and applied. In addition, students will develop and apply written and oral communication skills both individually and cooperatively.
AMERICAN LITERATURE – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#1004 Sophomore 1.00 credit Yearlong

American Literature Honors/MPS Pre-IB prepares the student for IB Standard or Higher level study in the years ahead. This yearlong course is designed to acquaint MPS Pre-IB students with the works of major American authors from the chronology of 1500 to the present. Students will begin their journey of future IB study in a preliminary way during the sophomore year by being introduced to high quality works of various genres that reflect the origins and development of the American literary tradition that is unique and diverse. The historical, cultural, and personal context of the human experience in America will be explored. Through instruction and active participation, students will develop the advanced skills needed for literary discussion, commentary, and analysis. The year begins with novel readings using the voices of Native Americans, Puritans and African Americans. In some cases, whole works of literature are used as in IB classes as opposed to excerpts. Students are given the chance to learn and practice orals and written assignments that will make them comfortable as they enter either Standard or Higher Level Junior IB. An independent research project is required as is fundamental utilization of computer technology. In addition, students will study vocabulary for SAT preparation, learn numerous literary terms, apply critical thinking skills, and be introduced to literary criticism.

BRITISH LITERATURE - COLLEGE PREP
#1005 Junior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This yearlong course will trace the origins and development of British literature along with the evolution of the English language. Through the study, students will develop an appreciation of the principal English literary periods: Anglo-Saxon, Medieval, Renaissance, Enlightenment, Romanticism, Victorianism, and the Modern Era. The students will practice critical and creative writing and complete two research papers in MLA format. The English novel will be studied with special emphasis on theme, characterization, plot, point of view, and style, and a Shakespearean tragedy will be compared and contrasted with an emphasis on the Aristotelian theory of the tragic hero. The students will also continue their study of composition, critical thinking, the elements of literature, vocabulary, and SAT preparation. Fundamental utilization of computer and iPad technology for research and writing is required. The students will also be required to create Notability, Power Point, Prezi presentations or film projects that coincide with one of the major works studied by the junior college prep class which include but are not limited to: Beowulf, The Canterbury Tales, Macbeth, and Animal Farm (or another novel chosen by the teacher).

BRITISH LITERATURE - HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#1016 Junior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This challenging Standard Level International Baccalaureate study in literature follows the IB curriculum and requirements. This is a great course that introduces students to a range of literary works from different time periods, genres, styles and contexts. This course introduces students to ways of studying and approaching literature, leading to their development and understanding of different texts. Admission to the program requires: first—recommendations of both sophomore teachers and IB English teachers; second—a desire on the part of the student to explore literature on a deeper level of analysis using critical thinking skills; third—a determination on the part of the student to improve his/her writing style and oral skills. Students have the opportunity to take the IB exam in English upon completion of year two, although it is NOT mandatory. IB Standard Level learners realize they have a natural curiosity toward the study of literature and wish to acquire literary skills necessary to attain excellence in both writing and oration. Some of the literary works and authors that will be explored include Beowulf, Chaucer’s The Canterbury Tales, Markus Zusak’s The Book Thief, Marji Satrapi’s Persepolis, William Shakespeare’s Macbeth and various poems by William Blake. Along with the coursework comes some “light” fun projects. The course moves from this year, which is considered an “oral” year, with an emphasis on the IB oral to the following year, an “essay” year, which will focus on World Literature and the writing of Standard Level IB essays. Both approaches will be assessed according to Standard Level IB specifications.
BRITISH LITERATURE – HONORS/IB HIGHER LEVEL
#1024 Junior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This challenging International Baccalaureate level study, designed as a pre-university course in literature, follows the IB curriculum and requirements. It is available for students who INTEND TO PURSUE AT LEAST A CERTIFICATE IN IB. Admission to the program has the following requirements: first—recommendations of both sophomore teachers and IB English teachers; second—a desire on the part of the student to explore literature on the deepest level of analysis and critical thinking; third—a determination on the part of the student to improve his/her writing style and oral skills; and lastly, an intention to take the IB exam in English. IB Humanities learners strive to be inquirers who develop their natural curiosity acquiring literary skills necessary to attain excellence in both writing and oration. They are knowledgeable as they explore literary concepts that have local and global significance. They are thinkers who exercise initiative in applying both creative and critical thinking skills as they approach classics, learning how to respond to literature in both written and oral form. Lastly, they are high school students who can balance sophisticated work with some lighter classroom activities such as cultural study of life in Iran, trips to local theaters to view plays being studied, or going to lunch at local restaurants to taste the international cuisine found in the novels being read. Students will be assessed according to IB rubrics. A deposit on the IB exam fee is required for registration.

WORLD LITERATURE - COLLEGE PREP
#1007 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This yearlong course in World Literature offers students an opportunity to look at ideas and topics that transcend national boundaries. Students will meet great writers such as Sophocles and Shakespeare. Students will study unabridged literary works of authors that reflect the wonderful diversity of cultures that comprise our global community. Some of the literary works and authors that will be studied include Sophocles’ Oedipus Rex, Henrik Ibsen’s A Doll’s House, William Shakespeare’s Hamlet, and Khalid Hosseini’s The Kite Runner. Students will continue their practice of the writing process, do research on the topics considered, and develop and apply written and oral communication skills both individually and cooperatively. Fundamental utilization of computer technology for research and technical writing is required. Technological skills may include, but not be limited to, Microsoft Word, Power Point, Keynote, Prezi, iMovie, etc.

WORLD LITERATURE – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#1020 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This course is year two of the IB Standard Level program focusing on World Literature and commentary writing and essays. It is for those who have already completed their first year of Standard Level IB British Literature. This year is considered the “writing” year that focuses on preparing the students for their Written Assignment and helps prepare those who choose to take the IB exam in May though it is NOT mandatory. The year will focus on Part I Works in Translation and Part III Genre Study of their IB curriculum. The students will continue their study skills in oration and writing as well as focusing primarily on critical thinking skills which will be essential to success as students read, analyze, and comment on classical pieces of literature selected from the IB Book List. Some of the literary works that will be explored in the second year of Standard Level IB study of World Literature include, but are not limited to, The Odyssey, The Inferno, and The Whale Rider.

WORLD LITERATURE – HONORS/IB HIGHER LEVEL (Formerly listed as HUMANITIES II-IB/H in previous years.)
#1026 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Seniors who will be sitting for the IB 2017 exam must conclude their two year International Baccalaureate program with this pre-university course in literature and will focus on detailed reading and commentary writing. It is available for students who INTEND TO PURSUE AT LEAST A CERTIFICATE IN IB. This year is considered a “writing” year, one in which the students will read, journal, write IB Reflective Statements and IB Supervised Writing papers to prepare for their IB Written Assignment after studying in detail three works in translation. Sophisticated training in oration, critical thinking skills, commentary writing, and the writing of argumentative essays are central to success. Students read, analyze and comment using literary devices on classic pieces of literature selected from the IB Book List. In addition, the course will conclude with the in-depth study of two more novels to prepare all students for their final IB exam. All higher level students take their tests in the spring of the year, and will do so with confidence after two years of stringent preparation.
ENGLISH ELECTIVES

JOURNALISM I – COLLEGE PREP
#1513 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Journalism I is a course designed to help students develop a working understanding of journalism in general and newspaper production in particular. The course includes treatment of the history and development of the newspaper and legal and ethical standards, as well as the creation of different types of news articles. Furthermore, students learn through intensive practice in producing an accurate and attractive newspaper that reflects its environment and addresses the interests and needs of its readers. Students will develop and apply the practical skills essential to journalists: interviewing, organizing, drafting, editing, and page design. General skills such as meeting deadlines, utilizing technology, and communicating effectively orally and in writing will also be emphasized. Students will have the opportunity to explore all facets of journalistic writing and to develop appropriate skills through practical application.

JOURNALISM II – COLLEGE PREP
#1517 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Intro to Journalism (term)

Journalism II is designed to give students a more specific understanding of the elements of Journalism and proper news writing. This term-long elective includes a strong emphasis on learning Adobe InDesign and the finer points of newspaper layout and design. Journalism II students will continue honing their writing skills by creating various types of news articles, as well as providing feedback to the Journalism I students to help them edit their news articles. Students will learn newspaper production through intensive practice in writing and designing a newspaper that will meet the needs of its audience. Successful completion of Intro to Journalism I is a prerequisite for this class.

CREATIVE WRITING - COLLEGE PREP
#1509 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed to teach students the basics of writing creatively by focusing on those elements that make for vivid, effective writing across genres (especially poetry, memoirs, and short stories). Topics covered will include creating sensory details, memorable images, inventive metaphors and similes, authentic voice, dialogue, and characterization. A key component of this course is the creative writing journal, which will allow students to practice different skills from class and explore new ideas that can be used in later writing.

EVERYTHING HARRY POTTER – COLLEGE PREP
#1531 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prepare to explore (or revisit) the novels by J.K. Rowling that continue to affect generations of people around the world. In this term course, students will explore a vast array of topics connected with the Harry Potter series: pop culture mythology, censorship, ethics and morality, magic and magical theory, Quidditch, and so much more. Students should expect to read at least one of the novels as part of their coursework.
THEMATICS

Mathematics is the alphabet with which God has written the Universe.

- Galileo

The mathematics department prepares students to cope with their futures. The curriculum is designed to give maximum competency for post high school academia. Graduation requirement: 3 credits

Offering different levels of mathematics, we have designed a curriculum that will fit the needs of any student. Although the titles tend to be typical (Algebra I - Geometry - Algebra II) the courses will integrate other topics of math such as logical reasoning, measurement, probability, statistics, and real life applications.

Incoming freshmen will be given an entrance exam prior to selecting their courses. This test, along with their current teacher recommendation, will determine the level of mathematics recommended by our department. Some students, who show exceptional ability and who have had an eighth grade algebra course, may be retested for appropriate placement in the sequence.

Please note: There is mobility among College Prep, Honors, Standard Level IB, and Higher Level IB based on teacher and/or department recommendations.

Yearlong Electives: Probability and Statistics -H
Term Electives: SAT Math Prep

ALGEBRA I PLUS - COLLEGE PREP
#3000 Freshman 1.00 credit Yearlong

The students in this course will meet daily and will begin with a pre-algebra refresher course. Students will spend first term studying topics such as fractions and decimals, operations with positive and negative integers, percents, ratios and proportions, and strategies for solving word problems. Second and third terms will be spent as a CP Algebra 1 course. Topics such as simplifying algebraic expressions, substitution, solving equations, using formulas, graphing on the coordinate plane, solving systems of equations and inequalities, and factoring will be explored. Students then apply these concepts to real life situations and integrate concepts from other branches of mathematics.

ALGEBRA I - COLLEGE PREP
#3003 Freshman 1.00 credit Yearlong

This course is the foundation for high school mathematics courses. It introduces all of the important concepts in algebra. Topics such as simplifying algebraic expressions, substitution, solving equations and inequalities, using formulas, graphing on the coordinate plane, factoring, and data analysis are explored. Students then apply these concepts to real life situations and integrate concepts from other branches of mathematics.
ALGEBRA I – HONORS  
#3004  
Freshman  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong  

This course is designed for students who have been introduced to a variety of algebraic concepts and have met with success when applying them informally. These academically mature students will now be trained in a more rigorous approach to the subject. Topics such as simplifying algebraic expressions, substitution, solving equations, using formulas, graphing on the coordinate plane, and factoring are covered comprehensively. Students will be challenged to develop levels of competence necessary for success in more advanced areas of mathematics.

ALGEBRA I – MPS PRE-IB  
#3006  
Freshman  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong  

This course is designed for students who already have a good understanding of basic algebraic concepts. In preparation for the IB exam, the entire text - along with supplemental information - is covered. Students will be challenged with an accelerated pace as well as with a penetrating investigation of the curriculum. Topics such as simplifying algebraic expressions, substitution, solving equations, using formulas, graphing on the coordinate plane, and factoring are reviewed. In addition, sophisticated algebraic expressions and higher order equations are studied. Students then apply these concepts to real life situations and integrate concepts from other branches of mathematics.

GEOMETRY – COLLEGE PREP  
#3007  
Sophomore  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong  

Prerequisite: Algebra I or department recommendation  

This course introduces students to the fundamental properties of geometry. Topics such as angles, lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and probability and statistics are explored. Algebraic concepts and formal proofs are used to examine geometric properties and theorems. Students are able to apply basic geometric principles to real life situations.

GEOMETRY – HONORS  
#3008  
Freshman, Sophomore  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong  

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors/Pre IB (grade B or above) or department recommendation  

This course introduces students to the fundamental properties of geometry. Topics such as angles, lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles and probability and statistics are explored in depth. Algebraic concepts and formal proofs are used to examine geometric properties and theorems. Numerous types of real life problems will be explored as well. Introduction of topics from algebra II is included along with the use of technology.

GEOMETRY – MPS PRE-IB  
#3010  
Freshman, Sophomore  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong  

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors/Pre IB (grade B or above) or department recommendation  

This course introduces students to the fundamental properties of geometry. Topics such as angles, lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles and probability and statistics are explored in depth. Algebraic concepts and formal proofs are used to examine geometric properties and theorems. In preparation for the IB curriculum, students will do practice problems from past IB tests. Such enrichment will enable students to better recognize, early in their academic careers, the vital role mathematics plays in the overall process of discovery. Introduction of topics from algebra II is included along with the use of technology.

ALGEBRA II – COLLEGE PREP  
#3013  
Junior  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong  

Prerequisite: Geometry  

This course begins by reviewing the important concepts of algebra I. The students will explore the properties and the graphs of special functions such as absolute value, quadratic, and polynomial functions. Other topics include rational and radical expressions, complex numbers, data analysis and matrices. Incorporated throughout the year will be SAT strategies. Students will make frequent use of the graphing calculator. A TI-83 OR TI-84 IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED.
ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY – HONORS
#3014 Sophomore, Junior 1.00 credit Yearlong
Prerequisite: Geometry Honors/Pre IB (grade B or above) and Algebra I Honors/Pre IB (grade B or above) or department recommendation

This course completes and combines the algebraic techniques and the trigonometry needed to prepare students for the study of calculus. Functions will be studied throughout the course, both their properties and their graphs. Linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions will be covered in depth. Topics from trigonometry are investigated such as the basic trigonometric functions, radian measure, trigonometric identities, solving trig equations, and solving right and oblique triangles. Students will make frequent use of the graphing calculator for course work. A TI-83 or TI-84 IS REQUIRED.

ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY – IB
#3016 Sophomore, Junior 1.00 credit Yearlong
Prerequisite: Geometry Honors/Pre IB (grade B or above) and Algebra I Honors/Pre IB (grade B or above) or department recommendation

This course completes and combines the algebraic techniques and the trigonometry needed to prepare students for the study of calculus. Functions will be studied throughout the course, both their properties and their graphs. Linear, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions will be covered in depth. Topics from trigonometry are investigated such as the basic trigonometric functions, radian measure, trigonometric identities, solving trig equations, and solving right and oblique triangles. Students will make frequent use of the graphing calculator for course work. This is the first of a two year sequence to prepare the students for the standard level IB exams in math. A TI-83 or TI-84 IS REQUIRED.

MATH STUDIES (WITH TRIGONOMETRY) – COLLEGE PREP
#3027 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
Prerequisite: Algebra II (grade C or above) or department recommendation

This course explores a variety of math topics. The trigonometry unit will explore definitions of the trig functions as circular functions, the identities associated between the trig functions, how to solve trigonometric functions including the use of identities in solving these equations, the behavior of these functions through their graphs, and lastly, the definitions of the trig functions as they pertain to right and oblique triangles. The probability and statistics unit will work with data: collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions. Specifically, students will look at exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns and statistical inference. The students will also be introduced to the basic probability rules and explore the likelihood of events occurring. The practical life applications unit will include topics such as credit, mortgages, investment, taxes, banking, etc.

TRIGONOMETRY/PRE-CALCULUS – COLLEGE PREP
#3025 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
Prerequisite: Algebra II (grade C or above) or department recommendation

The main objective of this course is to learn the prerequisite topics important to the study of calculus. The trigonometry unit will explore definitions of the trig functions as circular functions, the identities associated between the trig functions, how to solve trigonometric functions including the use of identities in solving these equations, the behavior of these functions through their graphs, and lastly, the definitions of the trig functions as they pertain to right and oblique triangles. The pre-calculus portion will undertake an in-depth study of several common functions and their graphs. Two important functions that we will focus on are the exponential function and the logarithmic function. A brief study of the conic sections will conclude this unit with an emphasis on the standard form of the equation of each along with the general second degree equation. IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT STUDENTS HAVE A GRAPHICS DISPLAY CALCULATOR.
PRE-CALCULUS – HONORS
#3038 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Algebra II/Trig Honors

This course prepares students for an honors level calculus class. After a review of trigonometry, this course will focus on a variety of different topics. The topics include but are not limited to the following: systems of nonlinear equations, partial fractions, linear programming, sequences, series, probability, conic sections, vectors and limits. Students will make frequent use of the graphing calculator. A TI-83 or TI-84 IS RECOMMENDED.

IB MATH STUDIES STANDARD LEVEL
#3028 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Algebra II/Trigonometry IB/Honors

This class (along with Algebra II/Trigonometry IB) prepares the student for the IB Mathematics Studies exam. Topics include sequences and series, sets, logic, probability and statistics, introductory differential calculus, and financial mathematics. Students will complete a yearlong project which will be submitted to IBO. A TI-83 or TI-84 IS REQUIRED.

CALCULUS I - HONORS
#3030 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Algebra II/Trig Honors/IB (grade B or above) and department recommendation

This course is an introduction to differential and integral calculus. Topics will include limits, derivatives of algebraic and transcendental functions, and methods of integration. The outline of a college calculus I course will be followed with topics from a calculus II course also being introduced. The students will learn when and how to apply derivatives and integrals. The use of the TI-83 or TI-84 calculator will be incorporated into the course.

IB MATHEMATICS STANDARD LEVEL (with CALCULUS)
#3032 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Algebra II/Trig IB (grade B or above) and department recommendation

This rigorous course (along with Algebra II/Trigonometry IB) prepares the student for the IB Mathematics Standard Level exam, which encompasses their four years of study. An investigation of the topics covered in this course includes sequences and series, vectors, probability and statistics, and differential and integral calculus. Students will complete a yearlong project which will be submitted to IBO. A TI-83 or TI-84 IS REQUIRED.

IB MATHEMATICS HIGHER LEVEL
#3036 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: IB Mathematics Standard Level and department recommendation.

The nature of this course is such that it focuses on developing important mathematical concepts in a comprehensible, coherent and rigorous way. It prepares students to tackle the IB Mathematics Higher Level examination. Topics such as series and differential equations are covered to include concepts such as: integration by parts, the formal definition of convergence, improper integrals, power series, Taylor and Maclaurin series, l'Hopital's Rule, slope fields, Euler's method, and homogeneous differential equations. Students will complete a yearlong project which will be submitted to IBO. A TI-83 or TI-84 IS REQUIRED. Maple 13 graphing software will also be used.
**MATHEMATICS ELECTIVES**

*These courses do not count toward the mathematics graduation requirement.*

**PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS- HONORS**

#3040  
Junior, Senior  
1.00 credit  
Yearlong

Prerequisite  Algebra II with department recommendation:

Our society is completely overtaken by data. Today, collecting and analyzing data and drawing accurate conclusions from it are indispensable parts of many human endeavors such as social sciences, laboratory sciences, clinical studies, business, marketing and product quality control. In this course, students will work with data: collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions. Specifically, students will look at exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns and statistical inference. The students will also be introduced to the basic probability rules and explore the likelihood of events occurring. This course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus based college statistics course. **A TI-83 or TI-84 IS REQUIRED.**

**SAT MATH PREPARATION - COLLEGE PREP**

#3103  
Junior, Senior  
.33 credit  
Term course

This course is designed to prepare students to take the SAT and other standardized tests for college entrance. It will familiarize students with good test taking strategies and will review math concepts contained in the SAT test. The course will allow students to understand how the test is scored and how colleges use that score to determine enrollment. Students will have the opportunity to do practice questions under formal and informal testing situations.
PERFORMING ARTS

Art establishes the basic human truths, which must serve as the touchstone of our judgment.

- John F. Kennedy

The arts provide one of the essential and basic languages that extend the range of communication. Through this language we express our fears, dreams, curiosities, hopes, and discoveries. Such expression is a central force in human existence. Literacy in the arts for all students centers on the idea that each of the arts functions as a tool for creative expression as well as for the development of higher order thinking and problem solving skills.

All students are required to successfully complete one (1.0) credit of creative arts. However, many colleges and universities require two (2.0) credits for admission. All sophomores must take either the Music Appreciation or the Art Appreciation class to fulfill one-third of their arts requirement. Students may indicate a preference for one course or the other, but final assignment to either course will be based on availability and individual schedules. Students with an interest in both areas may take both art and music appreciation, thereby fulfilling an additional arts requirement.

Students who plan to elect the arts as a college major or career choice are requested to identify themselves as ARTS MAJORS to their guidance counselors for scheduling purposes. The students should use the information below to guide them in course selections for their appropriate major.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PERFORMING ARTS MAJORS:

Dance  
All majors are expected to audition for Dance Company each year and participate fully in performances and spring musicals.  
(Majors need to discuss course selections with Mrs. Dombrowski or Miss Grisé.)

Music  
Voice majors: must elect concert choir or show choir for four years  
Instrumentalists: must be a member of the orchestra for four years  
Recommended courses: Music Theory (honors), Music History (honors)  
All voice majors are expected to audition for all musical productions.  
(Majors need to discuss course selections with Mr. Martone or Mr. Miele.)

Theatre  
All Theatre majors are expected to audition for all musical productions and the Winter play.  
(Majors need to discuss course selections with Mr. Martone.)

DANCE  
Dance classes fulfill the PE requirement for grades 10-12.

SOCIAL DANCE - COLLEGE PREP  
#6401 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course will explore the evolution of social dance and its impact on American culture. Students in this course will be introduced to important movements in social dance from 1900 to the present day. Some movements that are explored throughout the term include: Waltz, Swing, Salsa, and Hip-Hop. This course is intended for the beginning dance student and requires no previous dance training.

BEGINNING TAP - COLLEGE PREP  
#6403 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This dance course is designed to introduce the student to basic tap technique and terminology. Students in this class will be introduced to basic rhythm structure, articulation, and timing. This course is intended for the beginning dance student and requires no previous dance training.
TAP II - COLLEGE PREP
#6405 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Beginning Tap or instructor’s permission

This course is a continuation of the Beginning Tap course and will introduce the students to intermediate level technique, including rhythm structure, articulation, timing and additional styles.

JAZZ - COLLEGE PREP
#6407 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Previous dance training

This course will provide the opportunity to learn more about jazz technique, terminology, and style. Students will also explore the area of choreography and create their own pieces.

DANCE STYLES - COLLEGE PREP
#6409 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed to introduce the beginning student to several dance genres. Upon completion of the course, students will have a basic knowledge of tap, jazz and ballet fundamentals. No previous dance training is required to participate.

MPS DANCE COMPANY - COLLEGE PREP or HONORS/IB
#6420 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Audition required

Dance Company is a course designed to strengthen and improve the work of the already trained dancer through in-class work and performance opportunities. The main emphasis of the course is to improve the technical performance of the dancers in several different dance genres. Other aspects such as choreography, terminology, and dance history will also be incorporated. As a member you will have the opportunity to travel to perform next March at Walt Disney World in Florida.

Acceptance into the Dance Company is by audition. Placement of students into the divisions of the Mercyhurst Dance Program is determined by the instructors based on the students’ abilities. All interested students should sign up for course #6420. They will be placed in the appropriate course after all auditions are completed. The dance company divisions include:

- Dance Company (Master)
- Dance Company (Master) – Honors/IB
- Dance Company (Advanced)
- Dance Company (Advanced) – Honors/IB
- Dance Company (Intermediate/Advanced)
- Dance Company (Intermediate/Advanced) – Honors/IB
- Dance Company (Apprentice/Intermediate)
- Dance Company (Apprentice/Intermediate) – Honors/IB
MUSIC

MUSIC APPRECIATION - COLLEGE PREP
#6601 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course, designed for the casual listener, is a study of music from the Middle Ages to the twentieth century. Students will also learn to recognize the basic elements of music through listening and the study of the fundamentals of music.

Note: All sophomores must take either the Music Appreciation or the Art Appreciation class to fulfill one-third of their arts requirement. Students may indicate a preference for one course or the other, but final assignment to either course will be based on availability and individual schedules. Students with an interest in both areas may take both art and music appreciation, thereby fulfilling an additional arts requirement.

MUSIC HISTORY – HONORS/IB
#6604 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

A detailed study of the history of music from its origins to the twentieth century, this course is designed for those students who have an interest in pursuing a major in music. This course is recommended for those students fulfilling the IB music curriculum.

MUSIC THEORY – HONORS/IB
#6606 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed for both the student with a strong interest in music and the college bound music major and covers such fundamentals of music as scales, intervals, and how to write chords. The class is beneficial to any student who sings or plays an instrument and wants to know the basics of how to understand or write his/her own music. A student does not need any previous musical experience to take this class.

MUSIC FOR THE MUSIC MAJOR - COLLEGE PREP
#6615 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Prerequisite: Approval of the instructor.

This course is designed for the junior or senior student who is serious about pursuing music as a major at the collegiate level. The goal by term’s end is to give the student an introduction to various concepts they will be studying in college. Beginning theory and ear training, music history, and conducting will be among the skills studied.

MUSICAL PRODUCTION - COLLEGE PREP
#6607 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Audition required

Musical production is a one-term course which will produce the fall musical (last year the class presented a production of Rodgers+Hammerstein’s Cinderella). The students will learn blocking, vocals, and some movement. The class will also be expected to rehearse after school and perform in the fall.

BEGINNING PIANO - COLLEGE PREP
#6609 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This class is designed for the beginner only who has always had an interest in playing the piano or had a few lessons early on but never pursued playing. The class is set up for individual one-on-one instruction; therefore, there are no public performances required in this class. The student is graded on his/her personal performance progress. Access to a piano at home is not a requirement.

Materials: You will need to purchase the Glover Adult Piano Book
ADVANCED PIANO - COLLEGE PREP
#6611 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Beginning Piano or previous piano training

This piano class is designed for the advanced pianist or a student who has completed the Beginning Piano class and wishes to continue the study of the piano. The objectives that will be achieved include correct posture and finger position technique. This class also provides individual one-on-one instruction. Access to a piano at home is not a requirement.

Materials: personal or assigned piano book

BEGINNING GUITAR - COLLEGE PREP
#6613 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This introductory course is for the first-time player who would like to learn the basics of acoustic guitar. Students will learn to read all of the notes on the guitar, basic guitar chords, basic strum and pick patterns, guitar string maintenance as well as simple songs for beginners.

Materials: You will need access to your own Acoustic Guitar (6 string) & strap. An assigned guitar book will be provided.

GENERAL CHORUS - COLLEGE PREP
#6639 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Do you have an interest in singing but would never want to stand up in front of anyone and actually sing? Have you ever thought about being with a group of other students who feel exactly as you do? General Chorus is a class where such a thing happens. You would not only spend part of your school day singing, you would also learn some of the vocal techniques that might just take you farther along in singing than you ever thought you could go. This group would not be part of the mainstream choir programs at the school, but this class might just be the springboard you’ve needed to get you there. Come sing!

CONCERT CHOIR - COLLEGE PREP or HONORS/IB
#6631-College Prep #6632-Honors-IB Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This is a course designed for any student with the desire to sing. The student will work on music in preparation for performances at MPS, the all-school liturgies and in the community. The student will learn correct techniques for posture, breathing, diction, tone production, and blend as well as how to read music. The music performed will encompass a variety of musical styles from the Renaissance to the 21st century. As a member you will have the opportunity to travel to perform next March at Walt Disney World in Florida.

Prerequisite to participate in Concert Choir at the HONORS/IB level: The student must plan to be present for the after school IB sessions or scheduled IB classes in music. The honors students meet once a week after school to study the IB curriculum. The course content of the Music IB sessions alternates between the History of Music & Music Theory.

SHOW CHOIR - COLLEGE PREP or HONORS
#6637-College Prep #6638-Honors Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Dance & vocal audition required

This course is designed to teach the student to combine the art of dance with singing. The student will be taught the basics of vocal technique, i.e., pronunciation, breathing, tone production, and memorization. Each student will also acquire independence in dance, individually being responsible for knowing his/her movement in relationship to others. This course also fulfills the physical education requirement for the current year for students in grades 10-12. As a member you will be required to commit to paying for and traveling with the group to perform next March at Walt Disney World in Florida.

Prerequisite to participate in Show Choir at the Honors/IB level: The student must plan to be present for after school IB sessions or scheduled IB classes in music. The honors students meet once a week after school to study the IB curriculum. The course content of the Music IB sessions alternates between the History of Music & Music Theory.

Size limit: 14 students
ORCHESTRA - COLLEGE PREP or HONORS/IB

Prerequisite: Incoming guitar, piano & percussion students need to audition. They need to contact Mr. Miele at mmiele@mpslakers.com.

This ensemble is comprised of competent instrumentalists who perform for liturgies, the school musicals and the Christmas and spring concerts. The objective of this course is to instill the abilities of blend, dynamics, balance, expression, and taking of directions in an ensemble setting. This course is for the student who owns or will rent an instrument and is active in playing that instrument. Some instruments may be borrowed from the music department if we have such on hand. The instruments that can be part of the orchestra are all of the woodwinds, brass, strings and percussion instruments including such “non-orchestra” instruments like the Electric Bass. The class is designed as an outlet for any students who play instruments here at MPS.

Prerequisite to participate in Orchestra I Honors/IB: The student must plan to be present for the after school IB sessions or scheduled IB classes in music. The honors students meet once a week after school to study the IB curriculum. The course content of the Music IB sessions alternate between the History of Music & Music Theory.

Size limit: the number of percussion, piano & guitar students.

JAZZ BAND - COLLEGE PREP

Prerequisite: Guitar, keyboard & percussion students need to audition. They need to contact Mr. Miele at mmiele@mpslakers.com.

Students will learn the basics of performing jazz music with an emphasis on jazz style and improvisation. Any wind, percussion, keyboard, or guitar player is eligible to take this class. Due to the nature of the music, however, special preference will be given to brass and saxophone players.

Size limit: the number of percussion, keyboard & guitar students

THEATRE/DRAMA

AMERICAN MUSICAL THEATRE - COLLEGE PREP

This course studies the origins and development of a uniquely American art form, the Broadway musical. Students will study the history of this art form from Vaudeville to modern day musical. Up to ten different American musicals will be viewed and dissected for style, script, musical components, plot, characters, etc.

TECHNICAL THEATRE PRODUCTION - COLLEGE PREP

Prerequisite: Students will gain admittance through interview with Mr. Martone

This class will be the production crew for our theatre productions. This course may be taken as either a term or yearlong elective. Content includes set design; building materials; tools; set painting; lighting concept, design and implementation; learning our light system; audio design; and use of our audio board. The student will be required to assist with our public performances outside of the school day.

MUSICAL PRODUCTION - COLLEGE PREP

Prerequisite: Audition required

Musical production is a one-term course which will produce the fall musical (last year the class presented a production of Rodgers+Hammerstein's Cinderella). The students will learn blocking, vocals, and some movement. The class will also be expected to rehearse after school and perform in the fall.
The goal of the physical education and health department is to empower students to make choices that lead to an active and healthy lifestyle. P.E. classes promote physical education development and teamwork through exercise and a variety of sports, while the health program provides knowledge of the body that allows discussion of issues that may concern students now or in the future. Students also study techniques for prevention and care of common disorders as part of a holistic approach to physical, mental, and social health. All freshmen are required to take Principles of Fitness and Wellness. The PA state requirement for physical education is fulfilled by cross-training, personal fitness, and all dance classes for students in grades 10-12. Descriptions for dance classes can be found on pages 14-15.

**PRINCIPLES OF FITNESS & WELLNESS - COLLEGE PREP**

#7001  Freshman (required)  .33 credit  Term Course

This course is designed for students to learn the fundamentals of lifetime fitness and wellness through classroom and hands-on experience. Each class period is divided into three sessions. Session one is devoted to a warm-up period that includes stretching and flexibility. Session two will address cardiovascular fitness and strength training. Cardiovascular activities will include running, jump rope, biking, and ellipticals. Strength training will be done through the use of both selectorized machines and free weights. Proper lifting technique and program design will be stressed. Session three is devoted to a cool down and discussion period. Discussion topics would include basic exercise science principles, nutrition, weight management, disease prevention, and topics related to lifetime wellness.

**CROSS-TRAINING - COLLEGE PREP**

#7003  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Prerequisite: Completion of Principles of Fitness & Wellness

The program aims to develop positive attitudes toward fitness and physical activity by providing students with the basics and fundamentals needed to play and enjoy a variety of team sports, individual sports, and activities. Emphasis will also be placed on the basic components of physical fitness and weight training, assessing the students' personal levels of fitness, and methods of incorporating ways to build more physical activity into their daily routine.

**PE ELECTIVES**

The following courses do not fulfill the PA state requirement for physical education.

**ADVANCED PE GAMES - COLLEGE PREP**

#7101  Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

This class is an elective course offering designed to introduce the student to advanced skills, techniques, and strategies of individual and team games. The nature of this course will be competitive games including flag football, volleyball, basketball, badminton, pickleball, and others. Along with practicing and playing various games there will be skill testing to evaluate the development of these advanced skills, techniques, and strategies. This course DOES NOT fulfill the PA state requirement for physical education.

**HEALTH**

**HEALTH I – INTERPERSONAL HEALTH - COLLEGE PREP**

#7201  Freshman (required)  .33 credit  Term course

A major transition is occurring in your life. Once children, you are about to become young adults capable of making all of your own health decisions. This course will provide some of the knowledge base and skills that will allow you to do this. It begins with awareness of Health as physical, mental, and social wellness. Topics to be covered include structure and function of organs such as skin and eyes, personal hygiene, stress management, and issues concerning sexual activity. As a result, students should develop healthful habits and enjoy positive relationships with peers, parents, and teachers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade Levels</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#7203</td>
<td>HEALTH II – BODY SYSTEMS - COLLEGE PREP</td>
<td>Sophomore (required)</td>
<td>.33 credit</td>
<td>Term course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The focus of Health II is the structure, function, disorders, and care of various body systems. Building on the holistic approach to health established in Health I, its goal is for each student to develop the knowledge base in human anatomy and physiology needed to understand health issues and make positive choices to maintain or improve wellness.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade Levels</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#7205</td>
<td>HEALTH III – WELLNESS ISSUES - COLLEGE PREP</td>
<td>Junior, Senior (required)</td>
<td>.33 credit</td>
<td>Term course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>This course promotes the concepts of wellness with information pertinent to physical, emotional, and social growth. Students will learn how to set and achieve goals for healthy living by making responsible decisions. Topics include the skeletal and muscular systems, human sexuality and reproduction, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV/AIDS.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The science program at MPS is designed to aid the student in learning scientific principles and problem solving in a continually changing world. The courses offered allow students to develop both practical and theoretical knowledge in the major disciplines. Three years (3 credits) of science are needed for graduation and four are highly recommended. All students must take Foundations of Scientific Inquiry and Biology, and a minimum of one year in a physical science is recommended. Teacher approval is required for enrollment in all honor level courses.

Please note: There is mobility among College Prep, Honors, and IB Levels based on teacher and/or department recommendations.


Term Electives: Astronomy; Environmental Science; Intro to Geology; Hydrologic Systems; Intro to Modern Engineering: The Design Process; Intro to Modern Engineering: Engineering Disciplines; Intro to Modern Engineering: Capstone Design; Atom and Eve: An Interdisciplinary Look at the World in Which We Live

FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY – COLLEGE PREP

#4021 Freshman, Sophomore 1.00 credit Yearlong

In this increasingly connected global community, it is important for our young people to have a solid foundation that allows them to enter any scientific or technological field. This course provides these skills. It is designed to provide students with a background in the physical science disciplines of chemistry and physics. Course material will strengthen reading and study skills in the sciences. Attention will be given to developing technical writing skills and incorporating math skills in the science area. Laboratory techniques will be introduced and lab skills will be expanded. Technology will be utilized both in classroom and lab activities.

Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts) is a prerequisite for all upper level science classes.
FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENTIFIC INQUIRY – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#4022  Freshman, Sophomore  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite:  A strong background in mathematics

The study of higher level science requires a strong foundation in the fundamentals of physics and chemistry provided by this course. Science Concepts Honors is an intensive course that reinforces the importance of topics like the SI system and basic mathematics from a scientist’s perspective. Students will explore the concept of energy in great depth and use that knowledge to explore atoms, compounds and the periodic table in a new light. Throughout the class analytical and critical thinking skills in the sciences will be honed. Special attention will be paid to mastering laboratory techniques, developing technical writing skills, and incorporating math skills in the science area. Technology will be utilized both in classroom and lab activities. This class will pave the way for success in the higher HONORS/IB science courses.

Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts) is a prerequisite for all upper level science classes.

CHEMISTRY – COLLEGE PREP
#4003  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite:  Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts)

Since atoms make up all matter, living and nonliving, the field of chemistry is the basis of all science. In our expanding global environment, students need to understand how materials respond and react to other materials around them. This course begins the study of chemistry to prepare the student for possible future study in medical fields, science fields, or engineering. It encompasses in-depth studies of matter, atomic theory, nuclear chemistry, periodicity, bonding, chemical compounds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, solutions, and organic chemistry. Students will expand laboratory techniques gaining experience using spectrophotometers, HyperChem, and Vernier equipment, as well as develop skills in the interpretation, analysis, and application of collected data to strengthen their technical writing and math skills.

CHEMISTRY I – HONORS/IB
#4004  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite:  Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts) (teacher recommendation) and a strong background in mathematics.

Since all materials are comprised of atoms, the field of chemistry is the basis of all science. This course follows the study of chemistry as outlined by the International Baccalaureate program to prepare the student for possible future study in medical, technological, physical or engineering sciences. It encompasses in-depth studies of matter, atomic theory, nuclear chemistry, periodicity, bonding, chemical compounds, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, solutions, acids and bases, and organic chemistry. Students will expand laboratory techniques and gain experience using spectrophotometers, HyperChem, and Vernier equipment. They will develop skills in the interpretation, analysis and application of collected data to strengthen their technical writing and math skills.

CHEMISTRY II – HONORS/IB STANDARD or HIGHER LEVEL
#4006  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisites:  Chemistry I - HONORS/IB and Biology I - HONORS/IB – previously or concurrently (teacher recommendation)

Students who are continuing their academic studies in a science field, particularly in health professions, will find that one of their first college courses will be chemistry. In preparation for this and for a broader awareness of the impact atoms and compounds have on our global environment, this course will extend material covered in Chemistry I HONORS/IB following the International Baccalaureate syllabus. Areas of study will include stoichiometry, atomic theory, periodicity, bonding, states of matter, energetics, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, oxidation and reduction, organic chemistry, human biochemistry, and food chemistry. Emphasis will also be placed on further development of experimental techniques as chemical principles are applied in laboratory investigations to enhance and strengthen technical writing, data interpretation, and math applications. Students will complete an interdisciplinary lab activity with the Biology II students as well as an individual lab project on a topic of the student’s choice with teacher approval. All students will take the IB exam upon completion of the course.
BIOLOGY – COLLEGE PREP  
#4007  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong  

Prerequisite: Chemistry  

We are the caretakers of this living planet. Consequently, this course will explore key biological concepts within an ecological systems based context. Students will be introduced to the basic requirements for and by life – with the cell as that basic unit. The life functions and organization of microorganisms, plants, and animals will be compared and contrasted. The dissection of a vertebrate will be a component of this course. This not only gives students a perspective on their own anatomy, but also provides them a laboratory experience typical of courses at the college level. Other lab activities include the use of digital microscopes, Vernier probes and software and electrophoresis equipment. Taxonomy, genetics and biotechnology will be presented and coupled with current evolutionary theory. All of these concepts will be framed in an environmental perspective with an emphasis on the connections between functions and organisms.

BIOLOGY I – HONORS/IB  
#4008  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong  

Prerequisite: Chemistry I – HONORS/IB (teacher recommendation)  

The curriculum is based on the International Baccalaureate biology program; therefore, students must have demonstrated proficiency in prior science courses. Humans are bound to this earth and possess an intense and dynamic relationship with all creatures. Students will study those living systems from the very simple to the very complex - from the molecular level to that of the biosphere. Students are introduced to the concepts of biochemistry, cell biology, energetics, Mendelian and population genetics, evolutionary theory, and taxonomy. A comparative study of the structure and function of microorganisms, plants, and animals will follow. Other lab activities include the use of digital microscopes, Vernier probes and software and electrophoresis equipment. Students will also dissect a selected vertebrate specimen to gain an appreciation of their own mammalian systems.

BIOLOGY II – HONORS/IB STANDARD or HIGHER LEVEL  
#4010  Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong  

Prerequisites: Biology I - HONORS/IB and Chemistry I - HONORS/IB (teacher recommendation)  

This course completes the curriculum outlined by the International Baccalaureate higher level biology program. The earth’s ecology and the impact of humans on this planet require a lengthy investigation. Comparative anatomy, physiology and behavior will also be explored in depth. Historical developments and current research in these areas will give the students a perspective on the manner in which science pursues the answers to life’s questions. Twenty-five percent of class time will be used for pertinent laboratory investigations. Students will complete an interdisciplinary lab activity with the Chemistry II students as well as an individual lab project on a topic of the student’s choice with teacher approval. All students will take the IB exam upon completion of the course.

PHYSICS – COLLEGE PREP  
#4011  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong  

Prerequisites: Chemistry and Biology - previously or concurrently  

A solid foundation in Physics is essential in today’s society to understand increasing advances and changes on our planet both technologically and environmentally. In this course students will study and apply the principles of classical and modern physics. Topics include motion, mechanics, heat, electricity, magnetism, and waves with continual references to how they impact our students' lives. Class activities will include laboratory investigations along with problem solving techniques focusing on the concepts learned.

Students need signatures of approval from their current science teacher AND current math teacher.

PHYSICS – HONORS  
#4012  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong  

Prerequisites: Chemistry I HONORS/IB and Biology I HONORS/IB – previously or concurrently (teacher recommendation)  

For students interested in a scientific career in the health, engineering, or physical science fields, a solid background in physics is vital. In order to accomplish this, the physics curriculum will include topics such as motion, mechanics, thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, waves, and particle physics. These concepts are explored in depth with emphasis on how they relate to current societal issues and future careers in science. Problem solving and laboratory investigations will entail higher level math skills including trigonometry. Students will be required to do independent projects.

Students need signatures of approval from both their current science teacher AND current math teacher.
HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY – HONORS
#4024  Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Biology – previously or concurrently (teacher recommendation)

Occupations in health care are among those with the fastest rate of growth. Students who enjoy biology and chemistry, medical issues, and working with people will find that this course is preparation for a variety of career paths from physician or pharmacist to any of the allied health professions. The class will survey the structure and function of the human body in lecture and laboratory investigations that include dissection of vertebrate organs and human cadaver anatomy. Because of the vocabulary and pace of topics, this is considered a rigorous course and is recommended for seniors who are seriously considering pursuit of further study of a health science at the college level.

SPORTS, EXERCISE and HEALTH SCIENCE I – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#4026  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts) CP or MPS PreIB/H and Algebra I CP or MPS Pre IB/H, both with minimum grade of B

Because this is the first year of a two year course, juniors will be given preference. However, if space allows, seniors will be admitted.

This is the first year of a new two year IB Standard Level course for juniors who wish to explore the scientific aspects of human physical activity and the relationship to health and sport. The arena of Sports Science has exploded in the last 20 years, and many careers can spring from this academic avenue of study. The fields of Athletic Training, Strength and Conditioning, Nutrition, Sports Psychology, Coaching, Physical Therapy, and Sports Medicine require a solid scientific understanding of how physical activity, in its many forms, affects our bodies and overall performance. Within this course we will study Anatomy and Physiology, Biomechanics, Skill Acquisition, Nutrition and Energy Systems, Measurement and Evaluation of Human Performance and Program Design, all with a view to how human performance in sport, exercise, and health are affected. Students will cover a range of core and option topics and carry out practical (experimental) investigations in both laboratory and field settings. This will provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and understanding necessary to apply scientific principles and critically analyze human performance. Where relevant, the course will address issues of internationalism and ethics by considering sport, exercise and health relative to the individual and in a global context. Students who study the full two year course will be in a position to sit for the IB exam in their senior year.

SPORTS, EXERCISE and HEALTH SCIENCE II – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#4028  Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Sports, Exercise and Health Science I – IB Standard Level/Honors

This course completes the curriculum outlined in the IB Sports, Exercise, & Health Science (SEHS) standard level IB course. The course analyzes the intersection of human biology and sports/exercise performance by investigating the effect of physical activity on the body, patterns of movement, metabolism, psychology and nutrition. Various training methods are considered and analyzed for their sports-specific goals. Students will complete laboratory studies including one interdisciplinary investigation in cooperation with students in IB chemistry and biology and will be eligible to take the IB exam upon completion of this course.

EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE – COLLEGE PREP
#4101  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts)

This elective class may be taken as a yearlong course or by terms. One term will be deal with Hydrologic Systems, one term will focus on Astronomy and one term will emphasize Environmental Science. For more details on each class, please see the course description below the individual course listings. Students who sign up for this yearlong course should not also request one of the term components as an elective.
Many analysts have said that the wars of the future will be fought, not over land or oil, but over water. What's the big deal? Water has properties that make it unique and invaluable. This course will investigate the immense role of water in our lives. We will discover some of those interesting properties of water (why is it odd that ice floats and what would happen if it didn't?). Water is also the largest agent of change to the surface of the Earth and we will explore many of those processes. Special attention will be paid to the Great Lakes system and our local watershed in relating the physical and chemical properties of water systems to the organisms they support. We will also address the global social, economic and political roles of water in a rapidly growing population.

For years people have looked to the heavens in wonder. This class will introduce and explain close to home astronomical topics like Earth and Moon’s place in the solar system and how that affects us all the way through to topics like galaxy formation. The class will include discussions on telescopes, the Solar System, stellar evolution, galaxy structure and exotic phenomena like black holes and dark matter.

This course will cover ecological principles and how humans have impacted them. Topics for investigation will include ecosystem analysis, population studies and biomes. This class will put all of the knowledge gained in prior science courses together to look at the big picture. Emphasis on problems in the environment will include land use, pollution and energy conservation.

From the very first pages of Genesis, we see that God has charged humanity with being stewards of creation. Drawing deeply from both the theological and scientific disciplines we will explore exactly what that means. What is our role in creation? How do we live in our world in a way that is as sustainable as it is holy? This course will explore the ways we can answer those questions and many others as we look how best to embrace and honor God’s call.

This elective class may be taken as a yearlong course or by terms. One term will focus on The Design Process, one term will deal with Engineering Disciplines, and one term involves students in Capstone Design. For more details on each class, please see the course description below the individual course listings. Students who sign up for this yearlong course should not also request one of the term components as an elective.
INTRODUCTION TO MODERN ENGINEERING (BY TERMS) (#4203, #4205, #4207)

INTRO TO MODERN ENGINEERING: THE DESIGN PROCESS – COLLEGE PREP
#4203 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Prerequisite: Foundations of Scientific Inquiry (Science Concepts)

This term course will introduce students to a scientific and methodical approach to solving problems. Utilizing engineering principles over a wide range of challenge-based tasks, students will build fundamental skills applicable to all facets of human involvement within modern society.

INTRO TO MODERN ENGINEERING: ENGINEERING DISCIPLINES – COLLEGE PREP
#4205 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Prerequisite: Intro to Modern Engineering: The Design Process

This term course will continue constructing skills developed in the first term study by providing opportunities to expand knowledge of the major engineering disciplines. Students will research and experience project-based tasks centered on Mechanical, Chemical, Electrical and Civil Engineering. Experienced members of our Erie engineering community will provide in-class lectures as well as on-site visits to several engineering facilities.

INTRO TO MODERN ENGINEERING: CAPSTONE DESIGN – COLLEGE PREP
#4207 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Prerequisite: Intro to Modern Engineering: The Design Process & Engineering Disciplines

This term course will finalize the engineering trifecta by providing the students an opportunity to research and develop their own design project. This term-long project will be centered on improving Mercyhurst Preparatory School in some way. A strong focus of 3D modeling or CAD design will be used to implement and create physical components of this project. A well-documented design journal will highlight all steps taken during the design process. The final design will be presented to a board of faculty members for evaluation.
SOCIAL STUDIES

As residents of a global village our common future depends on understanding each other.

The Social Studies department provides an interdisciplinary approach to the social sciences, emphasizing global education. The major goal of the department is to help our students develop the values, the knowledge, and the skills that they need to become productive, proactive, and concerned citizens of the 21st century. Four years of social studies core curriculum courses are required for graduation. (Seniors who qualify may fulfill the fourth year requirement by taking a social studies course at the college.) Students also are encouraged to take additional electives to broaden their knowledge in the field of social studies.

Please note: There is mobility among the College Prep, Honors, and IB Levels based on teacher and/or department recommendations.


GLOBAL STUDIES – COLLEGE PREP
#2023 Freshman 1.00 credit Yearlong

This course is designed to provide the students with an awareness of and appreciation for the issues that our global community faces in the 21st century and for the cultural diversity that exists in our world today. Students will examine the major social, political and economic questions of the day and study major cultural regions of our global community. Regions of study include the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and China. (Core curriculum)
GLOBAL STUDIES--HONORS/MPS PRE-IB  
#2024  Freshman  1.00 credit  Yearlong

This course is designed to provide the students with an examination of the major social, political and economic challenges that our global community faces today and to provide the students with an awareness of and appreciation for the cultural diversity that exists in our world in the 21st century. Each challenge will focus on causation, mitigation and possible resolution of the issue. Additionally the students will explore major cultural regions of our global community. These regions include the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa and China. Each region will be examined for the historical, social, economic, and political forces that contributed to the unique ways of life that evolved in these cultural realms. (Core curriculum)

GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS--COLLEGE PREP  
#2003  Sophomore  1.00 credit  Yearlong

The purpose of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the fundamental principles of our country’s political and economic systems. Substantial class time will be devoted to the development of the students’ understanding of how our government works, the options available to them as United States citizens to be active participants in the political process, and the effects that economics has on their lives. (Core curriculum)

GOVERNMENT/ECONOMICS--HONORS/MPS PRE-IB  
#2004  Sophomore  1.00 credit  Yearlong

This course is designed to provide the students with an in depth study of the fundamental principles of our country’s political and economic systems. The class will trace the development of democracy from its historical roots to its application in today’s world. The students will receive a broad view of the people and events that have contributed to the formation and smooth operation of government. The class will analyze the capitalist system with emphasis on evaluating its strengths and weaknesses. The goal is to produce students who will be active and informed global citizens. (Core curriculum)

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS--COLLEGE PREP  
#2005  Junior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

The Americas course is designed to act as a survey of the history of the Americas from the Great Awakening through Pre-Great War. Utilizing a thematic approach, the students will examine the major events of each era for their political, social, and historic importance. (Core curriculum)

THE 20th CENTURY: CONFLICT AND INTERVENTION--HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL  
#2020  Junior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

This course is the first part of a two year sequence that prepares students for the standard level history IB exam. Students will examine the topics of conflict and intervention as they shaped 20th century history in different regions of the world. Topics to be studied include the causes and effects of World War I and World War II. There will be particular focus on how authoritarian leaders impacted the events of the 20th Century. Students will also examine how the Cold War impacted Latin America.

HISTORY OF THE AMERICAS--HONORS/IB HIGHER LEVEL  
#2016  Junior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

The Americas IB regional option covers the United States, Canada and Latin America, including the Caribbean. The option extends from the mid-18th century to 1945. Students will study the key political, social, economic, and cultural events and themes that have had an impact on the Americas. Some of these topics include achievements of independence, slavery and its effects, evolution and changes in governments, causes and effects of the great depression, different paths to and effects of industrialization, and foreign policy of the region. Several themes and a wide range of events in more than one country will be studied. (Core curriculum for IB students)
INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY – COLLEGE PREP
#2007 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: All core curriculum requirements must be met.

This survey course will introduce students to the history, science, and theories of psychology. Areas studied include physiology and philosophy of mind; states of consciousness; developmental processes; methods of learning, remembering, and testing; personality theories and therapies; mental and behavioral disorders. Written reports and projects are an integral part of this course as well as research and experiments involving the formation and testing of hypotheses and the analysis and reporting of results.

MODERN AMERICAN HISTORY – COLLEGE PREP
#2009 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: All core curriculum requirements must be met.

This course is a survey of the crucial events that have shaped United States history during the second half of the 20th century and a study of those events which will play a defining role in shaping the destiny of the nation as it moves through the 21st century. Discussion and the application of critical thinking skills will play key roles in the activities designed for this course.

20TH CENTURY WORLD HISTORY – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#2022 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This course will cover the major events, individuals, and issues which shaped the 20th Century. Focus will be on analysis of the military expansion from 1931 to 1941 which led to global war. The origins, ideology, form of government, organization, and impact of single-party states will be a major focus of the course. A detailed study of Hitler’s Nazi Germany and Fidel Castro’s Cuba will allow for comparison and debate. A study of the Cold War from its origins to its significance will be examined in order to promote an international perspective and understanding of world affairs during this era. Students who decide to sit for the IB standard level history exam will complete an individually designed and researched guided coursework project.

WORLD HISTORY – HONORS/IB HIGHER LEVEL
#2018 Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This course will cover the major events, individuals, and issues which shaped the 20th Century. Focus will be on analysis of the military expansion from 1931 to 1941 which led to global war. The origins, ideology, form of government, organization, and impact of single-party states will be a major focus of the course. A detailed study of Hitler’s Nazi Germany and Fidel Castro’s Cuba will allow for comparison and debate. A study of the Cold War from its origins to its significance will be examined in order to promote an international perspective and understanding of world affairs during this era. Students will complete an individually designed and researched guided coursework project.

A deposit on the IB exam fee is required for registration.

ART HISTORY-COLLEGE PREP or HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#6031 College Prep Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
#6032 Honors/IB-SL

Students will view slides and films and receive background information on the important movements and periods throughout art history. The course is designed to familiarize the student with artists and their works in order to foster a greater appreciation of the arts. Core sequence covers Prehistoric to Medieval, Renaissance to Baroque, and Neoclassic through 20th century. This course may be taken for a credit in art or as an elective in history, but does not supplant core social studies curriculum requirements. Students enrolled in the honors course will be assigned extended essays on tests, three additional reading selections, and a paper/oral presentation is required.
THE CIVIL WAR - COLLEGE PREP
#2501 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed as an in-depth study of the War Between the States. The main areas studied will include the effects of the war on the home front, the local involvement of area regiments, the major campaigns of the western and eastern theaters, and an extensive study of the Battle of Gettysburg. The students will also get a first-hand feel for the intricacies of battlefield tactics and leadership when the class reenacts the opening hours of the Battle of Gettysburg using the computer game Gettysburg. Students will be placed in command of various infantry, artillery and cavalry units as they vie for dominance on the battlefield.

ANTHROPOLOGY AND THE HUMAN CAREER - COLLEGE PREP
#2503 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed as an introduction to the field of anthropology - the study of human origins and development and the rise of culture. It will focus on some of the basic questions and trends in archaeology and anthropology including human origins, gatherer/hunter cultures, and origins of agriculture, the rise of the state and the collapse of civilization. Also addressed will be some basic concepts in physical anthropology. The Classic Maya civilization will be used as a case study for how physical anthropology, archaeology and cultural anthropology can be used to gain a better understanding of a culture.

ART HISTORY II: NON-WESTERN ART TRADITIONS - COLLEGE PREP
#6033 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed to expand the students’ awareness of the arts and cultures of the non-Western world. During the term the focus will be on East Asian cultures (China, Japan), India, the Islamic world, Africa and Pre-Columbian America. Among the topics addressed in this class will be issues concerning cultural property, art theft, forgery and other problems relating to the arts of cultures covered in class. Students do not need to have taken Art History prior to this class.

THE RENAISSANCE - COLLEGE PREP
#6035 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This artist didn’t bathe or change his clothes for months at a time, but he created some of the most beautiful images in art. This pope murdered his political rivals to consolidate his power and advance the careers of his illegitimate children. This woman was so brilliant and charming that her death caused the city of Rome to close for a week for her funeral. This poet inspired by the death of his “true love” would pen one of the greatest literary works of all time. What do these people have in common? They lived in one of the most dynamic times of human history…the Renaissance. Experience the heights and the darkest depths of this most fascinating period in time.

SPORTS AND SOCIETY - COLLEGE PREP
#2511 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This term course is designed to provide the students with an in-depth study of the role sports have played in the development of human culture. The class will examine the historical and cultural events and patterns that led to the growth of sports participation and significance. Particular emphasis will be placed on how sports influence culture, on sport as a symbol of nationalism, on the rise and fall of sports icons, and on the significance of the growth of women’s participation. The students also will learn how sports became enmeshed with the entertainment and business worlds. Each of these topics will be examined through the study of the history and development of sports such as football, baseball, basketball, soccer, hockey, and track and field. Finally, the course will look at what value sports bring to a society and where the evolution of sports is going in the future.

WORLD WAR II - COLLEGE PREP
#2513 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course seeks to put the Second World War into the context of world and military history with a special emphasis on U.S. participation and the campaigns of the war. Topics covered include the economic and political causes of the war; military weaponry and doctrine and their development throughout the war; social and cultural implications; significant air, sea, and land campaigns of the war; the aftermath and consequences of the war; and perspectives on the meaning and place of World War II in history and in our lives today.

HOLLYWOOD AND HISTORY - COLLEGE PREP
#2515 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Does Hollywood tell the truth? Are your favorite movies accurate? How much creative license do directors take? Learn the answers to these questions and much more as we journey through history as it is portrayed in the movies.
NAZI GERMANY – COLLEGE PREP
#2523 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Did you ever wonder how a well-educated society could support Adolf Hitler’s rise to power? Did you know that Time magazine made Hitler the Man of the Year in 1938? Was the key to Nazi power based on force and fear or were other factors more important? The Nazis were beneficiaries of the conditions that began with the end of World War I and the Treaty of Versailles. However, the Nazis used a variety of methods to win the support of the majority of the German people. Once in power the Nazis attempted to create a totalitarian society that would lead the nation to start the most devastating war in the history of mankind.

THE VIETNAM ERA – COLLEGE PREP
#2525 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This class will focus on America's longest military conflict, the war in Vietnam. We will analyze what drove U.S. forces into Southeast Asia as well as the military tactics used by both American and Vietnamese soldiers. However, the class will be more than a study of battles and warfare. Students will also explore how the United States changed in the 1960s and 1970s, learning about the radical music, literature, cultural shifts, and protest movements that arose in response to the conflict in Vietnam.

HISTORY’S MYSTERIES – COLLEGE PREP
#2527 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Why did around 400 people in French city of Strasbourg erupt into sudden, unexplained dancing in July 1519? What happened to the “lost colony” of Roanoke in 1587? Who is the 19th century murderer known only as “Jack the Ripper”? Who was the mysterious man who donned a parachute and leapt from a Boeing 727 with $200,000 in stolen cash? These and other mysteries will be explored in “History’s Mysteries.” Students will choose an unsolved, historical cold case; research its history; and develop a well-written paper advancing their theory as to what may have occurred.

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES SEMINAR – COLLEGE PREP
#2529 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course focuses on global issues in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. The class will be comprised of students of varying backgrounds. As students examine topics ranging from war to pandemics to terrorism and national security, individuals will bring their unique cultural backgrounds to the discussion. The class will explore many of the major societal challenges of our time. Students in this course will engage in frank discussions of contemporary and oftentimes controversial issues in an effort to better understand different global perspectives.

9/11 AND THE AFTERMATH – COLLEGE PREP
#2531 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 shattered America’s sense of invulnerability. Three thousand Americans died that morning. The world awoke to horrific images of planes smashing into buildings and debris clouds sweeping down Manhattan streets. In the months following, the U.S. began an exhaustive hunt for Osama Bin Laden and his accomplices. From the rugged mountains of Afghanistan to the posh capitals of Europe, the U.S. military, CIA, or Special Forces killed and captured Al Qaeda members. This class will explore the history, people, and circumstances that led to the 9/11 attack; the events of September 11, 2001; and the United States’ hunt for Osama Bin Laden. The class culminates with an analysis of the infamous 2011 Seal Team Six raid on Bin Laden's Pakistani compound.
The technology department strives to provide students with the opportunity to thrive in a complex digital world. It is our goal to help students develop skills in the analysis, evaluation, and application of the digital tools at their disposal. They will use these skills in all areas of their studies. The course program fosters innovation, creativity, the responsible use of social media, and the ethical gathering and use of information. All registered students have access to Office 365, which allows them to download the Microsoft Office Suite free on up to five devices, including home computers, iPads, and smartphones.

**MICROSOFT OFFICE 2013: INTRODUCTORY CONCEPTS AND TECHNIQUES - COLLEGE PREP**

#3533  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Do you want to save time by learning how to construct a research paper for your English or Social Studies classes or how to prepare a chart for a lab report? The Microsoft Office 2013 course will teach you the skills to accomplish these tasks. This course introduces students to the new generation of Microsoft Office which uses features that are specifically designed to engage students, improve retention, and prepare them for future success. A step-by-step, screen-by-screen approach encourages students to expand their understanding of the Office 2013 software through experimentation, exploration, and planning ahead. The course prepares students to become more capable software users by requiring them to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills to create real-life documents.

**MICROSOFT WORD 2013 - COLLEGE PREP**

#3535  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Prerequisite: Microsoft Office 2007 or 2013: Introductory Concepts and Techniques

Do you want to go beyond the basics of MS Word and learn skills that will allow you to efficiently produce high-quality, effective, sophisticated documents? Then MS Word 2013 is the course for you. This comprehensive word processing course is designed to allow students to develop technology skills needed in all areas of their lives. The course builds on the introductory concepts and techniques learned in the Microsoft Office course and encourages independent study in meeting the following objectives: incorporating tables, charts, and graphics into a Word document; generating form letters, mailing labels, and envelopes; learning to work with a master document; creating indices, tables of contents, and online forms.

**DIGITAL PRESENTATION SOFTWARE – COLLEGE PREP**

#3537  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Keynote, PowerPoint, Prezi – what’s the best tool for your project? Students will learn how to create presentations using innovative applications. In addition, they will develop skill in determining the best digital tool for the task and how to apply their knowledge to authentic learning experiences.

**MICROSOFT EXCEL 2013 - COLLEGE PREP**

#3539  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Prerequisite: Microsoft Office 2007 or 2013: Introductory Concepts and Techniques

Do you need to organize data for a class into lists and then summarize, compare, and present your data graphically? MS Excel 2013 is a comprehensive spreadsheet course designed to allow students to develop technology skills needed in all areas of their lives. The course builds on the introductory concepts and techniques learned in the Microsoft Office course and encourages independent study in meeting the following objectives: performing What-If analysis, charting, and working with large worksheets; using financial functions, data tables, amortization schedules, and hyperlinks; creating, sorting and querying a worksheet database.
PHOTOSHOP - COLLEGE PREP  
#3519 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Microsoft Office 2007 or 2013: Introductory Concepts and Techniques

Welcome to Adobe Photoshop! This course offers creative projects, concise instructions, and complete coverage of basic to advanced Photoshop skills, helping you to create polished and professional-looking artwork. In this course you will learn many skills, including how to work with layers, make selections, adjust color techniques, use paint tools, work with filters, transform type, liquefy an image, annotate and automate a Photoshop document, and create Photoshop images for the web.

MODERN CODING/WEB DEVELOPMENT – COLLEGE PREP  
#3545 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

“Everybody in this country should learn how to program . . . because it teaches you how to think.” Steve Jobs. Learn how to make your device do what you want it to do as you engage in a hands-on creative development process to code applications. This course develops skills in web development, programming, logical thinking, and problem solving and allows you to make your innovative ideas a reality.

STOP ANIMATION – COLLEGE PREP  
#6041 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

Prerequisite: Art Foundations

This is a class designed to introduce the student to the art of stop animation. Various media will be used to produce a series of short animated films. The student will work through a creative process including: storyboard production and development, character creation, sound editing, and final editing. The iPad will act as the primary technology for filming and editing. Art Foundations is a pre-requisite for the Stop Animation class.

INTRO TO MEDIA PRODUCTION  
#3542 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term Course

This course is intended to provide students with the ability to create, produce, and effectively work with a variety of production tools for writing, media collection/organization, production, and delivery methods. Students will work as team members on a number of school projects from conception to completion. School project campaigns may include school event videos, special announcements/promotions, awards presentations, and social media projects.

ELECTIVE BUSINESS COURSES  

THESE ARE NOT MATH COURSES AND DO NOT FULFILL THE MATHEMATICS GRADUATION REQUIREMENT.

PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTING - COLLEGE PREP  
#3701 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Do you have aspirations of someday owning or working for a business? If so, do you want to help that business be successful? Of course you do, because a successful business translates into more money for all involved with that business, including you. Principles of Accounting is an introductory course that will help you understand the role that financial information plays in making decisions to help businesses become successful, and you will find this information valuable even if you don’t have plans to become an accountant. Topics include the accounting cycle with emphasis on analyzing, summarizing, reporting and interpreting financial information as it applies to service and merchandising businesses operated as sole proprietorships and partnerships. You will learn to prepare financial statements, which are the tools of good decision making in business. Technology will be used to demonstrate current accounting procedures along with simulations and worksheets to provide needed hands-on experience that will enhance the learning process.
Did you know that 48% of college students have bounced checks, only 2 out of 5 college students balance their checkbooks monthly, and 67% of college students have credit cards with 71% of those carrying a balance? Why are these statistics important? On average high school graduates may earn more than $1 million dollars during their adult lives. Your Financial Future is designed to prepare high school students to make wise financial decisions in personal situations. This course helps students realize that they are already making financial decisions and shows them how their decisions affect their future. This elective class may be taken as a yearlong or by terms. In Term I financial planning will be covered, in Term II banking and credit will be explored, and Term III will cover saving and investing. For more details see the individual course descriptions below.

YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE (BY TERMS) (#3705, #3707, #3709)

FINANCIAL PLANNING - COLLEGE PREP
#3705    Junior, Senior    .33 credit    Term course

This course introduces students to the concept of financial planning and provides the foundation for using personal financial planning techniques. The course will address the six steps of the financial planning process and the relationship between financial documents and money management strategies. Students will also learn how to prepare a federal tax return and how to select the best tax strategies for current and future financial and personal needs. In addition, they will learn how to create a budget and they will discuss how to protect themselves now and in the future through insurance and retirement planning.

BANKING AND CREDIT - COLLEGE PREP
#3707    Junior, Senior    .33 credit    Term course

This course introduces students to the variety of services available to them through the banking and credit industries along with how these services can help students meet their financial goals. Students will learn how to select and use financial services such as savings and checking accounts. In addition, students will learn the advantages and disadvantages of using consumer credit and how to avoid falling victim to the overwhelming credit crisis that plagues our country. Lastly, students will learn how using credit can help them purchase their own home by informing them of the home buying process.

SAVING AND INVESTING - COLLEGE PREP
#3709    Junior, Senior    .33 credit    Term course

This course introduces students to investing and how it can help them reach their financial goals. Students will learn about various investment alternatives such as stocks, bonds, mutual funds and how to obtain investment information for each. Students will then use this information to help them prepare for a savings or an investment program.

INTRO TO MARKETING
#3711    Sophomore, Junior, Senior    .33 credit    Term Course

This course introduces students to a variety of techniques for promoting, selling, and distributing products and services. Students will explore how brands are created and maintained through research, advertising, distribution, and retailing. The course will also explore the impact of marketing on consumer behavior. Students will use a variety of technologies (computers, iPads, and 3D printers) to produce and promote industrial design group projects.
ZULAMA ENTERTAINMENT TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Zulama online curriculum was created by educators at Carnegie Mellon University’s Entertainment Technology Center. It gives students experience with problem solving and thinking creatively - skills they need in our digital world. These courses are semester long and delivered through an online platform. Students who are interested should go to the Zulama Web site (www.zulama.com) to learn more.

Zulama classes normally cost $495, but because of a generous alumni donor the cost to MPS students will be significantly discounted at $250. Payment is due August 17, 2016. Two Zulama courses taken consecutively in the same year constitute a yearlong elective course. The duration of the first course will be from August until midterm of term II; the second course will begin at midterm of term II and conclude at the end of the school year.

Below are the courses that were offered for the 2015-2016 school year. It is possible that Zulama will make changes in course selection. In that event, students will be notified.

**EVOLUTION OF GAMES**
#8570 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .50 credit Semester course

Today’s professional game designers understand and implement dynamics from many different types of games in their blockbuster hits. In this course, you’ll explore ancient cultures, their games, and how they designed games using available technology.

**INTRODUCTION TO GAMEMAKER™ PROGRAMMING**
#8571-Semester I Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Two-semester course
#8572-Semester II

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games

Learn the concepts taught in a college-level “Programming 101” course, but all of the projects are games! You will receive an introduction to basic programming by building two dimensional (2D) games. GameMaker™, the 2D game engine you’ll be using, is based on a scripting language that builds techniques that can be transferred to any other programming language such as Python, Java and C++. You will finish complete stand-alone executable games that can be played with friends and added to your digital portfolio.

**SCREENWRITING**
#8573 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .50 credit Semester course

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games

Why do we cry at movies? Or cheer? Why do thrillers put us on the edge of our seats? This course will help you understand, critique, and write dramatic stories for modern media including movies, games, and television. You’ll develop skills in creative writing, awareness, provisional acting, collaborative storytelling, and creative self-confidence as you craft your own original story.

**GAME DESIGN**
#8574 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .50 credit Semester course

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games

“Gaming” doesn’t only mean “video games”. Gamers also play board games, card games, simulations, and participate in interactive stories. This course breaks down the design process step by step. You will learn the fundamentals through hands-on modding, prototyping, and iteration of a variety of games. Your final project will include building, play testing, and revising your own original game that can be played with friends and added to your game portfolio.

This course needs a minimum of four MPS students to be offered

**3D MODELING**
#8575-Semester I Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Two-semester course
#8576-Semester II

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games

Learn the 3D modeling techniques used in movies, visual effects, video games, cartoons, commercials, and animation! Using 3DS Max, you will work in this highly skill-based art form to manipulate and sculpt pure imagination into substantial forms. By the end of the course, you will have developed a portfolio of original projects that you can use when applying for an internship, higher education, or a job.
MOBILE GAME DESIGN
#8577   Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .50 credit   Semester course

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games

It seems as if everyone has an idea for an "app" these days! In this course, you will use professional game design techniques to create playable mobile games that you can add to your game design portfolio. Using GameSalad, you will learn the fundamentals of game design, apply competition and playfulness, implement game design elements by modifying game templates from various video game genres, and debug using iterative game design.

UNITY 3D PROGRAMMING
#8578   Junior, Senior   .50 credit   Semester course

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games, GameMaker Programming I, and GameMaker Programming II

Are you ready to take your programming skills into the next dimension? Learn how to create dynamic Unity™ 3D games using the same industry-standard developing engine as professionals. You will create two fully executable games that can be played on many platforms and added to your digital portfolio.

GAME PRODUCTION AND MARKETING
#8579   Junior, Senior   .50 credit   Semester course

Prerequisite: Evolution of Games, GameMaker and two skills courses

Find out how the video game industry really works by learning the tools, skills, and methodologies used to create and produce video games. You'll divide into teams to create, market, and sell your game while battling for the title of "Most Games Sold" using a virtual-dollar system. Commercially viable board and card games may result, and recommendations are given at the end of the course for taking them to market.
The Theology Department offers an integrated and sequential approach to faith development. A thorough understanding of Hebrew and Christian scripture is the foundation upon which all other theological inquiry is built.

Opportunities for daily prayer, written reflection, sacramental experience, liturgical celebration, and community service are offered as ways of validating through experience what is learned in the classroom.

Each grade level also provides a forum where students can engage in guided classroom discussions involving their personal growth and development. Identity, healthy relationships, communication skills, human sexuality, chemical use and abuse, and the quest for spiritual integrity are issues which surface and are dealt with throughout this four-year course of study.

Please note: There is mobility among College Prep, Honors, and IB Levels based on teacher and/or department recommendations.

Term Electives: Love and Evil, Christianity in Popular Culture, Christian Spirituality, Atom and Eve, Single or Married Life, Holy Orders and the Consecrated Religious Life, Death & Dying, Eastern Religions, Western Religions, Contemporary Religions

SCRIPTURES – COLLEGE PREP

The Bible! The most read book of all time. What is it really all about? As freshmen you can use the Bible as your principal text and learn the stories of the people of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and of the Christian Scriptures (New Testament). We will attempt to discover why the Bible is called sacred literature and why it has had such a profound influence on the lives of so many people. Studying the Bible will help us to know better the God who is revealed in the story of salvation, especially emphasizing the person of Jesus Christ. In addition to this, attention will be given to life skills and character building with the focus on the Charism of Mercy instituted by Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. The process of discovery in this course will be based on experiential learning techniques such as journal writing, learning teams, prayer, projects, use of technology, and activities that develop awareness of our responsibilities to God, self, and others.
INTRO TO THEOLOGY – COLLEGE PREP
#0020  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

This class is designed for international students who have little or no exposure to Christianity back home. We use the Bible as our principal text and learn the stories of the people of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and of the Christian Scriptures (New Testament). We will attempt to discover why the Bible is called sacred literature and why it has had such a profound influence on the lives of so many people. Studying the Bible will help us to know better the God who is revealed in the story of salvation, especially emphasizing the person of Jesus Christ. In addition to this, attention will be given to life skills and character building with a focus on the Charism of Mercy instituted by Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. The process of discovery in this course will be based on experiential learning techniques such as journal writing, learning teams, prayer, projects, use of technology, and activities that develop awareness of our responsibilities to God, self, and others.

THE CATHOLIC TRADITION – COLLEGE PREP
#0003  Sophomore  1.00 credit  Yearlong

We need … to ensure that every Catholic understands how the Gospel and church teaching call us to choose life, to serve the least among us, to hunger and thirst for justice, and to be peacemakers. The sharing of our social traditions is a defining measure of Catholic education and formation (U.S. Catholic Bishops, Sharing Catholic Social Teaching).

In the beginning…we learned how to help others. Take a peek into the past to discover the answers to how we are to embrace those less fortunate than us. Don’t just talk about making a difference, make one!

Sophomore year theology class will focus primarily on the history of the Church after the resurrection of Jesus and will flow from the student’s understanding of the Acts of the Apostles. It will take seriously the role that Tradition has played in the development of the Church from its infancy to modern day. Some major themes to be addressed are the New Testament Church, the early Church Fathers and the early Church Councils, the study of Jesus the Christ (Christology), Constantine and the growth of Christianity, Monasticism, the Schism between East and West, the Papacy and its role, the Reformation and the Counter-Reformation, the Missions, the Enlightenment, with particular attention paid to Vatican II.

Based upon the components of Catholic social teachings and the Sisters of Mercy Critical Concerns, this course also calls the students to assess their culture according to the criterion of justice and to move toward a posture of compassion that will lead each to work toward a just society.

Seven themes of Catholic social teaching permeate this course of study: the dignity of the human person, the call to participation in the life of the community, rights and responsibilities of the individual, the preferential option for the poor, the dignity of work and the worker, the solidarity needed within the global community, and accountability for the care of God’s creation. This course is ultimately meant to stimulate faith in action and enhance the modern Church as it is understood in light of Vatican II.

The Five Critical Concerns—non-violence, racism, ecology and the fundamental right to water, equality for women, dignity of immigrants—will be explored in depth during this course.

This course will also take an in-depth exploration into the seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church by unearthing the scriptural references, the symbols and the theology of each sacrament.

JUNIOR THEOLOGY

CHRISTIAN ETHICS – COLLEGE PREP
#0007  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Have you been faced with some serious consequences in your life because you neglected to make a good moral decision? This class will assist you in mastering the process of making sound moral decisions. The method employed in the course’s decision-making process is critical reflection centered on Christian moral values. Students will delve into some possible future life decisions by means of small group and class discussions, as well as individual reflection. Students will be encouraged to search for personal answers to such questions as use and abuse of alcohol, premarital sex, the right to live and the right to die, and a host of equally critical contemporary ethical conflicts. There will be an extensive unit on beginning and end of life issues. Throughout this course of study the process is one of discovery; the end sought is moral commitment, which leads from awareness to action.
CHRISTIAN ETHICS – HONORS
#0008  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Junior English IB or Honors

Who am I? Who do I want to be? Who am I supposed to be? Who says?
All of these questions and many more will be substantially explored in this year-long course.

The method employed in the course’s decision-making process is critical reflection centered on Christian moral values. Strong conversations make up a majority of the class time. Students will be encouraged to search for personal answers in light of the gospel values to such questions as classroom cheating, premarital sex, the right to live and the right to die, and a host of equally critical contemporary moral conflicts. There will be an extended essay entitled A Testimony to My Uniqueness. Throughout this course of study the process is one of discovery; the end sought is moral commitment that leads from awareness to action.

Approximately every three to four weeks during this course the class time will be spent working at an inner city grade school with students in the primary grades. The purpose of this field experience is to move the students outside their “comfort zones” and activate the ethical maxim: if you want to be good, you must do good. Required reading for this honors level course includes, but is not limited to, three works of fiction.

PEER LEADERSHIP – COLLEGE PREP
#0009  Junior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Application process second term of sophomore year

The vision of this course is to prepare an active team of peer ministers to serve the Mercyhurst Prep student community. All students involved in this course will become competent in the areas of active listening, empathy, confrontation, and problem solving. All will learn the skills involved in crisis prevention, intervention, and/or post-intervention. The skills developed within this course structure are both intrapersonal (knowledge of self) and interpersonal (knowledge of others).

As an added component of the course, the students will learn mediation skills and will have the opportunity to formally assist students that are experiencing conflicts. Several members of the peer leadership class will serve the school as peer mediators during their senior year. Faculty members and the administration will monitor the peer mediation process.

SENIOR THEOLOGY
SENIOR RELIGION SEMINAR - COLLEGE PREP
#0013  Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Students may choose to study one, two, or three terms of this course. A three-term study would constitute a yearlong Theology course. Term I focuses on single and married life, term II will explore holy orders and religious life and term III will discuss death and dying. For more details on each term component, please see the course description below. Students who sign up for this yearlong course should not also request one of the term components as an elective.

Term Components of SENIOR RELIGION SEMINAR (#0523, #0525, #0507)

SINGLE OR MARRIED LIFE: WHICH ONE IS FOR ME?-COLLEGE PREP
#0523  Senior .33 credits  Term course

Vocations, or God’s individual call to us will be explored in the call to the committed single life and also in the Sacrament of Marriage. The single lay state of life can be a uniquely graced position from which one may be called and so choose to live their lives in service to Christ and others. In Marriage as a chosen vocation, students will be able to deepen their understanding of the sacred covenant of marriage. This sacrament is a sign and symbol of God’s covenant with his people and promotes the salvation of family members. In this unit, we will create a mock marriage ceremony in the context of the Sacrament of Matrimony, with a particular focus on the sacredness of a covenant made. This unit will culminate with a festive celebration.

HOLY ORDERS AND THE CONSECRATED RELIGIOUS LIFE-COLLEGE PREP
#0525  Senior .33 credits  Term course

In this course, we will explore the special vocations of Holy Orders and the Consecrated Religious Life. Through the vocation of Holy Orders, those who are called receive the authority to continue the mission of Jesus Christ. As well, the students will reflect on the unique role of various forms of consecrated life in the Church and how we all have the responsibility to support our brothers and sisters who have given their lives in service to Jesus Christ and His Church. In addition to text and lectures, students will gain knowledge of these vocations by means of guest speakers, video presentations and field trips.
DEATH AND DYING - COLLEGE PREP
#0507  Senior  .33 credits  Term course
This course will focus on the realities of death and the dying process. It will also examine the grieving process as it applies to all forms of human loss. Through lectures, group discussions, guest speakers, video presentations and field trips, the students will examine the practical, philosophical and theological aspects of death in our time and in our culture and cultures from the past. Final emphasis will be placed on the hope fostered by the Christian belief in resurrection.

EXPLORING RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD-COLLEGE PREP
#0015  Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong
Students may choose to study one, two, or three terms of this course. A three-term study would constitute a yearlong Theology course. Term I focuses on Eastern Religions, term II will explore Western Religions and term III will examine Contemporary Religions. For more details on each term component, please see the course description below. Students who sign up for this yearlong course should not also request one of the term components as an elective.

Term Components of EXPLORING RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD (#0513, #0515, #0517)

EASTERN RELIGIONS - COLLEGE PREP
#0513  Senior  .33 credit  Term course
Explore some of the oldest and most enduring religions from the East, including primarily Buddhism and Hinduism and the way in which they have addressed the important issues of life and death, worship and the formula for how life ought to be lived. This course will shed light on the lifestyles and values of a significant portion of the world population.

WESTERN RELIGIONS - COLLEGE PREP
#0515  Senior  .33 credit  Term course
Explore the Abrahamic religions of Judaism, Islam and Christianity. These three religions, connected by a common ancestry and sharing origins in the Bible, have had an incredible impact in shaping the world we know. Delve deeply into these fascinating religions and discover some of the greatest thinkers the world has known.

CONTEMPORARY RELIGIONS - COLLEGE PREP
#0519  Senior  .33 credit  Term course
Ever wonder what Scientologists believe or about the intricacies of Mormonism or Taoism? This course will explore several of the minor religions, both new and old, and the impact being felt in the current culture by adherents of those religions. Some of your preconceived notions may be challenged and replaced by a more systematic approach to studying these intriguing styles of worship.

RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#0012  Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong
Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation
Are you curious, focused, intelligent, and an in-depth learner? Would you like to explore five of the world’s religions in a way that will help you better understand other cultures and world views? Would you like to expand your own world view? Then Religions of the World-IB is one vehicle through which you can do just that! Religions of the World-IB will explore the origin and development of Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Judaism, Taoism, and Christianity, with particular in-depth emphasis on Buddhism and Judaism. During the course of the year you will enjoy movies, scriptures, articles, speakers, and field trips to holy places that will challenge your mind and your present knowledge of the said religions. IB students will be required to research and write a 1500-1800 word Investigative Study and will sit for a two-part final exam in May.

THEOLOGY ELECTIVES

CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY – COLLEGE PREP
#0521  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credits  Term course
Prerequisite: Sacred Scripture
You’re accustomed to learning about God in Theology class. Have you ever wanted to experience God? This course will help you to come to or deepen a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. We will survey the breadth of Christian tradition, exploring the many dimensions of prayer that have nourished us over the centuries - from the love feasts of the earliest followers of the Way, to monks and medieval mystics, to the devotional and liturgical prayers of the modern Church. We will pray together the Liturgy of the Hours, explore the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet, as well as delve into meditation and centering prayer.
ATOM & EVE: AN INTERDISCIPLINARY LOOK AT THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE – COLLEGE PREP
#4121 Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

From the very first pages of Genesis, we see that God has charged humanity with being stewards of creation. Drawing deeply from both the theological and scientific disciplines we will explore exactly what that means. What is our role in creation? How do we live in our world in a way that is as sustainable as it is holy? This course will explore the ways we can answer those questions and many others as we look how best to embrace and honor God’s call.

LOVE AND EVIL – COLLEGE PREP
#0527 Junior, Senior .33 credits Term course

From its inception, religion has attempted to help humanity connect with the divine and, in so doing, address the most pressing questions of existence. Chief among those questions are the nature of love and the problems of evil and suffering. Utilizing a broad approach, reaching through history, this course will explore the answers humanity has offered to these questions through theology, art, and philosophy. All avenues of human thought and expression - from Scripture and St. Augustine to Shakespeare and The Beatles - will be considered.

STAR WARS AND CONTEMPORARY MYTH – COLLEGE PREP
#0529 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credits Term course

Using a complex, interdisciplinary approach, this team-taught course will explore George Lucas’ seminal film series for its mythic relevance in culture, both of the 1970’s and today. Drawing on the works of Joseph Campbell and the theologies of all the enduring religions, Lucas created a film, intentionally rich in theology. We will watch the film, examples from The Clone Wars and Rebels, investigate excerpts from novels and comics, and read Campbell’s classic works The Hero’s Journey, The Power of Myth, alongside Mike Klimo’s “Star Wars and Ring Theory.” Lastly, we’ll invest the enhancement of myth and legend through thematic musical motifs and their ability to tell a story in and of themselves. Drawing deeply from the academic areas of theology, mythology, literary analysis, poetry, and musical scoring, we will see just how much goes into creating a galaxy far, far away.
Art is like a mirror that when held up, reveals to the viewer what it is to be human. The arts provide one of the essential and basic languages that extend the range of communication. Through this language we express our fears, dreams, curiosities, hopes, and discoveries. Such expression is a central force in human existence. Literacy in the arts for all students centers on the idea that each of the arts functions as a tool for creative expression as well as for the development of higher order thinking and problem solving skills.

All students are required to successfully complete one (1.0) credit of creative arts. However, many colleges and universities require two (2.0) credits for admission.

All freshmen must take Art Foundations as their initial course in the visual arts unless they are Creative Arts Scholarship participants or art majors. Along with Art Foundations, additional options recommended for freshman year include Ceramics I and Photo I. Creative Arts Scholarship participants should take Drawing I as their initial course freshman year.

All sophomores are required to take one term of art appreciation or music appreciation for 1/3 credit. The yearlong art history course will also satisfy this requirement.

Students who plan to elect the arts as a college major or career choice are requested to identify themselves as ARTS MAJORS to their guidance counselors for scheduling purposes. The students should use the information below to guide them in course selections for their appropriate major.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR VISUAL ARTS MAJORS:

RECOMMENDED COURSES

FRESHMAN YEAR
Drawing I and Drawing II

SOPHOMORE YEAR
Painting

JUNIOR YEAR
Art Seminar  Additional courses recommended include Photo I and Photo II, Ceramics or Sculpture, Printmaking

SENIOR YEAR
Art Seminar  Additional courses recommended include Art History, Photo or Publication Graphics, Ceramics or Sculpture, Printmaking

All Art Seminar students participate in a portfolio review and prepare for an exhibit in the spring of their senior year. (Majors need to discuss course selections with Dr. Borowicz.)

ART FOUNDATIONS - COLLEGE PREP
#6001 Freshman .33 credit Term course

All freshmen must take Art Foundations as their initial course in the visual arts unless they are Creative Arts Scholarship participants or art majors.

This course is designed to be the introductory and recommended art class for ninth graders. The students will be introduced to the elements of art and design and will apply these principles to a variety of hands-on art projects when they learn to draw, mix colors when they paint, and make sculpture. Students will also learn about the life and works of a variety of artists throughout the term. The atmosphere in this class is more relaxed so it gives the ninth graders an opportunity to get to know each other and to make new friends.
ART APPRECIATION - COLLEGE PREP
#6003 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is a chronological survey of the history of art from man’s earliest beginnings to current art trends. During the term the role of art in various cultures will be examined. The class will also explore important movements and individuals that shaped the development of western art traditions. The class will stress the relationship between art and artists and the cultures and times that produced them.

Note: All sophomores must take either the Art Appreciation or the Music Appreciation class to fulfill one-third of their arts requirement. Students may indicate a preference for one course or the other, but final assignment to either course will be based on availability and individual schedules. Students with an interest in both areas may take both art and music appreciation, thereby fulfilling an additional art requirement.

CERAMICS YEARLONG - COLLEGE PREP
#6005 Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Ceramics I and instructor’s approval

The focus of this ceramics course is to offer the student a comprehensive study of the clay medium for one full year. Its aim is to build upon basic skills and techniques each term in order to foster more creative and advanced projects. The first term develops the skills needed for common hand building techniques and explores several decorating devices. The second term continues to hone the skills learned in the first term through creative problem solving techniques as well as a developmental study of the pottery wheel and basic wheel project. The third term is an in-depth study of the ceramic arts and includes advanced and creative hand building projects and the completion of more complicated pottery wheel projects. In addition, students explore technical, scientific aspects of glazes and other decorating devices.

CERAMICS I - COLLEGE PREP
#6007 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Did you have Play-Doh as a kid? Then you can take this class. This course is designed to introduce the student to hand building techniques in clay such as pinch, coil, slab, and free-forming techniques. Simple glazing techniques will be covered. Clay process, terminology, and some ceramic art history are covered. You just can’t eat the clay.

CERAMICS II - COLLEGE PREP
#6009 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Ceramics I with a B average or better

Want to learn a new skill? Don’t mind getting messy? Then give Ceramics II a try. This course is designed to further the student's experience in hand building techniques. You will be exploring basic architectural design as well as creating human features in three dimensions. The pottery wheel is also introduced in Ceramics II with the goal of creating several forms. If you dig wearing a clay covered apron, then sign on up.

ADVANCED CERAMICS - COLLEGE PREP
#6011 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Ceramics II with a B average or better

Sick of “easy” ceramic assignments? Advanced ceramics is geared for the experienced and dedicated ceramic student. Its focus is on development of complex hand building projects and advanced level work on the pottery wheel. Research of ceramic art history is mandatory. The study of some scientific aspects of ceramics is expected.

DRAWING I - COLLEGE PREP
#6013 & #6015 Freshman (Creative Arts Scholarship winners or with permission after viewing a portfolio) Sophomore, Junior, Senior .66 credit Two term course

Drawing I is a two term course. Students must sign up for both #6013 and #6015.

This course will introduce beginning artists to basic concepts of drawing. The students will learn contour, calligraphic and gestural line, and there will be an emphasis on observational drawing using graphite, charcoal and ink as drawing mediums. The students will learn to use linear and atmospheric perspective in landscape drawing and correct bodily proportions when drawing the face and figure. This is a foundation course which is recommended for all students who wish to pursue a career in the visual arts or for those who simply want to learn how to draw better.
**DRAWING II - COLLEGE PREP**

#6017   Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term course

This course is designed for the student who enjoys drawing and wants to experiment with materials and techniques that use color. More intricate pen and ink techniques will also be introduced, and students will be required to keep a weekly sketchbook.

**SCULPTURE-COLLEGE PREP**

#6019   Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term course

This course introduces students to fundamental principles of three dimensional arts. It explores papier-mâché, clay, wood, and plaster as means of expression.

**PRINTMAKING I - COLLEGE PREP**

#6021   Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term course

Printmaking was developed in the 14th century so that artists would be able to duplicate individual works of art using a variety of materials and techniques. Printmaking I begins with an introduction to the basic printmaking techniques of monotype/monoprints additive relief prints (collographs), subtractive relief prints (linoleum block) and one screen serigraph (one color silkscreen design on T-shirt/fabric). Students will learn the Elements of Art and Principles of Design and apply them when creating plates that will be printed multiple times. Students will also be introduced to color theory and be required to keep a sketchbook which will illustrate the creative process that begins with an idea and ends with a completed work of art.

**PRINTMAKING II - COLLEGE PREP**

#6027   Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term course

Prerequisite: Printmaking I

In Printmaking II, students will be introduced to more advanced printmaking techniques such as intaglio (etching into a plate), two-screen serigraph (a design separated onto two screens that when printed produces a two-color print on fabric) and a four-color relief reduction print using linoleum block.

Printmaking II requires students to develop a more sophisticated approach to the creative process when developing ideas in their sketchbooks.

**MIXED MEDIA - COLLEGE PREP**

#6029   Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term course

Prerequisite: Students must have had at least one or more of the following courses before taking Mixed Media: Printmaking I-Drawing I-Photography-Painting-Art Seminar-Ceramics I- Sculpture

This course is designed for art students who will tap into knowledge acquired from previous art classes. Students will be required to do extensive research and must be willing to experiment with a variety of media while they use multiple images to create 2D and 3D works of art. This course also offers students the opportunity to develop a body of work that reflects their individual artistic voice.

**JEWELRY/METAL WORKING – COLLEGE PREP**

#6039   Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term Course

Prerequisite: Art Foundations

This course is opened to all students who would like to learn a variety of jewelry making techniques. Students will explore different cultures and the evolution of jewelry along with learning to use a variety of materials such as metal, glass, ceramic, and found materials. Students will learn how to manipulate these materials to design wearable pieces.

**STOP ANIMATION – COLLEGE PREP**

#6041   Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior   .33 credit   Term Course

Prerequisite: Art Foundations

This is a class designed to introduce the student to the art of stop animation. Various media will be used to produce a series of short animated films. The student will work through a creative process including: storyboard production and development, character creation, sound editing, and final editing. The iPad will act as the primary technology for filming and editing. Art Foundations is a pre-requisite for the Stop Animation class.
INDEPENDENT STUDIO IN ART – COLLEGE PREP (student must get permission from cooperating teacher)

#6037                  Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

The course is designed so that the advanced art student may further investigate techniques in a particular medium during the term when a similar class is taught using the same materials. (ex. Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Mixed Media etc.)

PAINTING - COLLEGE PREP

#6023                  Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Prerequisite: Drawing I

This is a course for advanced art students.

Painting is designed as a year-long course so that the art student will learn the transparent properties of watercolor in term I, acrylic painting techniques in term II and pastel drawing in term III. The student will learn and apply extensive color theory to his/her work and he/she will be required to keep a sketchbook that will hold all terms, techniques and examples of each medium that has been introduced. The student will also keep an art history notebook that contains investigations of particular art periods along with the artists and their work. A few field trips to art museums and galleries will be planned throughout the year.

This course is a prerequisite for junior and senior Art Seminar

BEGINNING OIL PAINTING - COLLEGE PREP

#6045                  Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Prerequisite: Painting

This is a course for advanced art students.

This course is designed to teach students the basics of how to paint with oil while applying what they've learned in Painting yearlong. Students will be required to keep a sketchbook for the term.

ART HISTORY - COLLEGE PREP or HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL.

#6031 College Prep       Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
#6032 Honors/IB-SL

This course will help students gain a greater understanding of the role of art in various cultures and periods in history and allow them to make connections between the arts and socio-political, historical, cultural and religious events of the times being studied. Students will view slides and films and receive background information on the important artists, movements and periods throughout art history. The course is designed to familiarize the student with artists and their works in order to foster a greater appreciation of the arts. Core sequence covers prehistoric to medieval in Term I, renaissance to baroque in Term II, and in Term III the neoclassic through 20th century. This course may be taken as an art credit or history elective, but all core curriculum courses must be met in social studies. Students enrolled in the honors course will be assigned extended essays on tests and two additional reading selections. Students will also be encouraged to take the IB Art History Exam. Upon completion of this course the student will be well prepared for any college level Art History or Art Appreciation course.

ART HISTORY: NON-WESTERN ART TRADITIONS - COLLEGE PREP

#6033                  Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is designed to expand the students’ awareness of the arts and cultures of the non-Western world. During the term the focus will be on East Asian cultures (China and Japan), India, the Islamic world, Africa and Pre-Columbian America. The course will also address issues concerning cultural property, art theft, forgery and other problems relating to the arts of cultures covered in class. Students do not need to have had Art History prior to this course.

THE RENAISSANCE - COLLEGE PREP

#6035                  Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This artist didn’t bathe or change his clothes for months at a time, but he created some of the most beautiful images in art. This pope murdered his political rivals to consolidate his power and advance the careers of his illegitimate children. This woman was so brilliant and charming that her death caused the city of Rome to close for a week for her funeral. This poet inspired by the death of his “true love” would pen one of the greatest literary works of all time. What do these people have in common? They lived in one of the most dynamic times of human history…the Renaissance. Experience the heights and the darkest depths of this most fascinating period in time.
ART SEMINAR - HONORS/IB STANDARD or HIGHER LEVEL

#6036  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Instructor's approval

Art Seminar is offered for the serious art student who is contemplating art as a career and for International Baccalaureate art candidates. This is the most advanced studio course offered in the Visual Arts Department. Students will use all of the skills that they have developed to date and take them to the next level in order to build their portfolios in preparation for college. The process of creating art will be a main focus of this class with students developing personal approaches to problem solving through the use of a sketch/research workbook. In senior year, students will participate in the IB Exhibition and interview process. The best student-artists in the school come together in this class to help each other grow as artists. Students must have instructor's permission for admittance.

YEARBOOK - COLLEGE PREP or HONORS

#6201 College Prep  Freshman (with permission)  1.00 credit  Yearlong
#6202 Honors  Sophomore, Junior, Senior

Prerequisite:  Students will gain admittance by application and interview by the adviser.

Make memories that last a life time by creating the most treasured high school publication. Students will design and lay out the school yearbook. Skills developed during the year involve photography, computer, layout, copy writing, and commercial art techniques. Students will work with state-of-the-art computers and programs.

PHOTO I - COLLEGE PREP

#6209  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

This is an introductory course in black and white photographic technology and aesthetics. The class covers operation of the 35mm camera including light controls, reading the light meter, lenses, and the flash. The emphasis will be on technical proficiency as students further explore the medium by participating in classes on film development, printing from the negative, and hand coloring. Students must have a 35mm camera with manual ability for metering light and focusing the lens. Students will work both in wet and digital photography.

PHOTO II - COLLEGE PREP

#6211  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Prerequisite:  Photo I Building on the technical concepts presented in Photo I, the photographic aesthetic is the center of exploration in Photo II. Photographic genres such as portraiture, landscape, still life, and documentary will be presented by viewing works of historical and contemporary photographers. Working within the genre of their choice, students will develop a portfolio for exhibition. Students will work both in wet and digital photography.

ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY - COLLEGE PREP

#6213  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  .33 credit  Term course

Prerequisites:  Photo I and II

Students will learn advanced technical skills in film development and manipulation, controlling natural and artificial light, perspective, and lenses. An extended photographic portfolio will be the basis for this technical exploration. To further the student's aesthetic knowledge, an independent project on a historical or contemporary figure in photography is required. This project will be presented as a slide or PowerPoint show.
**WORLD LANGUAGES**

Life in a global community has heightened awareness as to the value of and the need for effective communication in two or more languages. The World Languages Department believes that everyone must be prepared to meet the challenges of a diverse and changing world. We believe that the study of world languages enhances one’s appreciation of the unique contributions of other cultures - their history, art, music, and literature. We believe that language study strengthens the understanding of one’s native language and introduces opportunities to expand one’s horizons.

**Recommended:** 3 or 4 year sequence in one language

**Required:** 2 consecutive years in one language

---

Please note: There is mobility among College Prep, Honors, and IB Levels based on teacher and/or department recommendations.

**Term Electives:** Intro to Italian, Latin American Culture
Why study French?

Did you know that …

- French is the 2nd most commonly taught language in the world?
- French is the 2nd most used language on the Internet?
- French is the largest donor of foreign words in English such as déjà vu, denim, cassette, restaurant, clarinet, and ballet?
- French is spoken in 43 countries on 5 continents?
- French is the official working language of the U.N, the International Red Cross and the International Olympic Committee?
- There are 2,400 U.S. companies in France?
- French is the official 2nd language of Canada?
- French is the language of cuisine, fashion, architecture, theatre, arts, and dance?

Why study Spanish?

Did you know that …

- Over 35 million people in the U.S. (roughly 10% of the population) speak Spanish?
- Employers in almost every field are looking for applicants who can speak Spanish?
- Spanish is one of the easiest languages for English speakers to learn because of the similarities to English and the rules of pronunciation?
- Spanish influence on place names, food and music appears throughout the U.S.?
- Learning Spanish opens the door to other Romance languages such as French and Italian?
- Spanish is spoken in more than 20 countries, is the 4th most spoken language in the world, and is an official language of many international organizations?

LEVEL 1

FRENCH 1 – COLLEGE PREP
#5001 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Pack your bags…. you are about to embark on an exciting adventure of learning a new language! Once on board you will learn how to greet people, talk about yourself, family and friends, describe your classes, tell what you do during the school day, and discuss food and places in the city. Along the way you will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. And of course, on your voyage you have to eat and celebrate holidays! Bon voyage et bienvenue!

SPANISH 1 – COLLEGE PREP
#5101 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong

Pack your bags…. you are about to embark on an exciting adventure of learning a new language! Once on board you will learn how to greet people, talk about yourself, family and friends, describe your classes, tell what you do during the school day, and discuss pastimes and sports. Along the way you will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. And of course, on your voyage you have to eat, celebrate holidays and find out interesting information about the culture of Spanish-speaking communities! ¡Buen viaje y bienvenidos!
French or Spanish 1 Honors

The Honors level is designed for serious and exceptionally talented language students who are capable of learning at an accelerated pace. You will regularly work beyond the minimum requirements as you focus on speaking in the target language.

FRENCH 1 – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5002  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Student must be in an Honors/IB English class

Pack your bags….you are about to embark on an exciting adventure of learning a new language! Once on board you will learn how to greet people, talk about yourself, family and friends, describe your classes, tell what you do during the school day, and discuss food and places in the city. Along the way you will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. And of course, on your voyage you have to eat and celebrate holidays! Bon voyage et bienvenue!

SPANISH 1 – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5102  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Student must be in an Honors/IB English class

Pack your bags…. you are about to embark on an exciting adventure of learning a new language! Once on board you will learn how to greet people, talk about yourself, family and friends, describe your classes, tell what you do during the school day, and discuss pastimes and sports. Along the way you will learn grammar structures needed for conversation at this level such as verb conjugations in the present tense, adjective agreement, asking and answering questions and using numbers to tell the date and time. And of course, on your voyage you have to eat, celebrate holidays and find out interesting information about the culture of Spanish-speaking communities! ¡Buen viaje y bienvenidos!

LEVEL 2

FRENCH 2 – COLLEGE PREP
#5003  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: French 1

Your linguistic voyage continues in France and Canada, where you will learn the ins and outs of international travel. You will learn vocabulary to help you navigate through the airports, train stations and hotels of the Francophone world. You will be able to discuss pastimes and sports, talk about clothing, shopping and celebrations, and you will be able to describe your home and chores. Your study of grammar continues as you learn how to talk about things that happened in the past and discover how to use various pronouns and adjectives. Allons-y!

SPANISH 2 – COLLEGE PREP
#5103  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish 1

The adventure continues! As you continue on your linguistic journey this year, you will learn how to talk about vacations and traveling, be able to describe the weather, talk about clothing and shopping, describe your daily routine, and discuss food, parties and other celebrations. Your study of grammar continues as you learn how to use reflexive verbs, talk about things that happened in the past, and discover how to use various pronouns and adjectives. Our travels will take us all around the Spanish-speaking world, from the islands of Puerto Rico and Cuba to the South American countries of Peru and Chile. ¡Vamos!
French or Spanish II Honors

The honors level is designed for serious and exceptionally talented language students who regularly work beyond the minimum requirements and who are capable of learning at an accelerated pace. This course is required for students pursuing the IB diploma or certificate in French or Spanish. In this course you will continue to advance in the four areas of language acquisition, i.e. listening, speaking, reading and writing. You will be encouraged to speak as much of the target language in the classroom as possible.

FRENCH 2 – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5004  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: French 1 and teacher recommendation

Your linguistic voyage continues in France and Canada, where you will learn the ins and outs of international travel. You will learn vocabulary to help you navigate through the airports, train stations and hotels of the Francophone world. You will be able to discuss pastimes and sports, talk about clothing, shopping and celebrations, and you will be able to describe your home and chores. Your study of grammar continues as you learn how to talk about things that happened in the past and discover how to use various pronouns and adjectives. Allons-y!

SPANISH 2 – HONORS/MPS PRE-IB
#5104  Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish 1 and teacher recommendation

The adventure continues! As you continue on your linguistic journey this year, you will learn how to talk about vacations and traveling, be able to describe the weather, talk about clothing and shopping, describe your daily routine, and discuss food, parties and other celebrations. Your study of grammar continues as you learn how to use reflexive verbs, talk about things that happened in the past, and discover how to use various pronouns and adjectives. Our travels will take us all around the Spanish-speaking world, from the islands of Puerto Rico and Cuba to the South American countries of Peru and Chile. ¡Vamos!

LEVEL 3

FRENCH 3 – COLLEGE PREP
#5005  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: French 2 and teacher recommendation

You will be missed if you don’t stay on the train of French learning…you’ve barely just begun your journey! As you continue your study of the past tenses, you will learn how to describe yourself and your childhood experiences using the imperfect tense. You will learn vocabulary for topics such as food preparation, your daily routine, health care, technology, and city life. You will begin to talk about the future and your future plans. Along the way, you will learn the grammatical structures necessary to help you communicate, both in writing and speaking. By the end of this 3rd year, you will be able to say, write, and understand so much more than you can now, so don’t let this train leave without you. En voiture!

SPANISH 3 – COLLEGE PREP
#5105  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish 2 and teacher recommendation

Let’s go to Costa Rica, Argentina, Panamá and Colombia! As you begin the year you will continue your study of the preterite tense then learn how to describe your childhood experiences and be able to tell what you were like as a child using the imperfect tense. You will be able to describe your home, discuss your chores and other responsibilities, as well as learn how to give commands. Along the way, you will learn vocabulary for technology and be able to discuss the environment, nature and ecology. You will be introduced to other necessary grammatical structures as you increase both your written and oral abilities, so don’t let this train leave without you! ¡Todos a bordo!
French or Spanish III Honors

The focus of this course is the acquisition of a wide range of vocabulary and the study of advanced grammatical topics. As you continue to perfect your abilities in the four areas of language acquisition you will write longer essays, carry on discussions and read literary excerpts. You are expected to speak only the target language in class. The course is intended for students who plan to sit for the IB exam and for those students who are able to pursue the language at an accelerated rate.

FRENCH 3 – HONORS/IB
#5006  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: French 2 Honors and teacher recommendation

You will be missed if you don’t stay on the train of French learning…you’ve barely just begun your journey! As you continue your study of the past tenses, you will learn how to describe yourself and your childhood experiences using the imperfect tense. Along the way, you will also learn vocabulary regarding food preparation, your daily routine, health care, technology, and the job market. You will learn new verb tenses to help you more fully express yourself in the present and future and you will greatly add to your existing base of knowledge about other grammatical structures. You will have the experience of developing oral presentations, both recorded and before your peers, giving you new confidence to speak as well as write the language. A particular emphasis will be placed upon IB oral work. Join us on this continuing French voyage and reserve your seat without delay. En voiture!

SPANISH 3 – HONORS/IB
#5106  Sophomore, Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish 2 Honors and teacher recommendation

Let’s go to Costa Rica, Argentina, Panamá and Colombia! As you begin the year you will learn how to describe your childhood experiences and be able to tell what you were like as a child using the imperfect tense. You will be able to describe your home, discuss your chores and other responsibilities, as well as learn how to give commands. Along the way, you will learn vocabulary for technology and be able to discuss the environment, nature and ecology. You will be introduced to necessary grammatical structures such as relative pronouns and por versus para and you will begin to learn about the subjunctive mood. As you progress in your study of Spanish, you will write several essays and prepare presentations in order to increase both your written and oral abilities. Don’t let this train leave without you! ¡Todos a bordo!

SPANISH 4 – COLLEGE PREP
#5107  Junior, Senior  1.00 credit  Yearlong

Prerequisite: Spanish 3 and teacher recommendation

¡Felicitaciones! Congratulations! You made it! This year you will continue your journey by visiting Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. You will talk about outdoor activities, nature, the environment and conservation. You will be introduced to life in the city. You will discuss health, nutrition and physical activities. You will also express your beliefs and opinions about current events and issues. You will learn to tell what someone has or had done, give advice to others, give and receive directions and much more. You will write several essays and prepare oral presentations. By the end of the fourth year you will have a basic command of Spanish in all four language skills: listening, talking, reading and writing. ¡Vamos!
French or Spanish IV Honors

In this course the students will continue to develop proficiency in the areas targeted in third year Honors. This course is required for students seeking an IB diploma or an IB certificate. You will learn strategies for taking the IB exam in May. You will be exposed to a wide range of reading sources, be expected to write higher level essays and be able deliver oral presentations in the target language.

FRENCH 4 – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#5008 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
Prerequisite: French 3 IB/H and teacher recommendation

The final part of your journey through the Francophone world is about to begin. You have learned to express yourself in the past, the present, and the future and you have established a solid grammatical foundation. This year you will perfect your reading and writing skills as well as continue to develop your oral proficiency through an in-depth look at the IB themes of social relationships, global issues, communication and media, and leisure activities. A study of the subjunctive mood and a comprehensive review of pronouns will afford you the opportunity to express yourself more clearly as your journey culminates with successful preparation for the IB French certificate and wonderful memories of an amazing French voyage! Allons-y!

SPANISH 4 – HONORS/IB STANDARD LEVEL
#5108 Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
Prerequisite: Spanish 3 IB/H and teacher recommendation

As your journey through Mercyhurst comes to an end you will spend this year reinforcing and reviewing what we have learned in the last three years as well as learning new grammar and vocabulary. We will begin to prepare for the IB test focusing on the themes and topics that are pertinent to the IB curriculum. You will be given the opportunity to communicate in Spanish in a meaningful and relevant manner. We will cover significant topics such as immigration, health, science and technology, global issues, etc. During the course of the year you will write several essays and compose oral presentations as you prepare for the IB Spanish exam in May. At the end of the year, your linguistic ability will allow you to appreciate the Spanish language as a tool that will provide you a plethora of opportunities that will open many doors in your future ¡Vamos!

WORLD LANGUAGE ELECTIVES

INTRODUCTION TO ITALIAN - COLLEGE PREP
#5301 Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Would you like to order something at an Italian restaurant and be able to pronounce it correctly and know exactly what you are eating? Would you like to arrive at the airport in Rome and know what to do, what to say and where to go? Come and spend a term in Intro to Italian and we’ll give you the tools that you will need to comfortably get around and communicate in the land of amore! There will be an emphasis on speaking and translating in the present tense as well as on the vocabulary which will be the most useful in the area of travel. Come on...let’s go! Andiamo!

LATIN AMERICAN CULTURE-COLLEGE PREP
#5317 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

Would you like to learn about the culture and fine arts of Latin American countries? In this term course, you will explore different aspects of Latin American culture, including art, music, poetry, literature, and film. You will be expected to conduct research and prepare a presentation on one of the areas in which you are interested. This course is perfect for students who have a desire to learn about the culture of different countries and who wish to augment what they are learning in their language classes. The course will be conducted in English.
### SPECIAL INTEREST COURSES

#### THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE-HONORS/IB (IB DIPLOMA REQUIREMENT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#8102</td>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8104 &amp; 8106</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td></td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Theory of Knowledge is the culminating course within the International Baccalaureate diploma program. This seminar is designed to promote and guide reflection and synthesis of thought generated in the various academic disciplines with a particular emphasis on the students’ personal integration of knowledge into their own lives. This course is an IB requirement for all diploma candidates and prospective candidates.

The course explores various areas of knowledge: mathematics, history, natural sciences, human sciences, the arts, etc. The process of knowledge formation and requirements for justification used in each are examined and discussed. This exploration connects the specific areas of knowledge with analysis of the primary ways of knowing: language, reason, emotion, and sensory perception. Students should be able to critically examine the development and status of that which they claim to know and the decisions they make based upon that knowledge.

Evaluation is based heavily upon seminar preparation and participation with written assignments and oral presentations reflecting the assessment criteria set forth by IB.

Diploma candidates will also receive supervision regarding the 4,000 word extended essay based upon independent research as required by IB. While distinct from the Theory of Knowledge course curriculum, the extended essay is an integral component of the IB diploma program.

**STUDENTS TAKE THE COURSE FOR A TOTAL OF THREE TERMS, THE THIRD TERM OF JUNIOR YEAR AND THE FIRST AND SECOND TERMS OF SENIOR YEAR.**

#### CAREER INTERNSHIP – COLLEGE PREP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#8207</td>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>.33</td>
<td>Term</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Career internship will provide a firsthand experience with professionals in a specific career field. Its primary objective is to provide an introduction to the day-to-day roles and responsibilities of a career professional. Student expectations will include: (1) application to the internship program through the counselor, (2) an interview with and approval by the appropriate employment placement supervisor, (3) providing own transportation to and from the job site, (4) commitment to the employer every other day from 1:30-5:00 (or other approved time frame), and (5) undergoing periodic evaluations by the employment supervisor. A limited number of in-house internships are available as well. Please see your counselor for more information.
INTRO TO THEOLOGY – COLLEGE PREP
#0020 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior 1.00 credit Yearlong

This class is designed for international students who have little or no exposure to Christianity back home. We use the Bible as our principal text and learn the stories of the people of the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) and of the Christian Scriptures (New Testament). We will attempt to discover why the Bible is called sacred literature and why it has had such a profound influence on the lives of so many people. Studying the Bible will help us to know better the God who is revealed in the story of salvation, especially emphasizing the person of Jesus Christ. In addition to this, attention will be given to life skills and character building with a focus on the Charism of Mercy instituted by Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. The process of discovery in this course will be based on experiential learning techniques such as journal writing, learning teams, prayer, projects, use of technology, and activities that develop awareness of our responsibilities to God, self, and others.

THE AMERICAN CULTURE - COLLEGE PREP
#8213 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This class is for international students during their initial year at Mercyhurst Prep. Students enroll for 1 or 2 terms based on their level of mastery of English skills related to American Culture or prior experience at an American school.

Topics covered include: orientation to MPS; food, social and etiquette skills; American holidays; intro to U.S. history; the 50 states; American art, music, sports, literature and humor.

ELL WRITING- COLLEGE PREP
#8203 (yearlong) Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior 1.00 credit Yearlong
#8204 (term) .33 credit Term course

This class is for international students during their initial year at Mercyhurst Prep. Students enroll for 1-3 terms based on their level of mastery of English grammar, writing, reading comprehension and vocabulary skills.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNING - COLLEGE PREP
#8215 Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, Senior .33 credit Term course

This course is an individualized introduction to basic vocabulary and English comprehension for international students auditing classes at Mercyhurst Prep during the spring term.