



PROGRAM of STUDY

Educating Founders | established 1858


the
MOUNT
MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

2022-2023

Mount Saint Joseph Academy **Belief Statements**

Premised on the tenet that “on the education of women largely depends the future of society” (Constitution of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. Rpt. in “Mount Saint Joseph Academy Mission Statement”)

We believe that

1. Respect for self and others is at the heart of “unity and reconciliation” (“Mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph”);
2. Single-sex learning environments cultivate strong women leaders, independent in mind and spirit, socially responsible, and intellectually and personally courageous;
3. This school community, impelled by Christian values, emboldens young women with passion, confidence, and competence to found a future committed to justice and peace;
4. Nurturance of the deep, mature faith and prayer life of individuals spiritually energizes and enriches the entire community;
5. Gospel values enlighten developing individual consciences that inform moral and ethical life decisions;
6. The desire to respond actively to the needs of “the dear neighbor” (Sisters of Saint Joseph Documents) empowers each student to assume her responsibilities as a citizen of a global community;
7. Education demands the encouragement of intellectual curiosity and creative problem-solving;
8. Comprehensive, challenging curricula enable each student to realize her fullest academic potential;
9. Innovative, technologically-rich, as well as traditional instructional strategies, maximize the potential academic growth of each student;
10. Gentleness with self and others must temper the drive for excellence.





Mount Saint Joseph Academy **Mission Statement**

Mount Saint Joseph Academy, a college preparatory school, empowers young women to realize their fullest potential. Imbued with a spirit of unity and reconciliation, the charism of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, Mount Saint Joseph Academy fosters excellence tempered by gentleness and compassion.

Enriched by the values of the Catholic Church, Mount Saint Joseph Academy offers academically rigorous programs that challenge students to shape the future.

In a student-centered, collaborative environment, Mount Saint Joseph Academy provides a holistic education with an emphasis on global responsibility.

Faithful to “educating founders,” Mount Saint Joseph Academy enables students to be agents of transformation in the face of moral and ethical challenges in an ever-evolving society. Trusting in the wisdom echoed by the Constitution of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, the mission asserts, “On the education of women largely depends the future of society.”





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Philosophy of MSJA

The philosophy of Mount Saint Joseph Academy reflects the mission, charism, and tradition of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, empowering students to be agents of unity and reconciliation in the world. Although the philosophy is rooted in the past, the members of the school community remain mindful that they live in the present with minds and hearts set toward the future. Mount Saint Joseph Academy endeavors to create a climate in which all can more easily discern truth, love goodness, seek justice, follow right reason, and pursue a sustainable future which reverences God and all creation.

Students are called to “the more,” to be agents of transformation and to be “founders” in a world, broken and longing for unity and reconciliation. The philosophy advances holistic development with an emphasis on global justice and responsibility in an atmosphere that fosters excellence tempered by gentleness and compassion. Mount Saint Joseph Academy remains faithful to “educating founders” and to the belief that “on the education of women largely depends the future of society.”

Admission Policy

Admission to Mount Saint Joseph Academy is based on academic excellence determined through a competitive examination administered in the fall of a student’s eighth grade year and on the student’s elementary school records and a letter of recommendation. The entrance test consists of a series of aptitude and achievement tests. The student may also qualify or be asked to take placement tests in order to pass out of one level course into another. These tests are offered in the spring. The institution admits students of any race, religion, color, nationality and ethnicity.

Introduction to the Program of Study

The selection of an educational program is one of the most important decisions you, the student, can make. It is one that will affect your immediate educational plans as well as your future. The purpose of this booklet is to provide a brief description of the courses offered at Mount Saint Joseph Academy.

While planning your program, assess your aptitudes as well as your past scholastic achievements. Think about your college and vocational goals. Before making selections from the courses offered, discuss your educational goals with your parents, teachers, guidance counselors, and siblings. The more information you have, the better will be your decisions.

You may choose any course listed, provided you meet the requirements. These requirements are made because education must build on previous knowledge if it is to be effective. There is no point electing a course if you have not mastered the one upon which it builds. The school may reserve the right to change your selection if you demonstrate a lack of qualification for a course, or if inadequate enrollment or scheduling conflicts warrant such action. No exceptions to stated prerequisites will be considered unless circumstances are such that a grave injustice would otherwise result. Also note that not all courses will match your schedule.

Scheduling conflicts occur when two or more classes that a student requests are offered at the same time. Not all conflicts can be resolved due to the number of courses offered and students requesting courses.

Courses listed in the Program of Study book are offered only if student registration and staffing permit.

Students are required to choose enough credits to fulfill graduation requirements. Prerequisites are required for many courses and they must be fulfilled to move into the next level.

Course Requests

While scheduling, it is important to remember:

- Requests for or from a specific teacher will not be honored.
- Courses will be scheduled only if there is sufficient student demand.
- Choices made during the rostering process must be honored during the upcoming academic year.
- Enrollment in classes with limited seating will be determined by the Administration.

Most requests for changes are not honored after the scheduled deadlines. Exceptions are honored only in the cases of conflicts, scheduling errors or recommendation of the Administration.



Course Changes

After May 1, a student who requests a change in a course she originally selected is subject to a \$50.00 service charge if the change is approved before July 1. After July 1, the charge is \$75.00 if the change is approved. No courses are changed after the first full week of the Fall Semester. If a level change is made, it is made through teacher recommendation. Courses may be dropped at the end of the first quarter only upon recommendation of the teacher and an administrator and a parent interview. Students may not change courses at will throughout the year.

Block Scheduling

The block system provides a 4-block day (4 periods) with a two-day cycle, A and B days. To provide a 2-cycle day that works successfully, first and fourth blocks rotate. The student requests courses for 7 or 8 blocks for the year. The school decides which courses will be offered each term. One term runs one half of a school year and courses are scheduled as a full term, half term or a quarter term.

Graduation Requirements

MSJA requires 28 credits for graduation (at least 7 credits per year).

Student Earned Credits

Credit is earned upon the completion of a course. Minor courses are given credit based on the length of the course.

1.0 credit	full year (alternating days)
1.0 credit	full semester
0.5 credit	one quarter
0.25 credit	one quarter (alternating days)

Student Course Load

The mental and spiritual wellbeing of our students is of utmost importance. Due to the stress of transition to high school and the significant academic rigor of the block schedule, ***Freshmen will not be permitted to enroll in more than three honors courses.*** Similarly, because of the extra study time required for AP work, it is strongly recommended that upperclasswomen elect a maximum of three AP courses in any given year. Credits earned include:

English	4 (1 credit per year)
Social Studies	3
Mathematics	3
Science	3
World Language	3
Health Education	0.25
Physical Education	1
Fine Arts	1
Computer Literacy	0.75



Grade Level Requirements

GRADE 9

- 864 Freshman Foundations (Online hybrid).

Theology I	English I
Social Studies	Mathematics

Freshman Rotation consists of:

- 811 Physical Education
- 810 Health
- 712 Exploring Technology
- 091 SSJ Mission: Laced in a Legacy

Choices of:

- Second level of a mathematics
- Science
- Language elective
- Second level of a language
- Art, Choral, Instrumental Ensemble, etc.

GRADE 10

- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Theology II | English II |
| Social Studies | Mathematics |
| Science | Language elective |

Sophomore Rotation consists of

- 821 Physical Education/Health
- 862 College & Career Exploration
- 622 Communications/Speech

Study or choice of Music elective:

- 624 Creating Digital Music
- 625 History of Rock & Roll
- Choices of Electives

GRADE 11

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Theology III | English III |
| Social Studies | Mathematics |
| Science | Physical Education |
| Choice of Electives | |

GRADE 12

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Theology IV | English IV Physical Education |
| Physical Education | Choice of Electives |

Fine Arts Requirement

Students attending the Mount are required to fulfill one (1) credit in the Fine Arts. These credits may be elected from courses in the listing of the 600's. The sophomore rotation includes Communications/Speech (0.25 credit) and History of Rock & Roll (0.25 credit) or Creating Digital Music (0.25 credit).

Level of Courses

Courses are leveled according to a student's ability and needs. Four types of courses are offered.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

These college level courses are designed for students who are prepared to meet the challenge of a stimulating learning experience. Through the national Advanced Placement curriculum, students enroll in approved AP classes at the Mount and they may receive college credit on the completion of a mandatory exam.

DIOCESAN SCHOLARS

The Diocesan Scholars program offers college courses to approved students at Chestnut Hill College. These courses are identified on the student's transcript. Courses from the college are 1.0 credit per course and given AP GPA weight. Students who participate in this program may not enroll in more than 2 AP courses at the Mount during their senior year.

HONORS COLLEGE PREPARATORY

Honors college-prep classes are offered for students who are able to pursue in-depth study and who are willing to spend extra time outside of class working independently. These courses require additional reading and writing assignments.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY

College-prep courses are offered for students whose command of basic skills enables them to accelerate at a normal high school level.

ENRICHMENT COURSES

Health, Physical Education, Exploring Technology, Guidance and some Fine Arts are courses designed to enrich the core curriculum or fulfill a state requirement. Grades in these courses do not calculate into the student's Grade Point Average (GPA) and they do not calculate into honor roll.



Marking System

Academic performance is measured through grades and credits. In all courses, letter grades are given on report cards and transcripts. The letter grade is the actual grade for the level course and is used for calculations. The Mount has a system of A through F with plus and minus grades. There are a few courses that are based on a Pass/Fail system. The current grading scale and equivalency is found in the Student Handbook. Students' marks are not "rounded up" in any course.

Academic Honors: Semester Honor Roll

The Honor Roll is determined based on a FIRST HONORS and SECOND HONORS SYSTEM. Honors are computed separately on first semester grades and again on the second semester grades. Enrichment courses (Physical Education, Health, Exploring Technology, Guidance, Communications and Fine Arts rotation courses) are not used in honor roll calculations.

FIRST HONORS requires a GPA of 4.000 with no course below a "C." SECOND HONORS requires a GPA of 3.800 with no course below a "C." Honors certificates are issued in January and June based on semester one and semester two marks respectively.

Graduating with Honors

TO GRADUATE WITH HONORS a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.900 by the end of first semester senior year. A senior with a cumulative GPA of 4.100 by the end of first semester senior year will GRADUATE WITH DISTINGUISHED HONORS.

Academic Honors Convocation

An ACADEMIC CONVOCATION is held each fall to acknowledge the scholastic excellence of the students. Invitations are extended to those students who achieve a 3.800 or better final cumulative GPA for all previous years of study at Mt. St. Joseph Academy. The National Merit Commended and Semifinalist students are also noted at this time if the nominations are available.

Grade Point Average

Courses are weighted according to the degree of challenge they present. Weighting is used only to calculate the GPA.

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{Potential Credit} \times \text{Quality Points}}{\text{Total Potential Credits}}$$

A potential credit is the possible credit for a particular course. An earned credit is given when the course is completed and passed.

Honor roll is calculated each semester and based on the semester GPA. A cumulative GPA is based on the final grades of courses when computed with the previous years. However, in January, a cumulative GPA is generated for juniors and seniors based on the term averages for college admission purposes and/or applications for special programs. Graduation honors are computed on this cumulative GPA.

Certain courses are not used in the calculations of the GPA. These courses receive earned credit but no quality points. They include: Physical Education, Health, Exploring Technology, Guidance, Fine Arts rotation courses, Communications/Speech, and Instrumental Performance

Grade Reporting

Power School allows students and parents to monitor progress on a continuous basis. Additionally, Teachers and/or the Studies Office will communicate in writing with students and parents at the midpoint of each marking period when a student has a grade of C- or below. Parents and students must understand that it is possible for a student to be passing a course at the midpoint of a marking period, yet she could perform poorly after the issuance and fail at the end of the marking period. Students who receive a D+ or lower may be removed from activities at the direction of the Dean of Studies and the Principal.

Report cards are distributed four times per year. A student may receive at least one comment in every course on this report at the teacher's discretion. Parent conferences may be requested for a particular subject. Parents should follow up on the recommendations made by the teachers on the report. Students with C-'s, D's or F's may be required to sign a notification from the Studies Office.

Study Habits and Skills

Homework is part of scholastic life at the Mount. Courses are designed to require a significant amount of homework each night in each major subject. Some assignments are long-range and require planned study time for their completion. ***Because of the extra study time required for AP work, it is recommended that a student elect a maximum of three AP courses.***

Tests / Examinations

Teachers may administer tests at their own discretion during the school year. Communication between students and teachers avoids multiple tests on a given day. A special schedule is arranged for examinations at the end of each semester. Except for a grave reason, no student may absent herself from examinations. Examinations and alternate assessments are meant to be culminating activities that indicate how well a student has synthesized and analyzed the given material for a course. Examinations or alternate assessments are given in all major classes.

No more than two subjects will have an examination/assessment on a given day at the end of a term. There are no exemptions to exams/assessments. Students who take any AP courses must take the AP exam as the final examination. Seniors who take the AP standardized tests must follow the procedures for all graduation related rehearsals and activities.

Academic Integrity

Students and faculty at MSJA aim to seek truth and intellectual growth in an atmosphere of mutual support. Such a quest imposes an obligation on the students to be an active part of the learning process and to accept responsibility for their academic behavior and success.

Mount Saint Joseph Academy is committed to providing an environment where young women are enabled and empowered "to meet the moral and ethical challenges of an ever-changing society and a technological future." (Mission statement) Mount students are expected to be young women of outstanding character for whom honesty and integrity are respected values that are practiced in all situations. This is certainly true in academic endeavors. It is the official policy of Mount Saint Joseph Academy that all acts of alleged academic dishonesty be reported to the Dean of Studies. The Dean of Student Life will be notified for appropriate disciplinary action. The Principal will be informed.

Academic Progress

Progress is monitored through Power School and through report cards, which are issued four times in the year. Any student who receives a C- or below at the midpoint of a marking period, for any quarter, semester average and/or term or final grade is considered to be in academic jeopardy. The parent(s) or guardian(s) should be in contact with the appropriate teacher to discuss remediation.

Any student who receives a D+ or D on any progress report or report card for any quarter, semester average, term or final grade, and whose GPA is less than 2.8, will at the direction of the Dean of Studies, Athletic Director and any major activity moderator, be removed from extra-curricular activities for one full school week. Extra-curricular activities include but are not limited to all major club activities, publications, trips, sporting events and practices, honor societies, service societies and student leadership organizations. The student will be allowed to attend practices or rehearsals for major events but they will not be allowed to participate in games, meets or any other major activity. Progress will be monitored weekly. If after one full school week, progress has been made to improve the grade, the student will be fully reinstated.

Any student who receives a failure (F) on any progress report or report card for any quarter, semester average, term or final grade may, at the direction of the Dean of Studies, the Athletic Director and any major activity moderator, be removed from extra-curricular activities for one full school week. Extra-curricular activities include but are not limited to all major club activities, publications, trips, sporting events and practices, honor societies, service societies and student leadership organizations. The time of removal from the team/activity is set by the Dean of Studies in conjunction with the teacher, moderator and/or Athletic Director. The student may not attend practices or rehearsals and they will not be allowed to participate in games, meets or any other major event. If after one full school week, progress has been made to improve the grade, the student will be fully reinstated. If improvement is not seen in this time, the student's failing status will remain as is until she is reinstated to the sport or activity by the Dean of Studies.

If a student fails a course, she is required to make it up in a school/course approved by the Dean of Studies and pass it. The highest grade achievable will be a "C." Any student who fails more than two courses will be requested to transfer from the Mount to another school. If a senior fails a course, her diploma will be awarded upon successful completion of the course as stipulated by the Dean of Studies. Her report card or transcript will not acknowledge a graduation date until the course is retaken, passed and the appropriate paper work is forwarded to the Mount. Transcripts from summer sessions must be forwarded to the Studies Office by August 15.

Assignments / Attendance

Each student is expected to spend a significant and appropriate amount of study time per class day, more if she is taking honors or Advanced Placement courses. For this reason, it is important that a student is absent only when it is absolutely necessary; college visitation should be scheduled for days when seniors have no classes. Students should also be aware that working on weekends or after school is an added pressure when carrying a demanding school schedule. Parents are encouraged to check the study schedule of their daughter; unless she spends the required time on study each day, she cannot expect to achieve academic success.

Extended Illness

Parents should always contact the Student Life Office when a student is going to be absent from school for any reason. A student who misses one to three days should check Canvas and/or call classmates for assignments and consult each teacher for an update when she returns. Students absent from school for any extended time (more than three school days) should make special arrangements to make up the missed work with the teachers. If the absence extends to four or more days, parents should call the Dean of Studies to estimate the expected extent of the absence and to advise her how assignments can be sent home. Upon return, a student should meet with her teachers to discuss plans for make-up. Students who miss more than a week of school are required to demonstrate they have made up the missed work. Any assignments, homework, tests, etc. must be completed within two weeks of the student returning to school. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Dean



of Studies. Tutors may be required by the school to ensure the material is learned. This is especially true when the next level depends on the current course. If a student is absent without accepted excuse for a total of seven (7) days per semester, or if she misses more than 10% of class meetings, she and her parents must meet with the Dean of Studies to determine if credit will be given for her courses. These absences present a major obstacle to promotion in leveled courses. Students who are absent on a regular basis without sufficient cause may be liable to attend summer school.

Vacation days are considered unexcused absences.

Please see Student Handbook for more detailed information on absences/lateness, etc.

Testing Programs

NINTH GRADE	PSAT 8/9
TENTH GRADE	PSAT
ELEVENTH GRADE	PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, ACT
TWELFTH GRADE	SAT, ACT

A student may request testing accommodations with the appropriate professional documentation.

Counseling Services

The Mount offers three types of counseling to its students: college direction, academic support, and social/emotional guidance. The purpose of these services is to help each student in her vocational, educational and social development.

All information is subject to change within the year. The current year Student Handbook contains updated information and further details.

Programs of Study

NEW COURSES

This section lists the names of courses running for the first or second time this year. Please see the full department listings for the details about these exciting courses.

- Theology:
 - 091 SSJ Mission: Laced in a Legacy
- English:
 - 153 – Print & Broadcast Journalism
- Social Studies:
 - 275 Scandal & Politics in Medieval Italy through Dante's Inferno
 - 276 Voices for Change: American History through Written Word
 - 248 Race, Gender & Equity in America
- Math/Science:
 - 403 Foundations of Physics and Algebra
- Science:
 - 433 Principles of Engineering Design
- Fine Arts:
 - 153 – Print & Broadcast Journalism
- Business & Technology:
 - 758 AP Microeconomics
 - 731 AP Computer Science A
 - 775 – The Business of Food



2022

2023

COURSE LISTINGS

THEOLOGY

The Theology Department strives to cultivate and incorporate an academic understanding of Catholic theology and a movement of the heart. In the spirit of the mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Philadelphia, we believe: “Such attentiveness of heart leads us into deepening union with God in and through our loving service to the ‘dear neighbor,’ especially to those who are most vulnerable” (Sisters of St. Joseph of Philadelphia.)

A minimum of 4 credits in Theology is required for graduation.

□ 091 | **SSJ Mission: Laced in a Legacy**

Required – Grade 9 (Rotation) 0.25 Credit

The goal of this course is to introduce the students to the history, spirituality, and charism of the Sisters of Saint Joseph. The course explores the rich SSJ heritage and tradition, inviting the students to recognize the privilege and responsibility of being immersed in this charism. The journey will bring awareness to the intersectionality of life in order to see how the charism can be lived in each and every interaction as we aim to answer the question, “What does it mean to ‘serve the dear neighbor?’”

□ 012 | **Old Testament, Faith & Tradition**

Required – Grade 9 1 credit

Through the perspective of both contemporary Scripture scholarship and Catholic Tradition, this foundational course focuses on providing a deeper understanding of the truth that God conveys in the Old Testament. By studying various books of the Bible, students will acquire skills to comprehend God’s Word at a deeper level along with the strong foundation needed to develop a personal life-long relationship with God. Special emphasis is placed on the goodness of creation, in particular the goodness of the human person as a child of God. Through lecture, class discussion, projects and prayer, students are strongly encouraged to contemplate the many ways that God’s Word continues today to speak to our world and to each of us personally. Because Christianity is rooted in Judaism, the course also engages aspects of Catholic belief such as faith, revelation, morals, prayer and service.

□ 022 | **New Testament, Faith & Tradition**

Required – Grade 10 1 credit

This course on the New Testament focuses on the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the letters of Paul, the Acts of the Apostles, and an introduction to the Early Church. The themes of Catholic social teaching, which develop from Jesus’ teachings and Church history, are integrally woven as this course covers faith, tradition, sacraments, and the lives of faithful women and men who witness to the gospel. Students are encouraged to pray and reflect on the deeper meaning of Jesus and his mission in order to integrate his teachings into their personal lives so as to live gospel values and to be positive influences for change in our world.

□ 031 | **Christian Morality & Ethical Issues in Church and Society**

Required – Grade 11

1 credit

This course examines the foundations of Catholic morality; specifically, Christ and Church beliefs, while also understanding the roots of how the faith grew within the Church. This allows students to comprehend ideas including comparative moral philosophies, moral psychology, conscience, moral development, character, freedom, sin, virtues, and a process for moral decision making. Integrated throughout the course will be a particular emphasis on specific areas of morality through the framework of the Ten Commandments and the foundational themes of Catholic social teaching.

□ 044 | **Catholic Social Teaching**

Grade 12

0.5 credit

This course takes a positive approach toward matters of justice. It aims to inspire hope and action, while offering insight into current social justice issues. Most importantly, it holds the invitation to respond to injustices and faithfully live the gospel in this time. The Catholic vision of discipleship and the authentic living of Catholic Social Teaching principles are presented and integrated through current justice issues and witnesses of faithful discipleship. The Catholic Church’s “Best Kept Secret” of Catholic social teaching will provide a lens through which students will view social justice issues

□ 045 | **Vocation & Human Sexuality**

Grade 12

0.5 credit

This course provides relevant information to all “states of life” from a Catholic Christian perspective. Important developmental tasks of young adulthood are explored: identity, autonomy, love, communication, sexuality, intimacy, sacramentality, and spirituality. The focus is on helping students make healthy, Christ-oriented decisions. In addition to developing a basic understanding of Catholic teaching on vocation and sexual ethics, students will engage and integrate new information and understanding to approach the practical questions that affect their lives.

□ 046 | **Bioethics**

Grade 12

0.5 Credit

Within the framework of Catholic moral theology, the emphasis in the Bioethics course is placed on understanding principles and key concepts while exploring a variety of bioethical issues. The application of these principles and key concepts in the critiques of some challenges to Catholic moral theology will facilitate informed discussion and critical reflection on issues such as abortion, reproductive technology, genetic testing and engineering, stem cell research, cloning, organ transplants, human experimentation, and end-of-life care.

□ 049 | **Contemporary Catholicism**

Grade 12

0.5 Credit

The purpose of this course is to more deeply explore Catholic teachings on fundamental issues of faith and practice. It allows the students to ask and seek answers to the big questions of life and faith such as the existence of God and human suffering. Through discussion, students are able to expand on previous knowledge, reflect on what it means to be Christian and enrich individual relationships with God. This course examines the Catholic faith through different perspectives while exploring the themes of the life and dignity of the human person, participation in society and the recognition that all people are part of the same human family and share one living space we call earth.

□ 050 | **World Religions**

Grade 12

0.5 Credit

This course, focusing on ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, provides an overview and analysis of the human search for God and meaning throughout a variety of global contexts and religious traditions. In the spirit of Pope Francis' prayer that "sincere dialogue between men and women of different religions may produce the fruits of peace and justice", the course invites students to not simply learn the content, but also to learn from it and integrate it into their lives. Beginning with the foundation of the Catholic and Christian faiths, the course dialogue will focus on Judaism, Islam, Eastern religions, Sikhism, the Baha'i faith and Mormonism.

ENGLISH

The English Department focuses on both the development of writing skills and literary exploration. The writing and research course work aims to develop expository and expressive writing skills with multiple opportunities to practice them. Students also



read selected works of world and contemporary literature, learn the language of analysis, and apply it to writing and discussion. Students also have the opportunity to combine information literacy with technology by practicing research skills in a variety of contexts. The literary-based course offerings, more traditional in the ninth and tenth grades, become more creative in scope for senior electives. Literary analysis, oral presentations, class discussion, grammar review, vocabulary study, and formal research, utilizing both electronic and print sources, cultivate skills necessary for academic success.

A minimum of 4 credits in English is required for graduation.

□ 111 | **Introduction to Writing & Literature**

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course aims to develop expository and expressive writing skills and to provide multiple opportunities to practice them. The students will also read selected works of world and contemporary literature, learn the language of literature, and apply it in writing and discussion. This course includes interdisciplinary applications with Exploring Technology to provide students with instruction and practice in research skills and in utilizing word processing.

□ 112 | **Honors Introduction to Writing & Literature**

Grade 9

1 Credit

Students who have demonstrated in the entrance examination and in elementary school records the mastery of basic skills will have the option of choosing Honors English. The course aims to increase vocabulary knowledge, to build on writing skills developed in middle school, to progress to multi-paragraph expository essays, and to write on various genres. The students will also read selected works of world and contemporary literature, learn the language of literary analysis, and apply it to writing and discussion. This course includes interdisciplinary applications with Exploring Technology to provide students with instruction and practice in research skills and in utilizing word processing.

Prerequisite: Eligibility is based on entrance exam scores, placement test scores, and the Administrative Committee selection process. In order to be eligible to sit for the placement test, the student must have earned an A (94 or above) in grades 6, 7, and 8 English.

□ 121 | **Introduction to American Literature**

Grade 10

1 Credit

This course presents a survey of American literature with a concentration on the works of eighteenth and nineteenth-century authors. Writings based on these readings strengthen students' knowledge of syntax, usage, and diction. Literary analysis, oral presentations, class discussion, grammar review, vocabulary study, and formal research utilizing both electronic and print sources are required.

□ 122 | **Honors American Literature**

Grade 10 1 Credit

This course traces the development of American literature from the Puritan Age to the twentieth century. The curriculum focuses on the ideas and the movements unique to American literature and its representative writers. Students engage in advanced critical reading, thinking, and discussion. Literary analysis, oral presentations, class discussion, grammar review, vocabulary study, and extensive writing and formal research, utilizing both electronic and print sources, are required.

Prerequisite: From 111: A average & department recommendation, as well as successful completion of placement test; from 112: B+ average and department recommendation.

□ 131 | **Survey of British Literature**

Grade 11 1 Credit

This survey course traces British literature, along with relevant historical background, from the Anglo-Saxon to the Victorian periods. The curriculum includes British writers and their works, allowing students to follow the evolution of British literature. Literary analysis, oral presentations, class discussion, grammar review, vocabulary study, extensive writing, and formal research are required.

□ 132 | **Honors British Literature**

Grade 11 1 Credit

This course aims to develop habits of thinking and modes of inquiry that enable students to encounter the master works of British literature with confidence and appreciation. Students write analyses on works from different genres and literary periods. They also write personal narratives, college application essays, expressive pieces inspired by the literature studied, and a formal research paper.

Prerequisite: From 121: A average and department recommendation, as well as successful completion of placement test; from 122: B+ average and department recommendation.

□ 141 | **Modern Writers**

Grade 12 0.5 Credit

This course examines the time periods, cultural influences and major literary themes in works by exemplary modern writers with an emphasis on twentieth and twenty-first century American authors. The curriculum requires extensive reading, writing, analysis of literature from various genres, and vocabulary study.

□ 142 | **World Literature Themes**

Grade 12 0.5 Credit

This course acquaints students with works from classical and modern world literature. The curriculum requires extensive reading, writing, analysis of literature from various genres, and vocabulary study. Written and oral assignments encourage students to express ideas clearly, correctly, and concisely.

□ 143 | **Shakespeare**

Grade 12 0.5 Credit

This course develops a deeper appreciation for and understanding of the works of William Shakespeare. It includes analysis of comedies, tragedies, and histories, as well as a study of the man and his times. Written and oral assignments encourage students to express ideas clearly, correctly, and concisely.

□ 153 | **Print & Broadcast Journalism**

Grade 10, 11, 12 0.5 Credit

Elective only – does not fulfill senior requirement

This course is recommended to students who have an interest in print, online, or broadcast journalism and would like to participate in either The Campanile or our television news station, WMSJ. The course will begin by introducing students to journalistic writing and acquaint them with elements of multimedia production. Students will then have the opportunity to acquire and develop broadcasting skills by working in an on-site TV studio set. Students will develop and expand their skills in journalism, communication, editing, technical writing, script writing, and broadcasting.

Prerequisite: Department recommendation.

□ 159 | **Crime Fiction**

Grade 12 0.5 Credit

This course examines the elements of detective fiction. It includes the study and analysis of works by Edgar Allan Poe, the “father” of the detective story; Sir Arthur Conan Doyle; Dame Agatha Christie; and Lisa Scottoline, our own Philadelphia “insider” and The New York Times best-selling author. Written and oral assignments encourage students to express ideas clearly, correctly, and concisely.

□ 160 | **AP English Literature**

Grade 12 1 credit

This college-level course offers motivated seniors whose past performance indicates both interest and ability an opportunity to experience literature and writing at a more advanced level. Extensive reading and writing, class discussions, literary analysis, and presentations prepare students to take the College Board

Examination in AP Literature and Composition, which is required.

Prerequisite: B+ average in Honors British Literature and department recommendation.

Prerequisite: Western Civilizations or Honors Western Civilizations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies plays a meaningful role in honoring the Mount's commitment to forming globally conscious and socially responsive citizens. The curriculum includes both world history and American history, as well as a wide variety of electives that range in focus from Genocide in History to Human Geography as well as Scandal and Politics in Medieval Italy. Each course is designed so that concept understanding, critical thinking, and research skills enable the student to explore economic, political, cultural, and religious life from ancient to current times.

A minimum of 3 credits in Social Studies is required for graduation.

□ 211 | Foundations of Western Civilization

Grade 9 1 Credit

This course is designed so that through concept understanding, critical thinking, and research skills the student can explore Western civilization's economic, political, cultural and religious life from ancient times through the Renaissance. A unit on the civilizations of Islam and Asia is also included.

□ 212 | Honors Foundations of Western Civilization

Grade 9 1 Credit

This course is designed for those students whose performance in the entrance examination demonstrated a firm grasp of reading comprehension and critical analysis. They should be highly motivated to pursue an in-depth study of Western Civilization: economic, political, cultural and religious life from ancient times through the Renaissance. A unit on the civilizations of Islam and Asia is also included.

Prerequisite: Placement is based on entrance test scores and the Administrative Committee selection process.

□ 223 | U.S. History: Modern I

Grade 10, 11 1 Credit

Building on prior knowledge of US history, students will examine the political, social and economic aspects of United States history. The chronology of the course will begin with the 20th century as it emerged from the turmoil of the Civil War and Reconstruction. As the United States became a world power in the American Century, students will examine how the country found its place in the world, eventually becoming embroiled in the conflagration of two world wars, followed by the Cold War.

□ 224 | Honors U.S. History: Modern I

Grade 10, 11 1 Credit

Building on prior knowledge of US history, students will examine the political, social and economic aspects of United States history. The chronology of the course will begin with the 20th century as it emerged from the turmoil of the Civil War and Reconstruction. As the United States begins to emerge as a world power in the American Century, students will examine how the country found its place in the world, eventually becoming embroiled in the conflagration of two world wars, followed by the Cold War.

Prerequisite: A in Western Civilizations or A- in Honors Western Civilizations and department recommendation.

□ 237 | U.S. History: Modern II

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to examine the political, social, and diplomatic events that have shaped the United States from the beginning of the Korean War to the present day. The focus of this course provides students with a framework for analyzing the political, social, economic and cultural issues that have impacted American society in the 20th century.

Prerequisite: US History: Modern I or Honors US History: Modern 1.

□ 238 | Honors U.S. History: Modern II

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

This honors course is designed for those students whose performance in prior courses demonstrates a firm grasp of reading comprehension and critical analysis. This course will examine the political, social, and diplomatic events that have shaped the United States from the beginning of the Korean War to the present day. The focus of this course provides students with a framework for analyzing the political, social, economic and cultural issues that have impacted American society in the 20th century. Students should be highly motivated to pursue an in-depth study focusing on key concepts, critical thinking and research skills.

Prerequisite: A in US History: Modern I, or A- in Honors US History: Modern I and department recommendation.



□ 271 | **Human Geography**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to help students better understand our constantly changing world through a basic study of introductory geography. Throughout the course, students will study geography from the physical, political, and cultural perspectives through five basic geographical themes of location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region. Additionally, there will be an emphasis on geographical skills and geographic literacy (locating countries, capitals, and physical features of the world), which will benefit students in their other social studies courses.

□ 272 | **Honors Human Geography**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to help students better understand our constantly changing world through a basic study of introductory geography. Throughout the course, students will study geography from the physical, political, and cultural perspectives through five basic geographical themes of location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region. Additionally, there will be an emphasis on geographical skills and geographic literacy (locating countries, capitals, and physical features of the world), which will benefit students in their other social studies courses. In addition, this course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

Prerequisites: A in any prior college prep Social Studies course or A- in any Honors or AP Social Studies course or department recommendation.

□ 249 | **Honors Modern Europe**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to enable the student to understand modern Europe through the study of the French Revolution and Napoleonic Era, the Industrial Revolution, Karl Marx and the growth of Socialism, 19th century Imperialism, the causes of World War I, the Russian Revolution, the rise of Fascism, World War II, the Cold War and its end, and Europe in the present.

Prerequisites: B+ in any prior Social Studies Honors course or AP course.

□ 244 | **Psychology**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is designed to introduce the student to psychology as a scientific study of human behavior, emotions and mental processes. Topics include: the history of psychology; learning theories and strategies; the interrelationship of the mind, body and behavior; development across the life span, abnormal behavior; and practices in psychology today.

□ 248 | **Race, Gender & Equity in America**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is an introduction to the history of gender, race, and ethnicity in the United States. This course will assess the struggle to end inequities and to create a society reflective of the proposition that "all men [and women] are created equal" as delineated in the Declaration of Independence. The list of topics covered includes, but is not limited to, the civil rights movement and its descendants, the women's rights and feminist movements, the evolution of immigration to the United States, and mass incarceration and the prison industrial complex.

□ 255 | **Honors Government, Policy, and Economics**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to introduce students to the basic theories of government and economics and to explore the policy areas in which they interact. The students will examine the foundations of American government, including introductory political theory, the framework set up by the Constitution, and the role of government in today's society. Students will also learn about the basic micro- and macroeconomic theory behind our economic system as well as the challenges facing the world's economic structure. The class will then study how government and economics mix in domestic policy and in the international arena.

Prerequisites: B+ in any prior Social Studies Honors course or AP course; or A- in US Modern History and department recommendation.

□ 273 | **Genocide in History**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is designed to develop student awareness of the issues associated with the concept of Genocide. The dominant focus of the student's attention will be on the Nazi Holocaust. Students will closely and critically examine the Holocaust in the context of modern European history and culture, with a strong focus on anti-Semitism, the development of Nazi ideologies, and consolidation of power in post-World War I Germany. In addition to the Nazi Holocaust, students will analyze written texts, images, films, and other cultural and artistic creations referring to the Native American Genocide, Armenian Genocide, the "Killing Fields" of Cambodia, the Rwanda Genocide, the situation in "former" Yugoslavia, and Darfur. Students can expect to improve their knowledge and understanding on many issues including racism, anti-Semitism, prejudice, and the ideology of genocide as they are exposed to numerous topics in this course.



□ 232 | **AP U.S. History**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to allow the student to build on the foundation acquired in United States History through an in-depth study of significant events and movements in U.S. history, along with the varying interpretations of them as preparation for the Advanced Placement History Examination. Students admitted to this course are required to devote at least eight to ten hours of study per week; this is in addition to study during class time. Students are required to take the AP exam.

Prerequisite: A in Western Civilization and previous US History course or A- in Honors Western Civilization and previous US History course. A in previous college prep English course, A- in previous Honors English course. Department recommendation.

□ 257 | **AP World History: Modern**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

In this course, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes on a global scale from approximately 1200 C.E. to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures. Students will be required to take the AP test.

Prerequisites: A- in Honors Western Civilization or an A in Foundations of Western Civilization. Also, A- in Honors Introduction to Writing & Literature or an A in Introduction to Writing & Literature.

□ 250 | **AP European History**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to enable the student to understand modern European history through the study of the Renaissance, Religious Reformations, nation building, the French Revolution and Napoleonic Era, the Industrial Revolution, Karl Marx and the growth of Socialism, 19th century Imperialism, the causes of World War I, the Russian Revolution, the rise of Fascism, World War II, the Cold War and its end, and Europe in the present. Students will be required to take the AP test.

Prerequisites: A- in Honors Western Civilization or an A in Foundations of Western Civilization. A in previous college prep English course, A- in previous Honors English course.

□ 253 | **AP Government & Politics: U.S.**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

This Advanced Placement course in American Government and Politics is designed to give students a critical perspective on politics and government in the United States. The course involves both study of general concepts and the analysis of specific cases related to government and politics. Students are required to take the AP exam.

Prerequisite: A- in any previous Honors or AP Social Studies course. Department recommendation.

economic milestones in those 100 years, but also, the literature that influences society as well as the influence the prose itself has on our national American identity. The emphasis of the course is on the connection and interaction of literature to changes in American society in the period of 1865 -1965.

□ 251 | **AP Psychology**

Grade 12

1 Credit

This college level course is for seniors who are interested in advancing their knowledge of behavior and mental processes of humans and other animals. In preparation for the required AP Psychology examination, students will be exposed to the psychological factors, principles and phenomena with thirteen major sub fields within psychology.

Prerequisite: B+ in Honors Biology, A- in Biology, or B in AP Biology. B+ in Honors English or A- in English.

□ 262 | **Honors Women as Founders**

Grade 12

1 Credit

As an interdisciplinary course, the Women As Founders Seminar will trace and explore the history of women's social problems and reform movements, and current movements in women's immigration and education. Students will examine the ways women have influenced society for the common good. Components of the curriculum will include independent research and community outreach. The course runs throughout the student's senior year, meeting before first block two mornings a week. The remainder of the course consists of work on identifying a social need and creating an independent project which addresses that need. The project will be selected by the student under the guidance of the course moderator and a mentor.

□ 275 | **Scandal & Politics in Medieval Italy through Dante's *Inferno***

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

(This course does not fulfill the graduation requirement in English.)

Most high school students have limited exposure to the political developments of Medieval Italy. Additionally, most students are limited to literary works originally written in English. This course seeks to address those limitations by exploring the significance of Dante's *Inferno* as both a theological/moral text and a perspective on Italian Medieval politics.

Organized as a seminar-style class, the course will seek to analyze Dante's conceptions of sin and punishment and how they relate to the political and social relationships of Medieval Italy. The primary goal will be to read the entire *Inferno*, along with supplementary theological, religious, and political texts.

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department focuses on three areas of study in the math curriculum - Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II - with ample opportunity for each student to customize her course of study in upper-level courses, such as Trigonometry, Calculus, Statistics, and Discrete Mathematics. Each course strikes a balance between classic arithmetic skills and problem-solving skills, inviting students to learn the basics of different forms of mathematical thought and then apply that information to new situations via skills of critical thought. Mathematics is about more than just memorization; it is about application of new skills, creativity, development of logical thinking and collaborative problem solving.

A minimum of 3 credits in Mathematics is required for graduation.

□ 276 | **Voices for Change: American History through Written Word**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

(This course does not fulfill the graduation requirement in English.)

In this course, students will examine the time period in American History from Reconstruction through the Civil Rights Movement. The course will examine not only the social, political and

□ 312 | **Algebra I**

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have demonstrated mastery of arithmetic skills and typical problem-solving skills in the Entrance examination. It includes the study of basic operations and graphing of the real number system and its subsets, properties of real numbers, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, solving and graphing equations and inequalities, functions and relations in the coordinate plane, systems of linear equations, irrational numbers and radicals. Use of the graphing calculator is emphasized.



and Theorems of Euclid, coordinate geometry, right triangle trigonometry, and properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, circles and solids. Application of real-world problems enhance the learning process. Formal proof and deductive reasoning are an integral part of the course.

Prerequisite: Algebra I.

□ **323 | Honors Geometry**

Grade 9, 10

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have demonstrated mastery of Honors Algebra I and have good problem-solving ability. These are students who learn quickly and enjoy challenges. The course includes the study of logic, the Postulates and Theorems of Euclid and coordinate geometry. Topics covered include properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, three-dimensional solids, and right triangle trigonometry.

Prerequisite: B+ in Honors Algebra I and/or department recommendation.

□ **331 | Algebra II**

Grade 9, 10, 11

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have mastered Algebra I. Topics include the study of quadratic, polynomial and rational functions, inequalities and their graphs, solving equations and problems involving rational expressions, radicals, irrational and complex numbers, as well as basic probability and measures of central tendency and dispersion.

Prerequisite: Algebra I and/or department recommendation.

□ **332 | Honors Algebra II**

Grade 9, 10, 11

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have demonstrated mastery of Honors Algebra I and have good problem-solving ability. Topics include the study of quadratic functions, systems of equations, matrices, polynomial and rational algebraic expressions, radicals, irrational and complex numbers, exponents, logarithms and conic sections. Topics from probability and statistics will be studied if time allows.

Prerequisite: Freshman administration placement or B+ in prior Honors math courses and/or department recommendation.

□ **342 | Precalculus/Trigonometry**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have mastered Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. It includes a thorough study of elementary functions (polynomial, exponential, logarithmic,

□ **313 | Honors Algebra I**

Grade 9

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have demonstrated mastery of basic arithmetic skills and excellent problem-solving ability in the Entrance examination. These are students who learn quickly and enjoy challenges. The emphasis is placed on a thorough understanding and application of theory. Topics studied include: basic axioms and theorems of real numbers, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions, solving and graphing equations and inequalities, functions and relations in the coordinate plane, systems of linear equations, quadratic equations, exponential functions, irrational numbers and radicals. This course also includes basic probability and statistics concepts.

Prerequisite: Placement is based on entrance test scores and the Administrative Committee selection process.

□ **403 | Foundations of Physics and Algebra**

Grade 9 1 Credit in Mathematics, 1 Credit in Science

This course is a fully merged Algebra I and Concepts of Physics course. It satisfies both the science and math requirements for grade 9. Students will learn the methods of algebra through the lens of hands-on science experimentation and analysis of student-taken data. The central topics of physics are used to enhance the learning of algebra. Students will use their iPad and the TI-84+ daily, to explore mathematical and physics concepts. Placement in this course is determined by the Dean of Studies.

□ **322 | Geometry**

Grade 9, 10

1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have mastered Algebra I. The course includes the study of logic, the Postulates

logistic and rational), techniques of solving equations and inequalities, graphing transformations and limits. Additional topics include sequences and series, conic sections, solving trigonometric equations, and using trig identities. Emphasis is on graphing where applicable.

Prerequisite: B or higher in Algebra II and/or department recommendation.

□ **344 | Honors Precalculus/Trigonometry**

Grade 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have mastered Algebra on an honors level and who have good problem-solving ability, learn quickly and enjoy challenges. It includes a full treatment of the elements of analytic geometry, trigonometry and the elementary functions, techniques of equation solving, sequences and series, vectors, polar graphs and limits. Emphasis is on graphing where applicable.

Prerequisite: B+ in Honors Algebra II and/or department recommendation.

□ **353 | Trigonometry & Elementary Functions**

Grade 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course involves a thorough study of elementary functions (polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, logistic and rational) and their graphs, techniques of solving equations and inequalities, graphing transformations and a thorough study of trigonometry. With a collection of engaging mathematical topics, it is best suited for students who may not be on a track towards Calculus. The course is intended for students not requesting Precalculus, but who are interested in obtaining additional knowledge of mathematics. Emphasis will be placed on topics that students will encounter on the SAT tests and college math placement tests.

Prerequisite: Algebra II.

□ **351 | Discrete Mathematics**

Grade 11, 12 0.5 Credit

Discrete math is the building block of many modern applications, including computer science. In this project-based course, students will explore real-life problems that are challenging and interesting and the mathematics behind their solutions. Classic problems such as the Traveling Salesman will be explored as well as more modern problems like computer security, fair division, and information sharing (gossiping). Students will learn the math behind elections, color mapping, and population growth. Topics will include logic, combinatorics, set theory and graph theory. Students will be given the opportunity to think flexibly and creatively as they explore interesting problems cooperatively.

Prerequisite: Algebra II.

□ **362 | Calculus**

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed for the student who has mastered the Precalculus course and wishes to have a background in Calculus before college. Topics include the concepts of limit, continuity, the derivative, the integral, and their applications.

Prerequisite: B in Precalculus and/or department recommendation.

□ **363 | AP Calculus AB**

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed for students who have had Honors Precalculus, who have a thorough knowledge of functions and enjoy mathematics. Students study limits and continuity of functions, derivatives and integrals along with their properties and applications as outlined by the College Board. Students are required to take the AP examination in May.

Prerequisite: B+ in Honors Precalculus and/or department recommendation.

□ **370 | AP Calculus BC**

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

Calculus BC is an extension of Calculus AB. Topics include: parametric, polar, vector functions, differential equations and slope fields, polynomial approximation and infinite series, and more applications of integrals. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

Prerequisite: Calculus AB.

□ **365 | AP Statistics**

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

This is a college level course designed for students who are prepared to work at a level above an honors high school course. This course acquaints students with major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will frequently work on projects involving the hands-on gathering and analysis of real-world data. Ideas and computations presented in this course have immediate links and connections with actual events. Computers and calculators will allow students to focus deeply on the concepts involved in statistics. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

Prerequisite: B in Honors Algebra II or B+ in Precalculus. Department recommendation.

□ 366 | **Introduction to Statistics & Probability**

Grade 11, 12 0.5 Credit

This course provides an elementary introduction to probability and statistics with real-world applications. Topics include: basic probability models; combinatorics; discrete and continuous probability distribution; measures of central tendency and dispersion. Ideal for any student who may pursue business or social science in college.

Prerequisite: Algebra II

□ 358H | **Personal Finance**

Grade 11, 12 0.5 Credit

Students learn how to navigate the financial decisions they must face and to make informed decisions related to career exploration, budgeting, banking, credit, insurance, spending, taxes, saving, investing, buying/leasing a vehicle, living independently, and inheritance. Development of financial literacy skills will provide the basis for responsible citizenship and career success. This course will prepare students to function effectively as consumers, savers, investors, entrepreneurs, and active citizens. Learning methodologies include a semester long portfolio project, life skills projects, and problem-solving exercises. (This course is also listed in the Business & Technology section.)

□ 359H | **Accounting**

Grade 11, 12 0.5 Credit

This course prepares students who will become future workers, business majors or entrepreneurs to understand basic accounting principles that will enable them to manage a business as well as learn how to invest and make good economic decisions. Students will learn the accounting cycle of both service and merchandising businesses. Technology is integrated in this course through automated accounting software, automated working papers, and Excel spreadsheet software. Learning methodologies include interactive problem solving, projects, simulations, and readings. Students also explore current economic trends and learn investment strategies through participating in a stock market game. (This course is also listed in the Business & Technology section.)

SCIENCE

The Science Department has deliberately shaped the science curriculum to complement the mathematics curriculum. Coursework builds sequentially from Concepts of Physics to Chemistry and then to Biology, emphasizing the ways in which the different disciplines depend on one another. Once students demonstrate a firm grasp on these fundamental areas of study, they have the opportunity to pursue whatever sparks their interest. Several upper-level elective courses - such as Principles of

Engineering and Design, Criminalistics and Forensics, and Health & Medicine in the 21st Century - are offered which allow students to apply abstract principles to real-world problems.

A minimum of 3 credits in laboratory science is required for graduation.

□ 411 | **Concepts of Physics**

Grade 9 1 Credit

This course meets the requirements of the first science course. It provides students with an understanding of the central topics of physics, including mechanics, energy transfer and conservation, etc. A strong emphasis is placed on learning the skills required for laboratory work and data collection and analysis. Application of physical principles to everyday situations is stressed, and some skills required to analyze situations mathematically are taught. Selected topics are explored in depth through lab work, research and construction.

□ 412 | **Honors Concepts of Physics**

Grade 9 1 Credit

This course meets the requirements of the first science course. It is intended for students who have demonstrated strong abstract thinking skills and who have expressed willingness to accept the challenge of studying physics at a higher level. Students who select this course will be expected to become skillful at algebraic manipulation of data. Topics studied include those presented in 411, but the depth and pace will be more challenging.



□ 466 | **AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore these topics: kinematics; dynamics; circular motion and gravitation; energy; momentum; simple harmonic motion; torque and rotational motion. AP Physics 1 is intended for students interested in taking physics as a basis for more advanced work in the life sciences, medicine, or related areas, as well as those interested in pursuing non-science college programs that have science requirements.

Prerequisites: B in Geometry or a B- in Honors Geometry and B in Algebra 2 or B- in Honors Algebra 2 Completion of or concurrent enrollment in precalculus is recommended.

Prerequisite: Must be taken with course #460 and must have completed AP Calculus AB.

□ 460 | **AP Physics C: Mechanics**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

The course is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college physics course for scientists and engineers. It is divided into 7 units: kinematics, dynamics (Newton's laws), energy and power, momentum, rotational motion, gravitation, and oscillations. Calculus concepts are used throughout the course, and usage increases as the course progresses. Significant time and effort are required in order to be successful. This course is recommended for students who have very strong quantitative skills. Students intending to major in physics, chemistry, or engineering are encouraged to take this course.

Prerequisite: Recommended for students who have completed or are currently enrolled in AP Calculus. A- in Concepts of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology or B+ in Honors Concepts of Physics, Honors Chemistry, and Honors Biology, or B in AP Biology.

□ 461 | **AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

The AP Physics C full two-credit sequence (460 & 461) is designed to be equivalent to the first two semesters of the college physics courses for scientists and engineers. The Mechanics portion of the course runs in semester 1 and is divided into 7 units (see above.) The Electricity & Magnetism portion of the course runs in semester 2 and is divided into 5 units: electrostatics, electric potential and capacitance, circuits, magnetism, and inductance. Calculus concepts are used throughout the entire course. Significant time and effort are required in order to be successful. This course is recommended for students who have completed AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus AB/BC or are currently taking AP Calculus AB/BC. This course is NOT recommended for students not on the BC track. Students intending to major in physics, chemistry, or engineering are encouraged to take this course.

□ 475 | **Honors Chemistry II**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

Honors Chemistry II is a rigorous course intended for students with a special interest and aptitude for science. This course will thoroughly prepare students wishing to choose a college major in either engineering, science or health profession fields. The course will focus on selected topics not covered in Honors Chemistry. Topics to be covered include water and aqueous systems, colligative properties of solutions, thermochemistry, reaction rates, equilibrium systems, acid/base theory, oxidation/reduction, electrochemistry and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory experience will be an essential part of the curriculum for each topic studied.

Prerequisites: B in Honors Chemistry, or A- in Chemistry.

□ 456 | **Genetics**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

Curious about cloning, stem cells, genetically modified organisms? Fascinated by DNA, Darwin and genetic disorders? Genetics explores all of these topics and more. Throughout this course, students learn about and debate the influence of modern genetic science on our society. Through numerous labs, simulations, explorations and discussions, students will develop educated and well-supported opinions on the controversial issues presented by our growing ability to control heredity. If you enjoyed studying DNA and heredity in Biology, this hands-on, highly interactive course may be for you.

Prerequisite: B in Biology, B- in Honors Biology, or C in AP Biology.

□ 459 | **Health & Medicine in the 21st Century**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is a case-based study of new and interesting issues in health and medicine. Rapid changes in genetics and technology have revolutionized health care and our understanding of human development and disease treatment. Topics will include new global challenges and innovative medical approaches to diagnosis and treatment.

Prerequisite: B in Biology, B- in Honors Biology, or C in AP Biology.

□ 451 | **Honors Anatomy & Physiology**

Grade 12

1 Credit

This life science course, designed for students interested in health careers or a life science major in college will include a detailed study of all the systems of the human body. Laboratory experimentation, seminars, presentation of student research, and dissection are integral parts of the course.

Prerequisite: B in AP Biology, B+ in Honors Biology or A- in Biology.



□ 468/469 | **AP Biology**

Grade 11 (468I/468II) - 2 Credits

Grade 12 (469) – 1 Credit

This course is available to Juniors (2 credits) or Seniors (1 credit) who have excelled in their previous science courses. The course studies the core scientific principles, theories, and processes that govern living organisms and biological systems. A variety of laboratory investigations provide an opportunity for the design of experiments, analysis and interpretation of data, and support of a scientific claim with evidence. Both courses require significant independent study, and all AP Biology students are required to take the AP Exam.

The 2-credit class will cover all topics from Honors Biology at an Advanced Placement level.

The 1-credit class is designed for students who excelled at Honors Biology and wish for further study at an Advanced Placement level.

Prerequisite: 468 A- in Honors Chemistry or an A in Chemistry with recommendation of teacher

469 A- in Honors Biology or an A in Biology

□ 454 | **Criminalistics/Forensics**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This elective course is designed to engage the motivated student and lead them to discuss, evaluate, investigate, and interpret evidence, data, and historical information related to crime and criminal activity. The course will be rich in exploration and lab work, which will apply many disciplines of scientific study. Topics will include an introduction to Fingerprints, Physical Pattern Evidence and Evidence Collection, Ballistics, Forgery, Casts and Impressions, and Blood Analysis. Students will relate Case Studies to lab work and will record and document their findings through various assessments which may include reports, research and presentations, and data analyses. Note: Some topics will be graphic in nature. Every effort will be made to ensure that these topics will be approached and covered in a professional and clinical manner.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of required science coursework.

□ 453 | **Environmental Science**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

This elective course builds on concepts covered in Biology. First, students will study aspects of ecology, including population growth, symbiotic relationships, biodiversity and trophic pyramids. Following that introduction, students will analyze the influence that humans have had on all aspects on their environment and debate solutions to humanity's most pressing environmental concerns. Topics covered include food and agriculture, urbanization, water resources, pollution, energy consumption, and climate change. Each student is required to complete a culminating project that focuses on an issue of sustainability in her own school or community.

Prerequisite: B in Biology, B- Honors Biology, or C in AP Biology.

WORLD & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

The World and Classical Languages Department realizes that if the Mount's alumnae are going to be global citizens, they must be able to communicate with and understand different cultures. The school believes that developing fluency in a second or third language is an essential way for a person to engage the world around her. Coursework in this department begins with a study of basic grammar and vocabulary, but quickly expands to emphasize the ways in which the study of languages can facilitate interdisciplinary work and interculturality. Additionally, the analysis of texts from times and cultures other than our own develops a sense of appreciation for and interconnectivity with all people, which is so critical to life in modern society.

A minimum of 3 consecutive credits in a single language is required for graduation.

□ 511 | **French I**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to enable the student to learn elementary conversation, grammar, and vocabulary, to read and

to write simple French passages and to become acquainted with various Francophone cultures.

□ **521 | French II**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is a continuation of French I. Elementary French conversation, grammar and vocabulary are continued. Greater stress is given to reading and writing simple French passages. The introduction to aspects of French culture continues.

Prerequisite: French I

□ **531 | French III**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to promote continued progress in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Supplementary readings of both a cultural and literary nature are introduced.

Prerequisite: French II

□ **532 | Honors French III**

Grade 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to promote continued progress in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. Supplementary readings of both a cultural and literary nature are introduced. There will be a greater emphasis on proficiency in speaking and writing correct grammatical patterns.

Prerequisite: A- in French II.

□ **542/551 | Honors French IV/AP French: Language**

Grade 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to parallel the skill development of a third-year college French course in advanced composition and conversation. The course therefore focuses on mastery of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills and not on the content of specific texts. Students who enroll in this course should demonstrate a good command of the grammar and considerable competence in oral comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. AP test is required for students taking 551.

Prerequisite: Honors French IV: A-in French III, B+ in Honors French III. AP French Language: A- in Honors French III.

□ **513 | Spanish I**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to enable the student to understand and learn elementary conversation, grammar and vocabulary, to read and write basic Spanish passages and to become acquainted with some aspects of Hispanic cultures.

□ **523 | Spanish II**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed as a continuation of Spanish I. It further emphasizes grammatical structures and verb forms. The four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing are more fully developed. The study of culture continues.

Prerequisite: Spanish I.

□ **533 | Spanish III**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to promote continued progress in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. The student will study the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

Prerequisite: Spanish II.

□ **534 | Honors Spanish III**

Grade 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to promote continued progress in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. There will be greater emphasis on proficiency in speaking and writing in correct grammatical patterns. The student will study the culture of Spanish-speaking countries.

Prerequisite: A- in Spanish II.

□ **538 | Spanish IV**

Grade 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

This course is designed to strengthen Spanish conversation skills through the study of culture, grammar and vocabulary. Informal conversations, "real life" role-play situations, group discussions and formal presentations will be the focus of the class. Additionally, students will continue to build confidence in their listening, reading and writing skills. Note: Students taking this class are not eligible for AP Spanish.

Prerequisite: B+ in Spanish III or B in Honors Spanish III.

□ 544 | **Honors Spanish IV**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to synthesize the grammar, reading and writing skills presented during previous levels of study. Students will also continue to build confidence with listening comprehension and speaking skills. Opportunities will be offered to engage the students in a variety of authentic resources. Along with the development of advanced vocabulary, several literary works related to the course's four themes will be read and discussed. When applicable, members of the Social Studies department will clarify specific topics such as immigration in the US. With the exception of some English used to explain advanced grammatical concepts and in-depth literary analysis, the only language spoken in class by both teacher and students is Spanish.

Prerequisite: A- in Honors Spanish III.

□ 553 | **AP Spanish: Language**

Grade 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to parallel the skill development of a third-year college Spanish course in advanced composition and conversation. The class therefore focuses on the mastery of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students who enroll in this course should already have a good command of Spanish grammar and considerable competence in oral comprehension, speaking, reading and writing. AP test is required.

Prerequisite: A- in Honors Spanish IV.

□ 515 | **Latin I**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to develop a student's ability to read and appreciate the great works of Latin literature. Students will learn Latin vocabulary, forms and syntax and will be introduced to Roman culture by reading selections from a wide variety of ancient authors.

□ 525 | **Latin II**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed as a continuation of Latin I. Students acquire additional vocabulary, forms and the more advanced syntax needed to read and appreciate the writings and culture of ancient Rome. The prose of Caesar, Cicero, and Seneca the Younger will be emphasized.

Prerequisite: Latin I.

□ 535/536 | **Latin III/Honors Latin III**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to develop competence and enjoyment in reading Latin prose and poetry. Students will be introduced to Roman oratory by reading Cicero's speech in defense of the poet Archias, *Pro Archia Poeta Oratio*. In addition to helping them hone their understanding of Latin forms and syntax, this speech will give the students an inside look into the history and politics of Cicero's time. Selected excerpts from Ovid's *Metamorphoses* will provide an introduction to Latin poetry. During this segment of the course, the students will learn the basics of meter and scanning and how the poets use literary devices to enhance the meaning of their text.

Prerequisite for 535: Latin II. Prerequisite for 536: B+ in Latin II.

□ 545/555 | **Honors/AP Latin: Vergil and Caesar**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to parallel the skill development of a third-year college Latin course. Its focus, therefore, is on reading, translating, understanding, analyzing and interpreting Vergil's *Aeneid* and Caesar's *Gallic War* in the original. Extensive attention is given to understanding the cultural, social and political context of these works as well as the authors' use of literary techniques. Students who enroll in this course should demonstrate a good command of Latin syntax and considerable competence in writing. AP test is required for students taking 555.

Prerequisite: Honors Latin IV: B+ in Latin III or B in Honors Latin III. AP Latin: B+ in Honors Latin III.



FINE ARTS

Through the study and practice of visual art, music and theatre, students are encouraged to broaden their cultural view while strengthening their sense of self. With an emphasis on the creative process, the Fine Arts curriculum sharpens students' problem-solving abilities, abstract thinking, and technical skills. The Mount believes that study of the Fine Arts is essential in educating the whole person, as it builds empathy, open-mindedness and compassion for the "dear neighbor."

A minimum of 1 credit of Fine Arts is required for graduation.

□ **622 | Communications/Speech**

Grade 10 – Required (Rotation) 0.25 Credit

This class focuses on developing the student's active listening skills as well as improving upon her oral and written skills. Students write and deliver an extemporaneous speech using visual aids. Other work includes practical exercises to build confidence and develop breath and voice power. This course is also the prerequisite for Communications/Speech II: an elective course suggested for any student who wants to become proficient in public speaking.

□ **624 | Creating Digital Music**

Grade 10 – Optional (Rotation) 0.25 Credit

Students will use iPad music apps and other digital tools to create compositions in several musical styles. Through hands-on application, students will explore the fundamentals of musical structure and form. Topics will include basic music theory, critical listening and collaborative creation. No prior musical experience is necessary for enrollment in this course.

□ **625 | History of Rock and Roll**

Grade 10 – Optional (Rotation) 0.25 Credit

Students will explore American popular music, specifically focusing on mainstream popular music, country and western, rhythm & blues, and rock & roll. Special attention will be paid to examining how this music affected American culture, as well as how American culture affected the music. This course will include listening examples, song analysis, important historical events and the study of artists that made an impact on both music and culture.

MUSIC

□ **631 | Choral Class I**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

No prior choral work is necessary to take this course. It is designed to develop choral singing techniques, blending, phrasing, a cappella and other vocal techniques of performing in a group. It also offers basic techniques in voice production, with emphasis on breathing, intonation and phrasing. Brief instruction in music theory, sight singing and history is also included. The students in the class perform for the Spring concert. Students are required to attend several after school rehearsals for concerts, liturgies and special school functions. Students are required to sing for the graduation liturgy if class is scheduled in the Spring semester. Students participating in spring athletics

may register for this course with instructor permission.

Prerequisite: Audition or permission from instructor.

□ **632 | Choral Class II**
□ **633 | Choral Class III**
□ **634 | Choral Class IV**

Grade 10, 11, 12 1 Credit

Choral may continually be taken and the level will change as needed. This course is designed for any student who has completed Choral Class I and wishes to develop vocal techniques and sight-singing skills at the next level. Students will participate in the Spring concert, and special functions throughout the year. The students in the class are required to attend several after school rehearsals for concerts and special school functions. Students are required to sing for the graduation liturgy. Students participating in spring athletics may register for this course with instructor permission.

Prerequisite: Choral I.

□ **644 | Independent Voice Practicum**

Voice Scholarship Only 0.25 Credit

This is a required course for all four years. Students will receive credit on their duties, performances and rehearsal time given to the Mount community and Music department. Students will be assessed on their rehearsal and performance preparedness, attitude, cooperation and availability to the department. This includes rehearsals, performances, concerts, shows, liturgies and special school functions.

□ **645 | Independent Piano Practicum**

Piano Scholarship Only 0.5 Credit

This course is required for all four years. Students will receive credit on their duties, performances and rehearsal time given to the Mount community and Music department. Students will be assessed on their rehearsal and performance preparedness, attitude, cooperation and availability to the department. This includes rehearsals, performances, concerts, shows, and special school functions.

□ **690 | Independent Instrumental Practicum**

Instrumental Scholarship Only 0.25 Credit

This course is required for all four years. Students will receive credit on their duties, performances and rehearsal time given to the Mount community and Music department. Students will be assessed on their rehearsal and performance preparedness, attitude, cooperation and availability to the department. This includes rehearsals, performances, concerts, shows, and special school functions.



□ **655-I | Instrumental Ensemble: Strings, Brass, Woodwinds and Percussion**

656-II
657-III
658-IV

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This instrumental ensemble is a performing group that participates in the Christmas and Spring concerts. The course includes basic techniques in reading music, music theory, transposition, arranging music for the group. Students become acquainted with a variety of music through the literature that they play.

Prerequisites: Students should already play and own an instrument. Members must meet after school for several rehearsals prior to performances.

□ **659 | Instrumental Performance**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit (Full year)

Orchestra practice is arranged for members of the Instrumental Ensemble. It is offered on a pass-fail basis. Rehearsals take place outside of the school day. Students who wish to perform in the Orchestra, Pit Orchestra or Jazz Ensemble should register for this course.

Prerequisite: Instructor approval.

□ **647 | Honors Music Theory**

Grade 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course will be an introduction to the fundamentals of music theory and analysis. Several aspects of musicianship will be covered including aural, sight-singing, written/compositional, and analytical skills. While the reading and writing of musical notation will be our first and primary focus, as the course progresses, we will proceed to higher level musical tasks such as dictation (rhythmic, melodic and harmonic), keyboard harmony and composition. After taking this course, a student will be sufficiently prepared to enroll in the AP Music Theory course.

Prerequisite: Basic music reading skills and interview with the department chairperson or music instructor.

□ **649 | AP Music Theory**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

The goal of the Advanced Placement course in Music Theory is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. The development of fundamental skills of musicianship such as aural and written analysis, sight-singing, and composition will be of central importance to the course. We will discuss music in a wide variety of styles, but our primary focus will be the discussion of Western tonal music. Students in this course will develop and integrate the basic skills learned in Honors Music Theory in order to come to a deep understanding of the inner workings of music as an expressive tool and as an art form.

Prerequisite: Honors Music Theory and/or instructor permission. Student must be able to read fluently in the treble and bass clefs, and have instrumental or vocal proficiency. Some piano/keyboard skills will be helpful but are not required.

□ 691 | **Music History**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is a brief survey of art music from the Middle Ages to the present day. Major musical accomplishments of each historical period (Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, 20th Century/Contemporary) will be highlighted. Students will learn to differentiate between music of different composers and styles. Of particular importance will be the study of music as an expression of contemporary social and political climate.

THEATER & COMMUNICATIONS

□ 642 | **Communications/Speech II**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This eight-week course is for the student who wants to become proficient in public speaking while also building their self-confidence. Major assignments include a manuscript speech, a mock college admissions/internship interview, and a Ted Talk. Other work includes voice and relaxation exercises. Prerequisite: Communications/Speech I.

Prerequisite: Communications/Speech I.

□ 662 | **American Musical Theater**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course will be an exploration of the development of the musical theater in the United States. We will make a detailed study of the evolution of musical theater from its earliest stages to its current form. In particular, we will discuss the ways in which the American Musical has always been a populist art form by and of the people.

□ 153 | **Print & Broadcast Journalism**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

Elective only – does not fulfill senior requirement

This course is recommended to students who have an interest in print, online, or broadcast journalism and would like to participate in either *The Campanile* or our television news station, WMSJ. The course will begin by introducing students to journalistic writing and acquaint them with elements of multimedia production. Students will then have the opportunity to acquire and develop broadcasting skills by working in an on-site TV studio set. Students will develop and expand their skills in journalism, communication, editing, technical writing, script writing, and broadcasting.

Prerequisite: Department recommendation.



VISUAL ARTS

□ 671 | **Design Basics**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

1 Credit

This course is designed to investigate the basic elements and principles of design. Concepts are applied to projects through the use of various mediums and with relationship to artists and art history.

Prerequisite: An appreciation for art. This course is a prerequisite for all other studio art classes.

□ 672 | **3-D Design**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course applies the elements and principles learned in Design Basics to crafting three-dimensional forms. A range of three-dimensional materials are explored with a special focus on hand-building ceramic techniques.

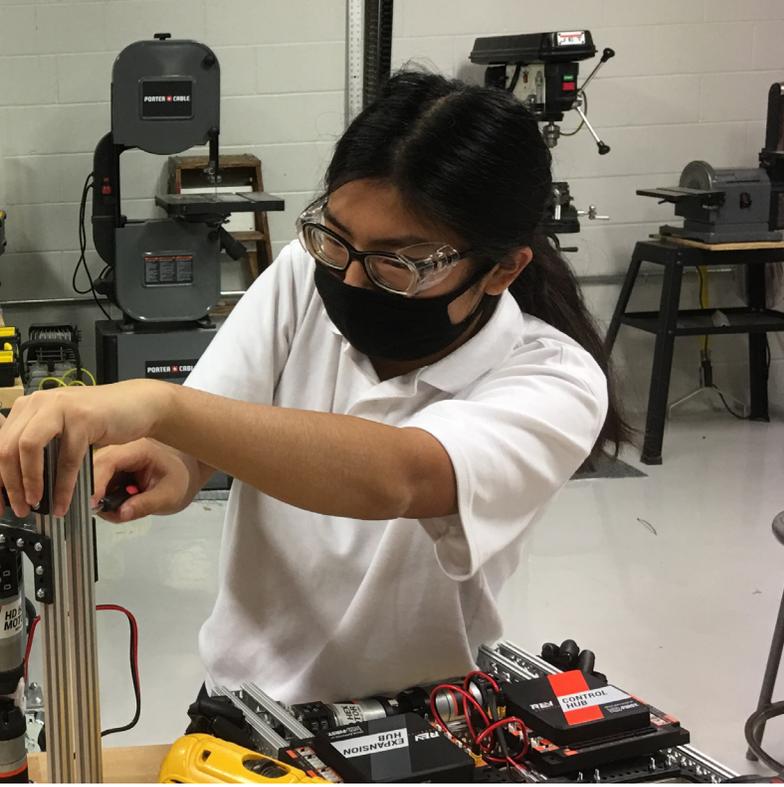
Prerequisite: Design Basics.

□ 675 | **Graphic Design: Prints & Posters**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course focuses on graphic design, applying the elements and principles of art along with design theory to the creation of digital illustration, prints and posters. Students will learn color theory as it relates to digital illustration. Students will expand their knowledge of Adobe Illustrator to learn the many



capabilities for digital art.

Prerequisite: Design Basics.

□ **676 | Drawing**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course builds on techniques introduced in Design Basics and more fully applies the elements and principles of art to a variety of drawing tools. Students are challenged to apply concepts to their projects in addition to becoming proficient in several mark making techniques. There is a strong emphasis on observational drawing skills and students will explore still life, portraiture, and abstract subject matter among others.

Prerequisite: Design Basics.

□ **677 | Painting**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course builds on techniques introduced in Design Basics and more fully applies the elements and principles of art to a variety of painting methods. Students are challenged to apply concepts to their projects in addition to becoming proficient in several paint application techniques. Color theory as it applies to painting is explored and there is a strong emphasis on observational skills. Students will explore the different paint media and a range of subject matter.

Prerequisites: Design Basics required, Drawing preferred.

□ **678 | 3-D Design II**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is designed to refine hand-building techniques in clay and to incorporate wheel-thrown and extruded forms. Students are expected to apply concepts to projects in addition to elevating their sculpting techniques. While there is an emphasis on ceramics, other sculpting materials such as plaster, papier-mâché and found objects are encouraged.

Prerequisites: Design Basics, 3-D Design.

□ **682 | Digital Photography**

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course offers an introduction to digital photography using a variety of point and shoot digital cameras along with camera phones. This course builds the foundation for visual literacy regarding both form and content of photographic images. The elements and principles of design as they relate to photographic composition are emphasized along with application of color theory. Digital editing techniques are also emphasized through Adobe Photoshop. (Personal digital camera recommended.)

Prerequisites: Design Basics.

□ **679/680 | Advanced Drawing & Painting**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Cooperative Studio Program between PAFA & Philadelphia High Schools. Modeled on PAFA's own historic curriculum and high standards, advanced level classes include still-life drawing and painting in oil, portrait drawing and painting, urban landscape, sculpture, life drawing and anatomy. Skill development, awareness of art history and aesthetics, discipline and portfolio development are hallmarks of the curriculum. One half credit is given from September to January and an additional half credit is given from January to June.

Prerequisites: Teacher approval.

□ **687/688 | Honors Independent Art**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit (per course)

This course is designed for the exceptional student whose creative ability and work habits enable her to plan and pursue an individual artistic involvement. Students must consult with the arts faculty, provide a portfolio for review and a proposal of their intended curriculum previous to rostering.

Prerequisite: Teacher approval.

BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY

The Mount recognizes that in order for students to become agents of change in society, it is imperative that they develop technological skill and an entrepreneurial spirit. Therefore, the course offerings through the Business & Technology Department focus on building essential literacy in computer applications as well as financial and business acumen. Required technology courses and electives for programming in various computer languages are offered, along with AP Computer Science Principles, AP Computer Science A, and AP Microeconomics. Additionally, students can choose from electives such as Exploring Entrepreneurship and Multimedia Design for Websites.

A minimum of one-half credit in Business & Technology is required for graduation. This can be fulfilled through successful completion of either Computer Systems and Applications or AP Computer Science Principles.

A minimum of 0.75 credits in Computer Literacy is required for graduation.

712 | Exploring Technology

Grade 9 Required (Rotation)

0.25 Credit

After a review of finding and citing sources in MLA formatting, freshmen at the Mount will learn to conduct research effectively by honing search skills for relevant sources. File management, word processing, and digital citizenship themes will be reviewed and library skills will be practiced. Students will then learn some computer history and research famous tech people as well as be introduced to basic computer concepts and coding to help develop critical thinking skills.

721 | Computer Systems and Applications

Grade 10, 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is designed to introduce students to office application software. Students will learn word processing, database, spreadsheet, and presentation graphics. Letter formats, personal finance, a college information search and professional presentation skills will be integrated through various hands-on projects. This course is required for all Mount students unless they take AP Computer Science Principles.

724 | Honors Introduction to Java Programming

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This is an online course that will be offered during the summer and completed mid-August. This course introduces Java programming, which is the language used in Robotics. Students will learn an object-oriented approach to programming with an emphasis on fundamental concepts including variables, conditional control structures, loops, strings, methods, and more. Exercises emphasize code design, implementation, testing, and debugging. Students will learn through video demonstration and lots of hands-on practice.

692 | AP Art History

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

AP Art History is designed to foster a comprehensive understanding of the history of art from a global perspective through the investigation of diverse artistic traditions of culture from prehistory to the present. Students learn and apply skills of visual, contextual, and comparative analysis to engage with a variety of art forms, constructing an understanding of individual works and inter-connections of art making processes and products throughout history.

Prerequisites: Teacher approval.

693 | Art for Social Change

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is for students who have an interest in visual art and its impact on social and political change. Through discussion, examination and exploration, students will learn how artists, artistic movements and various media contribute to turning cultural tides. This non-studio course fosters the development of abstract thinking and critical reflection and requires active participation in class discussions.

699 | AP Studio Art

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

AP Studio Art is designed for art students who are motivated learners and who are serious about developing their ability to communicate in visual form. This course is not based on a written exam; instead, students submit a portfolio of their creative work at the end of the academic term to attempt to earn college credit. Formal visual concerns, technical skills, and conceptual issues will be addressed through creative means in both teacher-directed assignments and student-directed projects. Submission of a portfolio to the College Board in May is required.

Prerequisites: Demonstrated proficiency in desired area of focus (ex. Painting, drawing, sculpture, or digital art), submission of a portfolio to the arts faculty and teacher approval.

681 | Portfolio

Grade 12

0.5 Credit

This course is designed for students who are seriously considering an art career and intend on submitting a portfolio to their chosen college. Projects extend all media previously experienced toward compositional mastery and will focus on portfolio requirements based on college standards.

Prerequisite: Design Basics, Teacher approval

□ 726 | **AP Computer Science Principles**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

Students will learn about the creative aspects of programming including abstractions, algorithms, big data, understanding how the Internet works, issues of cyber security and the global impact of computing. Using problem solving, critical thinking, and group communication skills, students will work together to solve problems and generate projects using a current programming language. One Performance Task, in a programming language, will be created and submitted to College Board as part of the required AP assessment for this course.

□ 727 | **Multimedia Design for Websites**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This elective teaches basic HTML, sound and movie-editing, image editing, and basic animation. Elements of good multimedia design will be studied. Students will create a website and then add multimedia elements as the course progresses.

□ 731 | **AP Computer Science A**

Grade 11, 12

1 Credit

AP Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. Students in this course are expected to independently spend 8-10 hours on programming lessons per week. Students are required to take the AP exam.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Intro to Java Programming (#724) offered online in the summer.

□ 752 | **Introduction to Business Marketing**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This survey course will introduce students to the concepts of Marketing. Students will examine risks and challenges marketers face to establish a competitive edge. Study will cover the free enterprise system, marketing foundations and functions with emphasis on marketing strategy, consumer behavior, market research, product/service management, pricing, distribution, and promotion. Students will apply the theory learned by participating in a variety of marketing projects and will develop marketing plans for new products. Marketing metrics will be used throughout the course to assess the impact of marketing strategies.

□ 770 | **Exploring Entrepreneurship**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course focuses on recognizing a business opportunity, starting, operating and maintaining a business. Students will develop skills associated with critical thinking, problem solving, and innovation. There is an integration of concepts from accounting, marketing, business management, business law, and economics that will enable the student to develop a business plan. The strength of this course is that it combines theory with practice, providing students the opportunity to test theories and strategies learned in the classroom by creating real business plans, working on projects and gaining insights from leaders in the entrepreneurial business community.



□ 358H | **Personal Finance**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

Students learn how to navigate the financial decisions they must face and to make informed decisions related to budgeting, banking, credit, insurance, spending, taxes, saving, and buying/leasing a vehicle. Development of financial literacy skills will provide the basis for responsible citizenship and career success. This course will prepare students to function effectively as consumers, savers, investors, entrepreneurs and active citizens. Learning methodologies include: life skills projects, and problem-solving exercises. (This course is also listed in the Mathematics section.)

□ 359H | **Accounting**

Grade 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This course is a study of accounting principles and their applications. Instruction and practice will be based on the use of common accounting forms, such as: the general journal, general ledger, and financial statements. The accounting cycle will be completed. Technology is integrated in this course through automated accounting software, automated working papers, and Excel spreadsheet software. Learning methodologies include: interactive problem solving, projects, simulations, and readings. Students also explore current economic trends and learn investment strategies through participating in a stock market game. (This course is also listed in the Mathematics section.)

□ 758 | **AP Microeconomics**

Grades 11, 12

1 Credit

Why do we make certain buying decisions and how do they affect the economy? This AP course will provide a basic understanding of the principles of microeconomics. At its core, the study of economics deals with the choices and decisions we make to manage the resources available to us. Microeconomics is the branch of economics that pertains to decisions made at the individual level, such as the choices individual consumers and companies make after evaluating resources, costs, and tradeoffs. Students will cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like scarcity and markets; costs, benefits, and marginal analysis; production choices and behavior; and market inefficiency and public policy. Also, explore how these formal principles and concepts apply to real-world issues.

Prerequisite: Algebra II

□ 775 | **The Business of Food**

Grades 11, 12

0.5 Credit

This is an engaging and active course using the kitchen as a practical laboratory will focus on the development of knowledge, abilities (skills), perspective, and practical experience all within the classroom and the commercial kitchen. The principles introduced in this course will be useful for exploration and the future study of business management and culinary arts. After completing this course, students should be able to demonstrate a knowledge of food preparation and management techniques used for commercial food operations. The course covers budget development and analysis, culinary fundamentals, management techniques and real-world strategy applications.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Through participation in courses offered by the Health and Physical Education Department, students learn that a holistic education values the development of the body as well as the mind. In physical education courses, students are taught values of leadership, loyalty and sportsmanship. Students discover opportunities for personal growth that transfer into every aspect of life.

A minimum of 1.25 credits of Health and Physical Education is required for graduation.

□ 810 | **Health**

Grade 9 – Required (Rotation)

0.25 Credit

This course is designed to introduce various aspects of health including nutrition, physical fitness, alcohol, tobacco and drug abuse, mental and social health, as well as a basic overview of the systems of the body.

□ 811 | **Physical Education**

Grade 9 – Required (Rotation)

0.25 Credit

This course is designed to teach basic rules and skills of individual and team sports. Competitive and cooperative games and activities will be presented. Fitness activities will be introduced. Focus is placed on participation, sportsmanship, and cooperation. A uniform is required which may be purchased through the MSJA bookstore.

□ 821 | **Physical Education/Health**

Grade 10 – Required (Rotation)

0.25 Credit

This course will emphasize team sports and fitness activities with a focus on effort, participation, and sportsmanship. The Health curriculum will explore the study of the reproductive system, reproductive health and building healthy relationships

☐ 832 | **Physical Education: Sports**

Grade 11, 12

0.25 Credit

This PE exemption is given to any school athlete who continues to play a sport, varsity or junior varsity, for the school in her junior and senior years. The individual athlete is exempt from formal PE due to the hours devoted to the school team.

third block of school at Chestnut Hill College. Courses are given AP weight (college equivalent) for GPA's. Each class is given 1 credit and carries AP weight. Students who participate in this program will be allowed to register for a maximum of two AP courses at the Mount. Class size is limited.

☐ 833 | **Physical Education: Independent**

Grade 11, 12

This alternative to in-school PE is offered to any junior or senior who is a member of an outside athletic organization or fitness club. Participation in the Mount's fall musical may be an acceptable activity if the student performs a significant amount of dancing during the show. This will be determined by the PE teacher and fall musical's choreographer. The student must participate in 25 hours of the athletic or fitness activity by the end of the school year.

COUNSELING

☐ 864 | **Founders Forum**

First Year Students – Required (online)

0.25 Credit

This course is designed to aid in the successful transition of students into the Mount community through discussion and activities geared to assist students in becoming more effective individuals. Students will explore the Mount Mission, define a personal mission statement and goals, and develop communication, interpersonal, self-reflection, and time-management skills. Students will also be introduced to Canvas, our Learning Management System, and PowerSchool, our Student Information System.

☐ 862 | **College & Career Exploration**

Grade 10 – Required (Rotation)

0.25 Credit

This course is designed to assist students in acquiring skills for use in exploring personal values, setting individual goals and gathering information to help make satisfying college and career choices. Students are introduced to the Naviance computer program, ways to handle stress, and tips on organization.

☐ 900's | **College Courses**

When offered by the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, nominated students may apply to the Diocesan Scholars Program. This involves submission of grades, SAT scores, extracurricular activities and an interview with the administrative team. Selected students' credentials are then submitted to the Diocesan committee for final approval. Students attend classes during the



the
MOUNT

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

120 West Wissahickon Avenue, Flourtown, PA 19031

Main Office: 215-233-3177

Admission Office: 215-233-9133