Educating Founders
ESTABLISHED 1858

2018 - 2019
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.
As a college preparatory school, Mount Saint Joseph Academy prepares young women to realize their fullest potential. “The Mount is imbued with a spirit of unity and reconciliation, the special charism of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.” Dedicated faculty are committed to a holistic education enriched by the values of the Catholic church.

Within an environment “that fosters excellence tempered by gentleness,” individual students are recognized and valued. Academically challenging programs, which are teacher-directed and student-centered, ensure a well-rounded education with an emphasis on social responsibility.

Committed to preparing women for leadership roles, Mount Saint Joseph Academy enables students to meet the moral and ethical challenges of an ever-changing society and a technological future. Trusting in the wisdom echoed by an early Constitution of the Sisters of Saint Joseph, the mission of the school asserts that, “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 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, national and ethnic origin.

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.

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.
☞ Preference will be given to upperclasswomen in elective courses.
☞ 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 September. 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. Because of the extra study time required for AP work, it is recommended that a student elect a maximum of three AP courses.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>full year (some AP courses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>full semester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>one quarter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>one quarter/alternating days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Course Load
Each student is required to earn at least seven credits in major subjects each year; some minor courses are also required. Credits earned include:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Theology</td>
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<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Education</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical Education</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Literacy</td>
<td>0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Level Requirements

Grade 9
Theology I  English I  World History  Mathematics  
Freshman Rotation consists of:  
Physical Education  Health  Information Literacy with Technology  Guidance I  
Choices of:  
Science  Language elective  Second level of a language  Second level of a mathematics  Art, Choral, Instrumental Ensemble, etc.

Grade 10
Theology II  English II  Mathematics  Science  Language elective  Social Studies  
Sophomore Rotation consists of:  
Physical Education/Health  Guidance II  Communications/Speech  Experiencing Music or Study  
Choices of Electives

Grade 11
Theology III  Mathematics  Physical Education  English III  Science  Social Studies  
Choice of Electives

Grade 12
Theology IV  Physical Education  English IV  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 Music & Cultural Identity (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/Diocesan Scholar
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. The Diocesan Scholars program offers college courses to approved students at Chestnut Hill College or another approved institution. These courses are identified on the student’s transcript. Courses from the college are 0.5 credit per course and given AP GPA weight.

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, Information Literacy with Technology, Guidance and some 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.

Honors
The Honor Roll is determined based on a First Honors and Second Honors system. Honors are computed on first semester grades earned at Mt. St. Joseph Academy and again on the second semester grades earned at Mt. St. Joseph Academy. Enrichment courses (PE, Health, Information Literacy with Technology, Guidance, Communications and Experiencing Music) 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”. Honor certificates are issued in January and June based on semester one and semester two marks respectively.

To graduate with Honors a student must have a cumulative GPA of 3.900 by January of senior year. A senior with a cumulative GPA of 4.100 in January of senior year will graduate with Distinguished Honors.

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 in the previous year’s academic performance 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 based on the term 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 received earned credit but no quality points. They include: Physical Education, Health, Information Literacy with Technology, Guidance, Music & Cultural Identity, Communications/Speech, and Instrumental Ensemble Practice.
Grade Reporting
Power School allows students and parents to monitor progress on a continuous basis. Additionally, 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.

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 will 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. Each student is expected to spend approximately three hours each night on homework. 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 marking period. 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, including AP courses ending in semester one, at the end of the course.

The examination schedule is organized by subject area. 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 national test 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 Students will be notified for appropriate disciplinary action. The Principal will be informed.

Definition of Cheating
Cheating is defined as representing someone else’s work as your own. It gives someone an unearned advantage in an academic setting. (ETS, Cheating is a Personal Foul) Cheating includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Copying from a written text from any source without acknowledgement
- Looking at or off someone else’s paper
- Allowing a student to look at or off your paper
- Plagiarism (inclusion of someone else’s work or thoughts) whether it be copying directly from another source or paraphrasing another source without acknowledging the source
- Resubmitting of a project or report for another class without prior approval and authorization by the teachers
- Sharing test information before and after a test or quiz, etc.
- Cutting and pasting information from one source to another
- Storing and/or swapping information from calculators or other electronic devices

Mount Saint Joseph Academy
• Sharing or copying workbooks, assignments, labs, homework, tests, activities, etc. from person to person, from class to class, etc.
• Providing or comparing answers or reading answers from a book for another to copy
• Swapping answers via the Internet, e-mail or any other electronic devices, such as phones, toys, chats, wireless systems, chat rooms, etc.
• Buying information from the Internet or any other source
• Citing information from a source not actually used in the research
• Unauthorized use of a textbook, notes or other material during a test, quiz or exam, etc.
• Taking a test, etc. for someone or allowing the student to take a test, etc. for you
• Stealing, bribing or pressuring another student to get information on tests, etc.
• Changing an answer as a test or quiz is being collected

Portions of this policy have been adapted from the University of Delaware Student Guide to University Policies.

When a student is guilty of cheating, the following regulations apply:

In tests/quizzes, projects, homework papers, major tests, etc., the student receives an automatic zero with no possibility for making up that grade. However, the student must demonstrate mastery of the assessed skill by retaking the test, or resubmitting the assignment. The student will receive comments on the work for educational purposes, but will not receive a grade for the work. The Dean of Studies meets with students and demerits are issued. Occurrences of cheating are not purged at the end of the year. A subsequent incident of cheating will require a meeting with the Principal and may result in more severe consequences.

All students will sign a statement each year in which they promise to uphold the academic standards of the school.

Please see Student Handbook for further details and updates each year.

Internet and Technology

Internet access is available to students and faculty at MSJA. The purpose of this access is to support research and education consistent with the mission of the school. This access is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use will result in having the privilege denied. Appropriate use takes into account, but is not limited to, the following items: politeness and use of proper language, a respect and a responsibility for the security and integrity of the system, and a respect for the system data and the data of others.

The school requires students and parents to sign the MSJA Internet Acceptable Use Policy Form in September. In so doing, students agree to abide by the Internet Acceptable Use Policy and are made fully cognizant of the consequences of any violation.

Aware that the school cannot control content of these Internet networks, parents give students permission to access the Internet.

Academic Failures

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. Progress reports and report cards which record a C- or below must be signed by a parent or legal guardian and returned to the Dean of Studies. 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 will, 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 diocesan summer school or school/course approved by the Dean of Studies and pass it. 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 paperwork 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 approximately three hours 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 class. 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 Attendance Office when a student is going to be absent from school for any reason. A student who misses one to three days should check Blackboard 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
Twelfth grade  SAT/ACT

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

Guidance Services
The purpose of the guidance services is to help each student in her social, educational, vocational and personal development. Counselors schedule at least two interviews with each student every year. In addition, students are encouraged to make an appointment with one of the three full-time counselors whenever the need arises. The Montgomery County Intermediate Unit also provides personal counseling and remedial academic help services during the week.

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

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).

012 Old Testament, Faith & Tradition
Required–Grade 9 1 credit

Through the perspective of both contemporary Scripture scholarship and Catholic Tradition, this survey 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 lifelong 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. This course sets the foundation for Catholic social teaching by examining the role of covenant, as well as the wisdom of the Prophets. In particular, we look at injustices throughout the Old Testament and how God liberates the Israelites through the Exodus story and salvation history.

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 the gospel will be integrated throughout. 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 serves as an introduction to Catholic moral theology and Christian ethics. The first half of the course will examine the foundations of Catholic morality: Jesus, the Church, values, comparative moral philosophies, conscience, moral development, character, freedom, sin, virtues, and a process for moral decision making. The second half of the course looks at specific areas of morality through the framework of the Ten Commandments and the foundational theme of Catholic social teaching, the dignity of the human person: morality and religion, stewardship, obedience, parenting, modern human slavery, sexism, eugenics, infanticide, abortion, and war.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>046</td>
<td>Bioethics</td>
<td>Grade 12</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>049</td>
<td>Contemporary Catholicism</td>
<td>Grade 12</td>
<td>0.5 credit</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>050</td>
<td>World Religions</td>
<td>Grade 12</td>
<td>0.5 credit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English is required in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12. Seniors must choose the equivalent of 1 credit of approved grade 12 English courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tr>
<td>111</td>
<td>Introduction to Writing and Literature</td>
<td>Grade 9</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>112</td>
<td>Honors Introduction to Writing and Literature</td>
<td>Grade 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>121</td>
<td>Introduction to American Literature</td>
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<td>1 credit</td>
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Mount Saint Joseph Academy
authors. Writings based on these readings strengthen students' control 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 20th 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 & 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 the English language. 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. 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 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.

152 Journalism
Grade 10, 11 or 12 0.5 credit

(Elective only - does not fulfill senior requirement)

This course, recommended to students who wish to work on the school newspaper, introduces students to journalistic writing and acquaints them with elements of newspaper production.

Prerequisite: A- average in all previous English classes and department recommendation.

155 Creative Writing
Grade 12 0.5 credit

(Elective only - does not fulfill senior requirement)

In this elective class, which is built around the student's desire to explore and engage in the creative writing process, participants must be willing to write daily, to share their work with the class, to provide critical responses to classmates' work, and to revise repeatedly. Students
will keep a journal and will write in a variety of genres, including poetry, memoir, and short story.

Prerequisites: A love of writing, an A in English, and English department recommendation.

156  Twentieth-century American Playwrights
Grade 12  0.5 credit
This course focuses on twentieth-century American dramatic masterpieces through the lens of the American Dream. Written and oral assignments, as well as visual dramatic productions, encourage students to express and portray literary themes 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 AP Exam in Literature and Composition, which is required.

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

Social Studies

Three credits in Social Studies are required, including: 211 or 212; and 221, 222, or 235.

211  World History
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 World History
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.

221  U.S. History: Colonial Period to 1877
Grade 10 or 11  1 credit
This course is designed to permit the student to examine the political, social and economic aspects of United States History through selected topics from the Colonization of America to Reconstruction. This course is a good preparation for students taking the required U.S. History or AP U.S. History course.

Prerequisite: World History or Honors World History.

222  Honors U.S. History: Colonial to 1877
Grade 10 or 11  1 credit
This course is designed for students who can master advanced reading in American History. It presents economic, social, and political history through the analysis of historical events and trends from the colonization of America to the end of Reconstruction. This course is a good preparation for students taking the AP U.S. History course.

Prerequisite: A in World History or A/A- in Honors World History and department recommendation.

231  U.S. History: 1877 to the Present
Grade 11 or 12  1 credit
This course is designed to examine the political, social and economic aspects of United States History from the Gilded Age to the present.

Prerequisite: US Colonial History or Honors US Colonial History.
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.

Prerequisites: A in Honors World History, A in Honors US Colonial History or A- in Honors World History and Honors US Colonial History. PSAT Writing Skills are considered. Department recommendation.

This course is designed for students who can master advanced reading in American History. It presents economic, social, and political history through analysis of historical events and trends from the Gilded Age to the present.

Prerequisite: A in any former College Prep Social Studies course or A- in any former Honors Social Studies course and department recommendation.

This course is designed to allow students to complete the two required credits in U.S. History, and move through the AP U.S. History program. Students are required to take the AP U.S. History test in May. The semester course presents economic, social, and political history through the analysis of historical events and trends from the colonization of America to the end of Reconstruction. The second semester course is an in-depth study of significant events and movements in U.S. history, along with the varying interpretations of these events.

Students in this course are required to take additional credits in Social Studies in grades 11 and 12. There should be serious intent to take both AP European History and AP Government before graduation. This course of study is designed for students interested in pursuing a major related to Social Studies in college.

Prerequisites: A in Honors World History, A in Honors Introduction to Writing & Literature, and/or department recommendation.

Global interdependence aims to build an understanding of the increasingly important and diverse global connections among world societies. This course prepares students to study issues arising from globalization including: women’s rights, human trafficking, terrorism, international security, hunger, poverty, health and disease, and refugees. Students will analyze these issues through many lenses including Catholic Social Teaching, and the Mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph. The study of geography, culture, economics, history, political science, government, and technology will be integrated into the course.

This course is offered in school years ending with an even number (e.g. 2017-2018).

This senior 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.

This eight week course is an overview of the development and rise of Islam, from its foundations with the revelations of the Prophet Muhammed, through the eras of Islamic expansion under the caliphs and emirates in the Middle East, the Levant, North Africa, Asia Minor, India, and Iberia, as well as examinations of important Islamic empires, including the Abbasids, Safavids, Mughals, and Ottomans, through the modern
day with the establishment of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and including the experiences of women in Islamic societies and Muslim nations. The course will include a unit on the tenets of the Islamic faith and the Quran, including the Five Pillars, the Sunni/Shia schism, and other important moments. The course will conclude with a major research paper or project.

248 American Social History
Grade 11 or 12 0.5 credit

This elective 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 to create a society reflective of "all men created equal". The list of topics includes Indian-white relations, the suffrage movement, immigration and assimilation, sexism, racism and the civil rights movement.

This course is offered in school years ending with an odd number. (e.g. 2018-2019.)

249 Honors Modern Europe
Grade 11 or 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.

Prerequisite for Honors: B+ in any prior Social Studies Honors course or AP course; or A in US Colonial History and/or US History 1877 and department recommendation.

250 AP European History
Grade 11 or 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: B+ in AP US History or A- in Honors US Colonial History and Honors US History and department recommendation.

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 AP US History or AP European History or A in Honors US History or A in US History. Students with an A in US History may be considered based on department recommendations and availability. AP potential and writing sample will be required for all prospective students.

252 AP Government & Politics - US
Grade 11 or 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/A- in Honors US Colonial History and Honors US History or AP US History. Department recommendation. This class cannot be taken by a student who has taken or plans on taking Honors Government, Policy, Economics (255).

255 Honors Government, Policy, and Economics
Grade 11 or 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

Mount Saint Joseph Academy
how government and economics mix in domestic policy and in the international arena.


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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade 11, 12</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>262</td>
<td>Women as Founders</td>
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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 during the second semester (January-May) of junior year, meeting before first block two mornings a week. The remainder of the course is online. During the first semester of senior year, students meet and work with the course moderator on the project proposal and culminating project.

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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
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<th>Grade 11, 12</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>256/670</td>
<td>Honors Film: Films of the 1950s &amp; 1960s</td>
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</table>

This 16-week honors elective is a cross-curricular course between the Social Studies and Fine Arts departments. It will examine films of the 1950s and 1960s with an emphasis on four themes: Cold War, Teen Rebellion and Anti-establishment Sentiment, Gender, and Race.

Prerequisite: Seniors or juniors who have completed or will complete their three required Social Studies credits by the end of junior year. Students should hold a B+ or higher in both English and Social Studies. Requires a recommendation from both departments.

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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>263</td>
<td>Mount Milestone</td>
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</table>

Mount Milestone is an independent study course for seniors that is a culminating project for students to take an area of interest and explore it in-depth in a way that goes beyond the typical bounds of a single-subject classroom. Students will complete an interdisciplinary project based on research and then present the project to a wider audience at the end of the school year. The project chosen should be one that the student feels strongly about and encourages critical thinking, research and problem solving. A key focus should be on creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation. Students will investigate the topic through senior year by developing "essential questions", researching, discussing and applying their knowledge.

Prerequisite: Student must complete an application, which may be obtained from her guidance counselor.

### Mathematics

Three credits in Mathematics are required for graduation. The Mathematics department recommends that all students study Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Precalculus as a minimum preparation for college level courses. Department approval is required for acceptance into any mathematics course. The TI-84 Plus Silver Edition calculator is used school-wide.

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<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>312</td>
<td>Algebra I</td>
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</table>

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.

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<th>Grade 9</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>313</td>
<td>Honors Algebra I</td>
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</table>

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.

322  Geometry
Grade 10  1 credit

This course is designed for students who have mastered Algebra I. The course includes the study of logic, the Postulates and Theorems of Euclid, coordinate geometry, right triangle trigonometry, and properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, circles and solids. Application of real world problems and constructions with compass and straightedge enhance the learning process. Formal proof and deductive reasoning are an integral part of the course.

Prerequisite: Algebra I.

323  Honors Geometry
Grade 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 or 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 and the binomial theorem. Unit circle trigonometry and graphs of trig functions will also be taught.

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry and/or department recommendation.

332  Honors Algebra II
Grade 9, 10 or 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. Graphs of trig functions will also be taught. Topics from probability and statistics will be studied if time allows.

Prerequisite: Freshman administration placement or B+ in Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry and/or department recommendation.

342  Precalculus
Grade 10, 11 or 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, 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: Algebra II and/or department recommendation.

344  Honors Precalculus/Trigonometry
Grade 10, 11 or 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, matrices, trigonometry and the elementary functions, techniques of equations 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.
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<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Grade(s)</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>362</td>
<td>Calculus</td>
<td>Grade 11 or 12</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>363</td>
<td>AP Calculus AB</td>
<td>Grade 11 or 12</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>364</td>
<td>AP Calculus BC</td>
<td>Grade 11 or 12</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td>365</td>
<td>AP Statistics</td>
<td>Grade 11 or 12</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>351</td>
<td>Discrete Mathematics</td>
<td>Grade 11 or 12</td>
<td>0.5 credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>359</td>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Grade 10, 11 or 12</td>
<td>1 credit</td>
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</table>

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.

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.

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

Prerequisite: Calculus AB.

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

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.

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 Chinese Postman and 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: C or better in Precalculus.

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.)

Prerequisite: Algebra I.

358  Personal Finance
Grade 10, 11, or 12  1 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.)

Prerequisite: Algebra I.

### Science

MSJA requires three years of laboratory sciences, which includes Concepts of Physics, Chemistry and Biology. Science electives may not be presented every year.

411  Concepts of Physics
Grade 9  1 credit

Concepts of Physics 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, electromagnetic phenomena, 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 labwork, research and construction.

412  Honors Concepts of Physics
Grade 9  1 credit

Honors Concepts of Physics 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. Selected topics are explored in depth through term projects.

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

421  Chemistry
Grade 10 or 11  1 credit

This course explores the fine structure of matter and the nature of the changes that occur when matter and energy interact. Concepts studied include structure of the atom, chemical nomenclature, reactions, chemical equations, stoichiometry, gas laws, and acids and bases. The concepts and principles presented in class are reinforced with a variety of laboratory experiences and demonstrations.

Prerequisite: Concepts of Physics or Honors Concepts of Physics.

422  Honors Chemistry
Grade 10 or 11  1 credit

Honors Chemistry is intended for students with a special interest in, and aptitude for science. The relationship between the structure and behavior of substances is studied both qualitatively and quantitatively. Concepts studied include structure of the atom, chemical nomenclature, chemical equations, stoichiometry, and gas laws. Laboratory experiments and demonstrations reinforce the concepts presented.

Prerequisites: A- in Concepts of Physics or B+ in Honors Concepts of Physics, as well as an A- in Algebra I or a B+ in Algebra II.
Honors Chemistry II
Grade 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 or higher in Honors Chemistry, or A- in Chemistry.

Biology
Grade 10 or 11
1 credit

This course is designed to guide students in a study of the similarities and differences among living organisms, including concepts of structure, function, and changes that occur from a single cell to a complex organism. Topics studied include cell structure and function, energy transformation, the molecular basis of heredity, evolution, and the interdependence of organisms. Laboratory experiments are used to illustrate many of the biological principles.

Prerequisite: Concepts of Physics or Honors Concepts of Physics and Chemistry or Honors Chemistry.

Honors Biology
Grade 10 or 11
1 credit

This course is geared toward students who have a special interest in and aptitude for science. Cellular biology and biochemical processes form the core of this course, with emphasis on energy flow in biological systems, structure and synthesis of macromolecules, principles of genetics, and the role of natural selection in shaping biological systems. Laboratory experiences are an integral part of the course. Selected topics are explained in depth through independent research.

Prerequisites: A- in Concepts of Physics or B+ in Honors Concepts of Physics, A in Chemistry or B+ in Honors Chemistry.

Honors Physics
Grade 11 or 12
1 credit

Honors Physics provides an opportunity for the science student to broaden her understanding and appreciation of physical phenomena through the study of the relationships between matter and energy. The topics studied include Newtonian mechanics, dynamics, conservation of energy, rotational motion, and equilibrium. Quantitative relationships and experimental work are integral parts of the course. Competency in Algebra and basic geometry is essential; basic trigonometric functions are routinely applied to problem solutions.

Prerequisites: A- in Concepts of Physics or B+ in Honors Concepts of Physics, B in Geometry or Honors Geometry, B+ in Algebra I or B in Algebra II, A- in Chemistry or B+ in Honors Chemistry. PreCalculus strongly recommended.

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 Honors Biology or A- in Biology with department recommendation.

Environmental Science
Grade 11 or 12
1 credit

This elective course is an interdisciplinary course designed to give students an understanding of the interactions of organisms, especially humans, with their environment. Environmental issues impacting our society will be explored through a variety of activities, field trips, experiments and projects.

Prerequisite: B in Biology or Honors Biology

AP Physics C: Mechanics with Lab
Grade 11 or 12
1 credit

The AP Physics C: Mechanics course is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college physics course for scientists and engineers. Calculus concepts are
used throughout the course, and usage will increase as the course progresses. This course differs significantly from the usual senior level high school physics course in respect to the depth of understanding of the concepts that students will need to master and the difficulty of the problems to be solved. 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: Calculus or AP Calculus (may be taken concurrently with AP Physics). A- in Concepts of Physics, Chemistry and Biology or B+ in Honors Concepts of Physics, Honors Chemistry and Honors Biology or department recommendation.

### 462/463 AP Biology with Lab

**Grade 12**  
2 credits  
(Every day September through June)

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course taken by biology majors during their first year. A college biology course differs significantly from the usual high school course in respect to the textbook used, the range and depth of the topics covered, the laboratory work done by the students, and the time and effort required. Students in AP Biology will succeed only if they appreciate that this course will be taught at the college level and will be very challenging. It is recommended that students be prepared to spend a minimum of 1.5 study hours per class. Students who do not wish to invest this type of effort should not enroll.

There should be serious intent to major in biology or a related field in college. AP exam required. This course is equivalent to eight college credits.

Prerequisites: A- in Honors Biology, A- in Honors Chemistry or department recommendation.

### 433 Team Robotics

**Grade 10, 11 or 12**  
0.5 credit

This elective course is designed to allow students to develop the technical, mechanical, electrical, programming, marketing, and fundraising skills needed to successfully design and build a competition robot. This course will run in the second quarter to support the MSJA Firebirds’ schedule. It is reserved for students in grades 10, 11, 12 who are active members of the MSJA FRC robotics team, and are looking to advance their skills, knowledge and experience needed to lead, enhance and grow the Firebirds through development, construction, and competition.

Prerequisites: Active membership in MSJA Firebirds and coach approval.
MSJA requires three consecutive levels of the same language. Students may take one or more levels of another language.

511 French I
Grade 9, 10, 11 or 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 or 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 or 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 or 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 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 or 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.


513 Spanish I
Grade 9, 10, 11 or 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 or 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 or 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.
Honors Spanish III
Grade 10, 11 or 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.

Spanish IV: Conversation & Culture
Grade 10, 11 or 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.

Honors Spanish IV
Grade 10, 11 or 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 will be read and discussed. 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. Note: It is mandatory that students take Honors Spanish IV if planning to continue with AP Spanish.
Prerequisite: A in Spanish III, or A- in Honors Spanish III.

AP Spanish: Language
Grade 11 or 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.

Latin I
Grade 9, 10, 11 or 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.

Latin II
Grade 9, 10, 11 or 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 Livy will be emphasized.
Prerequisite: Latin I.

Latin III/ Honors Latin III
Grade 10, 11 or 12  1 credit
This course is designed to develop competence and enjoyment in reading Latin prose and poetry. Students will be introduced to Roman letter writing by reading selected letters of Cicero and Pliny the Younger. Close attention will be paid to the historical and cultural implications of each letter. Continuing this theme of literary letters, the course will conclude with one of Ovid’s Heroides, a series of love letters (written in verse) from legendary ladies to their absent husbands and lovers. The poetry segment will include an introduction to meter and literary devices. Honors Latin III is a prerequisite for AP Latin.
Prerequisite for 535: Latin II. Prerequisite for 536: B+ in Latin II.
545/555 Honors/AP Latin: Vergil and Caesar
Grade 11 or 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**

The Fine Arts curriculum encompasses three distinct areas: Music; Visual Arts; and Theatre, Film and Communication.

One credit of a Fine Art is required. Sophomores are required to take course #622 as part of their rotation and may elect to take course #623 or course #624.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>622 Communications/Speech 0.25 credit</td>
<td>This .25 credit class focuses on developing the student’s active listening skills as well as improving upon her oral and written skills. Students interview one another and then write and deliver an extemporaneous speech about their partner 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 8-week elective course suggested for any student who wants to become proficient in public speaking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>623 Music &amp; Cultural Identity 0.25 credit</td>
<td>This course is optional if the Fine Arts credit was fulfilled in freshman year. Students will explore the music of various times and cultures, with an emphasis on the connections between musical expression and cultural identity. Topics will include American popular music as well as traditional music of non-Western cultures. Special attention will be paid to examining the ways in which music has been used as a vehicle for political, social and cultural expression.</td>
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<tr>
<td>624 Creating Digital Music 0.25 credit</td>
<td>This course is optional if the Fine Arts credit was fulfilled in freshman year. 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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>631 Choral Class I 1 credit</td>
<td>No prior choral work is necessary to take this course. It is designed to develop choral singing techniques, blending, phrasing, a capella 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. Students participating in spring athletics may register for this course with instructor permission.</td>
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Prerequisite: Audition or permission from instructor.
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.

### Independent Voice Practicum

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<th>Code</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>644</td>
<td>10, 11 or 12</td>
<td>0.25</td>
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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.

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

### Independent Piano Practicum

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<th>Code</th>
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<tr>
<td>645</td>
<td>11 or 12</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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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.

**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/keyboarding skills will be helpful but are not required.
### Instrumental Ensemble: Strings, Brass, Woodwinds and Percussion

**655-I**

| Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 | 1 credit |

**656-II/657-III/658-IV**

| Grade 10, 11 or 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.

### Orchestra

**659**

| Grade 9, 10, 11 or 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 on Mondays and Wednesdays during first and second lunch periods. Students who wish to perform in the Orchestra, Pit Orchestra or Jazz Ensemble should register for this course.

**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval.

### Music History

**691**

| Grade 10, 11 or 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.

### American Musical Theater

**662**

| Grade 10, 11 or 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.

### Communications/Speech II

**642**

| Grade 11 or 12 | 0.5 credit |

This eight-week course is for the student who wants to become proficient in public speaking. Major assignments include a manuscript speech, a mock college interview, and a TED Talk. Other work includes voice and relaxation exercises.

**Prerequisite:** Communications/Speech I.

### Romantic Comedy

**665**

| Grade 10, 11 or 12 | 0.5 credit |

This course will focus on the “battle of the sexes” in classic American comedies of the 1930s through the 1960s. Students will be able to recognize how The Hays Production Code (censorship) shaped the characters, gender roles, and themes of screwball comedies during these eras.

### Women in Film

**666**

| Grade 10, 11 or 12 | 0.5 credit |

This course will examine the representation of women on screen over the past century. Students will be able to recognize the positive and negative images and messages constructed in these films and how they reflect the social and cultural influences of the time period.

### Honors Theatre Workshop

**660**

| Grade 10, 11 or 12 | 1 credit |

In this sixteen-week acting/directing workshop, students will explore all aspects of the actor/director process and relationship. The first eight weeks are devoted to Sanford Meisner acting exercises; the second half to scene study. Students may choose to be either actor or director as they analyze the play, choose an approach to the script, and engage in the rehearsal process. There is a high level of commitment required for this course.
Honors Film: Films of the 1950s and 1960s

Grade 11, 12

This 16-week honors elective is a cross-curricular course between the Social Studies and Fine Arts departments. It will examine films of the 1950s and 1960s with an emphasis on four themes: Cold War, Teen Rebellion and Anti-establishment Sentiment, Gender, and Race.

Prerequisite: Seniors or juniors who have completed or will complete their three required Social Studies credits by the end of junior year. Students should hold a B+ or higher in both English and Social Studies. Requires a recommendation from both departments.

Exploring Ethnicity & Race Through Film

Grade 10, 11, or 12

The critical aspects of the ethnic and race experience—the family, cultural, religious, social, and political dynamics of various ethnic groups and races—are taught through films in this sixteen week course. Watching Native American, African-American, Asian, Arab, and Jewish struggle in a film can bring a greater understanding of each group and advances the Mount’s mission of unity and reconciliation.

Design Basics

Grade 9, 10, 11 or 12

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 Art History and all other studio art classes.

3-D Design

Grade 10, 11 or 12

This course is designed to explore the history and nature of sculpture, mastering the basic hand-building techniques of clay.

Prerequisite: Design Basics.

Color Theory

Grade 10, 11 or 12

This course is designed to provide an in-depth study of color theories and the utilization of information in projects through a variety of color media. The master colorists from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are investigated.

Prerequisite: Design Basics.

Commercial Design

Grade 10, 11 or 12

This course is designed to explore the commercial world through the use of design. This class will take you through the basics of Adobe Illustrator to learn the many capabilities available for marketing products such as packaging design, the corporate look, advertising and other projects related to the promotion of a marketable product.

Prerequisites: Design Basics, Color Theory.

Drawing

Grade 11 or 12

This course is designed to provide a multiplicity of visual experiences in drawing that will challenge the students to their highest creative potential. Students will concentrate on composition with a strong emphasis on observational drawing. The subject matter to be explored will be still life, portraiture, landscape, figure and architectural drawings.

Prerequisites: Design Basics, Color Theory.

Painting

Grade 11 or 12

This course is designed to provide a multiplicity of visual experiences in painting that will challenge the students to their highest creative potential. Students will explore the different techniques of painting using a variety of media.

Prerequisites: Design Basics, Color Theory, and Drawing.

3-D Design II

Grade 11 or 12

This course is designed to refine hand-building techniques in clay and to incorporate wheel-thrown and extruded forms. Students are encouraged to
experiment with sculpture using non-ceramic building materials, found objects, and assembled mixed media. Special focus is placed on student-initiated designs. Prerequisite: Design Basics, 3-D Design.

679/680  
**Advanced Drawing & Painting**  
Grades 11 or 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 recommendation.

681  
**Portfolio**  
Grade 11 or 12  
0.5 credit

This course is designed for students who are seriously considering an art career. Projects extend all media previously experienced toward compositional mastery and will focus on portfolio requirements based on college standards. Prerequisite: Design Basics, Color Theory.

682  
**Photoshop for the Graphic Artist**  
Grade 11 or 12  
0.5 credit

This course is designed to explore the areas of Advertising and Graphics. It will introduce you to the Photoshop environment and some of its most essential tools. Projects will include Printed Ads, Poster Design, the digital camera and a general overview of the application. Prerequisites: Design Basics, Color Theory.

687/688  
**Honors Independent Art**  
Grade 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 art instructor regarding specific work action previous to rostering. Prerequisite: All courses offered plus teacher approval.

692  
**AP Art History**  
Grades 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: Writing sample and instructor permission.

699  
**AP Studio Art**  
Grade 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 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. Prerequisites: Demonstrated proficiency in desired area of focus (ex. Painting, drawing, sculpture, or digital art) and instructor permission.

Business & Technology

One-half credit in computer literacy is required.

712  
**Exploring Technology**  
Required  
Grade 9 (rotation)  
0.25 credit

In this course, students will learn to conduct research
effectively by reviewing file management and word processing software, learning digital citizenship themes, honing search skills for relevant sources, and practicing library skills. The latter part of the course introduces programming concepts utilizing one of the popular drag-and-drop block coding programs to help develop critical thinking skills.

721  Computer Systems and Applications
Grade 10, 11 or 12  0.5 credit
This course is designed to introduce students to office application software. The 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.

752  Introduction to Business Marketing
Grade 11 or 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. Subject matter includes the free enterprise system, marketing foundations and functions with emphasis on advertising, selling, promotion, product/service management, pricing and distribution. In addition, this course will explore human resource and leadership development. Students will apply the theory learned by participating in a “hands-on” marketing project where students will form and operate a student-run company throughout the course.

358  Personal Finance
Grade 10, 11, or 12  1 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 Mathematics section.)
Prerequisite: Algebra I.

359  Accounting
Grade 10, 11 or 12  1 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 Mathematics section.)
Prerequisite: Algebra I.

358  Personal Finance
Grade 10, 11, or 12  1 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 Mathematics section.)
Prerequisite: Algebra I.

727  Multimedia Design for Websites
Grade 10, 11 or 12  0.5 credit
This half-credit elective teaches basic HTML, sound and movie-editing, image editing, and basic animation to get started. Elements of good multimedia design will be studied. Students will create a website and then add multimedia elements as the course progresses.

726  AP Computer Science Principles
Grade 11 or 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. Two Performance Tasks will be created and submitted to College Board as part of the AP assessment for this course: one, creating a computational artifact about a computing innovation’s intended purpose and function; and the other, done in collaboration with another student, creating a project in a programming language representing a personal interest or solving a problem.

**Graphic Design for Digital Publications**

| Grade 10, 11 or 12 | 0.5 credit |

This course will introduce students to software frequently used by graphic design artists and will prepare students to digitally edit photographs, create vector images for promotional materials, and to create appropriate layouts for publications. Basic design concepts and the tools of the software will be explored to prepare students for a career in marketing/communications. Those who work on any of the school publications may find this course very helpful.

**Introduction to Java Programming**

| Grade 10, 11, or 12 | 0.5 credit |

This half-credit elective 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. Case studies are used to teach specification, code design, implementation, testing, and debugging. Students will learn through demonstration and lots of hands on practice.

**Television Production WMSJ**

| Grade 10, 11, or 12 | 0.5 credit |

This course provides students with the opportunities to acquire and develop skills in TV broadcasting, multimedia, and journalism; work in an on-site TV studio set; and apply classroom experience in practical applications in television production. This program prepares students to use and to maintain audio and video equipment through experiences in broadcast and video production. Students will develop and expand their skills in communication, editing, technical and script writing, and broadcasting.

**Health/Physical Education**

**Health**

| Required (rotation) |
| Grade 9 | 0.5 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.

**Physical Education**

| Required (rotation) |
| Grade 9 | 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 such as yoga, Pilates, aerobics, and kickboxing will be introduced. Focus is placed on participation, sportsmanship, and cooperation. A uniform is required which may be purchased through the MSJA bookstore.

**Physical Education/Health**

| Required (rotation) |
| Grade 10 | 0.25 credit |

This course will emphasize team sports and fitness activities with a focus on effort, participation, and sportsmanship. The Health curriculum will continue the study of the human body systems begun in grade nine. The reproductive system, reproductive health, and human sexuality will be highlighted.

Students may enroll in both 825 and 826 either sequentially or as stand-alone courses.

**Self Defense/Fitness**

| Grade 11 or 12 | 0.25 credit |

This course will teach methods for identifying risky, dangerous and/or emergency situations and how to stay safe in these situations. Students will learn techniques...
This course is open to students who are interested in learning about safety in the community. During this course, students will learn how to identify and eliminate potentially hazardous conditions in their environment, recognize emergencies and make appropriate decisions for first aid care. Students will learn immediate care procedures for a suddenly ill or injured person until advanced medical care arrives. An American Red Cross certification in First Aid, CPR and AED is provided for an additional fee. This course is an elective and does not replace Physical Education.

Guidance

861 Guidance I
Required
Grade 9 (rotation) 0.25 credit
This course is designed to aid in the successful transition of students into high school 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.

862 Guidance II
Required
Grade 10 (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.

Diocesan Scholars

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 third block of school at a neighboring college. Courses are given AP weight (college equivalent) for GPAs. Each class is given 0.5 credits. Class size is limited.