

Notre Dame High School

COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOK
2026-2027



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NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOK

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Philosophy of Notre Dame High School

- We believe in Jesus Christ and His Gospel.
- We believe that lived Christian faith and values give vision and meaning to life.
- We believe in the values espoused by the School Sisters of Notre Dame: serving women, youth, and the poor, unity in diversity, community, and global justice and responsibility.
- We believe that every person is unique.
- We believe that every person is capable of learning.
- We believe in the ability of each person to reach her potential.
- We believe that critical and creative thinking are essential life skills.
- We believe that learning is a life-long process.
- We believe that true learning results in active response to issues and challenges confronting our world.
- We believe Christian women direct their gifts toward building community and renewing God's earth.

--Adopted November 12, 1997

The Mission of Notre Dame High School

Notre Dame High School educates young women to become confident, compassionate Christian leaders. Each student is guided to reach the fullness of her potential and to use her gifts to make a difference in the world around her.

Notre Dame High School provides a college preparatory program to girls from diverse backgrounds through an environment of differentiated instruction.

In the spirit of the School Sisters of Notre Dame and in response to the mission of Jesus in the Catholic tradition, students are educated to integrate lifelong learning, faith, and service into their lives.

--Adopted March, 2009

DEFINITION OF TERMS

USED IN DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION

AT NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

A COURSE is a sequence of unified topics which has a credit equivalency assigned by the department. The number and length of the units used to cover the topics included varies with department requirements. Ordinarily, a one semester course is assigned a half credit; a full year course is assigned one credit. Other credit variations are noted in the course description.

A UNIT of study is an organized, grouping of topics with specific learning objectives and activities for a student to follow within a course. Assessments are part of every unit of study.

All Students are **required** to enroll in seven (7) credits per year.

No student can register for more than 7.5 credits.

ALL STUDENTS are expected to make annual yearly progress.

Students who do NOT achieve credit in required courses are expected to recover the credit by:

- a) Re-enrolling in the course the following semester or the following year
- b) Attending summer school
- c) Taking the course by correspondence as recommended by the department.

WEIGHTED courses are indicated by an asterisk (*) before the course name.



ND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

<u>Subject Area</u>	<u>Number of Credits</u>
English	4
Fine Arts (Art, Drama, Music)	1.5
Mathematics	3
Physical Education	1.5
Practical Arts (Business, FACS)	1.5
Science	3
Social Studies	3
Theology	4
World Language	2
Electives	4.5
Total Graduation Credit	28

Required Course Offerings

FRESHMAN CURRICULUM

<i>SUBJECT AREA</i>	<i>COURSE TITLE</i>	<i>CREDITS</i>
English	Lit & Comp 1 or *Hr Lit & Comp 1	1
Math	Algebra 1 or *Hr Algebra 1	1
Physical Education	Health	.5
Practical Arts	Computer Science	.5
Science	Conceptual Physics or *Hr Conceptual Physics	1
Social Studies	Social Studies Foundations or *Hr Big History	.5 1
Theology	Theology I	1
World Language	French 1 or Spanish 1	1
Interdisciplinary	Freshman Learning Lab	0
	Freshman Seminar	0

SOPHOMORE CURRICULUM

<i>SUBJECT AREA</i>	<i>COURSE TITLE</i>	<i>CREDITS</i>
English	World Lit & Comp 2 or *Hr World Lit & Comp 2	1
Fine Arts	Speech Communications	.5
Math	Geometry or *Hr Geometry	1
Science	Biology or *Hr Biology	1
Social Studies	World History or *Hr World History	1
Theology	Theology II	1
World Language	French 2/*Hr French 2 or Spanish 2/*Hr Spanish 2	1
Interdisciplinary	Sophomore Seminar	0

JUNIOR CURRICULUM

<i>SUBJECT AREA</i>	<i>COURSE TITLE</i>	<i>CREDITS</i>
English	American Literature OR *Hr American Lit & *ACC Comp	1 1
Mathematics	Algebra 2 or Algebra 2 w/ Trig/*Hr Algebra 2 w/ Trig	1 1
Practical Arts	Personal Finance	.5
	ACT Prep	0
Science	Chemistry or *Hr Chemistry	1
Social Studies	American History or *ACC American History	1
Theology	Theology III	1
Interdisciplinary	Junior Seminar	0

SENIOR CURRICULUM

<i>SUBJECT AREA</i>	<i>COURSE TITLE</i>	<i>CREDITS</i>
Social Studies	American Government/*ACP Am. Government	1
Theology	Theology IV	.5
Interdisciplinary	Senior Seminar	0

ART DEPARTMENT

(FINE ARTS)

OBJECTIVES: Corresponding to their grade levels and individual capabilities **students will:**

1. **recognize that art is a language** of visual images that everyone must learn to read because it provides knowledge about the world and ways of experiencing it that is unique from knowledge gained through verbal and written language.
2. **learn the meaning of joy of work** and strengthen their skills of craftsmanship through a commitment to work done to the best of one's ability, for its own sake, and for the satisfaction of a job well done.
3. **sensitively explore art through creation and discussion as a visual interpretation of values**--about home and family, work and play, the individual and society, people and cultures, nature and the environment, war and peace, beauty and ugliness, violence and love--because the great art of the past and the present deals with these durable human concerns . . . because art can express the highest aspirations of the human spirit.
4. **create their own visual images by solving a series of art problems**, some required, some by choice that satisfy the credit requirements and objectives of their specific art course.
5. **be able to name, describe, and define formal elements and the specific materials and processes** involved in the production of art as part of the preparation for work and the critical analysis after work is done.
6. **strengthen skills of describing and articulating** by leading discussions about their own work.
7. **be able to incorporate ideas** garnered from observations of master art as well as class demonstration (by teacher or video) in making their own art.
8. **be able to experiment** with the intellectual and artistic processes of creating abstract art, as well as art based on reality, and craft-oriented art.
9. **be able to describe, define, and compare the personal, social, and physical functions of art** for purposes of understanding who makes art, what art is, why and how art satisfies human needs, and how it is influenced by the past.
10. **attend class time in order to fulfill creative requirements**, which include basic care and clean up of tools, supplies, and work areas as a matter of courtesy to all who must use them and an essential element of organization, efficiency, and craftsmanship.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Fine Arts Department is comprised of the Art, Drama, and Music Departments. All students are required to complete **1.5 credits** of Fine Arts courses. Prerequisites are stated at the end of each course description.

ART COURSES

All art classes meet two to three times a cycle. Most aspects of artwork are best accomplished at school rather than at home because studio space, supplies, equipment such as potter's wheel, resource materials and teacher help is readily available in the Art Department. For this reason, all art students are required to make up any missed time during their open mods on their schedules to complete course work in the studio.

COST

Art students must pay a fee to cover the cost of certain consumable supplies and tools that the department is unable to provide free of charge. Additionally, students are required to purchase their own personal supplies. Many are available in the Art Department or ND Bookstore. Fees and supply lists are provided with each course outline. **Photography** students must supply their own cameras and paper. **Ceramic** students pay for clay and glazes. **Other classes** involve some materials but are less expensive.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

001-F/002-S INTRODUCTION TO ART

.5 credit

Students are introduced to various media, tools, and techniques as they explore the fundamentals of art. There are studio experiences in drawing, painting and ceramics, which acquaint students with the elements and principles of design. We will investigate the historical relationships between visual art, society, and culture as students explore their own ability to express themselves visually. This course provides a rich and rewarding experience for anyone who enjoys being creative and is a prerequisite to all other art courses. It is advisable a student enroll in Introduction to Art as a freshman as three years of art is a prerequisite to Senior Exhibition. Students are responsible for materials not provided by the art department. Additional Course Fee Applies.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

003-F DRAWING 1

.5 credit

This course emphasizes learning how to draw and is appropriate for the novice as well as those with experience. If you have the desire to learn to draw or to learn to draw better, and think you would enjoy this rewarding process, this course is for you! You will learn how to use the right half of your brain to observe details you have never seen before and how to record these images in the form of contour lines on paper. A variety of materials will be used to draw still life, nature, perspective, and portraits. The main focus in Drawing 1 is using pencil, pen and ink. Drawing is a fundamental experience for any student who may choose to study art, architecture, fashion, interior or graphic design or other related fields in the future. It is a prerequisite to Painting 1, Drawing 2, Painting 2, and Senior Exhibition. Additional Course Fee Applies. Offered alternate years.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

006-S CERAMICS 1

.5 credit

This studio course is designed for students to explore an exciting and versatile medium, clay. The hand-building methods of pinch, slab, and coil are introduced as well as throwing on the wheel. Basic glazing techniques and the firing processes are explored. Form, function, craftsmanship, and surface design will be emphasized. Students are introduced to mankind's fascination with clay throughout time and the significance of this medium in ancient civilization. This class serves as an elective to qualify for Senior Exhibition. Students are responsible for materials not provided by the art department. Additional Course Fee Applies.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

- 008-S** **CERAMICS 2** **.5 credit**
Students learn advanced throwing and hand-building techniques. Emphasis is on form, function, craftsmanship, and surface design. For the student who enjoyed Ceramics I class, this is an exciting course that enables them to learn more about clay and the thousands of things that can be done with it. This class serves as an elective to qualify for Senior Exhibition. Students are responsible for materials not provided by the art department. Additional Course Fee Applies.
PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art, Ceramics 1
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 013-F** **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 1** **.5 credit**
This course is an introduction to digital photography. Students will learn digital camera basics, including the mechanics of the camera and printing with the computer. Students will be guided in exercises and projects to produce a portfolio of digital prints. No darkroom is included in this course. *Students must provide their own digital camera.* Additional course fee applies.
PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 022-S** **DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY 2** **.5 credit**
This course is designed for the student interested in further developing her digital photography abilities and to learn advanced picture-taking techniques. A variety of techniques will be explored, and the course will be tailored to reflect each individual student's need for a more advanced and rigorous curriculum. Students will be guided in exercises and projects to produce a portfolio of digital prints. No darkroom is included in this course. *Students must provide their own digital camera.* Additional course fee applies.
PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art and Digital Photography 1
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 020-AF/AS** **SENIOR EXHIBITION** **.5 credit**
This course is designed for the highly motivated art student who is interested in advancing their artistic skills. Students will develop their skills as they work with advanced media in the form of two- and three-dimensional explorations or creative photography. Students prepare a final body of their work for exhibition in the spring art show. Additional Course Fee Applies.
PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art, Drawing I, Painting I & two additional semesters of art electives: Ceramics I and II, Photography I and II, Drawing II or Painting II
CLASS STATUS: Senior

921-AF/AS GRAPHIC DESIGN FOR PRINT**.5 credit**

It involves the production of the school yearbook. Special skills, which contribute to the success of the book, are taught over the length of the year. They include: layout, design, copy writing, using a web based application, page and event organization, photography of school activities, proofreading and meeting production deadlines through team work. Photo students work with staff members to develop the yearbook, learn the basics of production in relation to photography and be available to shoot on and off campus, during and after school as needed, especially for coverage of events. Previous course work in photography or journalism is helpful but not required.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

031-F PAINTING**.5 credit**

Students continue to explore color theory and composition as they study landscape, still life, and shape painting with acrylic paints. There is an emphasis on technique and proper care of materials. An introduction to the history of painting will be introduced as well as art criticism. Painting is a prerequisite to Senior Exhibition. Students are responsible for materials not provided by the art department. Additional Course Fee Applies. Offered alternate years.

PREREQUISITE: Introduction to Art

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

*** Weighted Courses**

ART DEPARTMENT SEQUENCE

Introduction to Art, .5 credit
(Prerequisite for all courses)



Digital Photo 1

Drawing

Ceramics 1



Digital Photo 2



Painting



Ceramics 2



Senior Exhibition
2 additional electives in art courses
OR instructor recommendation

BUSINESS/COMPUTER SCIENCE

(PRACTICAL ARTS)

PHILOSOPHY

Business/Computer Science is part of a broad educational program, which develops the mental abilities, the moral values, the human relations skills needed to achieve personal work goals, and contribute to a productive, just, and caring society. The Notre Dame Business philosophy is to prepare students for their roles as citizens, consumers, employees, and employers with integrity in the ever-changing business world.

OBJECTIVES: *The broad goals of the business courses are to accomplish the following:*

- Provide students with a balanced business/technology education program needed for career, college, and personal life.
- Help students recognize that business/technology education includes continuous learning in many areas such as social sciences, communication, language arts, technology, critical thinking, mathematics, religious and moral values.
- Help students manage their finances by making wise consumer choices and informed financial decisions through budgeting credit, goals, investing, and insurance regarding their personal finances.
- Give students an understanding of the marketing process and its relationship to the free enterprise system.
- Enable students to develop an understanding and appreciation of business, technology, money management, investing, and its application to perform successfully in the business world
- Select and apply tools of technology as they relate to personal and business decision-making.
- Manage data from all of the functional areas of business needed to make wise consumer decisions.
- Assist students in developing appropriate attitudes about business • Encourage the use of technology in performing business functions
- Demonstrate an understanding of economics, investing credit, budgeting, taxes, and insurance.
- Provide the basic economic understanding that will assist students in their role as consumers to become a capable employee and an efficient consumer
- Reinforce academic skills in such areas as communication, mathematics, reading, and writing
- Enhance leadership skills, and foster civic responsibility
- Increase student awareness of the increasingly complex business world
- Function as economically literate citizens through the development of personal consumer economics skills, knowledge of social and government responsibility, and an understanding of business operation.
- Demonstrate interpersonal, teamwork, and leadership skills necessary to function in multicultural business settings.
- Communicate effectively as writers, listeners, and speakers in social and business settings.
- Develop career awareness and related skills to make viable career choices and became employed in a variety of business careers.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

COMPUTER SCIENCE (.5 credit) is a required course for all freshmen.

PERSONAL FINANCE (.5 credit) and ACT Prep (0 credit) are required courses for all Juniors.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- 041-F/042-S** **COMPUTER SCIENCE DISCOVERIES** **.5 credit**
Students will become familiar with computer applications on iPad and PC by using various features in Office 365 and Apple Apps. Emphasis in improving technology in areas such as: organization, file storage, documents, spread sheets, presentation, email. Students will be introduced to coding during the semester, studying and applying aspects to create games, web design, and robotics.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman
- 046-AF/AS** ***ADVANCED COMPUTER SCIENCE** (Not being offered 2026-27 school year) **1 credit**
Unlock the future of technology with our Advanced Computer Science course. Designed for students with a passion for computing, this course delves deep into the core areas of networking, hardware, software, and Python programming. With a focus on practical skills and professional certifications, students will be well-prepared for the tech industry or further academic pursuits. By the end of this course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of computer science principles built on practical experience. They will also be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to set them on a path to success in the ever-evolving tech landscape.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 047-AF/AS** **ROBOTICS LAB** **.5 credit**
This course is a hands-on technology lab that teaches engineering methods and principles through building and programming functional robots. This lab will foster an understanding of the integration of computers with machines. Additionally, students will develop manual proficiency by using tools and working with mechanical components. This class carries the expectation of student collaboration toward common engineering goals.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 050-AF/AS** **PRODUCT DESIGN** **.5 credit**
Dive into the dynamic world of product design and branding with this comprehensive course. Utilizing professional production equipment alongside the powerful tools of Adobe Creative Suite, students will explore the full spectrum of digital design possibilities. From conceptualization to final production, this course covers essential skills and techniques for creating impactful designs across various mediums. By the end of this course, students will have a robust portfolio showcasing their ability to design and produce professional-quality products. Whether the student is looking to enhance her personal brand, or aiming to break into the design industry, this course provides the tools and knowledge you need to succeed.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

- 051-AF/AS *AP CYBERSECURITY 1 credit**
AP Cybersecurity introduces students to the principles of digital security, ethical hacking, and risk management. Through hands-on labs and case studies, students learn to protect systems, analyze threats, and apply industry-standard tools. The course is a direct pathway to certifications, internships, and high-demand careers, preparing young women to enter a growing field with strong earning potential and leadership opportunities. In addition to testing for college credit, students will work toward the AP Cybersecurity career credential and the lucrative CompTIA Security+ certification.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 055-F/056-S PERSONAL FINANCE .5 credit**
Student must be prepared to function in a challenging economic environment. This required course is designed to help the student learn to make wise spending, saving, investing, credit, and tax decisions to make effective use of income to achieve personal financial success. Student will learn how educational and financial choices influence occupational options to future earning potential. Student will apply goal setting to successful career and education decisions. This one semester required course is based on the Missouri Personal Finance Competencies.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Junior
- 058-S ACT PREP 0 credit**
- 060F/061S INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS .5 credit**
This general business course provides students opportunities to learn and experience a variety of topics in the field of business. Students are exposed to various economies, their roles in our economy, entrepreneurship, marketing, accounting, and technological resources. Course activities involve students writing, investigating, problem-solving, demonstrating, and reporting.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshmen through Senior
- 062-S 3D DESIGN .5 credit**
This course will teach the student elements and applications of 3D modelling, bridging the gap between art and engineering design. The student will utilize powerful computing technology to take a programmatic approach to 3D design. This class will explore three-dimensional drafting methods in Autodesk 360, game design principles with Unity 3D, and use JavaScript engines to build web-based Virtual Reality playgrounds. The student will be able to translate her designs from the virtual to material using 3D printing technology. This course is perfect for students interested in game design, art, engineering, or architecture.
PREREQUISITE: Computer Science
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 063-F MARKETING .5 credit**
This course covers an introduction to marketing and will provide a foundation for students interested in studying and pursuing business and marketing in the future. This course provides an understanding of the fundamental marketing processes and an orientation to the American free enterprise system. Students will learn about marketing plans and strategies businesses use to market their products.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Juniors and Seniors

064-S

ACCOUNTING

.5 credit

This course is an introductory course that will provide foundational information for students interested in pursuing business. The course covers the process of recording, analyzing, classifying, summarizing, and communicating accounting information while becoming familiar with accounting terms. Students will learn how to interpret and formulate financial information for use in management decision making.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Juniors and Seniors

BUSINESS/COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT SEQUENCE
ALL PHASES

FRESHMAN

Computer Science Discoveries

NO SEQUENCE

FRESHMAN-SOPHOMORE

Introduction to Business

SOPHOMORE-SENIOR

3D Design

*AP Cybersecurity

Product Design

Robotics Lab

JUNIOR-SENIOR

Personal Finance

ACT Prep

Marketing

Accounting

***Weighted Course**

DRAMA DEPARTMENT

(FINE ARTS)

OBJECTIVES

It is the goal of the Drama Department to create a positive environment where students will further develop their appreciation for the arts and learn to become confident, compassionate, Christian leaders. They will build confidence in stage presence and will learn communications skills that will enable them to lead, collaborate, and advocate for themselves and others. They will use their gifts to make a difference.

The Drama Department believes that every student has the ability to achieve some level of success through self-expression and strives to provide a variety of opportunities to encourage this development. In our ever-changing world strong and personal oral communication is a must. These courses will strengthen that ability, help calm stage fright and build confidence.

It is the department's objective that each student who studies the Oral Communication discipline will be able to:

1. Realize the importance and impact of both verbal and nonverbal communication.
2. Recognize the realities of stage fright and how to appropriately deal with the problem.
3. Demonstrate effective speaking skills in oral presentations.
4. Understand the difference between hearing and listening.
5. Distinguish between verbal and nonverbal communication.
2. Build positive professional and social interpersonal relationships.
3. Demonstrate best practices for conducting an interview and for being interviewed.
4. Build a resume.
5. Research and format a speech.

It is also the department's objective that each student who studies the Theatre Arts discipline will be able to:

1. Analyze the literary elements of the dramatic art form
2. Recognize and apply theatrical terminology
3. Identify technical requirements for a production
4. Implement a process for the development of a character
5. Assess the quality of a production through analysis and critique.
6. Understand and display appropriate theatre etiquette.
7. Demonstrate the ability to analyze and present a character.

REQUIREMENTS

COURSES: The Fine Arts Department comprised of the Art, Drama, and Music Departments requires of all students the completion of **1.5** credits in two out of the three disciplines adding up to 1.5 credits. Additional electives from all three departments are open to students with time and interest for them, providing prerequisites within the department are met.

Speech Communications (.5 credit) is a required course for graduation. It is taken Sophomore year.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

075-F/076-S SPEECH COMMUNICATIONS

.5 credit

Speech Communications is a required course that is taken during sophomore year. This .5 credit course focuses on the basics of communication (verbal, non-verbal, & interpersonal), responsibility in speaking, listening skills, confidence building, interviewing, resume building, and researching & organizing a speech. Students will become comfortable presenting information individually or in groups and will be challenged in the art of improvisation.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

DRAMA DEPARTMENT SEQUENCE

Speech Communications
(Sophomores)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

OBJECTIVES

It is the primary aim of the English Department of Notre Dame High School to impart to its students, through various literary works and approaches, those life skills vital to successful communication. Therefore, throughout the curriculum, these following objectives must be emphasized and addressed according to individual needs.

All Notre Dame students enrolled in English Department courses will be given the opportunities to

1. Participate in a reading program, whose core of various genres and perspectives also embodies significant cultural and personal concerns.
2. Develop and engage in the study of human issues through listening to and reading, speaking, and writing about literary works.
3. Organize, support, and write ideas clearly and creatively on various issues in order to discover their own style.
4. Grow continually in their ability to read critically, to interpret, and to assimilate what is read.
5. Learn necessary language skills directly when these have now been acquired through reading.
6. Have the opportunity to participate in the elective courses, which help them integrate their skills and allow them to pursue their own interests.
7. Use sources to find information and formulate and defend opinions based upon this information.

The English Department develops critical thinkers and encourages the ongoing process of learning about issues.

REQUIREMENTS

Each student is required to complete 4 credits in English from the following courses:

*Honors/Literature and Composition 1	1 credit
*Honors/World Literature and Composition 2	1 credit
American Literature and Composition 3	1 credit
*Honors American Literature	.5 credit
*ACC Composition	.5 credit
Rhetoric and Composition	.5 credit
Themes In Literature	.5 credit
*ACC Literature 1	.5 credit
*ACC Literature 2	.5 credit

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

121-AF/AS LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 1 1 credit

In this course, students will learn the HOW and WHY of both reading and writing. This course presents several literary types (short story, drama, poetry, non-fiction, and the novel) and asks students to understand the importance of each. Students will develop their close-reading skills, enhance their vocabulary, and learn other foundational skills required for in-depth analysis. Its focus is to help the student gain an appreciation for the artistic and ethical value of literature through reading, discussion, and writing. In addition, students will study the writing process and then apply this process to produce expressive, persuasive, informative, and creative pieces. Usage, punctuation, and spelling skills are practiced throughout.

PREREQUISITE: Standardized Test Scores, ND Placement Test, and
Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Freshman

127-AF/AS *HONORS LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 1 1 credit

This course is an in-depth study of several genres (short story, drama, poetry, non-fiction, and the novel) and will include an introduction to classical literature. Additional readings will focus more intensely on developing the skills of analysis, interpretation, and evaluation. Students will become familiar with various writing techniques and practice the skills leading toward proficiency in various modes of writing.

PREREQUISITE: Standardized Test Scores, ND Placement Test, and
Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Freshman

137-AF/AS WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 2 1 credit

This class will explore the many types of literacy affecting the global community by examining a variety of texts and their relationship to geography, multiculturalism, politics, religion, culture, media, and technology. This course stresses the value of recognizing others' history and values in order to emphasize social justice and the development of global citizenship. The course will not only expose students to diverse cultures and social constructs but examine the dynamics of power and inequality on local, national, and global levels. In addition, proper research techniques will be taught, which include note taking, outlining, MLA documentation, and revision.

PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of required 9th grade courses

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore

- 141-AF/AS** ***HONORS WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 2** **1 credit**
This course provides an in-depth study of several genres that represent a variety of worldly cultures and voices. Students will be expected to discuss and write about each individual work with depth and clarity. A strong emphasis will be placed on literary terminology, and students will be asked to apply such knowledge to various works and evaluate the effect of history on each piece of literature, thus improving their literary analysis skills. In addition, proper research techniques will be taught, which include note taking, outlining, MLA documentation, and revision.
PREREQUISITE: Successful completion of all required English
Courses with semester grades of C or
better/Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore
- 153-AF/AS** **AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION 3** **1 credit**
This course is a chronological study of American literature from the time of Native Americans to the present and the historical periods in which these works were written. While examining the literature, students will also consider the different ways in which literature shapes or reflects American culture. They will also explore what makes American literature distinctly American. Throughout this course, students will research important moments in the development of current American culture, as well as important issues that affected American culture of the past. They will study the elements included in a research paper. Emphasis is placed on the use of credible resources, ability to document sources, and skill in organizing material and presenting it clearly in informative and persuasive papers. Students will work with both quantitative and traditional methodology and assignments to complete a research paper. This course also provides practice in the use of MLA format.
PREREQUISITES: Required 10th grade courses
CLASS STATUS: Junior
- 125-F** ***HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE** **.5 credit**
This course is an in-depth study of the literature of America from the time of the Native Americans to the present, with emphasis on the relationship between literature and events in history. The student will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the literature through a variety of assignments, both oral and written. This course fulfills the American literature requirement.
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of all required English
courses with semester grades of C or
better /Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior

- 120-S** ***ACC COMPOSITION** **.5 credit**
(Saint Louis University title: ENGL 1500: The Process of Composition)
 The Process of Composition is designed to help students better understand the methods and characteristics of powerful and persuasive writing at the college level and beyond. By learning and then employing basic strategies of rhetoric, composition, and process, students will become more comfortable and adept at composing writing across various genres. Starting with personal narratives and moving toward a more objective professional and academic discourse, they will explore the intricacies of the composition process, from pre-writing to final editing, along with sentence and paragraph organization, grammar, and mechanics as needed. At the end of the course, students will be able to produce effective writings in any core subject area.
 PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of all required English courses with semester grades of C or better /Department Recommendation
 CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 113-F** **RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION** **.5 credit**
 This course provides an introduction to the typical Composition I college course. Each student will develop her voice as a writer, evaluate the logic of her writing, and consider how her audience might react to her ideas and language. Students will examine specific rhetorical modes and will practice these methods in several original essays. Students will learn and apply elements of style and review usage, punctuation, and spelling as needed.
 PREREQUISITES: Required 11th grade courses
 CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 140-S** **THEMES IN LITERATURE** **.5 credit**
 This course provides the student with the opportunity to explore universal themes found in a wide variety of literary works. Students will engage with their classmates and the texts through reading, writing, and discussion.
 Theme for 2022: Life Stages in Literature
 PREREQUISITES: Required 11th grade courses.
 CLASS STATUS: Senior (May be taken as an elective for honors seniors)
- 163-F** ***ACC LITERATURE 1** **.5 credit**
(Saint Louis University title: ENGL 2350 – Faith, Doubt, & Literature)
 This course explores faith and doubt (among many other topics) through a broad historical swath that encompasses the Elizabethan period up to the 21st century of literature. We will be reading texts that actively probe the questions of faith, God, religion, spirituality, philosophy, and even more specifically, how we come into our evolving understanding of that “identity” for ourselves. Through the reading of a wide variety of genres—including drama, poetry, and fiction—this course engages students in literary ways of knowing. Methods include close reading, comparative textual analysis, and argumentative writing. The course may be taken for high school and college credit or for high school credit only. Upon completion of course requirements and payment to Saint Louis University, a student may receive three credits of English from Saint Louis University and/or .5 high school credit.
 PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of all required English Courses with semester grades of C or better /Department Recommendation
 CLASS STATUS: Senior

- 166-S** ***ACC LITERATURE 2** **.5 credit**
(Saint Louis University title: ENGL 2550 Gender, Identity, and Literature)
This semester course covers the way literature addresses the role gender plays in the creation of identity. Through this class, the student will understand and be able to use the terms, methods, and concepts employed by literary scholars and practitioners. The readings include selections from a variety of forms, authors, time periods, and nationalities. The student will develop strong ability as a critical reader. This ability will be developed through extensive instruction in the close reading of text. The student will demonstrate these critical skills in the context of numerous writing assignments and exams, as well as intense classroom participation. The course may be taken for high school and college credit or for high school credit only. Upon completion of course requirements and payment to Saint Louis University, a student receives three credits of English from Saint Louis University and/or .5 high school credit.
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of all required English courses with semester grades of C or better /Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 168-S** **CREATIVE WRITING** **.5 credit**
This semester course explores different genres of creative writing, including memoir, creative nonfiction, historical fiction, horror, and poetry. Students will be encouraged to develop their voice and allowed freedom to design individual writing projects. Using a workshop model, students will engage in lessons, keep a writer's journal, and participate in the writing process, which includes peer review. Additionally, students will analyze selected readings to examine the author's craft.
***This course will be offered on a rotating basis with other English electives.
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Freshman Literature and Composition
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 170-S** **HOLOCAUST LITERATURE AND MEDIA** **.5 credit**
This elective course allows students to explore the Holocaust by studying and analyzing the origins of antisemitism, the causes and effects of the Holocaust, the actions of the resistance and the liberators, the beliefs and actions of the Nazis, and the implications of the Holocaust in the modern world. Included in this study, students will read novels, memoirs, graphic novels, poetry, short stories, primary documents, witness visual testimonies, analyze film, and listen to podcasts. A field trip to the St. Louis Kaplan Feldman Holocaust Museum, a museum dedicated to teaching the Holocaust and honoring the survivors, is part of the study of Holocaust Literature and Media. This class will include reading assignments, class discussion, written reflections, evaluation of historical documents, research, and organization of research that leads to a final presentation delivered by the student concerning a Holocaust topic agreed upon by the student and the teacher. This course is designed to broaden students' perspectives of what it means to be human as they bear witness to the Holocaust.
***This course will be offered on a rotating basis with other English electives.
PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of Freshman Literature and Composition
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

- 172-S INTRODUCTION TO AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES .5 credit**
 This elective course will take an interdisciplinary approach to explore the rich history and diverse experiences of African American culture. Students will explore key topics pertaining to the African American experience, starting with life in early African kingdoms and extending to racially based issues plaguing individuals in contemporary society. To do this, students will be exposed to a wide variety of multimedia sources, including but not limited to written works, art, music, and film.
 PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of freshman and sophomore English courses
 CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 179-F WOMEN AND LITERATURE .5 credit**
 This elective course provides an introduction to women's studies in an effort to familiarize students with key issues, questions, assumptions, stereotypes, and debates as they pertain to the female experience. To do this, students will study the changing role of women in society by drawing on feminist ideas and scholarship, especially through the medium of writing. Students will explore representative works by and about women from a variety of historical, cultural, and literary perspectives in an effort to make sense of the greater female experience, its societal imperatives, and how these factors affect one's own sense of self.
 ***This course will be offered on a rotating basis with other English electives.
****For high achieving students, there may be an option to take this course for college credit through UMSL's ACP Program- as GENDER STUDIES 2102. More information will be forthcoming. ****
 PREREQUISITES: Freshman and Sophomore Required English courses
 CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 181-F0405 *ACP WOMEN AND LITERATURE .5 credit**
***College credit through UMSL's ACP Program- GENDER STUDIES 2102.**
 This elective course provides an introduction to women's studies in an effort to familiarize students with key issues, questions, assumptions, stereotypes, and debates as they pertain to the female experience. To do this, students will study the changing role of women in society by drawing on feminist ideas and scholarship, especially through the medium of writing. Students will explore representative works by and about women from a variety of historical, cultural, and literary perspectives in an effort to make sense of the greater female experience, its societal imperatives, and how these factors affect one's own sense of self.
 ***This course will be offered on a rotating basis with other English electives.
 PREREQUISITES: Freshman and Sophomore Required English courses/Department Recommendation
 CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 182-AF/AS JOURNALISM .5 credit**
 This elective course presents students with the foundational skills and information required to produce clear, reliable, and ethical reporting. The course will begin with a general history of U.S. news journalism and the ever-evolving issues that challenge the field today. Our focus will continue with the fundamentals of reporting, interviewing, and writing for print, while following the Associated Press style. Furthermore, students will be asked to develop their own objective style of writing, which adheres to the ethics and legality of news literacy.
 PREREQUISITES: Successful completion of freshman English courses.
 CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

183-F

CENSORSHIP IN LITERATURE

.5 credit

This elective course gives an overview of the censorship of literary works in the United States of America. It will deal with the history of this topic and tackle issues such as the difference between book bans and book challenges, as well as what may cause a book to be censored in the first place. This course will pay special attention to this topic in relationship to children's and young adult literature.

***This course will be offered on a rotating basis with other English electives.

PREREQUISITES: Freshman and Sophomore required English courses.

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

*** Weighted Courses**

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SEQUENCE

Course Sequence

Requirements: 4 credits

Freshman Year

*Honors Literature and Composition 1 (department approval)

Literature and Composition 1



Sophomore Year

*Honors World Literature and Composition 2 (department approval)

World Literature and Composition 2



Junior Year

*Honors American Literature (department approval)

*ACC Composition (department approval)

American Literature and Composition 3



Senior Year

*ACC Literature 1 (department approval)

*ACC Literature 2 (department approval)

Rhetoric and Composition
Themes in Literature

Electives

Women and Literature
*ACP Women & Literature
Creative Writing
Intro to African American Studies

Themes in Literature (honors seniors)
Holocaust Literature & Media
Journalism
Censorship in Literature

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

(PRACTICAL ARTS)

PHILOSOPHY

The Family and Consumer Sciences Department of Notre Dame High School strives to develop in the young woman those skills that will enable her to successfully perform her chosen role as mother, homemaker, and/or career woman. The Family and Consumer Sciences department emphasizes essential living skills while providing the student with knowledge of the practical applications of the "basics."

OBJECTIVES

By completing courses in the Family and Consumer Sciences Department, a student should be able to achieve the following objectives.

1. Explain the importance of the basic food groups and their role in a balanced diet.
2. Establish and maintain a healthy, nutritional lifestyle by following the Dietary Guidelines of Americans.
3. Create and nurture caring, supportive family relationships.
4. Display a positive self-image through accomplishments in courses such as Clothing Construction, Foods, and Child Development.
5. Prepare for managing multiple roles as homemakers and wage earners.
6. Develop an awareness of Family and Consumer Sciences careers.

NOTE: The Practical Arts Department, comprised of the Business Technology Education and Family and Consumer Sciences Departments, requires of all students the completion of **1.5** credits.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

235-F FIBER ARTS .5 credit

This semester course gives students exposure and instruction to many types of fibers. Weaving, basket making, paper making, and surface designs are some of the materials students will be exploring with hands on learning. This is a lab course, so additional fees apply.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

240-S SEWING AND DESIGN .5 credit

This semester course gives instructions in the use and care of a sewing machine, an introduction to pattern reading and knowledge of fundamental sewing skills through assigned projects throughout the course. This is a lab course, so additional fees apply.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

- 247-F** **CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT** **.5 credit**
This semester course covers pre-natal development, growth patterns and development of infants. Also covered are health issues among children, accident prevention, nutrition, choosing appropriate age toys and books, and roles of family members. The *Baby Think It Over* doll simulator is also a requirement of this class. This course is strongly encouraged for those students pursuing a career in early childhood education, elementary education, nursing and psychology.
PREREQUISITES: None
CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior (priority given to seniors)
- 253-F/256-S** **CULINARY ARTS** **.5 credit**
This semester course will provide the student with the opportunity to acquire marketable skills by examining both the culinary industry and its career opportunities. Instruction will be in the principles of nutritious, aesthetic and sanitary selection, purchasing, storing, preparation, and service of food and food products. Included will be labs in egg cookery, sauces, fruits, vegetables, milk, cheese cookery, quick breads, simple pastries and poultry. This course has written work as well as lab time. All food made in labs will need to be tested and tasted by the students. Only exceptions will be if student is allergic to a food item.
Additional course fee applies.
PREREQUISITES: Health
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 257-F** **BAKING** **.5 credit**
This course is designed for those students who love to create ALL kinds of baked goods: bread, pies, muffins, cupcakes, brownies, and many more. We will be exploring the baking of gluten free items as well. We will be using the metric scales as well as English measurements to create our masterpieces. Students will be required to test and taste finished products. Students entering the class should have taken a culinary class prior to this one. Some written work is also required. There is an added fee to this course.
PREREQUISITES: Health and Culinary Arts
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 258-S** **WORLD FOODS** **.5 credit**
This course involves the study of people and foods from different cultures. Labs will include Oriental (Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese), French, Greek, Italian, Mexican, and German. This course has written work as well as lab time. All food made in labs will need to be tested and tasted by the students. Only exceptions will be if student is allergic to a food item. Additional Course Fee Applies.
PREREQUISITES: Health/Nutrition and Culinary Arts
CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES SEQUENCE

Health and Culinary Arts



World Foods/Baking

These Courses have NO Prerequisite:

Child and Family Development (Junior/Senior only)

Fiber Arts

Sewing and Design

MATH DEPARTMENT

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the mathematics curriculum at Notre Dame High School is to empower confident, compassionate, Christian women leaders through the development of numeracy, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. The sequence of courses offered by the mathematics department prepares students both for college-level mathematics as well as applications in the real world.

REQUIREMENTS

Three credits of math are required for graduation from Notre Dame High School: two credits of Algebra and one credit of Geometry. Four years of math are strongly recommended and are an admissions requirement for many universities.

Placement in math courses is by department approval. Freshmen are placed in Algebra 1, Honors Algebra 1 or Honors Geometry based upon standardized test scores, placement test scores and grades.

NOTRE DAME MATH PATHWAYS					
FRESHMAN	SOPHOMORE	JUNIOR	SENIOR	Intended field of study	Advice on senior option
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	Stats I, Trig		
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2 Trig	Precalculus +/- Stats I, 2	STEM NONSTEM	recommended path elective choice
Honors Algebra 1	Honors Geometry	Honors Alg 2 Trig	ACC Precalculus +/- ACP Statistics	STEM NONSTEM	recommended path elective choice
Honors Algebra 1	Honors Geometry + Honors Alg 2 Trig	ACC Precalculus	ACC Calculus I +/- ACP Statistics	STEM NONSTEM	elective choice elective choice
Honors Geometry	Honors Alg 2 Trig	ACC Precalculus	ACC Calculus I +/- ACP Statistics	STEM NONSTEM	elective choice elective choice

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- 261-AF/AS** ***HONORS ALGEBRA 1** **1 credit**
This course includes the fundamental properties of real numbers, operations with signed numbers, equations, inequalities, and graphs. It also includes polynomials and their factors, laws of exponents, square roots and radical operations, and quadratic functions. This course is designed for students who are interested in mathematics and have shown above average ability in mathematics. It differs from Algebra 1 in depth of subject matter and in problem difficulty.
PREREQUISITE: Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Freshman
- 263-AF/AS** **ALGEBRA 1** **1 credit**
This course includes the fundamental properties of real numbers, operations with signed numbers, equations, inequalities, and graphs. It also includes polynomials and their factors, laws of exponents, square roots and radical operations, and quadratic functions. This course is designed for students who demonstrate average ability in mathematics. It differs from Honors Algebra 1 in depth of subject matter and in problem difficulty.
PREREQUISITE: Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Freshman
- 267-AF/AS** ***HONORS ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY** **1 credit**
This course further develops the principles of Algebra 1 and deepens understanding of mathematical concepts. New topics include quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions, as well as complex numbers. The course also introduces trigonometric functions, their inverses, graphs, and identities. Depth of concepts and applications distinguish this course as honors level.
PREREQUISITE: Honors Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry,
or Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore or Junior
- 269-AF/AS** **ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY** **1 credit**
This course further develops the principles of Algebra 1 and deepens understanding of mathematical concepts. New topics include quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions, as well as complex numbers. The course also introduces trigonometric functions, their inverses, graphs and identities.
PREREQUISITE: Algebra 1 and Geometry
CLASS STATUS: Junior
- 271-AF/AS** **ALGEBRA 2** **1 credit**
This course further develops the principles of Algebra I and deepens understanding of mathematical concepts. New topics include quadratic, rational, and radical functions. The course also covers a review of laws of exponents, polynomial operations, and factors of polynomials.
PREREQUISITE: Geometry and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior

273-AF/AS	<u>*HONORS GEOMETRY</u>	1 credit
	<p>This course develops reasoning patterns, an understanding of important geometric concepts, and basic geometric proof. Concepts included are: points, lines and planes, angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, similar and congruent triangles, right triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and solids. Applications and problem-solving are integrated within the concepts.</p> <p>PREREQUISITE: Honors Algebra 1 and Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Sophomore; Freshman with Department recommendation</p>	
277-AF/AS	<u>GEOMETRY</u>	1 credit
	<p>This course develops basic reasoning ability and an understanding of geometric concepts. Concepts included are: points, lines and planes, angles, parallel and perpendicular lines, similar and congruent triangles, right triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and solids.</p> <p>PREREQUISITE: Algebra 1</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Sophomore</p>	
282-S	<u>TRIGONOMETRY</u>	.5 credit
	<p>This course introduces the trigonometric functions and includes a brief review of prerequisite geometry topics. The course presents trigonometric functions from a right triangle point of view, their inverses, graphs, and identities. The course also includes applications of trigonometry in problem solving as well as an introduction to circular functions. This course is for students who have already completed geometry and 2 years of algebra but still need trigonometry in order to take higher level math courses.</p> <p>PREREQUISITE: Algebra 2 and Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Senior</p>	
283-F	<u>STATISTICS 1</u>	.5 credit
	<p>This course introduces statistics, a branch of mathematics dealing with the collection, analysis, interpretation, and presentation of data. The course develops basic statistical literacy and thinking, using real data. The course begins with an introduction to sampling theory and data. Next, descriptive statistics are introduced and applied as the numerical and graphical means to describe and display data distributions. In addition, topics in basic probability are studied. Throughout the course, TI-84 graphing calculators are utilized for data entry, graphing and analysis. This course is recommended for college bound students, even those entering fields not directly involving mathematics.</p> <p>PREREQUISITES: Algebra 2 and Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Senior</p>	
284-S	<u>STATISTICS 2</u>	.5 credit
	<p>This course further develops the exploration of data and analysis from Statistics 1. The Normal Distribution is introduced and applied using real world data. The course also includes analysis of data using methods of correlation, linear, and nonlinear regression analysis. The course stresses conceptual understanding rather than just knowledge of procedures. Emphasis is placed on drawing meaningful and responsible conclusions from analysis of data. Students will have the opportunity to share and present their results.</p> <p>PREREQUISITES: Statistics 1 and Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Senior</p>	

287-AF/AS *ACC PRECALCULUS**1 credit**

(Saint Louis University course name: MATH 1400 Precalculus)

This course continues the exploration of functions on a deeper level, both algebraically and graphically. Functions studied include linear, quadratic, and higher degree polynomial functions, rational and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions. Additional topics include analytic geometry and parametric equations. Emphasis is placed on understanding functions from algebraic, graphical and numerical points of view, as well as modeling with functions to solve problems. The intent of the course is to establish a sound foundation of prerequisite knowledge for Calculus I.

This course may be taken for high school and college credit or high school credit only. A student may earn three credit hours of college mathematics from Saint Louis University in addition to the high school credit.

PREREQUISITE: *Honors Algebra 2 with Trigonometry and Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

289-AF/AS PRECALCULUS**1 credit**

This course continues the exploration of functions on a deeper level, both algebraically and graphically. Functions studied include linear, quadratic, and higher degree polynomial functions, rational and radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions.

PREREQUISITE: Algebra 2 with Trigonometry and Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Senior

293-AF/AS *ACP STATISTICS**1 credit**

(UMSL course name: MATH 1320 Introduction to Probability and Statistics)

The course will cover basic concepts and methods in probability and statistics. Topics include descriptive statistics, probabilities of events, random variables and their distributions, sampling distributions, estimation of population parameters, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing for population means and proportions, chi-square tests. A student may not receive credit for more than one of MATH 1310, MATH 1320, and MATH 1105.

PREREQUISITE: *Honors Algebra 2 with Trig and Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Senior

297-AF/AS *ACC CALCULUS**1 credit**

(Saint Louis University course name: MATH 1510: Calculus I)

This course continues the development of advanced mathematics and encompasses a first course in the differential and integral calculus of functions of a single variable.

Topics covered are functions, limits, continuity, the derivative, and differentiation.

Applications of derivatives include optimization and related rates. The course also introduces antidifferentiation and the definite integral. Applications of integrals include area and volume. Both differentiation and integration are explored from graphical, analytical, and numerical points of view. This course may be taken for high school and college credit or high school credit only. A student may earn four credit hours of college mathematics from Saint Louis University in addition to the high school credit.

PREREQUISITE: *ACC Precalculus and Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Senior

*** Weighted Courses**

MUSIC DEPARTMENT

(FINE ARTS)

OBJECTIVES

It is the goal of the Music department to create a positive environment where students will further develop their appreciation for the arts and learn to become confident, compassionate, Christian leaders. They will build confidence in their musicianship and will learn communications skills that will enable them to lead, collaborate, and advocate for themselves and others. They will use their gifts to make a difference. A student who has taken classes within the Music Department, depending on the classes she has chosen to take and the length of time she spent in the department, should be able to meet these objectives:

1. The student will gain a basic understanding of music.
2. The student will read a piece of music, with its symbols, signs, etc.
3. The student will sight-read a piece of music.
4. The student will stay on her own part when singing with others.
5. The student will work with others in a group effort.
6. The student will recognize styles and characteristics of various composers.
7. The student will relate music to other areas of learning and life.
8. The student will understand and discuss the meaning behind a piece of music.
9. The student will listen to a piece of music and articulate its style, characteristics, composer, etc.
10. The student will interpret style and performance techniques.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

COURSES: The Fine Arts Department comprised of the Art, Drama, and Music Departments requires of all students the completion of **1.5** credits in two out of the three disciplines adding up to 1.5 credits. Additional electives from all three departments are open to students with time and interest for them, providing prerequisites within the department are met.

There are no specifically required music courses. All performance-based courses may be repeated. Chorus 1 may only be repeated with consent from the instructor.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

601-AF/AS CHORUS

.5 credit

Chorus is a non-auditioned, year-long course that is designed for singers with or without prior experience. This .5 credit course will focus on vocal technique, music reading skills, and expression through performance. Part of this course includes two outside-of-class rehearsals along with participation in the Winter and Spring concerts. This class is offered to all four grade levels. Students will be required to purchase their uniform.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

- 607-AF/AS SHOW CHOIR .5 credit**
This course is designed to incorporate various types and styles of music with choreography. This group will have several out-of-school performances. This year long course requires two classes each cycle as well as some out-of-class rehearsals including two dress rehearsals, participation in the winter and spring concerts, and all other performances out of school. (Minimum of 6 students, maximum of 15 students.) [Students will be financially responsible for their own costumes and nude character shoes.]
PREREQUISITES: Auditions are required for placement
CLASS STATUS: Sophomores through Seniors
- 610-AF/AS ADVANCED CHOIR .5 credit**
Advanced Choir is an auditioned, weighted, year-long course. Music of all types will be presented in this class with further development of vocal techniques, musicianship, sight-reading, and music theory. Sight-reading and part-singing is a must and will be strengthened. Each girl is responsible for her own part so as to encourage the wholeness of the group. Part of this course includes two outside-of-class rehearsals along with participation in the Winter and Spring concerts. Additional performances may be scheduled throughout the year. This class is offered to sophomores through seniors through an audition in January. Students will be required to purchase their uniform.
PREREQUISITES: Auditions are required for placement
CLASS STATUS: Sophomores through Seniors
- 611-AF/AS *HONORS ADVANCED CHOIR .5 credit**
Advanced Choir is an auditioned, weighted, year-long course. Music of all types will be presented in this class with further development of vocal techniques, musicianship, sight-reading, and music theory. Sight-reading and part-singing is a must and will be strengthened. Each girl is responsible for her own part so as to encourage the wholeness of the group. Part of this course includes two outside-of-class rehearsals along with participation in the Winter and Spring concerts. Additional performances may be scheduled throughout the year. This class is offered to juniors and seniors who have completed one year of advanced choir and receive department approval. Students will be required to purchase their uniform.
PREREQUISITES: Auditions and department approval are required for placement. Juniors and seniors are only eligible for weighted credit if they have already completed one year of advanced choir.
CLASS STATUS: Juniors and Seniors
- 620-S GUITAR (Semester) .5 credit**
Guitar is a non-auditioned, semester-long course that is designed for beginners. This .5 credit course will focus on the basics of playing guitar. Students will learn how to read standard notation, tablature, and chord charts. No experience is necessary. Students will be required to purchase or rent an acoustic guitar for this class. If students are interested in renting an instrument, please reach out to Mrs. Burnham. This class is offered to sophomores through seniors.
PREREQUISITES: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomores through Seniors

621-AF/AS PERFORMANCE TECHNIQUE**.5 credit**

Through individual instruction, students will develop the stamina and independence required of aspiring vocalist, guitarist, &/or actor. Students will have the option to choose from 1) Vocal Instruction - focusing solely on singing 2) Acting Instruction – focusing solely on acting 3) Musical Theatre Instruction – focusing on both acting and singing 4) Guitar Instruction – focusing on strengthening guitar skills past what was covered in the guitar course. Vocal students will begin to develop an audition portfolio of songs from various genres while learning proper breathing, support, posture, diction, and style. Foreign language songs are also taught. Acting students will focus on developing technique in projection, character development, stage movement, diction, and improvisation. Monologues and scenes will be used to begin building an audition portfolio. Musical Theatre students will have the opportunity to incorporate aspects from BOTH voice and acting as well as developing an audition portfolio that will contain songs and monologues. Students will receive instruction for thirty minutes twice a cycle (to be arranged with instructor). Students are required to participate in the school play and/or musical and at least one ND ensemble (voice & musical theatre) or previously been in Theatre Class (acting) Students may also be required to participate in a recital outside of school hours, as well as some competitions. Only students who are serious about dedicating individual practice time should consider taking Performance Technique. There is an additional course fee.

PREREQUISITES: For Vocal & Musical Theatre – Current Enrollment in at least one ND ensemble; AND an audition in December/early January. For Guitar – previous enrollment in the guitar course; AND an audition in December/early January

CLASS STATUS: Sophomores through Seniors

***The Fine Arts department requires 1.5 credits
in at least two of the three disciplines; Art, Drama, and/or Music courses.***

MUSIC DEPARTMENT SEQUENCE OF COURSES

Chorus

**Performance Technique, Advanced Choir, *Hr Adv Choir and Show Choir -
admission by audition only.**

Note: Besides semester Guitar (620-S), all Music courses are .5 credit for a full year

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

OBJECTIVES

The Physical Education Department of Notre Dame High School believes in the development of the physical well being of each student and the maintenance of good health of each student.

The department strives to:

- encourage the use of sports in leisure time
- give each student a chance to demonstrate her potential in physical activities
- provide an opportunity to learn the values of teamwork, individual effort, and good sportsmanship
- demonstrate the basic skills and rules of various sports
- describe and understand the values of good health and how to maintain it

In dance classes the student will:

- identify the meaning of terms used in previous classes
- demonstrate knowledge of current material
- identify combinations from a visual perspective

REQUIREMENTS OF THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

.5 credit of Health/Nutrition (one semester)

1 credit P.E. - 2 Electives (.5 credit each)

1.5 credits Total

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

323-F/324-S Health/Nutrition

.5 credit

Health/Nutrition is a required class that is designed to teach the Notre Dame student about healthy living. The course focuses on building a healthy foundation by promoting safe and healthy relationships. Topics include physical activity and nutrition, mental and emotional health, personal care, growth and development, substance abuse, diseases and disorders, injury prevention, and environmental health. Covered will be the MyPlate, food groups and their nutritional contribution to meals, RDA, and major nutrient groups and their importance to one's health.

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Freshman

- 353-F** **LIFETIME ACTIVITIES** **.5 credit**
This course will provide students the opportunity to learn various games and activities in which they can compete in over the span of their lifetime. There will be an emphasis on light cardiovascular exercise and fitness regimen to improve coordination, balance, and stamina. Activities may consist of: walking, fitness exercise, Yoga, Wiffleball, Cornhole, Bocce, Pickleball, Badminton, Shuffleboard, Archery, Ping Pong, and Croquet.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior
- 355-F** **TEAM SPORTS** **.5 credit**
Team Sports is designed for students to participate in a semester-long course with emphasis on popular sports and games. This class will focus on friendly intramural competitions, as well as developing coordination, strength, speed, and agility. Team sports may consist of: Soccer, Pickleball, Volleyball, Basketball, Flag Football, Softball/Wiffleball, Ultimate Frisbee, Floor Hockey, and Kickball.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior
- 356-S** **WEIGHT TRAINING** **.5 credit**
This course will provide students the opportunity to learn various weightlifting techniques and strategies. This semester-long class will have its emphasis in Strength Training, Endurance Training, and Power Training, coupled with Plyometric and Agility exercises to increase athletic performance. Students will journal their progress and will be able to develop their own fitness routine near the end of the semester.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 358-S** **TEAM SPORTS 2** **.5 credit**
Team Sports 2 a continuation of Team Sports. Students will use their prior knowledge and skills from Team Sports. Students will have input on the sequence of the course and the sports covered.
PREREQUISITE: Team Sports
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 341-AF/AS** **DANCE-BEGINNER** **.5 credit**
This course is an introduction to the basic vocabulary, steps and combinations of ballet/ lyrical, tap and jazz/hip hop styles of dance. Students will put steps and combinations into routines to be performed in a required Winter and Spring Concert. The student is required to participate in a Winter and Spring Dress Rehearsal and Concert. Credit will be given on the student's performance in class, dress rehearsal and concert. [All dance students are required to purchase tan jazz shoes and black high-heeled tap shoes and purchase and/or provide costumes.]
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

343-AF/AS DANCE- INTERMEDIATE .5 credit

This course is a review of the basic vocabulary, steps and combinations of ballet/lyrical, tap and jazz/hip hop styles of dance. More complex steps and combinations will be introduced. Students will put steps and combinations into routines to be performed in a required Winter and Spring Concert. The student is required to participate in a Winter and Spring Dress Rehearsal and Concert. Credit will be given on the student's performance in class, dress rehearsal and concert. [All dance students are required to purchase tan jazz shoes and black high-heeled tap shoes and purchase and/or provide costumes.]

PREREQUISITE: Beginner Dance or recent prior studio dance

CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

345-AF/AS DANCE-ADVANCED .5 credit

This course is for students who are highly motivated and active in the area of dance and are dedicated to developing their technique further. Students will put steps and combinations into routines to be performed in a required Winter and Spring Concert. The student is required to participate in a Winter and Spring Dress Rehearsal and Concert. Credit will be given on the student's performance in class, dress rehearsal and concert. [All dance students are required to purchase tan jazz shoes and black high-heeled tap shoes and purchase and/or provide costumes.]

PREREQUISITE: Department approval

CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Science Department of Notre Dame High School provides a curriculum in which students learn the facts associated with the sciences in a laboratory setting in which critical thinking, such as analysis and organization, will hopefully lead to the student's wise decision-making in adult life.

OBJECTIVES

We hope that each student will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a workable knowledge of scientific methods which will in turn lead to critical thinking skills.
2. Have knowledge of the basic concepts related to matter, energy, force, and motion.
3. Understand key scientific concepts and principles and the interdependence of math, technology, and science.
4. Be familiar with the structure of the universe and the theory of evolution.
5. Have a familiarity with the natural world, its diversity and unity, and the forces which could bring about its destruction.
6. Grow in appreciation of the gift of life as it is manifested in creation.
7. Have a knowledge and appreciation of the human body, its processes and cycles.
8. Apply scientific knowledge and ways of thinking to individual, social, and global problems.

In conclusion, we hope that a student, after being exposed to the wonders and interdependence of the universe, will develop into a global citizen aware of her responsibility to protect and preserve the earth and all life.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

All Students are required to complete **3 credits** in Science.

Conceptual Physics or Honors Conceptual Physics (begins with class 2021) . . .1 credit

Biology or Honors Biology. . . . 1 credit

Chemistry or Honors Chemistry...1 credit

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- 400-AF/AS** ***HONORS BIOLOGY** **1 credit**
The student will be introduced to the Scientific Method and gain an understanding of the major concepts that deal with living things, such as organic evolution, DNA, genetics, cell structure, ecology, plant and animal anatomy, and physiology.
PREREQUISITE: Honors Conceptual Physics or Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore
- 402-AF/AS** **BIOLOGY** **1 credit**
This course is an activity centered laboratory program in general biology to meet the biology requirements. Students will study evolution, DNA, genetics, cell structure, anatomy and physiology.
PREREQUISITE: Conceptual Physics
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore
- 412-F** **BIOLOGY 2** **.5 credit**
This course is an activity centered laboratory program in general biology to meet biology requirements. Students will study ecology and the diversity of life.
PREREQUISITE: Biology or Honors Biology
CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 414-AF/AS** *** ACP ANATOMY / PHYSIOLOGY** **1 credit**
This course is designed for students who are interested in a career in the medical sciences. It will introduce the essentials of human anatomy and physiology as well as application of information to personal health choices. A dissection of the fetal pig is **required**. The student will continue to investigate the body systems and the essentials of human anatomy and physiology. This course will further emphasize the practical application of the material and the relationships between body systems.
PREREQUISITE: *Honors Chemistry (Seniors) or concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry (Soph or Juniors) or Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 416-S** **ANATOMY / PHYSIOLOGY** **.5 credit**
This course in human anatomy and physiology is designed for those students who do not plan to pursue a career in the medical sciences. Topics covered will focus on understanding the functions of the human body as students learn to make choices and decisions about personal health issues.
PREREQUISITE: *Honors Chemistry or Chemistry (Seniors), or concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry or Chemistry (Juniors) or Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

418-F

INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY

.5 credit

This course offers a broad and engaging overview of astronomy, designed for students with little to no prior background in the subject. You'll explore the fundamental concepts of the universe — from the motions of the night sky and the structure of our Solar System to the life cycles of stars, the nature of galaxies, and the large-scale structure of the cosmos.

Topics include:

- Observing and understanding celestial motions
- The Sun, planets, moons, asteroids, and comets
- Light, telescopes, and astronomical observation techniques
- Stellar formation, evolution, and death
- Galaxies, dark matter, and cosmology
- The search for extraterrestrial life

By the end of the course, students will develop a scientific understanding of the universe's workings, gain familiarity with astronomical tools and methods, and cultivate an appreciation for humanity's place in the cosmos.

PREREQUISITE: *Honors Chemistry or Chemistry (Seniors), or concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry or Chemistry (Juniors) or Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

420-S

ADDITIONAL THEMES IN SCIENCE

.5 credit

This is a research-based course that explores a range of scientific topics such as: animal behavior, microbiology, careers in science, chemistry, climate change, astronomy, bioethics, and physics. This course is writing intensive.

PREREQUISITE: *Honors Chemistry or Chemistry (Seniors), or concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry or Chemistry (Juniors) or Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

422-F

***HONORS PHYSICS: KINEMATICS**

.5 credit

This would include all vector non-linear calculations. Topics- Motion, Momentum, Force, Torque, Angular

PREREQUISITE: 2 years of Algebra, Trigonometry and *Honors Chemistry(Seniors) or concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry (Juniors) or Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

424-S

***HONORS PHYSICS: WAVES AND FIELDS**

.5 credit

This would include sound, light and electromagnetism. This course would be slightly less mathematically demanding. It would include projects such as building an instrument, building a telescope, building circuits and building electric motors.

PREREQUISITE: 2 years of Algebra, Trigonometry and *Honors Chemistry(Seniors) or concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry (Juniors) or Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

- 430-AF/AS *HONORS CHEMISTRY** **1 credit**
This course is designed to introduce students to matter, its structure and forms, and to the principles which govern chemical reactions. Student will be introduced to atomic theory and periodic law; chemical formulas, equations and types of reactions including acid-base and oxidation-reduction; reaction rates, energy changes and equilibrium; gases, liquids, solids and solutions; nuclear chemistry.
PREREQUISITES: Honors Biology and Algebra and/or Department Recommendation.
CLASS STATUS: Junior through Senior
- 434-AF/AS CHEMISTRY** **1 credit**
This full-year laboratory science course will introduce students to the study of matter, giving a basic understanding of elements and the periodic table. Topics will include renewable and non-renewable resources; chemical composition of foods and drugs; states of matter; environmental chemistry; nuclear chemistry; gas laws; basic organic chemistry.
PREREQUISITES: Biology
CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior
- 436-F *HONORS CHEMISTRY II** **.5 credit**
This advanced course is designed for students with a strong foundation in chemistry who wish to deepen their understanding of chemical principles and applications. The curriculum will include units on Matter and Energy, Solutions, Kinetics and Equilibrium, and an Introduction to Organic Chemistry. In addition, the course integrates basic laboratory techniques essential for scientific inquiry. Students will gain hands-on experience in safe lab practices, qualitative and quantitative analysis, and the use of instrumentation.
PREREQUISITE: *Honors Chemistry
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 448-AF/AS *ACC INTRO TO FORENSICS SCIENCE** **1 credit**
(Saint Louis University title: SOC2600: *Forensic Science*)
This course is designed for students who are interested in a career in forensic science or criminal justice. It will introduce the student to the essentials of crime scene investigation, data collections and analysis, and the application of scientific methods to criminal investigations.
PREREQUISITES: *Honors Chemistry (seniors) or Concurrent enrollment in *Honors Chemistry (juniors) and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior & Senior

452-AF/AS *AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (Not being offered 2026-27 school year) 1 credit

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester, introductory college course in environmental science, through which students engage with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography.

Students will participate in hands-on, laboratory and field investigations to apply scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies to better understand our natural systems and to critically think about environmental issues and potential solutions.

PREREQUISITES: Students should have completed two years of high school laboratory science — one year of life science and one year of physical science (for example, a year of biology and a year of chemistry). Due to the quantitative analysis required in the course, students should also have taken at least one year of algebra. Also, desirable (but not necessary) is taking Biology 2.

CLASS STATUS: Junior or Senior

462-AF/AS *HONORS CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS 1 credit

Conceptual Physics is a year-long course which stimulates students' higher-level cognitive skills and encourages them to see physics everywhere. It builds students' understanding through exploration, develops their comprehension through demonstrations and thought-provoking questioning, and has students apply what they have learned through a variety of activities including labs. Students will develop the fundamental skills necessary to conduct scientific investigations, including data analysis using graphs. Honors Conceptual Physics will focus on the following topics: math tools used in science, metric system, scientific method, mechanics, linear, circular, and rotational motion, Newton's laws and gravitational force, momentum, energy, electricity and magnetism, waves (sound and light), heat and phase changes.

PREREQUISITE: Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Freshmen through Senior

464-AF/AS CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS 1 credit

Conceptual Physics is a year-long course which stimulates students' higher level- level cognitive skills and encourages them to see physics everywhere. It builds students' understanding through exploration, develops their comprehension through demonstrations and thought-provoking questioning, and has students apply what they have learned through a variety of activities including labs and STEM applications. Conceptual Physics will focus on the following topics: metric system, scientific method, mechanics, linear motion, Newton's laws, and gravitational force, momentum, energy, electricity and magnetism, waves (sound and light), heat and phase changes

PREREQUISITE: None

CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior (Note: students who have taken Physical Science will be permitted to take one additional semester of Conceptual Physics, either the first semester or the second semester.)

**SUGGESTED SCIENCE DEPARTMENT COURSE SEQUENCE
3 CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**

FRESHMEN	SOPHOMORES	JUNIORS	SENIORS
*Honors Conceptual Physics	*Honors Biology	*Honors Chemistry *Hr Physics: Kinematics *Hr Physics: Waves and Fields *ACP Anatomy/ Physiology *ACC Forensics Additional Themes Anatomy/Physiology Biology 2 Intro to Astronomy	*Hr Physics: Kinematics *Hr Physics: Waves and Fields *ACP Anatomy/ Physiology *ACC Forensics *Hr Chemistry II Additional Themes Anatomy/Physiology Biology 2 Intro to Astronomy
Conceptual Physics	Biology	Chemistry Anatomy/Physiology Additional Themes Biology 2 Intro to Astronomy	Anatomy/Physiology Additional Themes Biology 2 Intro to Astronomy

- * Indicates weighted course
- Please note that the red BOLD classes are required to take.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

OBJECTIVES

The Social Studies Department of Notre Dame High School is committed to a value system that will promote the formation of a just society, equitable allocation of resources, respect for all life and creation, and a sense of personal responsibility.

We will enable each student to:

1. Develop a global perspective and understand the realities of the increasing interdependence of our world.
2. Appreciate and respect the cultural diversity present in our nation and our world.
3. Analyze and understand the democratic process and develop a commitment to responsible citizenship.
4. Identify and articulate the political, economic, and social elements of American history and culture.
5. Demonstrate a proficiency in and an understanding of the relationship among essential social studies skills. This includes: geography and history; political, economic, and social systems; the connections between past, present, and future; and the use of social science tools such as maps, primary source documents, surveys, and graphs.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Each student is required to complete 3 credits in Social Studies. However, the Social Studies Department encourages students to complete more than the minimum requirement.

World History..... 1 credit
American History 1 credit
American Government5 credit
Elective..... .5 credit

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

503-AF/AS *ACC AMERICAN HISTORY

1 credit

The ACC American History course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and enduring understandings necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students will be required to research, develop a thesis and write several papers during each semester. This is a dual-enrollment class—students receive high school and college credit. The Advanced College Credit (ACC) is issued through St. Louis University. Students earning a B or A will receive 3 credit hours of college credit for each semester. (*A nominal fee is paid directly to St. Louis University*).

PREREQUISITES: Honors World History, Department Recommendation

CLASS STATUS: Junior

- 505-AF/AS** **AMERICAN HISTORY** **1 credit**
The purpose of this course is to provide a historical awareness and foundation to the people, places and events which shaped the United States of America. This course will cover the founding of America to challenges of the 21st century. Key issues and events of American development are examined. Students will use charts, graphs, and maps along with readings for this study.
PREREQUISITES: World History, Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior
- 509-F** **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT** **.5 credit**
This course is designed to prepare each student for her role as a responsible citizen who understands the basic democratic values and principles upon which the US government is based. In her study, the student will explore the historical and philosophical foundations of the US Constitution, the expansion of suffrage, and the structure of the government as it exists today. The course also includes a unit on the Missouri state constitution.
PREREQUISITES: American History and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 513-AF/AS** ***HONORS WORLD HISTORY** **1 credit**
AP World History is a rigorous, college-level course designed to explore human history from 8000 B.C.E. to the present. We will emphasize the development of analytical and writing skills necessary for success on a collegiate level. To this end, the course devotes considerable time to the critical evaluation of primary and secondary sources, analysis of historiography (The principles, theories, or methodology of scholarly historical research and presentation) and inquiry into global connections that have shaped our present world. A special emphasis will be given to preparation for the National AP Exam, including historical writing through essay and document-based questions (DBQ) as well as objective evaluations.
PREREQUISITES: Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore
- 515-AF/AS** **WORLD HISTORY** **1 credit**
First semester, students will explore the origins and development of civilization by tracing its growth from its beginnings in the ancient world through the Middle Ages and into the 18th century. Emphasis will be placed on the importance of the contributions of those people from the past to our world today. Second semester is a study of the people, places, events, and ideas that affected the course of world history particularly in the 19th and 20th centuries. Students will learn how the past has shaped the world they live in today.
PREREQUISITES: None
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore

517-AF/AS	<p><u>*HONORS BIG HISTORY</u></p> <p>Students engage in critical thinking, reading, writing, and discussion on the major concepts and themes of world history. They will also conduct interdisciplinary investigations around researchable problems from past history to the present and evaluate potential challenges for the future of human history. This course prepares students for future rigorous Honors and College Credit Social Studies curriculum.</p> <p>PREREQUISITE: Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Freshman</p>	1 credit
530-S	<p><u>SOCIAL STUDIES FOUNDATIONS</u></p> <p>This course is designed to develop the basic social concepts and content important to all disciplines of social studies. Students will study geography, economics, and historical and political trends that shaped the past and influenced the present world. Students will be challenged to improve critical thinking skills to analyze historical and contemporary issues. Upon completion of the course students will have a basic understanding of how human society has evolved, is structured, and functions.</p> <p>PREREQUISITE: None</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Freshman</p>	.5 credit
541-F	<p><u>*HONORS AMERICAN GOVERNMENT</u></p> <p>This course is designed to give the student an in-depth look at American Government. The student will analyze "Who governs and how does it affect our lives." The course seeks to increase student understanding of their role as citizens by focusing on the foundations and origins of American government, the goals of the Constitution, the operations of the three branches, the political process, civil liberties, civil rights, and state and local government.</p> <p>PREREQUISITES: American History and Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Senior</p>	.5 credit
543-F	<p><u>*ACP AMERICAN GOVERNMENT</u></p> <p>Introduction to basic concepts of government and politics with special reference to the United States but including comparative material from other systems. This course is designed to give the student an in-depth look at American Government. The student will analyze "Who governs and how does it affect our lives." The course seeks to increase student understanding of their role as citizens by focusing on the foundations and origins of American government, the goals of the Constitution, the operations of the three branches, the political process, civil liberties, civil rights, and state and local government. You can earn college credit for this course through the UMSL Advanced Credit Program.</p> <p>PREREQUISITES: American History and Department Recommendation</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Senior</p>	.5 credit
545-F	<p><u>PSYCHOLOGY</u></p> <p>This course will introduce students to the field of psychology and to the fundamental concepts in research, theory, and human behavior. Students will learn about the history, research methods, the brain, and various other topics in the field, and will be encouraged to connect content to their own experiences in the world.</p> <p>PREREQUISITES: None</p> <p>CLASS STATUS: Senior</p>	.5 credit

- 548-S HISTORICAL RESEARCH: GENEALOGY .5 credit**
This course is designed to help students discover their past. The people, events, and challenges that ancestors met to create the family of today. Students will learn research skills to aid in the discover of their ancestors. Students will use interviews, media resources, online references, etc. to learn and document their family's story. Some general knowledge will be necessary before beginning this class. A project/presentation will be required.
PREREQUISITES: None
CLASS STATUS: Junior and Senior
- 550-S SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN US HISTORY (Not being offered in 2026-27 school year) .5 credit**
What happens when a group of concerned, dedicated citizens put their minds to making change in their society? Have you ever wanted to bring about a change in the way things have "always" been done, or to prevent a change from happening? A social movement is a loosely organized but continuous campaign in support of a social goal. This course will look at various social movements throughout the history of the United States, in other words, the ways in which people have come together in groups to effect change in the structure or values of our society. Movements such as abolitionism, environmentalism, the women's rights movement, and the civil rights movement show how common citizens can influence legislative action and change cultural norms when they unite with the shared goal of bringing about a certain social change.
PREREQUISITES: None
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 552-S CURRENT EVENTS .5 credit**
This discussion-based course is designed to provide students with the opportunity to discuss, understand, and explore local, national, and global issues in a respectful, meaningful, and interactive way. The central goal is to foster informed and engaged citizens in an increasingly interconnected global society. Due to the contemporary nature of the subject, topics will vary depending on the current news cycle, but may include recurring issues such as economics, government, conflict, social justice, globalization, environmental issues, and public health. Key learning objectives include analyzing complex issues from multiple perspectives; differentiating between factual, trustworthy news sources versus unreliable or biased sources; developing critical thinking skills by evaluating evidence and identifying the historical context of current happenings; and communicating ideas and opinions effectively and respectfully, both orally and in writing.
PREREQUISITES: World History
CLASS STATUS: Junior and Senior

*** Weighted Courses**

Social Studies Department

Course Sequence:

<u>Freshman</u>	<u>Sophomore</u>	<u>Junior</u>	<u>Senior</u>	<u>Electives</u>
Big History	Honors World History	*ACC American History	*Honors American Government	Social Movements in US History
or	or	or	or	Historical Research: Genealogy
Social Studies Foundations	World History	American History	American Government	Psychology
				Current Events

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Theology Department of Notre Dame High School emphasizes helping each girl to develop a relationship with the Triune God based on personal prayer, Scripture, and community celebration of Eucharist. We challenge her to base her religious life in loving God and loving others, so that reflection precedes activism, and her personal response to God is reflected in her daily life.

OBJECTIVES

1. Student will explain how Jesus is the ultimate Revelation from God to us and describe what it means to be a disciple of Christ who lives out the Paschal Mystery.
2. Student will describe the sacred nature of the Church and explain how the basic teaching of the Church affects their choices in everyday life.
3. Student will demonstrate an understanding of each sacrament and identify how they encounter Jesus through the sacraments.
4. Students will discuss biblical themes: nature of God, covenant, faith, call, law, forgiveness, prophecy, prayer, and social justice.
5. Student will explain Catholic Social Teaching in relation to their calling to active ministry in the Reign of God.

Each course, each teacher, and each educational experience seek to touch each student's head and heart so that her values and vision reflect a thinking and caring Christian.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Four (4) credits in Theology are required for graduation from Notre Dame High School. This requirement is to be fulfilled in the following manner.

FRESHMEN: Theology I

SOPHOMORES: Theology II

JUNIORS: Theology III

SENIORS: Theology IV

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- 842-S** **THEOLOGY I** **.5 credit**
The student will develop a deeper understanding of the New Testament, especially the Incarnation, Jesus's significant relationships, Jesus's teachings, Jesus's example, salvation, and discipleship as a response to God's love.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman
- 843-F** **THEOLOGY I** **.5 credit**
The student will develop a deeper understanding of the Old Testament. She will investigate important people and events, the various forms of writing used by biblical authors, and the relation of Hebrew Scriptures. She will be encouraged to integrate scriptural themes of faith, forgiveness, covenant, prayer and the call to justice into her daily life.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman
- 846-S** **THEOLOGY II** **.5 credit**
The student will become versed in St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body to strengthen her awareness that she is created as a unique and unrepeatable creation called by God to love as God loves, to build community through relationships, and to bring about new life through the gift of herself in service to others. She will learn the teachings and traditions of the Catholic Church regarding the virtue of chastity, marriage and family, and ways to live the universal vocation to love, as she integrates through prayer and discernment the meaning of human sexuality in God's plan of salvation to her own life.
PREREQUISITE: Completion of freshman courses
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore
- 855-F** **THEOLOGY II** **.5 credit**
Students will learn the four characteristics or marks of the Catholic Church – one, holy, catholic, and apostolic – and how these four marks of the Church help fulfill the Church's mission of witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The course will involve reading, presentations, and other forms of active student engagement.
PREREQUISITE: Completion of freshman courses
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore
- 847-F** **THEOLOGY III** **.5 credit**
This course leads the students toward a deeper understanding of the liturgy and the sacraments. The student will encounter Jesus, review the sacraments in the light of His ministry, and explore the implications for her life. She will understand Jesus as the most complete sacrament of God to the world. She will reflect on how we meet God most clearly by meeting Jesus, and that when we celebrate the seven sacraments, we are joining with the Church in making Christ alive and visible in the world.
PREREQUISITE: Completion of sophomore courses
CLASS STATUS: Junior

852-S

THEOLOGY III

.5 credit

This course leads the students toward a deeper understanding of God's law revealed to us through reason and Revelation. The course explores how Christ's life and teaching is the fulfillment of the Old law summarized in the Ten Commandments. Thus the content of the course is informed by the moral law in the Old Testament, by Christ's moral teaching in the Gospels, and by the moral teaching of the Church as it applies to what God has revealed to our contemporary moral questions. The New Law of Christ calls us to go beyond keeping moral minimums and to love God, neighbor, and self with all our being. We can only do this empowered by God's grace. In the end, Christian morality is about responding to God's love by living in full communion with God and others.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of sophomore courses

CLASS STATUS: Junior

862-S

THEOLOGY IV

.5 credit

The student will learn how to live as a disciple of Christ by studying the Catholic Church's social teaching. She will analyze social encyclicals within their historic context before applying those principles to modern-day issues. This class will also incorporate a brief overview of key world religions and reflect on how Catholics should meaningfully engage in interreligious dialogue as outlined in *Nostra Aetate*.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of junior courses

CLASS STATUS: Senior

863-F

THEOLOGY IV

.5 credit

The student will study the dignity of women as presented by various saints, mystics, theologians, and popes. She will study vocation and ministry in light of her call to love God, others, and herself. She will also learn various forms of prayer and principles for discernment as she explores life's major vocations. Finally, the student will deepen her self-knowledge and insight about healthy relationships.

PREREQUISITE: Completion of junior courses

CLASS STATUS: Senior

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

OBJECTIVES

The World Language Department of Notre Dame High School offers a course of study in world languages, French and Spanish. The Department believes that learning a language other than English fosters in a student an understanding and appreciation for cultures other than her own. In addition, knowledge of another language leads to an increased knowledge and command of English.

In order to strive for proficiency in the use of the target language, students follow an integrated approach to world language learning which includes the use of the iPad, authentic audio and videos, interactive websites, as well as instruction and practice in the classroom.

The objectives of the World Language Department correspond to current language learning standards:

1. **COMMUNICATION:** Students learn to listen and to comprehend, to read, to write, and to speak in a language other than English.
2. **CULTURE:** Students gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures and develop an awareness of the global society.
3. **CONNECTIONS:** Students relate knowledge acquired in their world language study to concepts connected to other disciplines; for example, history, literature, the arts and sciences, and grammar.
4. **COMPARISONS:** Students develop insight into the nature of language and culture.
5. **COMMUNITY:** Students participate in multilingual situations in the classroom and on field trips and have the option of traveling to a country in which the target language is spoken.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Students are required to complete at least **2 credits** of the **same** language. If a student's schedule allows, she may study two languages at the same time, but she must complete at least two years (2 credits) of one of them.

It is highly recommended that students continue the study of a world language for more than two years, although it is not required to do so. Upper-level courses are weighted and may be taken for college credit hours through University of Missouri St. Louis.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

- 201-AF/AS** **FRENCH 1** **1 credit**
Students will learn about the French language and culture. Students do not need any previous exposure to the language to participate in this course. Students will learn basic common sayings, grammar patterns and sentence structure, as well as basic vocabulary. Students will also learn geography and the culture of France and its departments, including its chateaux, the tour de France, and Paris and its churches.
PREREQUISITE: Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior
- 203-AF/AS** **FRENCH 2** **1 credit**
Students continue their study by expanding their understanding of key concepts and culture in the Francophone world. Students focus on the cultures of French speaking countries all over the world while developing their ability to speak, write and listen in present and past tense, using everyday vocabulary, and developing grammar in French. Class will emphasize on context and conversational examples each unit. Students will be expected to know common phrases, vocabulary, and grammar patterns in class.
PREREQUISITE: French 1 and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 205-AF/AS** ***HONORS FRENCH 2** **1 credit**
Students continue their study by expanding their understanding of key concepts and culture in the Francophone world. Students focus on the cultures of French speaking countries all over the world while developing their ability to speak, write, and listen in present and past tense, using everyday vocabulary, and developing grammar in French. Students will be expected to actively engage in class using the French language; they will be expected to understand common phrases, vocabulary, and grammar patterns in French.
PREREQUISITE: French 1 and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 207-AF/AS** ***ACP FRENCH 3** **1 credit**
(UMSL title: French Language and Culture I)
Emphasis will be placed upon the speaking and understanding of French and upon the acquisition of the fundamentals of grammar, syntax and cultural competencies. The class will be taught mostly in French. This course is taken for 1 high school credit and, an optional, 5 credit hours of World Language credit from University of Missouri St. Louis.
PREREQUISITE: Honors French 2 and/or Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior through Senior
- 208-AF/AS** **FRENCH 3** **1 credit**
This class is a continuation of French 2. Students expand their knowledge of key vocabulary topics and grammar concepts. They begin to fully comprehend listening and reading passages while expressing themselves more meaningfully in both writing and speaking. Each unit consists of a new vocabulary theme and grammar concept, with a focus on reading and listening comprehension, multimedia cultural presentations, and interactive activities. Students are actively engaged in their own learning, understand common vocabulary terms and phrases, use a wide range of grammar patterns, participate in conversations and respond appropriately to conversational prompts. They also analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries.
PREREQUISITE: French 2 and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Junior and Senior

- 209-AF/AS** **FRENCH 4** **1 credit**
In this class students will continue to develop communicative skills needed to travel to a French speaking country. We will nurture the skills of speaking, writing, grammar, and vocabulary. The class will provide reinforcement of using the present, past, and future tenses to discuss different topics. Students will be able to obtain or expand knowledge across areas of arts, music, politics, history etc. They will have an in-depth understanding of materials from Francophone countries and enrich their understanding of the culture and language. This course engages the students in oral and written exchange to prepare them for college language courses in French.
PREREQUISITE: French 3/Honors French 3
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 211-AF/AS** ***ACP FRENCH 4** **1 credit**
(UMSL title: French Language and Culture II)
Emphasis will be placed upon the speaking and understanding of French and upon the acquisition of the fundamentals of grammar, syntax and cultural competencies. The class will be taught mostly in French. Additional reading will be provided. This course is taken for 1 high school credit and, an optional, 5 college credit hours of World Language from University of Missouri St. Louis.
PREREQUISITE: *ACP French 3 and Department Recommendation
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 219-AF/AS** **SPANISH 1** **1 credit**
This year-long course introduces students to spoken and written Spanish through listening, reading, speaking, and writing activities. Students learn using the Somos curriculum by Martina Bex, which focuses on acquiring language in a natural way through story-telling and interaction. Resources such as Duolingo and Garbanzo may also be used. There is also a strong emphasis on Hispanic culture and the traditions of Spanish-speaking countries.
PREREQUISITE: None
CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior
- 213-AF/AS** ***HONORS SPANISH 2** **1 credit**
This year-long course is a continuation of Spanish 1, but moves at a more accelerated rate than Spanish 2. It builds on language and culture learned previously, adding in more grammar-focused lessons. This course continues to work with listening, reading, speaking, and writing in the target language. Students learn using the Somos curriculum by Martina Bex, which focuses on acquiring language in a natural way through story-telling and interaction. Resources such as Duolingo and Garbanzo may also be used. There is also a strong emphasis on Hispanic culture and the traditions of Spanish-speaking countries.
PREREQUISITE: Department Approval
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior
- 221-AF/AS** **SPANISH 2** **1 credit**
This year-long course is a continuation of Spanish 1. It builds on language and culture learned previously, continuing to work with listening, reading, speaking, and writing in the target language. Students learn using the Somos curriculum by Martina Bex, which focuses on acquiring language in a natural way through story-telling and interaction. Resources such as Duolingo and Garbanzo may also be used. There is also a strong emphasis on Hispanic culture and the traditions of Spanish-speaking countries.
PREREQUISITES: Spanish 1
CLASS STATUS: Sophomore through Senior

- 215-AF/AS * ACP SPANISH 3 1 credit**
(ACP college credit available)
This course is offered for 1 high school credit and an optional 5 hours of World Language credit from the University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL).
This year long, college level course strengthens and increases second language proficiencies through meaningful communicative, reading, and writing activities centered on various aspects of different Spanish-speaking cultures.
Students learn using a variety of media including their iPad (including various apps), the Internet, audio, video and readers. Authentic materials are incorporated daily. New, more advanced grammatical structures are introduced, while students also expand their vocabulary in the target language. Students are expected to communicate in Spanish whenever possible in class and with their instructor.
PREREQUISITES: Department Approval
CLASS STATUS: Junior and Senior
- 223-AF/AS SPANISH 3 1 credit**
This year long course is a continuation of Spanish 2. It emphasizes reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in the target language. Students learn using a variety of media including their iPad, various apps, the Internet, authentic audio and video, and readers. Grammar concepts and vocabulary learned in Spanish 1 and 2 are reviewed; new, more advanced grammatical structures are also introduced, while students also expand their vocabulary in the target language. Various aspects of different Spanish-speaking cultures are also explored. Students are expected to try to communicate in Spanish whenever possible in class and with their instructor.
PREREQUISITES: Spanish 2 or *Honors Spanish 2
CLASS STATUS: Junior and Senior
- 217-AF/AS * ACP SPANISH 4 1 credit**
(ACP college credit available)
This course is offered for 1 high school credit and an optional 5 hours of World Language credit from the University of Missouri St. Louis (UMSL).
This year long, college level course strengthens and increases second language proficiencies through meaningful communicative, reading, and writing activities centered on various aspects of different Spanish-speaking cultures.
Students learn using a variety of media including their iPad (including various apps), the Internet, audio, video and readers. Authentic materials are incorporated daily. New, more advanced grammatical structures are introduced, while students also expand their vocabulary in the target language. Students are expected to communicate in Spanish whenever possible in class and with their instructor.
PREREQUISITES: Department Approval
CLASS STATUS: Senior
- 225-AF/AS SPANISH 4 1 credit**
This year long course is a continuation of Spanish 3. It emphasizes reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills in the target language. Students learn using a variety of media including their iPad, various apps, the Internet, authentic audio and video, and readers. Authentic materials are incorporated daily. Grammar concepts and vocabulary learned in Spanish 2 and 3 are reviewed; new, more advanced grammatical structures are also introduced, while students also expand their vocabulary in the target language. Various aspects of different Spanish-speaking cultures are also explored. Students are expected to try to communicate in Spanish whenever possible in class and with their instructor.
PREREQUISITES: Spanish 3 or *ACP Spanish 3
CLASS STATUS: Senior

232-AF/AS *HR SPANISH HERITAGE LEARNER 1-4 1 credit
The Spanish Heritage Learners Program responds to the unique needs of Spanish heritage speakers. **A Spanish heritage speaker is an individual who has grown up in an environment in which Spanish is spoken regularly.** This program aims to bridge the commonly overlooked English/Spanish language gap of heritage learners to promote overall academic and professional success. Language abilities vary greatly among heritage speakers. Therefore, these classes take an individualized approach to improving literacy in both languages. These courses (levels 1-4) satisfy the NDHS World Language requirement.

PREREQUISITES: Department Approval
CLASS STATUS: Freshman through Senior

*** Weighted Courses**

WORLD LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS: 2 credits in the same language

COURSE SEQUENCE AND PREREQUISITES:

FRENCH

FRENCH 1

PREREQUISITES:
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

FRENCH 2

PREREQUISITES:
FRENCH 1 AND
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

*HONORS FRENCH 2

PREREQUISITES:
FRENCH 1 AND
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

FRENCH3
PREREQUISITES:
French 2 and
Department

***ACP FRENCH3**
PREREQUISITES:
*Hr. French 2 and
Department

FRENCH4
PREREQUISITES:
French 3 and
Department

***ACP FRENCH 4**
PREREQUISITES:
*ACP French 3 and
Department

Honors Spanish

SPANISH 1

PREREQUISITES:
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

*HONORS SPANISH 2

PREREQUISITES:
SPANISH 1 AND
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

*ACP SPANISH 3 (UMSL CREDIT AVAILABLE)

PREREQUISITES:
HONORS SPANISH 2 AND/OR
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

***ACP Spanish 4**
(UMSL Credit Available
Both Semesters)
PREREQUISITES:
ACC/P Spanish 3 and/or
Department Approval

SPANISH

SPANISH 1

PREREQUISITES:
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

SPANISH 2

PREREQUISITES:
SPANISH 1 AND
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

SPANISH 3

PREREQUISITES:
SPANISH 2 AND
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

SPANISH 4

PREREQUISITES:
SPANISH 3 AND
DEPARTMENT APPROVAL

*Hr Spanish Heritage Learner 1-4

PREREQUISITES:
Spanish Heritage Speaker
and Department Approval
(A Spanish heritage speaker is an
individual who has grown up in an
environment in which Spanish is
spoken regularly)