

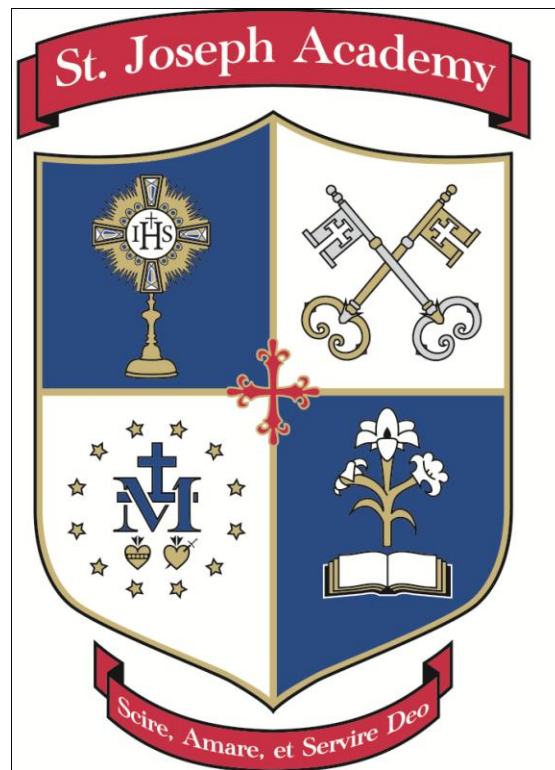
St. Joseph Academy

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2011-2012
High School
Course Catalog

Academic Excellence...Catholic Values

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ADMISSIONS AND REGISTRATION

St. Joseph Academy admits male and female students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the School. It does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, and color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies or other school-administered programs.

St. Joseph Academy reserves the right to select students on the basis of academic performance, religious commitment, lifestyle choices, and personal qualifications, including a willingness to cooperate with SJA administration and policies.

Please see Admissions on website for admission and registration requirements.

ACADEMIC POLICIES

The academic program at St. Joseph Academy is primarily a college preparatory program with a wide range of academic courses. Since St. Joseph Academy is a college preparatory school it is important for students and parents to note that there is a great deal of difference between a passing grade and a college recommended grade. Students should work for the highest grade commensurate with their abilities. Not only do students experience the pride and satisfaction that comes with working to their full potential, but also students with high grades have more options open to them when selecting a college. For students looking for the most challenging academic experience, there are several Honors and Advanced Placement courses offered for those who qualify. Students are accepted based on the expectation that they are capable of meeting the academic rigors of the curriculum which prepares students for a post secondary education. Therefore, students must maintain a cumulative academic Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or better.

***Academic Probation:**

Any student who earns a total GPA below 2.0 or a grade of “F” in any class on any quarter or semester grade report shall be placed on academic probation for the following quarter. Any students who while on academic probation earns a total GPA below 2.0 on any quarter or semester grade report shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities until he/she has been removed from academic probation. Any student who is on academic probation for two consecutive quarters shall be subject to dismissal from the school if he/she fails to earn a total GPA of at least 2.0 at the end of the second probationary quarter.

***Eligibility for Participation in Extracurricular Activities:**

According to state CIF rules student must have a current GPA of 2.0 or better in order to be eligible to participate in any sport. Any students on academic probation shall be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activities until he/she has been removed from academic probation. In addition, the Principal has the discretion to declare a student ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities if it is determined that he/she is performing below acceptable academic standards for such student (regardless of the student’ total GPA). Evidence that a student is performing below acceptable academic standards shall include, among other things, the student earning two “D” grades. For daily participation, unless there are extenuating circumstances (i.e., death in the family), students are ineligible to participate or attend an athletic

contest/practice or any extracurricular activity unless they are in attendance by the beginning of the third hour of the school day on the day of the practice/event.

***Incomplete and failing grades (including D and F)**

“I” (Incomplete) is used only in very rare cases when a student has missed work due to an excused absence at the end of the grading period. If the Incomplete grade is not made up within a reasonable time agreed upon by the administration, student, and parents, the grade will turn to an “F”.

All (a-g) classes in which a student received a “D” or an “F” at the semester(s) must be repeated in summer school with a grade of C or better. A student who does not receive a passing grade in a course is required to make up the “D” or “F” as a condition of continuing their studies at St. Joseph Academy. The Principal must approve any summer school class taken to replace a St. Joseph Academy graduation requirement before the class is taken. Only those approved classes will appear on the St. Joseph Academy transcript. The original D or F grade will not be included in the GPA calculation, and the new grade will be used. The past grade will still appear on the transcript, but it is the remediated grade that is calculated into the GPA. If the student repeats a course in which he or she initially earned a grade of C, the second grade will not be used.

CHANGING A SCHEDULE (CLASS)

Classes are scheduled and teachers are assigned on the basis of student’s course selections/assignments at the time of registration each spring. A class can only be changed if it falls under the following criteria:

1. If a course is canceled for lack of enrollment.
2. If a student fails a prerequisite course, if a student is placed in an inappropriate course or if the student is unable to academically execute the curriculum, the student may select another available course.. The student must add or drop a class no later than the middle of the first quarter of the school year. Once mid-quarter has passed, the students must stay in the class in which they are enrolled.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASSES:

Students may take classes at local community colleges when these classes are not offered at St. Joseph Academy or when remediating a grade of “D” or “F” on a semester report card. These classes, however, may not be taken in lieu of a class at St. Joseph Academy, nor used for the purpose of skipping levels (i.e. Foreign Language or Math). Any student wishing to take a class at a local community college is required by the college and St. Joseph Academy to have the signed approval of the Principal. We are bound by the Community College restriction to not allow more than 15% of our student body to attend the local Community College at any given semester. Only approved classes will appear on the St. Joseph Academy Transcript. In order for the course to be included in the St. Joseph Academy G.P.A. or class rank, it must be approved by the Principal.

COURSE PLACEMENT- HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Course placement is determined by the demonstrated achievement of the student and the recommendations of the student's current teachers and/or department chairs. Placement is based on the following criteria:

*Students taking AP and Honors courses will also have 1 point weighted credit in their GPA for every AP or Honors course taken.

Honors Courses: Honors courses are designed for academically advanced students. They move at an accelerated pace and study topics in greater detail as compared to standard courses. Additional reading and writing assignments are included in the program of study. Honors classes have 1 point weighted credit in their GPA for every Honors course taken (for grades A, B and C).

Honors Placement:

- *Demonstrated ability to handle quality and depth of material beyond what is normally expected.
- *Grade B+ or better in previous course
- *Recommendation from present teacher(s) and department chair
- *Standardized testing score (percentile)

Advanced Placement Courses: Advanced Placement (AP) courses are designed to offer students the opportunity to earn college credits. These courses are challenging, taught at the college level, and require teacher approvals for enrollment. AP courses lead to corresponding AP examinations. It is required that a student enrolled in an AP course will take the related AP exam. AP classes have 1 point weighted credit in their GPA for every AP course taken (for grades A, B and C).

Advanced Placement:

- *Demonstrated ability to handle quality and depth of material beyond what is normally expected.
- *Grade A- or better in previous course
- *Recommendation from present teacher(s) and department chair
- *Standardized testing score (percentile)

GENERAL ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLEGES

1. The University of California (e.g. UCSD, UCLA)

Required tests: SAT or ACT w/Optional Writing; 2 SAT Subject Tests – must be from different subject areas

Required courses: All students are required to satisfy with a minimum of grade “C,” the following courses:

A. *History/Social Studies* ~ 2 years required, to include: one year of U.S. History or one half year of U.S. History and one half year of Civics or American Government; one year of world history, world cultures, or geography.

B. *English* ~ 4 years required, to include frequent and regular writing and reading of classic and modern literature, poetry and drama. Not more than two semesters of grade 9 English can be used to meet this requirement.

C. *Mathematics* ~ 3 years required, 4 years recommended, to include: elementary algebra, geometry and second year (advanced) algebra. Math courses taken in grades 7 and 8 may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

D. *Laboratory Science* ~ 2 years required, 3 years recommended, in at least two of these three areas: biology, chemistry and physics. Laboratory courses in earth/space sciences are acceptable if they have as prerequisites or provide basic knowledge in biology, chemistry or physics. Not more than one year of grade 9 laboratory science can be used to meet the requirement.

E. *Languages other than English* ~ 2 years required, 3 years recommended. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading and composition.

F. *Visual & Performing Arts* ~ One year, including dance, drama/theater, music, and/or visual art.

G. *College Preparatory Electives* ~ 2 years required in addition to those required in A - E above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts, history, social sciences, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and languages other than English.

2. **A CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (e.g. San Diego State University)**

Required tests: SAT or ACT

Required courses: All students are required to complete the same academic course requirements as those for the University of California with the modification that one year of visual or performing arts and only three additional years of college preparatory electives are required. All required courses need a "C" grade or better.

3. **PRIVATE COLLEGES** (e.g. Thomas Aquinas College, Franciscan University of Steubenville, University of Dallas, Christendom, etc.)

Admissions committees make their decisions based on the following:

A. Subject requirements similar to the University of California, although some may differ slightly. A "B" average or better in high school is usually required, as are satisfactory scores on required admissions tests. See the individual college catalogue.

B. Highly favored is the applicant who has a talent or a demonstrated ability in some area (athletics, leadership, music, etc.) and/or involvement in constructive school or community projects.

4. COMMUNITY COLLEGES (e.g. Palomar College, etc.)

The only requirement is a high school diploma (or its equivalent) or 18 years of age. No tests are required for admission, but placement tests are required for some subjects.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Saint Joseph Academy High School used a weighted grading system. Courses are designated as College Prep, Honors or Advanced Placement (AP). The scale below is used to determine the value of each letter grade.

Courses included are on an A-F scale, with plusses and minuses assigned a point value. Grades are weighted according to the level of difficulty of the course.

GRADING SCALE

100-99	A+	89-87	B+	79-77	C+	69-67	D+	59 and below
98-93	A	86-83	B	76-73	C	66-63	D	F
92-90	A-	82-80	B-	72-70	C-	62-60	D-	

GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade	Regular Course	Weighted Course (AP and Honors)
A	4.0	5.0
B	3.0	4.0
C	2.0	3.0
D	1.0	1.0
F	0	0

Graduation Requirements- ST. JOSEPH ACADEMY

English	4 years – 40 credits	English 9, World Literature, American Literature, and British Literature
History	4 years – 40 credits	World Geography, World History, U.S. History, Civics (1 sem.), and Economics (1 sem.)
Language	2 years – 20 credits 3 years recommended	Spanish I, Spanish II (Spanish III on an individual basis)
Mathematics	3 years – 30 credits, 4 years recommended	Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Pre-Calculus, and Calculus
Physical Education	1 year – 10 credits (P.E. – 4 credits, Health – 6 credits)	Health and P.E.
Religion	4 years – 40 credits	Introduction to the Catholic Church, Sacred Scripture, Church History, and Apologetics and Morality
Science	2 years – 20 credits 3 years recommended	Biology, Chemistry and Physics
Fine Art	1 year – 10 credits	Art History/Drawing
Electives	1 year – 10 credits	Journalism

***A student must receive 210 credits to graduate from St. Joseph Academy. In addition a Christian Service component (120 hours) is also required for graduation.**

GRADUATION POLICY:

In order to receive a diploma, a student must have the following: a cumulative academic GPA of 2.0 or better, no “D” or “F” grades on the transcript, all Incompletes must have been remediated and there must be no outstanding financial obligations. Additionally, students must have completed their Christian Service requirements.

PREREQUISITES

Many courses have prerequisites (conditions that must be met before taking a course). Departmental/Teacher approval and previous courses are examples. All prerequisites are listed in the course descriptions. Students may not register for courses for which they have not met the prerequisites.

ENGLISH

PHILOSOPHY

Literature combines various subjects such as math, philosophy, religion and art through individual writings across the centuries. St. Joseph Academy gathers these numerous subjects, compiling a broad picture of the events involved in the writings of some of the greatest known authors while extensively studying the grammar structure and literary elements used in their works. Throughout the year, each class will increase their knowledge of literature and writing by studying these authors and genres. Each class will use a particular edition of the Prentice Hall Literature series as well as supplementary classic literature. While reading these various texts, students will improve their own writing through writing assignments of short stories, literary criticisms and a research paper. The students' comprehension and critical analyses of the readings will be assessed through these writings and projects. The Catholic perspective will be given when dealing with moral themes and issues.

English 9 (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objectives: Students study several units in Literature including: Fiction and nonfiction, short stories, poetry, drama and themes in literature. Students will learn to critically analyze various genres and develop skills in mastery of grammar and writing.

Texts: **Prentice Hall Literature 9, Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary Workshop and assigned classic novels such as Hound of the Baskervilles, The Pearl and Romeo and Juliet.**

World Literature/Composition (Honors offered) (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 10

Course Content/Objective: Students will learn to critically analyze various genres by approaching the literature of different cultures/countries from a historical perspective, beginning with ancient middle-eastern literature and continuing to modern American and European literature. Students will be expected to write literary criticisms and analyses of various works.

Texts: **Prentice Hall Literature 10, Sadlier Oxford Vocabulary Workshop, The Odyssey, The Inferno, The Count of Monte Cristo, and other classics**

American Literature/Composition (Honors offered) (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: Approaching American literature from a historical perspective, beginning with the Puritans and moving to modern literature, students will learn to critically analyze various genres. As part of college-preparatory classes, the students will continue to develop their analytical writing skills.

Text: **Prentice Hall Literature: The American Experience and assigned classic novels, including The Last of the Mohicans, Moby Dick, Fahrenheit 451, and The Scarlet Letter.**

British Literature /Composition (AP offered) (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: Students will learn to critically analyze various genres by approaching British literature from a historical perspective, beginning with Beowulf and continuing to modern literature. Students will be expected to write literary criticisms.

Texts: **Prentice Hall Literature: The English Tradition and assigned classic novels, including Robinson Crusoe, The Twelfth Night, A Tale of Two Cities and Heart of Darkness.**

Advanced Composition (Semester – 5 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: Students will learn and practice various types of expository and persuasive writing forms and techniques, with emphasis on formal essays of comparison, definition, cause and effect, evaluation, and argumentation. The course includes review of basic grammar and development of style. The students will be expected to write a research paper.

Texts: **Lost Tools of Writing Student Workbook (3rd ed.)**; **Publisher: The Circe Institute; Concord, NC; Name of Text: Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student (4th ed.)**; **Publisher: Oxford University Press, New York, Write for College and The Elements of Style.**

Speech and Debate (Semester – 5 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: Students will learn and practice the various types of public speaking with an emphasis on extemporaneous, informative and persuasive speeches. Debate and moot court classroom competitions are designed to develop organizational and critical thinking skills and public speaking ability.

Text: **Glencoe Speech, Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student (4th Ed.)** **Publisher: Oxford University Press, New York**

RELIGION

PHILOSOPHY

The Religion Department has as its primary goals the faithful transmission of the deposit of faith to the students, and an encouragement in living a life according to the Gospel. As the Magisterium of the Catholic Church is entrusted with guarding this sacred deposit of faith, St. Joseph Academy's religion curriculum strives to be faithful to that Magisterium in every regard. The religious component of education at St. Joseph is both academically rigorous and practical.

Introduction to Catholicism (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objective: This year presents a survey of the Dogmas and Doctrines of the Catholic faith. A basic knowledge of the entire deposit of faith is necessary for any Catholic individual. For the most part, this survey follows the Church's traditional four-fold paradigm for catechesis: The major truths of faith (creed), the sacraments, the commandments, and prayer. Besides the main texts listed below, supplemental reading and lecture material is presented.

Texts: **Introduction to Catholicism**, **The Didache High School Textbook Series**, **The Catechism of the Catholic Church**, **The Holy Bible (Ignatius Press)**, **Papal Encyclical: Veritatis Splendour**.

Introduction to Scripture (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 10

Course Content/Objective: This year the students are introduced to the study of the Old and New Testaments. This is essential because Sacred Scripture is the privileged instrument of divine revelation. Students will learn the essential elements of Bible study, both scholarly and practical, as well as study the content of the sacred text itself. Besides the main texts listed below, supplemental reading and lecture material is presented. ***Prerequisite:*** **Introduction to Catholicism**

Texts: **Understanding the Scriptures**, **The Didache High School Textbook Series**, **The Catechism of the Catholic Church**, **The Holy Bible (Ignatius Press)**, **Papal Encyclical: Dei Verbum**.

Church History and Ecclesiology (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: The presence of the Catholic Church found its beginning, in type, in the old covenant God made with the chosen people. The Church was finally established by Christ and manifested by the Spirit at Pentecost. The same Holy Spirit has guided the Church throughout history, and still guards and guides her today. This year students will be introduced to this drama of God's relationship to mankind. This course is not reduced to a class in the events of history, but through these events, students will grasp the mystery that is the Church. Besides the main texts listed below, supplemental reading and lecture material is presented.

Prerequisite: **Introduction to Scripture**

Texts: **The History of the Church**, **The Didache High School Textbook Series**, **The Catechism of the Catholic Church**, **The Holy Bible (Ignatius Press)**, **Papal Encyclicals: Mortalium Animos and Pascendi**.

Morality and Apologetics (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: This year's religion curriculum consists of two main components: a study of how one ought to live as a Catholic Christian (morality), and a deeper understanding of one's faith along with the ability to defend it (apologetics). In morality, students will examine the various factors in the study of ethics and morality according to the Church's teaching. They will also find a concrete application of these principles through a study of the commandments. In apologetics, the students will examine Church teaching in depth and be able to identify its foundation in the sources of revelation and natural reason. Besides the main texts listed below, supplemental reading and lecture material is presented.

Prerequisite: Church History and Ecclesiology

Texts: Our Moral Life in Christ, The Didache High School Textbook Series, The Catechism of the Catholic Church, The Holy Bible (Ignatius Press), Catholicism and Ethics, Catholicism and Reason, Handbook of Catholic Apologetics (Kreeft and Tacelli), Papal Encyclical: Caritas Veritate.

MATHEMATICS

PHILOSOPHY

The Mathematics Department is dedicated to the Catholic tradition of educational excellence in the pursuit of the intellectual, spiritual and moral formation of each student. The programs we offer challenge students at their particular level of ability in mathematics in preparation for college and life. Each program is designed to develop logical reasoning skills used throughout life regardless of profession. Finally, the ultimate goal of our program is to teach each student to think, to understand, and to be able to communicate and utilize mathematical ideas.

***Students may move ahead in Math to their competency.**

Algebra I (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objective: This course provides each student with an overview of algebraic principals using the classical tools and techniques. Topics include problem solving, graphing and quadratic equations.

Text: **Algebra I (McDougal Littell)**

Geometry (Honors offered) (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 10

Course Content/Objective: This course is designed to provide the student with a general comprehension of the traditional geometric concepts enhanced by an emphasis on logic, solid geometry and proof construction.

Prerequisite: **Algebra I**

Text: **Geometry (McDougal Littell)**

Algebra II (Honors offered) (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: This course reviews and considerably extends the principles of algebra developed in Algebra I. Topics include introductions to exponential functions, logarithms, complex numbers, graphing, problem solving and the basic principles of trigonometry.

Prerequisite: **Algebra I**

Co-requisite: **Chemistry**

Texts: **Algebra II (McDougal Littell)**

Pre-Calculus (Honors offered) (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11/12

Course Content/Objective: This college-preparatory course contains all standard topics necessary for the study of calculus, combining advanced trigonometric, geometric, and algebraic techniques. It is designed to strengthen the student's mathematical reasoning in solving problems with a functional point of view toward exponents, logarithms, and complex numbers. There is a strong emphasis on graphing techniques and an introduction to the significant concept of limits.

Prerequisite: **Algebra II**

Text: **Pre-Calculus (6th Edition) by Larson & Hostetler**

AP Calculus (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: This college-preparatory course is designed for advanced mathematics students who have demonstrated a high level of ability in understanding advanced mathematical concepts. Topics include analytical geometry, differentiation and integration of algebraic and transcendental functions and their applications.

***Prerequisite:* Pre-Calculus**

***Text:* Calculus Early Transcendentals Single Variable 9th ed. By Anton, Bivens and Davis.**

SCIENCE

PHILOSOPHY

The Science Department of St. Joseph Academy offers a sequence of classical science courses to help prepare every student for college and life. The three core laboratory science courses offered at SJA, which comprise the classical college preparatory sequence, include high school Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. In the science department, students are encouraged to explore their natural curiosity and wonder to find logic and patterns in nature, thus building critical thinking and problem solving skills that will serve them throughout life. Science should be interesting and engaging, as well as challenging and demanding. Some students may be encouraged to accelerate their science program of study by taking Honors courses, but there are courses suitable for all students. Labs are offered for a hands on approach to learning. Creation and Evolution are taught according to the directives of the Catholic Church. God, as Creator is always given precedence.

Biology (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 10

Course Content/Objective: This course is designed to give the student a thorough knowledge of biology, including basic taxonomy, cell biology, genetics, microbiology, and plant, animal and human biology.

Co-requisite: Geometry

Texts: Primary: Biology, Supplementary: Of Pandas and People, the encyclical Humanae Genensis

Lab: The equivalent of 1 lab per week.

Chemistry (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: This college-preparatory laboratory course introduces the student to the basic principles and fundamentals of Chemistry. Emphasis is placed on problem solving and inductive reasoning while studying composition, structure and reactions of matter.

Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra with a “B” or better

Co-requisites: Enrollment in Algebra II or equivalent

Text: Chemistry

Lab: The equivalent of 1 lab per week

Physics (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: This course is designed to give the students a basic understanding of the physical world. Hands-on learning is incorporated through labs and semester projects. Topics studied include motion, forces, gravitation, momentum, work, energy, states of matter, waves and electricity among others.

Prerequisite: Algebra II with a “B” or better

Text: Physics: Principals and Problems

Lab: The equivalent of 1 lab per week

HISTORY

PHILOSOPHY

The History Department has as its primary goal a curriculum which enables each student to gain knowledge, develop intellectual skills and assume a sense of responsibility as members of their Church, community, culture and world. To achieve this purpose, a core of courses encompassing historical, geographical, economic and political studies is required of each student. Critical thinking and communication skills, both written and verbal, are stressed throughout the program. As Catholics, we believe that God Himself has been the central part of the history of the world from its creation to present times. He physically entered history a little more than 2,000 years ago by becoming man- our Lord Jesus Christ. Throughout all of history, God has continually reached out to mankind and has played a central role in the unfolding “story” of mankind. An emphasis on the important contributions of Western Civilization is also stressed throughout the curriculum.

World Geography (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objective: This course is designed to provide the student with a general understanding of the foundations of geography as well as natural, physical, and cultural aspects of specific regions of the world. Emphasis is placed on cartography. The student will be able to map the entire world by memory at the end of the year.

*Texts: Primary: **World Geography: A Physical and Cultural Approach***

*Supplementary: **Mapping the World by Heart, Left to Tell***

World History (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 10

Course Content/Objective: This course is an overview of the great civilizations from all parts of the world from the beginning of recorded history to the present time. The major themes include political and social systems, religion, economics, technology, art, culture and the impact of geography on history. The course is designed to develop the students' ability to learn in a variety of ways including reading, lectures, discussions and research, and increase their ability to understand and analyze the political, economic and social realities of today.

*Text: **World History: Patterns of Civilization***

United States History (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: This course is designed to provide an extensive knowledge of the history of the United States beginning with the discovery of the “New World” and leading up to the presidency of Ronald Reagan. Emphasis is placed on the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

*Text: **Rise of the American Nation***

Civics (Semester – 5 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: This course covers the origin and development of American political behavior and the system of government America has in place. Topics include the structures and functions of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of the government at the national, state and local levels. Patriotism is stressed, as well as the benefits of the Free Enterprise System. Students also take an active part in a Moot Court/Mock Trial. Moot Court/Mock Trials take students to the heart of the justice system. Students acquire critical-thinking skills and an in-depth understanding of our judicial process as they study a hypothetical case, conduct legal research, and role play the trial. Students also learn their responsibilities in using their Catholic faith as the guide in making decisions when voting for candidates and issues on the ballot.

Text: **Government in America**

Supplemental: **The 5,000 Year Leap and DVD series (Principles of Freedom 101) by Skousen and The 28 Principals of Liberty that America's Founding Fathers said must be understood and perpetuated by every society that desires peace, prosperity and freedom. Students will have a much clearer understanding of the political world and will be able to make decisions about real life situations based on correct principles. Voter's Guide for Serious Catholics (Catholic Answers Action).**

Economics (Semester – 5 credits)

Grade 12

Course Content/Objective: This course surveys the basic principles and concepts of economics. Topics covered include comparative systems of economics, microeconomics, macroeconomics and international economics. Emphasis is on the practical applications of economic analysis to the problems of daily life at the individual, local and national levels.

Prerequisite: Civics

Text: **Economics, The Worldly Philosophers.**

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

PHILOSOPHY

Physical Education is important in the development of the whole person. Aerobics and team sports are emphasized. The students are encouraged to develop a life-long program of physical well-being.

“Sports is not merely the exercise of muscles, but it is the school of moral values and of training in courage, in perseverance, and in overcoming laziness and carelessness. There is no doubt that these values are of greatest interest for the formation of a personality which considers sports not an end in itself but as a means to total physical, moral and social development.”

- Pope John Paul II

Physical Education (Year – 4 credits)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objective: This course includes Health Education.

Text: **A Catholic Perspective on Physical Education and Sports and Health**

Health (Year – 6 credits)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objective: This is a comprehensive look at Health covering the basics from mental health to first aid. We begin with Mental Health which includes emotions, personality, mental disorders and suicide. This is followed by nutrition, which helps to identify and plan a healthy diet, and teaches the digestive process. Next is Physical Fitness which deals with the physiology and biology of bones, muscles, circulation, respiration and coordination as well as making goals for lifelong fitness. (This unit is great preparation for Biology.) Basic first aid and substance abuse, specifically addressing alcohol, drugs, tobacco and how to prevent substance abuse, are also covered. The Catholic perspective and teachings are always given in any related topics. Sensitive issues (such as sex education/family life) are discussed by parents and their children in the privacy of their own home

Text: **Glencoe Health**

FINE ART

PHILOSOPHY

The intention of our art class is to provide a meaningful experience and breadth of knowledge of the historical and cultural content as well as the authentic value of the arts. In this way, students may apply their knowledge and experience to the creation of art and/or a better understanding and appreciation of artistic expression.

Art (Drawing) (Semester – 5 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: This course is designed to develop the artistic talent each student has primarily in the area of drawing. The student will learn how to perceive an object or a face and translate that perception onto a drawing pad. Also, students will study the perceptions of edges, spaces, relationships, lights and shadows, and the perception of the whole. Students also create art projects from a variety of mediums.

Text: **Focus on Art**

Art History (Semester – 5 credits)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: This is a comprehensive look at the historical value of art. We begin with understanding the historical contributions and cultural dimensions of a given art and end with analyzing and making critical assessments about works of a given art form.

Text: **Focus on Art**

ELECTIVES

Journalism (Year – 10 credits)

Grade 11 or 12

Course Content/Objective:

In addition to exploring the historical and contemporary role and impact of mass media in the United States, students in this class will examine the basic features of journalism and journalistic writing, the purposes and characteristics of design, and the printing process—all from a Catholic perspective in the hopes of bringing the light of truth and justice to the world of communications. Students will plan and produce the school's newspaper and yearbook, as well as engaging in other contemporary forms of media. This course is designed to give students mastery of foundational journalistic skills to prepare them for work in the field of journalism—newspaper, magazine, broadcast, or Internet.

Text: **Journalism Today**

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

PHILOSOPHY

The primary goal of the Spanish Language program at St. Joseph Academy is to develop the student's understanding and usage of both vocabulary and grammar of the Spanish language. Students are also given the opportunity to assimilate and understand another culture that they may not be familiar with. It is hoped that through the study of a foreign language, students will develop a practical skill that will improve their personal and professional effectiveness by increasing the range of people with whom they can communicate.

Spanish I (Year)

Grade 9

Course Content/Objective: An introduction to the language with emphasis on conversation, vocabulary building and basic verbs and fundamentals of Spanish grammar. The objective is to put useful vocabulary and speech into the student's Spanish skills. Use of media included.

Text: **Descubre I**

Spanish II (Year)

Grade 10

Course Content/Objective: A continuation of Spanish I with emphasis on mastering the remaining verb tenses. This course includes an in-depth study of vocabulary for real-life situations, student oral presentations and continued use of media.

Prerequisites: Spanish I with at least a "C" grade

Text: **Descubre I/II**

Spanish III (Tentative) (Year)

Grade 11

Course Content/Objective: Intense vocabulary building, conversation and advanced grammar. Students will learn translation techniques and read simplified short stories, paraphrase them and answer questions based on the reading. There will be continued use of media.

Prerequisite: Spanish II with at least a "C" grade

Text: **Descubre II**