

ST. JOHN'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL



Curriculum Guide

2023-2024

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SECTION 1: ST. JOHN'S PREP MISSION

St. John's Preparatory School, a college preparatory co-educational high school, is dedicated to promoting academic excellence and to instilling the principles and values of the Catholic Faith in a positive, nurturing environment.

Inspired by its Vincentian tradition, St. John's Prep is built upon the profound respect for every individual. Students' character formation is nurtured through a rigorous academic curriculum, an engaging religious program, enriching service experiences and extensive extracurricular opportunities.

St. John's Prep prepares students to be successful in meeting the challenges of the 21st century and in creating a world in which all "have life more abundantly."

Over 150 years of Tradition, Scholarship and Service

SECTION 2: INTRODUCTION

St. John's Prep seeks to provide a rigorous program of studies, enabling students to excel to the best of their ability. Each student is assisted in determining a course of study by the school counselors, teachers, department chairpersons, and parents. All courses reflect the academic policies of St. John's Preparatory School and the State of New York. In addition, it is recommended that the student keep in mind the requirements of colleges and universities to better plan a comprehensive four-year program of studies.

Registration for courses begins in early March. Students register for courses online in their Student Plus Portal account. The subject teachers, department chairs along with the school counselor meet with students to review the course selection process. We ask that the parents / guardians review their student's course selections with them before final registration is due. Please note that once requests are submitted, they cannot be changed, so please take the time to research the courses listed in the Curriculum Guide.

The Honor's, College Advantage, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses carry prerequisites. Please review the prerequisites before applying for courses. Admission to these signature programs is highly competitive and selective because enrollment is limited. The Administration reserves the right to make the final decision on course placement. Please note that placement in courses is contingent upon successful completion of the prerequisite course(s) and state assessments. If a student's average drops significantly after placement decisions are made, the student may be removed from an advanced course in the following year. Final placement decisions are made by the department chairperson in consultation with the Administration.

SECTION 3: GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

ACADEMIC CREDITS

To graduate from St. John's Prep, all students must earn at least 22 units of academic credit. Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors must carry a full program. Seniors must take at least six-course periods of study per semester. The following are minimum requirements for all students:

- English 4 Units
- Social Studies 4 Units
- Mathematics 3 Units
- Science 3 Units
- Language 3 Units (Latin plus second language)
- Music & Art 1 Unit
- Computer Science ½ unit
- Theology and Physical Education must be taken every year.
- Electives See Below

Each student must have a complete schedule to obtain a St. John's Prep diploma, therefore students are required to take elective courses to complete their program. Students must take enough elective courses to complete their course of study.

NEW YORK STATE REGENTS DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

In accordance with the New York State requirements all students will graduate from St. John's Prep with a diploma that meets all NY State Regents requirements. All students will be required to take and pass each of the necessary Regents Exams. St. John's Prep encourages all students to acquire a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. Students must meet the basic requirements for the NY State Regents Requirement and in addition, successfully pass two or more Math Regents and one more physical and /or one life science Regent exams.

- English
- Mathematics
- Global History & Geography
- US History and Government
- Science
- Language Other than English (LOTE)

STUDENT ATHLETES & NCAA REQUIREMENTS

Scholar athletes seeking an athletic scholarship or want to compete in college athletics at a Division I or II level must take courses approved by the NCAA ([National Collegiate Athletic Association](#)) to fulfill the NCAA requirements. If a student plans to compete in college athletics, he/she should consult with one of the school counselors who will review the current NCAA requirements before finalizing course selections.

SECTION 4: SJP SIGNATURE PROGRAMS

DUAL ENROLLMENT – SJU COLLEGE ADVANTAGE (CAP)

The St. John's University College Advantage Program provides qualified students concurrent enrollment in their St. John's Prep courses with a comparable college credit-bearing course in SJU. This program is offered to qualified juniors and seniors. The program provides reduced tuition costs to students and parents, and to serve as an assessment of a student's ability to do college-level work. These credits are transferable to many other colleges. Students should check the bulletins of the colleges they are interested in attending for specific details. These courses are also excellent preparation for the Advanced Placement/ SAT II exams offered by the College Board. Scoring well on these tests will assure the student college credit from most colleges. (Additional Course Fee is applicable)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

St. John's Prep participates in the Advanced Placement Program as administered by the College Board. Advanced Placement courses are college-level courses, approved by the College Board, to offer students rigorous, in-depth study. Often, based on the scores earned, students can earn college credit. Advanced Placement exams are administered in early May. Students are required to take the AP exam at the completion of the course. (AP Exam fee is applicable)

ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

An exclusive Baccalaureate Program in partnership with St. John's University is available to qualified students in the senior year. During 12th grade, students accepted into the SJU Baccalaureate Program, take courses on the SJU Campus. Students interested in this program will be required to take Honor /AP classes throughout their three years at St. John's Prep. In the fourth year of the program, accepted students take their classes at the university and complete their final high school requirements as well as their first year of college study.

SIGNATURE PROGRAM PREREQUISITES

Advanced Placement Classes

St. John's Prep offers numerous Advanced Placement courses in Mathematics, Science, English, World Languages, and Social Studies. These courses are designed to meet the needs of students who want an advanced college preparatory curriculum and demonstrate a high level of responsibility, interest, aptitude, and achievement.

The following conditions must be agreed to before a student may register for any AP course:

- AP courses are college level courses and require considerably more homework and studying than a regent's course.
- No student will be registered for an AP course unless he/she meets all prerequisites and has obtained the teacher recommendation and/or department chair approval.
- Any student who registers for an AP course will not be able to drop the course.
- Students enrolled in any AP class will be required to take the AP exam in the spring.

- Students must have a 90 or better overall average with no grade less than an 85 to register for an AP class.
- Math and Science Regents scores will be reviewed in June for any student registered for a Math and Science AP class to ensure student success.
- Students should have an overall 1080 on the PSAT and/ or SAT.
- The fee for each AP exam is \$101 (in 2023).
- A summer assignment will be required for AP courses.

St. John's University College Advantage Program (Dual Enrollment Program)

The College Advantage Program at St. John's provides qualifying juniors and seniors with the opportunity to enroll concurrently at St. John's Prep and credit bearing St. John's courses for a fee (currently \$325 per course).

Student Eligibility

- **Senior Year** – students must maintain a minimum 80 average in the five subjects (i.e., English, languages, mathematics, science, and social studies) and a combined minimum Math and Critical Reading SAT score of 1080 (1080 PSAT).
- **Junior Year** – students must maintain a minimum of an 85 average in the five subjects and a combined Math and Critical Reading minimum SAT score of 1080 (1080 PSAT) or a minimum ACT of 21 OR a minimum 90 average in the five subjects without standardized test scores.

St. John's University Baccalaureate Program

- Eligibility for the SJU Baccalaureate Program must meet the following criteria:
- Must be enrolled since 9th grade at St. John's Prep
- Must be approved by St. John's University's Admissions committee.
- Be enrolled in mostly Honors and AP level courses at SJP.
- Have a GPA (Grade Point Average) of 90 or above.
- Score a 50 or higher on each part of the Sophomore & Junior PSAT.
- A score of 85 and above on each of the 5 required Regents.
- Demonstrate a high level of maturity.

Please be aware that prerequisites instituted above are designed to provide students with a solid foundation to be successful in a class.

SECTION 5: COURSE GUIDE

St. John's Preparatory School offers students a broad array of college preparatory, honors, College Advantage classes, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses, designed to provide students with a solid foundation for lifelong learning. The goal of our academic program is to educate the whole person by instilling the values and skills needed in the 21st Century and to shape young men and women of faith, leadership, and character.

Please be aware that enrollment may affect the availability of courses. The inclusion of a course in the St. John's Prep Course Catalogue does not guarantee that a particular course will be scheduled next year. The following pages include short descriptions of the courses offered by each department.

SECTION 6: SUGGESTED COLLEGE ENTRANCE COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Competitive Colleges

- 4 years of English
- 4 years of Social Studies
- 3-4 years of Mathematics
- 3-4 years of the Sciences
- 3-4 years of World Language

Very Competitive Colleges

- 4-5 years of English
- 4-5 years of Social Studies
- 4-5 years of Mathematics
- 4-5 years of the Sciences
- 4-5 years of World Language (Possibly a second language)

SECTION 7: ENGLISH

Literature has the power to awaken the reader by addressing profound questions about human identity and values. Because it delights and disturbs, literature not only reflects our existence in the world but also inspires change and the adventure of unforeseen possibilities. By exploring a wide range of literary and cultural works, students can understand how the past informs the present and appreciate a wide variety of literary genres that reflect both cultural and classical literary tradition. The English Department seeks to immerse students in the world of writing, the students' own as well as that of great literature. Ultimately, these skills will engender a life-long love of reading and writing that will ensure an active intellectual life beyond St. John's Prep.

That is part of the beauty of all literature. You discover that your longings are universal longings, that you are not lonely and isolated from anyone. You belong.

-F. Scott Fitzgerald

English 9 – Freshman Foundations of Literature

1 Year 1 Credit

This course explores a selection of novels, myths, plays, films, and poems, united by the theme of the heroic journey. It is literature-based, with a comprehensive writing program. Students respond in oral and written forms to the novels, short stories, poetry, and essays they read, utilizing a variety of writing and presentation modes. Dramatic enactments, collaborative presentations, and creative projects complement the reading. Students focus on skills of close reading in writing creative, reflective and analytical essays. Assignments emphasize the writing process, from brainstorming to drafting to revising. A strong emphasis in grammar includes sentence and paragraph structures. Students build vocabulary through a structured exploration of words in the context of literary works. Students will find their voices as resourceful critical readers and thinkers and deepen their skills as writers.

English 9 - Freshman Honors Foundations of Literature

1 Year 1 Credit

The 9th grade Honors English curriculum is an accelerated course of study designed to strengthen students' reading, writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills. Students read works that include mythology, drama, poetry, short stories, non-fiction, and the novel. Writing assignments help deepen students' understanding of these texts and strengthen their analytical skills. Students learn to work collaboratively through class discussions and in a variety of group activities improving their ability to understand plot, character, and main ideas, in addition to extending their ability to make inferences and to appreciate figurative language. Writing projects include creative, reflective, and analytical essays.

English 10 - Sophomore British Literature**1 Year 1 Credit**

This course extends and reinforces students' analytical language skills. British literature includes works of British fiction and nonfiction and other relevant texts that address the development of the self and the connection to various world cultures. Students use writing such as expository, argumentation, and synthesis pieces to explore how they make personal, social, and political meaning from the texts that they have read. The study of grammar, mechanics, usage, and vocabulary is also integral to developing life-long readers and writers. In addition to examining and applying grammatical elements during the editing process, students review grammar and usage in preparation for the S.A.T. and A.C.T. exams.

English 10 - Sophomore Honors British Literature**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

The 10th grade Honors English Curriculum is an accelerated course of study that will develop a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of British literature. Students examine the relationship between historical events. They explore the themes of the hero in ancient, medieval, and contemporary society; human and nature; encounters with good and evil; war and peace; alienation and the search for personal fulfillment. Critical writing projects are a key component of the curriculum. Various writing experiences expose students to a myriad of ways to communicate their ideas and foster individual growth. Students expand on constructing a thesis from their observations and understanding of the literature. They complete short research projects designed to increase their ability to locate, organize and synthesize information but which also engage students in sharing findings and communicate effectively through modes such as digital storytelling, videography, web pages, and even virtual reality. In addition to examining and applying grammatical elements during the editing process, students review grammar and usage in preparation for the SAT and ACT exams.

English 11 - Junior American Literature**1 Year 1 Credit**

English 11 includes a survey of American literature. Students will read selections from American authors, present their findings in large and small group sessions, and write on topics related to their reading and to class discussion. Students will also synthesize ideas from American fiction and nonfiction sources. Students will examine the relationship between historical events, philosophy, film, art, and literature. Students will continue to strengthen their writing skills, particularly on composing expository writing in developing the literary essay. During the second semester, students engage in a comprehensive research unit culminating in an extensive research paper. In addition to examining and applying grammatical elements during the editing process, students review grammar and usage in preparation for the S.A.T. and A.C.T. exams. Students are required to take N.Y. State Common Core Regents Exam.

English 11-Junior Honors American Literature**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

In this advanced course, students refine their skills in organizing and interpreting literature. They present their findings in large and small group sessions. Readings are taken from American literature and consist of fiction and non-fiction selections. Students examine the relationship between historical events, philosophy, and literature. The focus in the composition is expository writing, particularly the literary essay.

English 12 - Senior World Literature**1 Year 1 Credit**

In this course, students refine their skills in analyzing and interpreting literature. Readings are taken from world literature. Selections include works from African, Asian, European, and Middle Eastern writers. Students examine the relationship between historical events, philosophy, art, and literature. They encounter such genres as epic poetry, haiku, drama, short stories, novels, historical accounts, and philosophy. Students continue to develop their skills in writing an analysis of the literature. They also have an opportunity to do creative writing pieces. Students are expected to research, evaluate, and present information in a formal literary research paper.

English 12- Senior Honors World Literature**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

In this course, students refine their skills in analyzing and interpreting literature. Selections are taken from world literature and a variety of genres are encountered. Students will explore the relationship between historical events, philosophy, art, and literature. Students examine literary criticism and discover how critical, insightful opinions can expand the dialogue as they think about literature. Students continue to develop their skills in writing as they analyze literary works and in creative writing. Students are required to research, evaluate, and present information in a formal literary research paper. Throughout the year students work on projects that utilize the city's museums and libraries.

English 12- Senior Honors College English**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: PLACEMENT EXAM AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

College English is an intensive writing course required by St. John's University undergraduates. The course involves an investigation into various means of composing texts, such as the relationships between brainstorming, reading, research, revising, and editing. Students will work in a workshop setting, sharing their writing, and responding to the work of their classmates. The course offers students an introduction to writing studies, an opportunity to experiment with their own developing styles, a chance to explore a range of compositional and rhetorical strategies, and the opportunity to research ideas and topics of relevance to their own lives. During the second semester, students will cover the college's Introduction to American Literature. This is an intensive study of a limited number of texts drawn from the various periods of American literature. It includes critical reading and writing. Two papers are required.

Creative Writing- Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Students in the creative writing course will develop an understanding and appreciation for writing. Various assignments and personal experiences will help students in expressing their ideas and furthering personal growth. Writing portfolios, projects, discussions, and individual journals will be used to connect students with creative writing processes. Students learn strategies for evaluating and responding to their own writing and the writing of others in a peer-sharing component. Students receive specific training in providing constructive, substantive feedback.

Broadcast & Journalism- Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

An introduction to the field of journalism including a study and analysis of print, broadcast, and online media. Students will examine journalistic ethics and will learn to write objectively while informing the public in various formats including world and community news, entertainment, and sports. They will also learn to interview and how to present opinions in professional editorials. Students will gain insight into various careers in reporting, editing, broadcasting, layout, and design.

Speech and Debate - Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Students will engage in analyzing the structure and language of politics, business, legal, and social speech. They will study different modes of discourse, both oral and written. Students will also learn to construct and write speeches from a variety of rhetorical modes, including persuasion, process, and extemporaneous. Students will gain insight into training in delivery and presentation. Students will examine elocution, voice projection, and effective use of body language.

Living Bravely in a New World - Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Students will explore classic and contemporary dystopian novels, film, and art to identify the artist's shared issues and concerns of life in the modern and postmodern era. Students will be invited to think critically about the antidote to the living whole in a seemingly fragmented world and explore the unique role that Faith plays in solving those problems. Scripture, the writings, and art of religious thinkers will be studied as a vehicle for finding beauty and freedom in the often-chaotic modern world.

SECTION 8: FINE, VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

St. John's Prep believes that the arts have the power to transform young people's lives — to open them to the greatness that lies within them and in others. Our program is integral to our mission of providing a multi-faceted education for our students. The Fine, Visual and Performing Arts Program includes courses and extracurricular opportunities that recognize students as artists with individual strengths to be celebrated in a collaborative environment. Our program helps students build confidence, self-discipline, leadership, collaboration skills, and develops their ability to work independently, take risks and learn from mistakes. Imagine a community that values your creativity.

FINE ARTS

Art education makes students sensitive to their perceived world, more attuned to human feelings, and more aware of the physical and emotional environment in which they live. It is the hope of the Fine Arts Department that students will experience a desire to create, design, express, exhibit, and discover something new and original. Drawing a landscape or sculpting a horse, are as intrinsic to the artistic process as learning to critique a photograph. Students have myriad opportunities to explore coursework in sculpture, photography, collage, drawing, painting, printmaking, and mixed media. The hands-on approach to learning lies at the core of St. John's Arts requirement, which emphasizes the value of being actively engaged in a creative process.

History of Art - Sophomore. (not available in 23-24)

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

This course offers an introductory overview of the history of both Western and Non- Western art from the Renaissance to the present day, including the achievements of artistic giants, significant movements in art as well as how they relate and are directly linked to significant moments in world history. Art History will cover works in a wide array of media, such as painting, sculpture, architecture, drawing, photography, performance, and the moving image. Emphasizing significant stylistic movements from early prehistoric times, Europe, the Americas, and global contemporary art, this class lays the groundwork for understanding art history by introducing visual analysis and other interpretative tools of art historical research. Students will learn how the visual products of a culture relate to historical circumstances, societal values, and shifting personal and collective identities. Skills developed in this class will include visual analysis, writing about art, ways of seeing and how to critically evaluate a work of art based both on aesthetics, its value in a society and its place in the canon of art history.

Studio Art - Sophomore

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

This foundational course gives students a variety of art-making experiences in a traditional art studio setting. Students will be able to explore a wide range of methods and materials involved in drawing and painting, graphic design, and printmaking. The elements of art and principles of design are emphasized, as students learn to use

these concepts and tools as a means towards greater self-expression. This course fulfills 1/2 credit toward N.Y. State's requirement for graduation.

Drawing I - Junior & Senior

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: STUDIO ART & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Students taking Drawing I engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and art production that may lead to the creation of high-quality life drawings. In addition to students experimenting with a wide range of drawing mediums (which include graphite, charcoal, pastel, pastel, and ink) and techniques, they will reflect upon the outcomes of those experiences, explore historical connections, and find a direct correlation to other disciplines. The course builds on fundamental drawing techniques introduced in Studio Art.

Sculpture I - Junior & Senior

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: STUDIO ART OR DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This is an elective course that further explores and develops concepts introduced in the sculptured portions of the Studio Art course. Students experiment with a wide range of subtractive and additive processes (which include carving, modeling, construction, and assembling methods). Students also use organizational principles and functions to solve specific visual problems and develop skills in applying media, techniques, and processes with sufficiency to communicate intended meaning. Three-dimensional thinking and creation is emphasized as students work with a variety of materials to make art.

Painting I - Junior & Senior

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: STUDIO ART & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This course will be an introduction to the methods, materials, and history of painting. Students explore a variety of painting techniques through both watercolor and acrylic mediums. They focus on color theory and how to understand and manipulate color through paint. Students look at significant art historical movements and create works based on major themes such as impressionism, cubism, and aspects of modern and contemporary art. Students are expected to recreate masterworks from art history and strive to develop their own unique style through personal projects.

Collage & Mixed Media - Junior & Senior

1 Semester 1/2 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: STUDIO ART & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Collage allows for the reconsidering and recycling of objects, images, and ideas to create new and exciting forms of expression. Using simple techniques and easily acquired tools students will work to create projects such as self- portrait, landscape, or abstract pictures. We will also discuss the art history of collage from folk art to Picasso to modern artists like Joseph Cornell and Romare Bearden.

Portfolio Prep - Junior & Senior**1 Semester 1/2 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: STUDIO ART & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This elective course is for seniors or juniors who are prepared to work on a series of more demanding art assignments. Students will work on developing their creativity as well as their personal artistic style. The class will give students the opportunity to focus on techniques they enjoyed in their previous studio classes, such as printmaking, painting or collage, over an extended period of time.

PERFORMING ARTS

The St. John's Prep Visual and Performing Arts program provides students with opportunities to discover their talents, to acquire skills necessary for artistic expression, and to develop an understanding and appreciation of the arts. By studying the performing arts, students hone critical thinking skills and learn about self-expression, creativity, and collaboration. Students can also participate in the dance, music, and theatre programs as part of the school's afternoon activities. The hands-on approach to learning lies at the core of St. John's arts requirement, which emphasizes the value of being actively engaged in a creative process.

Introduction to Music - Freshman**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

Students will understand aspects of music history and ways in which music fits into the culture from Bach to Rock. They will become familiar with the distinctive musical characteristics that delineate the major historical periods of music and will identify the compositional techniques employed in many styles of music. Students will examine the interrelationships among current events, developing technologies, and music in society.

Visual & Performing Arts I & II**1 Semester 1/2 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This course is intended as a program that incorporates the basic content for music, theater, and the visual arts. Performing Arts and defines the five strands of an arts program: artistic perception, creative expression; historical and cultural context; aesthetic valuing; and connections, relationships, and applications. This provides students with hands-on experience in myriad fields including:

- Musical Theatre: The combination of acting and singing along with the basics of technical theatre and stagehand work. Fashion & Costume Design: Introduction to sewing, fashion illustration and costume making.
- Multimedia Art: Adobe Photoshop & Illustrator, animation, game design, and projection mapping.
- Film & Video: Video editing and Screenwriting
- Sound Engineering & Music Production: Recording and editing music.

SECTION 9: MATHEMATICS

We live in a time of extraordinary and accelerating change. New knowledge of mathematics continues to emerge and evolve. In this changing world, those who understand, and love mathematics will have significantly enhanced opportunities and options for shaping their futures. The St. John's Prep Math Department is committed to developing the analytical mind of each student as an integral part of educating the whole person by providing students with a conceptual foundation in Mathematics that will assure competency in any university-level course requiring knowledge of the subject. **All Math classes require a TI 84 Plus CE Graphing Calculator.*

Algebra 1 - Freshman

1 Year 1 Credit

This course provides students with the foundation to study mathematics through an integrated approach that follows the Common Core Standards for Algebra 1. It introduces topics in algebra, data analysis, and functions. Real-world applications are used throughout the course. At the conclusion of the year, students will take the Algebra 1 Common Core Regents exam. SAT preparation is started in freshman year.

Algebra 1 Honors - Freshman

1 Year 1 Credit

This course is the honors section of the freshman math program. Students will be given the foundation to study mathematics through an integrated approach that follows the Common Core Standards for Algebra 1. It introduces topics in algebra, data analysis, and probability. Real-world applications are used throughout the course. At the conclusion of the year, students will take the Algebra 1 Common Core Regents exam. SAT preparation is started in freshman year.

Introduction to Computer Science - Freshman

1 Semester ½ Credit

As part of the Amazon Future Engineer program, this introductory course offers students an opportunity to study computer science and programming using the Python programming language. Students strengthen their critical thinking and channel their ideas in creative ways as they learn how to problem- solve and think outside the box. It provides a strong foundation for further study of computer science in AP Computer Science Principles.

Geometry - Sophomore

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1**

This course follows the Common Core Standards for Geometry. The topics include Euclidean geometry, triangles, and proofs, coordinate geometry, transformations, measurement formulas, and three-dimensional figures. Topics from Algebra will be integrated into the course. At the conclusion of the year, students will take the Geometry Common Core Regents exam. SAT preparation is continued in sophomore year.

Geometry Honors - Sophomore**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA 1 AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Geometry Honors is an accelerated course that follows Common Core Standards for Geometry. The topics include Euclidean geometry, triangles, and proofs, coordinate geometry, transformations, measurement formulas and three-dimensional figures. Topics from Algebra will be integrated into the course. Students take the Geometry Common Core Regents exam in June. SAT/ACT preparation is continued in sophomore year.

Algebra II (3302) - Junior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: GEOMETRY**

This course follows the Common Core Standards for Algebra II. It includes functions, variation and graphs, logarithms, trigonometry, quadratic relations, and probability statistics. At the conclusion of the year, students will take the Core Regents exam. SAT/ACT preparation is continued in junior year.

Algebra II Honors - Junior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: GEOMETRY AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This is the honors section of the junior math program. This course follows the Common Core Standards for Algebra II. It includes functions, variation and graphs, logarithms, trigonometry, quadratic relations, and probability statistics. At the conclusion of the year, students will take the Algebra II Common Core Regents exam. SAT/ACT preparation is continued in junior year.

Pre-Calculus - Senior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA II AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This course provides the preparation for basic math courses given in college and technical schools. Topics in algebra include factoring, real numbers, complex numbers, theory of equations, linear relations and functions, quadratics, exponential and logarithmic functions, and matrices. Topics in trigonometry include trigonometric functions, graphing and applications of the Law of Sines and Cosines.

Pre-Calculus Honors - Senior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA II AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This course is intended for students with a strong math background to prepare students to study higher-level mathematics in college. Topics covered include functions, linear programming, the theory of equations, matrices, trigonometry, and its applications, sequences, and series, as well as an introduction to calculus. **This course is**

also offered for college credit through the College Advantage program at St. John's University. Students may earn up to 6 college credits. A separate fee charged by the university is required for the college credit.

AP Calculus - Senior

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA II AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Calculus AB is a rigorous college introductory course designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam as well as future university courses in mathematics. Students interested in pursuing programs in mathematical sciences, physics, chemistry, economics, computer science, or engineering are especially encouraged to take this course. The course covers topics including analytic geometry, limits, continuity, differentiation, and integrations of functions, definite integrals, and applications in business and science. **This course is offered both as an AP Class and a St. John's University College Advantage course. Students enrolled in the SJU College Advantage Program will be required to pay a university course fee. Students are expected to take the AP Calculus examination in May.**

AP Computer Science A - Junior & Senior

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

AP Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. College Course Equivalent AP Computer Science A is equivalent to a first-semester, college-level course in computer science. **Students will be required to take the AP Computer Science A exam in May.**

AP Statistics - Junior & Senior

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: ALGEBRA II AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

AP Statistics is the equivalent to a one-semester introductory course at the college level. The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: Exploring Data, Describing Sampling and Experimentation, Anticipating Patterns, and Statistical Inference. All students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

SECTION 10: PHYSICAL EDUCATION, HEALTH, & WELLNESS

The St. John's Prep Physical Education and Health & Wellness Department seeks to nurture the physical, intellectual, and social-emotional development of every student. We believe that Physical Education and Health play an integral role in the broader educational program and development of all students. To facilitate Health and Wellness throughout a lifetime, our Physical Education, Health & Wellness Department is committed to delivering students a comprehensive curriculum throughout their four- year program. Our goal is to provide each student with the necessary knowledge, values, and skills to maintain personal health and fitness for life.

The St. John's Prep Physical Education Program promotes the enjoyment of physical activity while helping students improve their fitness level, develop their athleticism, practice leadership and sportsmanship. The curriculum strives to build a sense of pride, self-discipline and encourages each student to become healthy, active, and responsible members of society.

The St. John's Prep Health & Wellness Education Program teaches students healthy lifestyle habits. Students learn nutrition, stress management, communication skills, coping skills and how the choices they make affect their lives. Students are introduced to the principles of holistic health through nutrition, mindfulness, and emotional wellness. There is a focus on informed decision- making, to provide students with information and activities that will have a positive impact on students' attitudes, behaviors, and choices in life.

Boys' P.E. 9-10 Freshman & Sophomore

1 Year 1/4 Credit

An introduction to calisthenics and body movement exploration. Team sports are introduced, and basic skills are taught, followed by skill testing, team strategy, and rules. Written tests are given, and physical fitness tests are administered twice a year. National norms are used for testing and grading. Individual, dual and team sports are stressed for students who can use these activities in later life.

Boys' P.E. 11-12 - Junior & Senior

1 Year 1/4 Credit

Emphasis is placed on advanced skills and performance in team sports. Track and field activities are presented on a group or individual basis to develop the cardiovascular system. Approved physical fitness tests are used to motivate and evaluate students. At this level, Physical Education emphasizes skill for life-time sports. Experiences with a wide variety of activities are stressed, and students are encouraged to develop an understanding of body limitations and capabilities. Opportunities for self-testing activities are provided so students can see personal progress. Students participate in various activities that involve the development of the muscles of the arms and legs.

Girls' P.E. 9-10- Freshman & Sophomore**1 Year 1/4 Credit**

This course includes participation in physical fitness through body mechanics and conditioning. Lead-up games, as well as the fundamentals of track and field, volleyball, flag football, soccer, and lacrosse are introduced. Students are also introduced to the basic skills and knowledge needed in yoga and square dancing. All students are required to take a physical fitness test which assesses their fitness level and is used to provide an individualized exercise program.

Girls' P.E. 11-12 - Junior & Senior**1 Year 1/4 Credit**

This course involves participation in team and individual sports with an emphasis on lifetime activities. Team sports include floor hockey, softball, lacrosse, team handball, and ultimate Frisbee. The individual sports include gymnastics, self-defense, aerobics, fitness, and weight training. Students are given the opportunity to express themselves through physical activity by preparing their own gymnastic routines and aerobic dances.

Health, Nutrition and Wellness - Sophomore Required**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

Students in the Health, Nutrition and Wellness course will examine current nutritional trends, food labels, and the many steps to get our food from the farm to the table. Students will better understand the concept, "we are what we eat", by being introduced to the basic macro and micronutrients (fats, proteins, carbohydrates, vitamins, minerals). This knowledge will then be applied to a variety of topics, including food allergies/sensitivities, fuel for learning, and the effects of malnutrition. Students will research and discuss the most common diets and their advantages and disadvantages. This course will also offer a basic introduction to sports nutrition, stress management, coping skills, yoga practices, and general fitness procedures.

SECTION 11: SCIENCE

The educational objective of the Science Department is to educate our student population in a broad spectrum of scientific content and ensure they are aware of and prepared for the demands of the emerging fields of science and technology in the 21st century. It is our goal to teach students to think scientifically by offering a variety of classes that support current and future student interests. We hope students will be able to use this knowledge as a springboard for college and career.

Biology - Freshman

1 Year 1 Credit

This introductory course will provide a broad understanding of the fundamental principles of biology and build a foundation for understanding how organisms evolve in a changing environment. Topics covered include cell structure and function, cellular reproduction, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, DNA and biotechnology, ecology, genetics, taxonomy, plant and animal diversity, and evolution by natural selection. Students will learn about the relationship of living things to one another and to the environment. Concepts are developed through appropriate exercises and lab experiences, which emphasize the disciplined approach of the scientist. All students take the NYS Living Environment Regents exam at the conclusion of course.

Biology Honors – Freshman

1 Year 1 Credit

The course is a comprehensive and in-depth study of biology designed for high achieving students who may be considering a career in science. Topics covered include cell structure and function, cellular reproduction, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, DNA and biotechnology, ecology, genetics, taxonomy, plant and animal diversity, and evolution by natural selection. The honors curriculum covers concepts in greater depth and detail to strengthen reading and comprehension across the curriculum and to better prepare students for future AP courses and the SAT II Biology exam. Areas of concentration include research skills, scientific inquiry, biochemical aspects of modern biology, cells, genetics, evolution, ecology, human anatomy, and physiology. This class will prepare students for the NYS Living Environment Regents exam which will be taken in June at the conclusion of the school year.

Earth Science - Sophomore

1 Year 1 Credit

This course involves the study of all phases of the earth's environment, including astronomy, meteorology, oceanography, and physical and historical geology. Laboratory exercises expand upon and illustrate the principles covered in the lecture. Students are evaluated on written lab work, homework, and unit tests. All students take the NYS Physical Setting/Earth Science Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

Chemistry

1 Year 1 Credit

Chemistry is an in-depth study of the behavior and changes of matter, atoms and molecules, and the relationships between science, technology, and the decisions of today's leaders and citizens. The goals of the class include preparing students for college chemistry, arousing interest in the world of matter, providing laboratory experience, and increasing scientific literacy. Topics include matter and energy, atomic structure, bonding, the periodic table, the mathematics of chemistry, acid-base theories, electrochemistry, organic chemistry, and the application of principles of reactions. All students take the NYS Chemistry Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

Chemistry Honors

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Honors Chemistry provides a rigorous analytical and mathematical approach to the study of chemistry. The course is for students who have a significant interest in science and intend as a preparation for Advanced Placement (AP) or college chemistry. The course topics include the development of the major concepts of matter and the changes which matter undergoes, atomic structure, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, thermodynamics, the behavior of solutions, and acid and bases and are enhanced by laboratory experimentation, critical thinking, and problem-solving activities. The laboratory component of the course involves students using techniques that are specific to the principles of chemistry. All students take the NYS Chemistry Regents exam at the conclusion of the course.

Physics

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This course is recommended for students who have completed Biology and Chemistry and who would benefit from an introductory course in Physics. More emphasis is placed on a qualitative understanding of physics principles than a quantitative one. There are hands-on labs, class projects, and many demonstrations to provide a more well-rounded physics experience.

Physics Honors

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Physics Honors is the equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics and is important for those intending to major in the STEM fields. Topics covered include motion, forces, Newton's Laws, momentum, energy, waves, gravity, heat, optics, sound, nuclear physics along with an introduction to electricity and electrical circuits. Classroom activities revolve around experiments, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

AP Biology - Senior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

AP Biology is equivalent to a two-semester college biology course. It is a rigorous, fast-paced course for students with a strong work ethic and the ability to work independently, analyze information and interpret readings. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes—energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. The key concepts that define the AP Biology course and exam are organized around a few underlying principles, which encompass the core scientific principles, theories, and processes governing living organisms and biological systems.

- Evolution - The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.
- Cellular Processes: Energy and Communication - Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.
- Genetics and Information Transfer - Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life processes.
- Interactions - Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties All students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Biology Exam in May.

Astronomy – Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Why do stars twinkle? Is it possible to fall into a black hole? Will the sun ever stop shining? Since the first glimpse of the night sky, humans have been fascinated with the stars, planets, and universe. Astronomy is a one-semester introductory class designed for students with a natural curiosity for the wonders of the universe. This course explores a broad range of topics including “The Big Bang” origins of the universe followed by contemporary theories about the composition, formation, and evolution of moons, planets, stars, galaxies, and the universe.

AP Psychology - Junior & Senior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

The AP Psychology course is designed to be the equivalent of the Introduction to Psychology course taken in a student's first year of college. The course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims, and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. All students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Psychology Exam in May.

Environmental Science – Junior & Senior**1 year 1 Credit**

This course is designed as an introduction to Environmental Science. This course provides issues approaching a broad range of topics including ecology, public health, wild species preservation, atmospheric pollution, and climate change, ozone depletion, global warming, and energy conservation. Students discuss the economics and public policies that affect these issues. Students will conduct laboratory experiments dealing with air and water quality and other activities that measure pollutants in the environment.

Criminology (Forensics) Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Criminology, (Forensics) introduces an understanding of the science behind crime detection. This challenging course will expose students to many new technological advances in forensic medicine and crime-solving techniques like DNA testing, fingerprinting, blood spatter and identification, toxicology, hair and fiber analysis, ballistics, and forensic pathology. This hands-on course will focus on scientific inquiry, logical thinking skills, and problem-solving procedures to understand how science can be crucial in solving crimes and how evidence is gathered and used in a court of law. This one-semester course will combine many types of teaching strategies including scientific inquiry, hands-on laboratories, field trips, guest speakers, and "murder mystery" scenarios that encourage students to utilize their knowledge learned in class to "solve a crime."

Human Anatomy and Physiology - Junior & Senior**1 Year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Anatomy/Physiology is a comprehensive study of the structure and function of the human body. This course is designed to prepare students interested in all health-related professions. The body will be viewed as a whole and includes the study of cells, tissues, integumentary, skeletal, muscular, endocrine, and the nervous systems. Instruction will be at both micro and macro levels reviewing cellular functions, biochemical processes, tissue interactions, organ systems and the interaction of those systems as it relates to the human organism. The course will include laboratory activities where students will explore anatomical structures using a cutting-edge virtual dissection Anatomage table, providing students an advanced anatomical model of the human body.

SECTION 12: SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies is at the heart of civil society. Our primary goal as a department is to empower students to enter our increasingly diverse world as active, thoughtful, and passionate citizens. We believe that an understanding of the past is the most important means by which our students will comprehend the complex world they will someday lead. Classes in the St. John's Prep Social Studies Department will engage students in the study of both the history of the world and the United States, as well as a wide array of social sciences. Students will develop their historical thinking skills and engage in an in-depth understanding of history from diverse perspectives through the reading and interpreting of primary sources such as letters, speeches, laws, court cases, and artwork. In their studies, students will be encouraged to connect the past historical events with the contemporary world. Most importantly, students will develop an awareness of enduring and evolving societal issues and envision solutions to understand what it means to be a global citizen.

Global History & Geography 9 - Freshman

1 Year 1 Credit

Global History and Geography 9 is the first part of a two-year course in Global Studies. In Global Studies 9, students will explore and examine history periods from the Ancient Civilizations to the Enlightenment. Throughout the year, students will focus on several important enduring issues including the impact of geography, belief systems, power, conflict, trade, technology, and migration. Students will develop an understanding of world history from diverse perspectives through reading and interpreting primary sources including documents, eyewitness accounts, speeches, records, artwork, and artifacts. Through engaging activities, students will hone the essential social studies practices such as gathering, interpreting, and using evidence; chronological reasoning and causation; comparison and contextualization; geographic reasoning; economics and economics systems; and civic participation. Students will develop writing with a focus on organizing effective essays that have a clear thesis, use supporting evidence, and analysis. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to make connections between history and their own lives and cultivate an understanding of the notion of what it means to be a global citizen.

Global History & Geography 9 Honors - Freshman

1 Year 1 Credit

Pre-AP World History 9 is a challenging, college-level course that prepares 9th-grade students for the rigors of AP World History, which they take during sophomore year. The class primarily focuses on a variety of African, Asian, European, and American civilizations, empires, and cultures from the "Dawn of Civilization" (8,000 B.C.E.) through the beginning of the early modern era (1450 C.E.). Using an array of primary and secondary sources, students "make history come alive" by examining, interpreting, and analyzing different historical figures, events, cultures, movements, and ideas. Through these historical connections, students learn and understand a clearer picture of the past on both macro and micro levels

Global History & Geography 10 - Sophomore

1 Year 1 Credit

Global History and Geography 10 is the second part of a two-year course in Global Studies whereupon completion of their sophomore year all students will take the Global History and Geography II Regents Examination. In Global Studies 10, students will explore and examine the following ages in World History: The World in 1750 C.E., the Enlightenment and Age of Revolutions, Industrialization, Imperialism, and a New Global Age, The World Wars and Political Revolutions of the Twentieth Century, Decolonization and Independence Movements, the Contemporary World: Modernization and Globalization. Throughout the year, students will focus on several important enduring issues including the impact of geography, belief systems, imperialism, nationalism, power, conflict, technology, human rights, and globalization. Students will develop an understanding of world history from diverse perspectives through reading and interpreting primary sources including documents, eyewitness accounts, speeches, records, artwork, and artifacts. Through engaging activities, students will hone the essential social studies practices such as gathering, interpreting, and using evidence; chronological reasoning and causation; comparison and contextualization; geographic reasoning; economics and economics systems; and civic participation. Students will develop writing with a focus on organizing effective essays that have a clear thesis, use supporting evidence, and analysis. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to make connections between history and their own lives and cultivate an understanding of the notion of what it means to be a global citizen.

AP World History Honors - Sophomore

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

AP World History 10 is the second part of the two-year, college-level academic exploration of global history. Picking up in 1450 C.E., students continue to examine, analyze, and interpret different empires, civilizations, and nation-states up through the early 21st century. By continuing to use a variety of both primary and secondary sources, students not only make strong connections back to material from the Pre-AP World History 9 curriculum, but also think about, debate, and discuss how past figures, events, and ideas have shaped more modern history as well as the present day. Students must take the AP World History exam in May of their sophomore year, which potentially allows them to earn up to 3 college credits. The New York State Board of Regents also requires that all high school sophomores take and pass the Global History and Geography Regents Exam, which is administered in June.

U.S. History & Government - Junior

1 Year 1 Credit

US History and Government 11 is a one-year course that focuses on the study of the history of the United States whereupon completion of their junior year all students will take the US History and Government Regents Examination. In US History and Government 11, students will explore and examine the following periods in United States History: The Colonial Foundations, the Constitutional Foundations, Expansion, Nationalism, and Sectionalism, the Post-Civil War Era, Industrialization and Urbanization, the Rise of American Power, Prosperity and Depressions, World War II, the Cold War, Social and Economic Change, and the United States in a Globalizing World. Throughout the year, students will focus on important civic and Constitutional issues such as the limitation and expansion of rights of various groups throughout the course of American History and the

efforts of individuals and the government to resolve problems in American society. Students will develop an understanding of United States history from diverse perspectives through reading and interpreting primary sources including documents, eyewitness accounts, speeches, records, artwork, and artifacts. Through engaging activities, students will hone the essential social studies practices such as gathering, interpreting, and using evidence; chronological reasoning and causation; comparison and contextualization; geographic reasoning; economics and economics systems; and civic participation. Students will develop writing with a focus on organizing effective essays that have a clear thesis, use supporting evidence, and analysis. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to think about the responsibilities and of citizenship and how they can meaningfully participate in democratic institutions.

AP U.S. History & Government - Junior

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Advanced Placement United States History is designed as a college-level survey of American History. The course will begin with the study of Pre-Columbian societies in the Americas and will continue to the present day. Students will be introduced to historical inquiry and develop an understanding of the discipline of history where students will be asked to use historical content knowledge to analyze and develop arguments, to place historical events within their historical context, to analyze and evaluate competing interpretations, and to understand the complex nature of causation. Students will develop an in-depth understanding of United States History from diverse perspectives through reading and interpreting primary sources including documents, eyewitness accounts, speeches, records, court cases, artwork, and artifacts and secondary sources including the interpretations of historians. Students will develop will learn to write argumentative essays that have a strong thesis, use supporting relevant evidence, and demonstrate the analysis. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to draw connections between the past and contemporary American society, to think about the responsibilities and of citizenship, and how they can meaningfully participate in democratic institutions. One of the central goals of this course will be to prepare to take the Advanced Placement Exam in United States History in May. At the conclusion of the course, students will also be required to take the United States History and Government Regents Exam.

Government - Senior (Required)

1 Semester ½ Credit

Within the Government course, students focus on current events and issues to understand the significant functions of government on a federal, state, and local level. Students will develop an understanding of five major themes: Foundations of American Democracy, Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Rights, Responsibilities, and Duties of Citizenship, and Public Policy through an examination of current events/issues and historical examples. Students will explore various primary and secondary sources and hone the skills to critically evaluate the sources that they encounter. Students will develop essential skills for college, such as developing their academic research and writing and learning to participate meaningfully in classroom discussions. Students will have opportunities to present their findings in various formats such as in a letter or class presentation. Throughout the course, students will develop an awareness of significant issues facing their city, state, country, and the world and contemplate solutions to these problems. Finally, students will explore the different ways to engage in the political process and meaningfully participate in our democracy as active citizens.

Economics - Senior (Required)

1 Semester ½ Credit

In this currently complex world of globalization, automation, outsourcing, intense competition, and a changing environment the study of economics is more important than ever. Our students are entering a highly competitive and rapidly changing university and the job market. A practical study of the functions and features of the American, and Global economic system will prepare the students to become astute consumers, educated businesspeople and informed, concerned citizens and voters. Our political questions are nearly always economic. Economic questions underpin our election cycles. Therefore, current events and trends, world economic patterns and issues will be examined along with a study of economic systems, theories of supply and demand, employment trends and a rapidly changing consumer approach to goods and services. Students will pursue such topics as the cost of college education and student loans, the toll of automation on the worker, the effect of climate change on the economy, the shift to an internet-based economy, and the ultimate value and worth of work itself as it applies to human dignity.

ELECTIVES

AP European History - Senior

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Advanced Placement European History is designed to give the St. John's Prep student a college-level, in-depth study of European history from the Middle Ages to the present. (1350-2020). Students will examine and trace the important themes in political, economic, diplomatic, intellectual, social, and cultural history throughout the European nations. Primary sources are heavily emphasized, as are extensive outside readings and museum explorations. Writing in a collegiate style is taught extensively. Oral presentations, historical texts, the development of historical research skills using primary sources, group work, art, literature, and philosophy are all key components in the curriculum. Analytical thinking, philosophical questioning, and a love of history are at the heart of the course. Each student will be prepared to take the A.P. Examination in May.

AP Psychology - Junior & Senior

1 Year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

The AP Psychology course is designed to be the equivalent of the Introduction to Psychology course taken in a student's first year of college. The course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims, and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. All students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Psychology Exam in May.

Child Psychology - Junior & Senior**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

In this course, students study the physical, emotional, intellectual, and social development of the child from prenatal life to adolescence. The course will cover basic concepts and theories of child development, in the areas of perception, cognition, social interactions, affective, and moral development.

Civil Law - Junior & Senior**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

This elective course is designed to allow the student to gain an understanding of a citizen's legal rights and responsibilities which is covered in the first year of law school. It will provide practical knowledge of civil laws such as contracts, torts (civil wrongs), property and family law. Students also learn and practice the basic skills of public speaking, debate, and crafting arguments. All students will participate in mock trial competitions as attorneys or witnesses.

Criminal Justice - Junior & Senior Junior & Senior**1 Semester 1/2 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Criminal Law and Procedures will examine the study of crimes, moral principles of criminal responsibility and liability. Students will obtain familiarity with the criminal classifications and elements of crimes against persons, property, order, and State. Arrest, investigation, and pre-trial procedures will be studied from multiple angles: police, forensic scientists, and the constitutional rights of the accused. This course provides students with the opportunity to develop their ability to use expert testimony and evidence during a trial. It also allows students to further develop and practice their skills of public speaking, debate, and crafting arguments. **(This course is designed for those students who have successfully completed Introduction to Law. Please note this course is offered as a St. John's University College Advantage course.)**

The New York Story - Junior & Senior**1 Semester 1/2 Credit**

New York City is one of the most competitive and complex cities in the world. It functions as one of the capitals of world finance and one of the most creative cities in human history. The New York Story Class attempts to grapple with the ever elusive and fascinating story of this city. The literature, history, art, music, architecture, politics, and people of this city are closely examined in the course. The course is designed to give both native New Yorkers and those newer to the city a thorough grounding in the life, history, culture, and business of New York City. Readings, podcasts, blogs, museum websites, films, guest speakers, walking tours and museum visits form the core of the class. Students will engage in various independent projects regarding the history, economics, infrastructure, and culture of New York City.

Personal Finance & Investment - Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Real-world topics covered will include income, money management, spending, and credit, as well as saving and investing. Students will design personal and household budgets utilizing checking and saving accounts, gain knowledge in finance, debt, and credit management, and evaluate and understand insurance and taxes. This course gives students an overview of how to manage their individual financial circumstances. Topics covered will include basic financial recordkeeping, personal, auto, mortgage, and home equity loans, investing fundamentals, property and casualty insurance, life insurance, health insurance, and tax planning. Students learn core skills in creating budgets, developing long-term financial plans to meet their goals, and making responsible choices about income and expenses. They gain a deeper understanding of capitalism and other systems so they can better understand their role in the economy of society. Students are inspired by the experiences of finance professionals and stories of everyday people and the choices they make to manage their money.

Psychology - Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

This one-semester course introduces the science of psychology. Students will investigate theories, topics, and applications in the field of psychology across biological, cognitive, social, developmental, and clinical areas. Students learn to identify ways in which the science of psychology affects everyday lives and gain knowledge in multiple areas of psychology that help students better understand themselves and the people around them. The course will highlight connections among different areas of psychology and identify ways in which different perspectives contribute to a fuller understanding of human behavior.

Sociology - Junior & Senior**1 Semester ½ Credit**

Sociology is the study of group behavior and society. The realization that our social world - be it a family, a school, a city, a nation, an entire world - guides our actions and life choices is an essential lesson of the discipline. How is society structured? Is inequality an inherent part of human life? How and why do societies change? This course introduces the central concepts and principles of major sociological perspectives. It provides an overview of the study of social institutions, social stratification, and social change. Students will engage in critical thinking about social and cultural issues and gain exposure to different types of sociological research. This class will help the student see the world more clearly and with greater empathy for others.

SECTION 13: THEOLOGY

St. John's Prep is rooted in a rich tradition of faith, community, and service. The Theology Department encourages students to pursue an understanding of their faith and to respect the religious beliefs of others. Through the curriculum, the department seeks to inform students about the nature of religion and religious traditions in a diverse and changing society. In the spirit of ecumenism fostered by the Catholic Church at Vatican II, and a hallmark of our age, the curriculum remains faithful to the Roman Catholic and Vincentian heritage of St. John's Prep and fosters dialogue and understanding among all students. The chaplain and the associate spiritual directors are available to help students to develop their faith. Service, retreat, prayer groups, school liturgies, and afterschool programs are available to help students to foster their spiritual growth and their personal spiritual journey.

Theology 9 - Freshman

1 Year 1/2 Credit

An exploration of the biblical and historical background of the Christian faith. The fall semester is an intensive study of the Old Testament. It emphasizes a close examination of salvation history and includes themes such as God's covenant with the people, goodness and creativity, and undying love and faithfulness. The spring semester is an in-depth study of the New Testament with emphasis on the life and meaning of the person of Jesus. Students focus on their encounter with Jesus as the living Son of God.

Theology 10 - Sophomore

1 Year 1/2 Credit

The theme of this course is relationships. Students are invited to examine their relationships to self, God, and others. Using insights provided by faith, Christian tradition, and modern psychology, students probe the questions "Who am I as a developing human person?" and "Who am I as a Christian?" Students examine these questions considering their dignity and value as persons loved by God. Students are introduced to the skills that enable them to develop and maintain relationships with others. They examine the significance of Christian values in these relationships and explore the formation and nature of relationships between family members, friends, and members of the opposite sex. Students study the ways in which the liturgical celebrations of the Church influence their relationship to God and the Christian community. They examine the history and traditions of Church worship and the sacramental rituals that are part of the Christian identity. It is the purpose of this part of the course to help students to integrate all aspects of their relationships within the context of the Christian community and the world in which they live.

Theology 11 - Junior**1 Year 1/2 Credit**

The first semester of this course begins with the study of Christian morality. Through an examination of moral principles and an emphasis on the development of an informed Christian conscience, students are encouraged to develop attitudes about life, themselves and others that are based on the Christian vision of the human person and the meaning of life. Students examine both traditional dogmatic teachings and current theological scholarship. In the second-semester students examine the social responsibilities of committed Christians in the world today. Issues relevant to society as a whole and articulated in the pastoral documents of the Church are studied. Such issues include war and peace, poverty, nuclear arms, human rights, and dignity of all. The prevalent problems of hunger, the homeless, disease, racial discrimination, sexual abuse, and drug abuse are addressed in light of Catholic teaching.

Theology 12 - Senior**1 Year 1/2 Credit**

The purpose of this course is to support students in meeting the challenges encountered by Christians living in a pluralistic society. They will examine the meaning of a Christ-centered morality. Students will learn to appreciate the role of Christians today; as persons who act to transform not only themselves but also the world. One aspect of this transformation involves developing mature relationships, especially in marriage. Therefore, a major strand of this course emphasizes the preservation of marriage as a sacred bond, parenting as a sacred responsibility and family life as a community truly expressive of God's love on earth. Students will also be presented with choices of other vocations including the religious life and the single state. It is the purpose of Religion 12 to give students insight into lifestyles that enable them to live as responsible, committed adults and models of mature Christians.

SECTION 14: WORLD LANGUAGE

The study of World Language is an integral part of the St. John's Prep curriculum. By learning to speak a second language, St. John's students open windows to other peoples and to other cultures. Our curriculum offers students the skills needed to speak, read, write, and understand other languages, and enables students to be well-prepared for college courses or for opportunities to study abroad. Students learn skills needed to take tests such as the Advanced Placement examinations or SAT II, Subject Tests. Our language teachers are passionate and dedicated and use innovative teaching methodologies in the language acquisition process. Students may choose to study French, Italian, Spanish, or Mandarin.

French I

1 year 1 Credit

This class lays the foundation for language study. Classes are conducted largely in French to develop strong oral, listening reading and writing skills. Students are expected to try to use French as much as possible in class. An intensive vocabulary study is based on the most common words of the language. As for grammar, students are introduced to past, present, and future tenses.

French II

1 year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: FRENCH I & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

In the second year of French, there is an increased focus on grammar, verb form and usage, and vocabulary. Vocabulary expansion is a priority. Cultural conversations, small skits, and oral drills are designed to encourage students to speak French as much as possible. Vocabulary is introduced in the text, in class, through short stories, simple poems, and through digital learning. This course continues to strengthen the four skills of the language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

French III

1 year 1 Credit

***PREREQUISITE: FRENCH II & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

The third year of French continues to foster students' development in reading, writing, listening, and speaking the language. At the onset of the year, students review important grammatical concepts from years 1-2. Oral skills are stressed, including pronunciation, conversation, and dramatic presentations. Students reinforce their growing command of grammar through daily partner and group speaking activities, frequent personal and collaborative writing exercises, and regular engagement with authentic print, audio, and video sources.

French IV-V**1 year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: 85% IN FRENCH III & DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

This reading, conversation, and composition course aims to maintain and increase proficiency in the four language skills. Readings of short stories, plays, French news as well as French films allow for discussions and conversational practice on various topics of French civilization, literature, and culture. Teachers will make use of situational vocabulary, oral presentations, essay writing, reading comprehension practice, and a thorough review of complex grammatical structure when needed, with an emphasis on making vocabulary and grammar practical both orally and in writing.

Italian I**1 year 1 Credit**

This beginning course in Italian introduces the student to reading, writing, speaking, and understanding the target language. Basic functional vocabulary and fundamental grammatical structures are stressed. Students are also introduced to Italian culture.

Italian II**1 year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: ITALIAN I AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION**

Italian II reviews the concepts covered in Italian I and develops further speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills in the foreign language. More advanced grammatical structures are studied, and a student's vocabulary is enhanced. Cultural units continue to play a major role in this course. The course is conducted in Italian as much as is feasible.

Italian III**1 year 1 Credit*****PREREQUISITE: ITALIAN II AND TEACHER RECOMMENDATION**

The third year of Italian study is designed to improve the student's knowledge in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Oral and written communication skills are stressed. The third-year language course is conducted primarily in Italian. Grammar review plays an important role in the course. This course teaches the language skills necessary to function in an environment where the target language is spoken.

Latin I**1 Semester ½ Credit**

First-year Latin introduces the fundamentals of the language, with emphasis on the acquisition of the grammar and vocabulary necessary for reading original passages of Latin prose and poetry. The reading instills an appreciation of Latin literature and Roman culture and a recognition of their influence upon the literature and cultural patterns of Western civilization.

Mandarin I (Not available in 2023-24)**1 year 1 Credit**

This beginning course will lay the foundation for future Chinese language study. Speaking, listening, reading, and writing/typing will all be components of the course. There will be an emphasis on pronunciation, especially the mastery of tones, on the Hanyu Pinyin— Romanization system for Mandarin. Students will learn to use practical vocabulary in class, related to greetings, family, dates and time, hobbies, and school life. Throughout the year, cultural elements and activities will be introduced.

Spanish I**1 year 1 Credit**

This course lays the foundation for language study. Students learn the three tenses and practical vocabulary words related to families, houses, school, food, and transportation. Writing, speaking, listening, and reading are all key components of this course. Classes are largely conducted in Spanish, and students have numerous opportunities to speak.

Spanish II**1 year 1 Credit**

***PREREQUISITE: SPANISH I AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

In second year, Spanish, students expand their grammatical foundation with extensive practice and drill work in the four skills of the language: listening, speaking, reading and writing. Vocabulary expansion is a priority. Students give oral presentations, participate in skits, listen to dialogues and songs, and speak and write extensively.

Spanish III**1 year 1 Credit**

***PREREQUISITE: SPANISH II AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

Spanish III aims to improve written and oral expression, along with listening and reading comprehension. The course, which includes an intensive review of verbs, grammar, and vocabulary, also requires compositions and short oral presentations. Students will also be expected to be able to answer questions in Spanish, conduct short conversations and write essays.

AP Spanish**1 year 1 Credit**

***PREREQUISITE: 85% IN SPANISH III AND DEPARTMENTAL APPROVAL**

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course emphasizes communication by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication

strategies, and cultural awareness. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions). Students are required to take the AP Spanish Exam in May.



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