



*St. Mary's High School*

# Course Catalog

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*2025-2026 Academic Year*

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**Keith Junik**

*Dean of Curriculum & Academic Affairs*

(716) 683-4824, ext. 305

[kjunik@smhlancers.org](mailto:kjunik@smhlancers.org)

**Matthew Ard**

*Associate Dean of Curriculum*

(716) 683-4824, ext. 113

[mard@smhlancers.org](mailto:mard@smhlancers.org)

**Albert Derrico**

*Associate Dean of Curriculum*

(716) 683-4824, ext. 211

[aderrico@smhlancers.org](mailto:aderrico@smhlancers.org)

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# St. Mary's High School Graduation Requirements

(Updated September 2025)

## **St. Mary's Diploma**

<b>English</b> .....	4 Credits (8 semesters) *
<b>Math</b> .....	4 Credits (8 semesters) *
<b>Science</b> .....	4 Credits (8 semesters) *
<b>History</b> .....	4 Credits (8 semesters) *
<b>Theology</b> .....	4 Credits (8 semesters) *
<b>Language</b> .....	2 Credits (4 semesters)
LAN 101/102 and LAN 201/202 <b><u>OR</u></b> 203/204	
<b>Fine Arts (Art/Music)</b> .....	1 Credit (2 semesters)
<b>Physical Education</b> .....	2 Credits (8 semesters)
<b>Life Core Courses</b> .....	2 ½ Credits (5 semesters)
Computer Foundations	
Health	
Public Speaking	
Leadership	
Personal Finance	
<b>Additional Classes</b> .....	2 Credits (4 semesters)
<b>Academies</b> .....	2 Credits (8 Academies)
<b>Service Hours</b> .....	100
10 as 9 <sup>th</sup> Grader; 20 as 10 <sup>th</sup> Grader; 30 as 11 <sup>th</sup> Grader; 40 as 12 <sup>th</sup> Grader	

*\*Credits must be earned at St. Mary's High School.*

## **Marian Diploma**

***All of the credits listed above PLUS***

- **4 Credits must be Honors Courses**
  - Earning average of 85% or higher in each class
- **4 Credits must be AP Courses**
  - Earning an Exam Score of 2 or higher
- **3 Credits in Foreign Language OR  
4 Credits in Fine Arts**
- **200 Hours of Community Service**
  - That is, 100 additional hours from St. Mary's Diploma Requirements

# Pathways to Graduation

## St. Mary's Diploma

	English	Mathematics	Science	History	Language	Religion	Life Core	Phys Ed	Fine Arts	Academics	Others	Study Hall
9th	101 - Intro to Lit	101 - Alg 1 I	101 - Found	101 - US Hist I	101 - Beg Sp	101 - Int to CC	101 - Comp Fnd	101/102 OR	At least	101 - First Yr	At least	Opp
Grade	102 - Lit Survey	102 - Alg 1 II	102 - Ear Sys	102 - US Hist II	102 - P-I Span	102 - Under CC		103/104	2 Classes	Acad 2	4 Classes	PE/Lab
10th	201 - Am Lit I	201 - Geom	201 - Bio I	201 - World His I	201H - Int Sp H I 203 - Sp Cult A	201 - Heb Test	201 - Health	101/102 OR	over	Acad 1	over	Opp
Grade	202 - Am Lit II	202 - Alg 2	202 - Bio II	202 - World His II	202H - Int Sp H II 204 - Sp Cult B	202 - New Test		103/104	4 Years	Acad 2	4 Years	PE/Lab
			203 - STEM									
11th	500 Level	500 Level	301-Chem I/500 Course	301, 302, or 303		301 - Moral	301, 302, 303	101/102 OR		Acad 1		1 Extra
Grade	Courses	Courses	OR 301H/302H - Chem Hon	completed		302 - Cat SP	All three	103/104		Acad 2		SH
12th	500 Level	500 Level	500 Level	in 11th or 12th grade		500 Level	in 11th & 12th	101/102 OR		Acad 1		in 11th/12th
Grade	Courses	Courses	Courses	500 Level Courses		Courses	Grades	103/104		102 - Coll Prep		Grades

## Marian Diploma

	English	Mathematics	Science	History	Language	Religion	Life Core	Phys Ed	Fine Arts	Academics	Others	Study Hall
9th	101H - Euro Lit	101 - Alg 1 I	101 - Found	101H - US Hist Hon I	101 - Beg Sp	101 - Int to CC	101 - Comp Fnd	101/102 OR	At least	101 - First Yr	At least	Only Opp
Grade	102H - World Lit	102 - Alg 1 II	102 - Ear Sys	102H - US Hist Hon II	102 - Pre-I Span	102 - Under CC		103/104	2 Classes	Acad 2	4 Classes	PE/Lab
10th	201H - Am Lit I	201H - Geom Hon	201 - Bio I	401 - AP World I	201H - Int Sp H I 203 - Sp Cult A	201 - Heb Test	201 - Health	101/102 OR	over	Acad 1	over	Only Opp
Grade	202H - Am Lit II	202H - Alg 2 Hon	202 - Bio II	402 - AP World II	202H - Int Sp H II 204 - Sp Cult B	202 - New Test		103/104	4 Years	Acad 2	4 Years	PE/Lab
			203 - STEM									
11th	401 - AP Lang I	301 - Adv Geo	301H - Chem I Hon	403 - AP US I	301H - Post-I Sp H 303 - Sp Cult C	301 - Moral	301, 302, 303	101/102 OR		Acad 1		1 Extra
Grade	402 - AP Lang II	302 - Adv Alg	302H - Chem II Hon	404 - AP US II	302H - Adv Sp H 304 - Sp Cult D	302 - Cat SP	All three	103/104		Acad 2		SH
12th	403 - AP Lit I	303 - PreCalc Hon I	401/402 - AP Chem OR	405 - AP Gov I	401 - AP Span I	501H - RPM I H	in 11th & 12th	101/102 OR		Acad 1		in 11th/12th
Grade	404 - AP Lit II	304 - PreCalc Hon II	403/404 - AP Bio	406 - AP Gov II	402 - AP Span II	502H - RPM II H	Grades	103/104		102 - Coll Prep		Grades

# English

## **ENG 101 – Introduction to Literature & Writing**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of literature and writing, focusing on the development of both reading comprehension and written expression. In addition to reading, students will enhance their writing abilities through a range of assignments, including personal reflections and analytical and persuasive essays.

## **ENG 101H – European Literature**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9 – Honors Level*

This course offers an exploration of classic and contemporary works from Europe. Students will engage with a variety of genres, including novels, short stories, poetry, and plays. Students will develop their skills in literary analysis, critical thinking, and writing, with a focus on close textual analysis, essay writing, and group discussions, preparing students for further study in literature and beyond.

## **ENG 102 – Literary Survey**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

Students will explore a variety of literary genres, including short stories, poetry, drama, and novels. Through guided reading, class discussions, and independent projects, students will develop an appreciation for diverse perspectives in literature.

## **ENG 102H – World Literature**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9 – Honors Level*

Students will gain insight into different cultural perspectives, historical contexts, and literary forms. The course includes novels, short stories, poems, and plays from authors who help connect ideas from different cultures and periods. Students will focus on developing strong reading comprehension, analytical writing, and critical thinking skills. They will examine literary devices, narrative techniques, and cultural influences in a variety of texts, while honing their ability to articulate thoughtful responses through written essays, group discussions, and presentations.

## **ENG 201 – American Literature I**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

Students will develop their skills in literary analysis and critical thinking, focusing on how historical, cultural, and social contexts influence the literature of different periods in America. In addition to literary analysis, the course emphasizes the development of effective written and oral communication skills. Students will write analytical essays, participate in discussions, and complete projects that allow them to demonstrate their understanding of the texts and themes explored in class.

## **ENG 201H – American Literature I**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10 – Honors Level*

Designed for advanced students, this course emphasizes critical thinking, sophisticated analysis, and advanced writing skills, with a focus on understanding the complex themes, historical contexts, and cultural movements that have shaped American literature. Students will develop their skills in literary analysis and critical thinking, focusing on historical, cultural, and social contexts. In addition to literary analysis, the course emphasizes the development of effective written and oral communication skills. Students will write analytical essays, participate in discussions, and complete projects that allow them to demonstrate their understanding of the texts and themes explored in class.

## **ENG 202 – American Literature II**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

This course builds on the lessons, themes and ideas presented in ENG 201 – American Literature I.

**ENG 202H – American Literature II /  
Pre-Advanced Placement**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10 – Honors Level*

This course builds on the lessons, themes and ideas presented in English 201H American Lit I. The second part of this course will introduce the written and analytical skills necessary to succeed in AP English Language and AP English Literature.

**ENG 401/402 – AP English Language**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 11-12*

Reading and writing to deepen and expand understanding of how written language functions rhetorically: to communicate writers' intentions and elicit readers' responses in particular situations.

***Prerequisite – ENG 201H/202H and Department Approval***

**ENG 403/404 – AP English Literature**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 11-12*

Reading and analysis of works of fiction, drama, and poetry, which provides rich opportunities for development and appreciation of literature from a range of experiences, institutions, and social structures.

***Prerequisite – ENG 201H/202H and Department Approval***

**ENG 501 – Women's Literature**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course explores women in literature across history and cultures. Readings will be drawn from female authors who represent various experiences and identities.

**ENG 502 – Historical Fiction**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Explore the relationship between history and fiction, and discover how historical fiction can present a reimagined past. Through lessons and literature, students will dive deeper into topics from World and United States history. Focus will be placed on historical accuracy and text structure, as it plays an important role in shaping how readers see both history and the narrative.

***Note – this course may count as a History Elective.***

**ENG 503 – Research & Writing**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

College prep course designed to equip high school students with essential research and writing skills that are critical for academic success and beyond. Students will explore various research methodologies, learn to evaluate sources, and develop their ability to construct well-organized and persuasive arguments.

**ENG 504 – Sports Fiction**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course focuses on storytelling that revolves around sports and the cultural obsessions around them. We'll cover texts and articles with themes revolving around sports fanaticism and sports as religion, power, and privilege involved in playing and viewing sports, both on the professional and amateur level, competition vs collaboration, as well as the ethical issues at play with sports today.

**ENG 505 – Memoir**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course explores the art of memoir writing through both reading and personal storytelling. Combining elements of creative writing and literary analysis, students will examine how authors craft narratives based on real-life experiences, exploring themes such as identity, memory, family, and personal growth.

**ENG 506 – Literature to Screen & Stage**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Examination of the ways great literature throughout world history has been adapted for the modern-day moviegoing audience, from one medium to the other - from text to film or television series or from text to stage. Understand how filmmakers adapt literature to film and stage, considering the conventions and artistic elements of each medium.

# Mathematics

## **MAT 101 – Algebra 1 – Sem I**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

This is a course that introduces students to fundamental algebraic concepts focusing on developing the ability to solve real-world problems while emphasizing critical thinking, reasoning, and communication skills. Students will demonstrate the appropriate use of graphing calculators and communicate mathematical ideas clearly. There will be an emphasis on arithmetic problem solving and understanding the concepts and procedures.

## **MAT 102 – Algebra 1 – Sem II**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

In the second semester of Algebra 1, students will build on the foundational concepts introduced in the first semester, deepening their understanding of algebraic principles and applying them to more complex mathematical problems. Throughout the semester, students will continue to strengthen their problem-solving, critical thinking, and mathematical communication skills. By the end of the semester, students will have a solid grasp of algebraic concepts and be prepared for more advanced mathematical study, including Algebra 2 and beyond.

## **MAT 201 – Geometry**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-10*

This course focuses on foundational geometric concepts like points, lines, angles, polygons, and solids. Students will apply these concepts to solve real-world problems, often utilizing logical reasoning and precise geometric language to justify solutions. It emphasizes understanding geometric relationships through visual analysis and analytical methods.

## **MAT 201H – Geometry Honors**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-10*

This is a more rigorous version of MAT 201 with material covered at an accelerated pace. More in-depth thought and knowledge will be expected from students. It focuses on foundational geometric concepts like points, lines, angles, polygons, and solids. Students will apply these concepts to solve real-world problems, often utilizing logical reasoning and precise geometric language to justify solutions. It emphasizes understanding geometric relationships through visual analysis and analytical methods.

## **MAT 202 – Algebra 2**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-10*

This course is designed to expand on concepts studied in MAT 101 and 102. Students will extend their understanding of algebraic concepts and explore more advanced topics. Throughout the semester, students will master their problem-solving, critical thinking, and graphing skills, with a strong emphasis on real-world applications and developing mathematical fluency. By the end of this course, students will be prepared for higher-level math courses including Advanced Algebra.

## **MAT 202H – Algebra 2 Honors**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-10*

This is a more rigorous version of MAT 202 with material covered at an accelerated pace. More in-depth thought and knowledge will be expected from students. It is designed to expand on concepts studied in MAT 101H/102H. Students will extend their understanding of algebraic concepts and explore more advanced topics. Throughout the semester, students will master their problem-solving, critical thinking, and graphing skills, with a strong emphasis on real-world applications and developing mathematical fluency. By the end of this course, students will be prepared for higher-level math courses including Advanced Algebra.

### **MAT 301 – Advanced Geometry**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course is an advanced Math class that builds on the geometry skills developed in MAT 201H. This course extends topics of geometry including triangle congruency and similarity, geometry on a coordinate plane, geometry with trigonometry, and theorems with circles. It serves to extend and improve students' geometric, algebraic, graphical, and critical thinking and reasoning skills with an overall theme of problem solving.

### **MAT 302 – Advanced Algebra**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course is a second-year algebra course with an overall theme of problem solving. It builds on algebra skills developed in MAT 101 and 102, as well as appropriate sections of statistics, geometry, and trigonometry. It serves to extend and improve students' geometric, algebraic, graphical, and probabilistic critical thinking and reasoning skills with an overall theme of problem solving. By the end of this course, students will be prepared for higher-level math courses including Precalculus and an entry-level college math course.

### **MAT 303 – Precalculus Honors I**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

The Precalculus course is designed to bridge the gap between Algebra 2 and Calculus, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental mathematical concepts that form the foundation for higher-level mathematics. This course focuses on topics that are essential for success in Calculus and beyond, emphasizing conceptual understanding and practical application. Students will be prepared for future mathematical study and real-world problem-solving.

***Prerequisite – MAT 302***

### **MAT 304 – Precalculus Honors II**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This second-semester of Precalculus builds upon the concepts learned in MAT 303, diving deeper into advanced algebraic and trigonometry topics to prepare students for calculus. Emphasis will be placed on graphing techniques, functional analysis, and applying mathematical concepts to problem-solving scenarios. This course is designed to strengthen the mathematical foundation needed for success in calculus and other higher-level mathematical courses.

***Prerequisite – MAT 303***

### **MAT 401/402 – AP Statistics I & II**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 11-12*

This full-year course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based Statistics college course. An introductory statistics course, similar to this AP Statistics course, is typically required for majors such as social sciences, health sciences, and business. Science, engineering, and mathematics majors usually take an upper-level calculus-based course in statistics, for which this AP Statistics course is an effective preparation. The purpose of the AP course in statistics is to introduce students to major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students in this course will take the Advanced Placement Examination.

***Prerequisite – MAT 302 and Department Approval***

### **MAT 403/404 – AP Calculus**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 11-12*

College Course Equivalent AP Calculus AB is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. AP Calculus AB focuses on students' understanding of calculus concepts and provides experience with methods and applications. Through the use of big ideas of calculus (e.g., modeling change, approximation and limits, and analysis of functions), the course becomes a cohesive whole, rather than a collection of unrelated topics. This course requires students to use definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions. This course features a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Exploring connections among these representations builds understanding of how calculus applies limits to develop important ideas, definitions, formulas, and theorems. A sustained emphasis on clear communication of methods, reasoning, justifications, and conclusions is essential.

***Prerequisite – MAT 302/303/304 and Department Approval***

### **MAT 501 – Computer Science I**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

The purpose of the course is to teach students the basics of programming, as well as incorporate ideas on information technology and how it impacts us on a national and global level. Students learn how information is communicated through computers using basic JavaScript language.

### **MAT 502 – Computer Science II**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Students learn how data analysis helps turn raw data into useful information. Using visualization, students will be able to find patterns in data. There is an emphasis on learning lists, loops, and transversals as well as parameters, returns, and libraries which will help students formulate apps that process large amounts of information. Students will also learn about cybersecurity and techniques to be able to protect information through the web.

***Prerequisite – MAT 501***

### **MAT 503 – Career Readiness Math**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course helps students develop math skills to prepare them for life after high school while pursuing conceptual understanding and procedural skills. It will focus on arithmetic, algebra, measurement, geometry, trigonometry, and other topics that are used outside of the classroom. Students will be exposed to how math is used in specific professions and help them to become proficient in math skills used in the workforce.

### **MAT 504 – History of Math**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course traces the development and interrelations of mathematical ideas globally from ancient to modern times. There is an emphasis on both historical context and mathematical content. Problem-solving techniques and deductive reasoning will also be emphasized.

### **MAT 505 - Statistical Reasoning in Your World and the Sports World**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This is a course on exploratory data analysis and its application in the fields of health science, marketing, finance, political science, and the sports arena. Critical thinking and problem-solving skills will be developed and applied with real life data.

### **MAT 506 – Money, Math, & Management**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Different from a personal finance course, this course focuses on mathematical modeling that is algebra-based and applications-oriented. The mathematical topics are introduced, developed, and applied in an as-needed format in the financial setting. Students have the opportunity to use, construct, question, model, and interpret financial situations through symbolic algebraic representations. It provides students a motivating, young-adult centered financial context for understanding and applying mathematics they are guaranteed to use in the future.

## **MAT 507 – Precalculus**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

The course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental mathematical concepts that form the foundation for higher-level mathematics. Students will be prepared for future mathematical study and real-world problem-solving.

# Science

## **SCI 101 – Foundations of Scientific Inquiry and Critical Thinking (plus lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9 and 10*

This course empowers students to think like scientists by developing essential skills in scientific inquiry and reasoning. Students will learn to ask meaningful questions, design and conduct experiments, and create and evaluate models to explain natural phenomena. Emphasizing critical thinking, the course fosters the ability to analyze data, draw evidence-based conclusions, and communicate findings effectively. Through hands-on activities and collaborative problem-solving, students will build a strong foundation for understanding and applying scientific principles in real-world contexts.

## **SCI 102 – Earth Systems: Geology, Weather & Climate (plus lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9 and 10*

This course explores the intricate working of our planet and the dynamic processes that shape its surface. Students will delve into the dynamics of weather and climate, from local weather patterns to global climate change. The course also examines the composition and classification of minerals, rocks, and the forces that drive geological events like earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. The course will conclude with an exploration of geological time, providing a framework for understanding Earth's history.

## **SCI 201 – Biology I (plus Lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9 and 10*

SCI 201 introduces students to the essential concepts of life, such as the fundamentals of cells and the biochemistry of living things. Additionally, the course covers key life functions such as metabolism, growth, and reproduction, providing insights into how organisms utilize energy and respond to environmental changes.

## **SCI 202 – Biology II (plus Lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9 and 10*

SCI 202 builds on the foundational concepts covered in Biology I, expanding students' understanding of biological processes at more advanced levels. This course delves deeper into four key areas: genetics, evolution, ecology, and human physiology.

## **SCI 203 – Sophomore STEM Challenge**

*No Credit – Required Course*

*Grades 10*

In this engaging and hands-on STEM course, students will take on the challenge of designing, constructing, and budgeting for a model bridge that combines engineering principles with real-world financial constraints. Through teamwork, students will explore the fundamentals of structural engineering, and material science to create a bridge that balances strength, stability, and cost-efficiency.

## **SCI 301 – Chemistry of Life (plus Lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10 and 11*

This course is designed to explore the fundamental principles of chemistry as they relate to the real world. It covers key topics such as atomic structure, chemical bonding, energy, acids, bases and solutions. Students will explore these topics through a combination of theoretical instruction and hands-on laboratory experiments, enhancing their skills in data collection, analysis, and scientific problem solving.

***This course is not designed for students planning to take upper-level science electives. SCI301 does not meet the prerequisite standard to take Physics, AP Chemistry, AP Biology and Experimental Research.***

**SCI 301H – Honors Chemistry I (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 10 and 11 - Honors Level*

This honors-level course is designed to challenge and prepare students for the rigor of challenging 500 level science courses. Emphasizing both depth and breadth of understanding, the course fosters advanced analytical thinking, problem-solving, and laboratory skills. SCI 301H will explore the early history of chemistry through topics such as gases, matter, atomic structure and bonding.

**SCI 302H – Honors Chemistry II (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 10 and 11 - Honors Level*

This honors-level course will build upon the first semester in its design to challenge and prepare students for the rigor of challenging 500 level science courses. SCI 302 H will further explore further advances in chemistry through topics such as moles, kinetics, equilibrium, acids & bases and electrochemistry.

**SCI 401/402 – AP Chemistry I & II (plus Lab)***½ Credit Each**Grades 11 and 12*

These courses are the equivalent to two semesters of a college level general chemistry course. It is designed to provide students with college level foundations to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding through inquiry-based investigations. SCI 401 will explore topics such as Atomic Structure, Chemical Bonding, Intermolecular forces, Gases and Chemical Reactions. SCI 402 will explore topics such as Kinetics, Thermochemistry, Equilibrium, Acids and Bases and Thermodynamics. Students will take the Advanced Placement Chemistry exam in May.

***Prerequisites – SCI 301H/302H and Department Approval***

**SCI 403/404 – AP Biology I & II (plus Lab)***½ Credit Each**Grades 11 and 12*

Advanced Placement Biology is a college-level course open to students who have achieved above-average grades in science each previous year, over a three-year period. Students who select this course should be college bound and possess analytical skills. The Advanced Placement Biology Course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course with labs. SCI 403 explores topics such as molecules and cells, genetics and evolution. SCI 404 explores topics such as genetics and evolution, organisms and populations, anatomy and physiology.

***Prerequisites – SCI 301H/302 H and Department Approval***

**SCI 501 – Physics I (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

This course focuses on the fundamental principles of kinematics- the study of motion - and integrates hands-on laboratory experiments to reinforce theoretical concepts. Designed for students beginning their exploration of physics, this course provides a strong foundation in analyzing and understanding how objects move in one, two, and three dimensions.

***Prerequisites – SCI 301H/302H and Department Approval***

**SCI 502 – Physics II (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

This course explores the foundational principles of electricity and magnetism, emphasizing their interconnections and applications in everyday technology. Through a combination of theoretical instruction and hands-on laboratory experiments, students will gain a deep understanding of electric and magnetic fields, circuits, and the laws that govern their behavior.

***Prerequisites – SCI 501***

**SCI 503 – Experimental Research I (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

This course introduces students to the fundamental principles and methodologies of scientific research, collaboration and writing. This course emphasizes the design, execution, and analysis of experiments, equipping students with core techniques used in modern scientific inquiry. Students will select a research topic, develop a hypothesis, design and implement experiments, and analyze results using advanced laboratory techniques and statistical tools with the goal of publishing their research.

**Prerequisites – SCI 301H/302 H and Department Approval**

**SCI 504 – Experimental Research II (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

A continuation of SCI 507, this course emphasizes the design, execution, and analysis of experiments, equipping students with core techniques used in modern scientific inquiry. Students will select a research topic, develop a hypothesis, design and implement experiments, and analyze results using advanced laboratory techniques and statistical tools with the goal of publishing their research.

**Prerequisite – SCI 503**

**SCI 505 – Environmental Science:****In the Age of Climate Change***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

This course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the science behind climate change, its global impacts, and the urgent need for action. Students will explore topics such as greenhouse gases, renewable energy sources, climate justice, and sustainability, while analyzing the role of human activities in accelerating climate destabilization and possible mitigation actions for this crisis. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the knowledge and critical thinking skills needed to make informed decisions and contribute to solutions for a more sustainable future.

**Prerequisite – SCI 301 or SCI 301H/302H**

**SCI 506 – Environmental Science:****Conservation & Environmental Safety***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

This course focuses on the principles of environmental conservation and environmental safety, exploring the ways in which human activities impact the natural world and how we can mitigate those effects. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the role of conservation in preserving endangered species, protecting habitats, and maintaining ecosystem balance. The course will also address environmental safety, exploring issues such as pollution control, waste management, and the protection of air, water, and soil quality. Students will learn about the challenges and solutions related to toxic substances, hazardous waste, and environmental health risks. This course is designed to inspire students to become informed, proactive citizens committed to the protection and preservation of the environment.

**Prerequisite – SCI 301 or SCI 301H/302H**

**SCI 507 – Forensic Science: Hair, Fiber  
& Cause of Death (plus Lab)***½ Credit**Grades 11 and 12*

This is an elective science and laboratory course for students who have completed biology, earth science, and chemistry course work. This course examines scientific principles, forensic techniques, and reasoning skills that are used to solve crimes. This course will study topics including, crime scene management, evidence collection, introductory fingerprinting, hair, fibers, forensic botany, cause of death, and criminal case analysis.

**Prerequisite – SCI 301 or SCI 301H/302H**

**SCI 508 – Forensic Science: Handwriting, Blood  
& Toxicology (plus Lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11 and 12*

This is an elective science and laboratory course for students who have completed biology, earth science, and chemistry course work. This course examines scientific principles, forensic techniques, and reasoning skills that are used to solve crimes. This course will study many topics to include, crime scene management, advanced fingerprinting, handwriting analysis, counterfeiting, blood typing and blood spatter, entomology, soil analysis, casts, impressions and tool marks ballistics, toxicology and criminal case analysis.

**Prerequisite- SCI 301 or SCI 301H/302H**

**SCI 509 – Marine Science (plus Lab)**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11 and 12*

Discover the wonders of the ocean in this interdisciplinary course covering marine ecosystems, ocean currents, biodiversity, and human impacts. Through lectures, labs and data analysis, students will explore the ocean's role in Earth's climate and sustainability. Perfect for those passionate about marine biology, conservation, or oceanography

***Prerequisites – SCI 301 or SCI 301H/302H***

# History

***Note - For the 2025-2026 school year, Grades 9, 10, and 11 will be taking HIS 101/102 – US History I & II, or HIS 101H/102H – US History Honors I & II***

## **HIS 101 – US History I: Discovery of America to Reconstruction**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-11*

This course is a survey of the history of the United States from 1492 to 1877. Students will examine and analyze the major events and forces that have shaped our country's history. The course will also address the development of the government and its institutions, from the origins of the nation to the end of Reconstruction. The course will look at our foundational documents and how they led to expansion of civil liberties and economic stability in America and the role the students will play as informed citizens going forward. The course will develop a student's writing, study, and analytical skills.

## **HIS 102 – US History II: Industrialization to Modern Day**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-11*

This course is a survey of the history of the United States from the 1880s to the present. Students will examine and analyze the major events and forces that have shaped our country's history. The course will also address the development of America's economic, social, and political systems from the 1880's through present day. The course will look at our foundational documents and how they led to expansion of civil liberties and economic stability in America and the role the students will play as informed citizens going forward. The course will develop a student's writing, study, and analytical skills.

## **HIS 101H/102H – US History Honors I & II: Discovery of America to Modern Day**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grade 9 – Honors Level*

This is a full-year course that addresses the same topics and requirements as the HIS 101/102 course with the addition of greater detail in subject matter and skill taught. The course aims to prepare students for success in Advanced Placement courses (AP World, AP US History, AP Government, and AP Human Geography) to be taken in future years.

## **HIS 201 – World History I: Civilizations to 1750**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

This course is a survey of world history from ancient times to 1750. Students will examine and analyze the major events and forces that created the modern world. The course will stress study and analytical skills as students examine historical trends and themes across continents and eras.

## **HIS 202 – World History II: 1750 to Modern Day**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

This course is a survey of world history from 1750 to the present. Students will examine and analyze the major events and forces that created the modern world. The course will stress study and analytical skills as students examine historical trends and themes across continents and eras.

## ***Note - HIS 301, 302, 303, or 404/405 fulfill Government Requirement***

### **HIS 301 – Public Policy and Political Culture in America**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11 and 12*

This class examines the political process and the role and responsibilities of our branches of government, the electoral process, political beliefs, civil rights, and public policy of the American Government. Emphasis will be placed on analysis, writing, study, and time-management skills.

### **HIS 302 - The American Presidency**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11- 12*

The course looks at the American Presidency in historical perspective. We examine the powers of the office, its place in the American imagination, and the achievements of the most significant presidents. Structured chronologically, the course emphasizes the growth and transformation of the office and how it has come to assume its dominant place in the political landscape. Individual presidents are studied to understand not only their own times but also salient issues with which they are associated.

### **HIS 303 – History of American Foreign Policy**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11- 12*

This course examines both the historic roots and contemporary practice of U.S. foreign policy. It will look at U.S. foreign policies from the earliest days of the Republic to the challenges of the twenty-first century, with a particular emphasis on debates over the best strategy and role for the U.S. in the world. It will then move to an analysis of the policy process and the determinants of U.S. policy with a particular focus on the relationship between the executive, public opinion, the Congress, and the bureaucracy, as well as relationships with allies and international organizations. Finally, it will look at the challenges facing America today including the rise of China, increasing globalization, and terrorism.

### **HIS 401/402 – AP World History I & II**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 10-12*

This class examines all aspects of world history from the Middle Ages to the present. This Honors class culminates in the students taking the College Board Advanced Placement World History Examination given in May. The purpose of this course is to develop a greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. Emphasis is placed on analysis and writing.

***Prerequisite – Department Approval***

### **HIS 403/404 – AP United States History I & II**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 11-12*

This course covers the entire spectrum of American History. Students will learn the skills to analyze material and to deal critically with the problems and events of American History. At the end of the course students will take the College Board AP Examination given in May. Emphasis is placed on analysis and writing.

***Prerequisite – Department Approval***

### **HIS 405/406 – AP U.S. Government and Politics I & II**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 11 and 12*

This course gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the U.S. It familiarizes students with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. political reality. At the end of the course, students will take the College Board AP exam in U.S. Government and Politics given in May. Emphasis is placed on analysis and writing.

***Prerequisite: Department Approval***

### **HIS 501 – History of Sports in America**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Sports have played a vital role in American history. They can represent the social, political, and economic conditions of the time. Individual athletes and their respective professional teams have influenced U.S. history and culture. This course will examine numerous instances where sports and history collide. It will take a look at how sports influences topics such as race, gender, class, and politics.

### **HIS 502 – Re-envisioning the Past Through Historical Fiction**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Explore the relationship between history and fiction and discover how historical fiction can present a reimagined past. Through lessons and literature, students will dive deeper into topics from World and United States history. Focus will be placed on historical accuracy and text structure as it plays an important role in shaping how readers see both history and the narrative.

### **HIS 503 – War and Genocide**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Interdisciplinary study of war and genocide and how it has impacted societies, the perpetrators, and survivors. Analyze the roles of international communities and the state on their responses to war, mass murder, and genocide.

### **HIS 504 – History of the British Monarchy**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Explore the fascinating history of the British monarchy and the Tudors' shift to a constitutional monarchy. How the royals have impacted life, society, and government not only in Britain, but also the world. Students will analyze the legacy of British rule and how the royal family has adapted to changing times.

### **HIS 505 – American Popular Culture**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course highlights the history of mass entertainment in the United States starting in 1900. The course looks at content, such as music, film, and literature, as well as how it is spread, starting with rag music and leading to the internet. The goal of this course is to understand the complex ways popular culture simultaneously reflects and transforms American society.

### **HIS 506 – A History of Western New York**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course is a case study in American history through the lens of Buffalo, New York. Buffalo is best known for flourishing at the turn of the 20th Century and subsequently declining in the latter half of the century. This course will look at the nature of the city, its growth, the dynamics of urban development, and the enduring impact of its historical past in relation to its geographical presence.

### **HIS 507 – Comparative Religions**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course provides students with an opportunity to explore the beliefs, practices, cultures, and histories of the world's major religious traditions. Some topics that may be covered include the origins and similarities of different religions; the nature of religion and how it differs from other concepts and practices; and ethical, mythical, and cultural aspects of religions. Students will study a variety of religions, analyzing their unique perspectives as well as shared values and themes. Through discussions, readings, projects, and multimedia resources, students will delve into the cultural, historical, and philosophical contexts of these religions. The course emphasizes respect for diversity and critical thinking, fostering an understanding of how religious traditions shape individuals and communities around the globe. Students will gain a deeper appreciation for the complexities of faith and spirituality, developing skills to engage in informed and respectful dialogue about religious and cultural differences.

***Note – this course may count as a Religion Elective.***

## **HIS 508 – History Through Film**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Students will explore U.S. History by watching feature films related to certain important events or periods in US History. Students will be asked to analyze the films for their historical accuracy. This course will involve critical analysis and writing skills.

# Language

## **LAN 101 – Beginner Spanish**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

Students will learn basic Greetings/Goodbyes, months, asking/answering questions, and personal ID. They will be listening to authentic source materials, reading short paragraphs, writing basic sentences, and responding to basic questions. They will also begin watching/listening to the series *Silvana Sin Lana*.

## **LAN 102 – Pre-Intermediate Spanish**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

Students will learn basic vocabulary for clothing, food, people and descriptions, and pastimes. They will conjugate in the present tense; learn adjectives, adverbs, and comparatives; and idiomatic expressions with tener. They will be reading short paragraphs or stories, writing short paragraphs, and be able to answer multiple questions. They will continue to watch/listen to the series *Silvana Sin Lana*.

## **LAN 201H – Intermediate Spanish II Honors**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-10*

Students will use direct object pronouns, progressive present, infinitives, ser and estar, and double negatives as well as vocabulary for vacations, house and chores, the body, and illnesses. Students will be able to read longer stories and/or passages. They will be able to respond to questions both verbally and in written form in multiple sentences. They will learn to have basic conversations. They will continue watching/listening to the series *Silvana sin Lana*.

## **LAN 202H – Intermediate Spanish II Honors**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-10*

Vocabulary will be school vocabulary and city. Students will learn regular and irregular preterit and present tense and the difference between conocer and saber. Students will read multiple-page stories or writings and be able to respond to have conversations about subjects they have studied. They will finish watching/listening to the series *Silvana Sin Lana*.

## **LAN 203 – Spanish Culture & Conversation A**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-12*

Students will learn conversational basics, greetings and goodbyes, telling time, and personal ID, simulating real-life situations. Students will also explore the different cultures of Latin America and Spanish through music, food, art, geography, and media.

## **LAN 204 – Spanish Culture & Conversation B**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-12*

Students will learn conversational basics, how to order food, purchase items in a store, and talk about school life and pastimes simulating real life situations. Students will also explore the different cultures of Latin America and Spain through music, food, art, geography, and media.

## **LAN 301H – Post-Intermediate Spanish Honors**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-11*

Vocabulary will be daily routine, clothing, and food. Students will be conjugating reflexive verbs in the present and preterit tenses, using direct and indirect object pronouns, and comparatives. Students will be able to read longer and more complex stories and converse on more diverse topics. They will begin watching/listening to the series *El Tiempo Entre Costuras*.

***Prerequisite – LAN 202***

**LAN 302H – Advanced Spanish Honors**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-11*

Vocabulary will include sports, childhood, family, and celebrations. Grammar concepts will be imperfect tense, irregular present, preterit, gerund, accent marks, personal “a”, and combining object pronouns. Difficulty of reading passages increases as does the expectation of conversation about unrelated subjects. Students will continue watching the series *El Tiempo Entre Costuras*, and discuss actors that Impact the Quality of Live, and Environmental, Political, and Societal Challenges.

***Prerequisite – LAN 301***

**LAN 303 – Spanish Culture & Conversation C**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Students will learn conversational basics related to going on vacations, house and chores, the body and illnesses (visits to the doctor. Students will also explore the different cultures of Hispanic America through music, food, art, geography, and media.

**LAN 304 – Spanish Culture & Conversation D**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Students will learn conversational skills relating to school and work as well as getting around a city and visiting different places. They will also explore the different cultures of Hispanic America through music, food, art, geography, and media.

***Prerequisite – LAN 303***

**LAN 401/402 – AP Spanish**

*½ Credit each*

*Grades 11-12*

Students will study the 6 AP themes in depth: The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity, How Technology Affects our Lives, Families in Different Societies, Factors that Impact the Quality of Life, and Environmental, Political, and Societal Challenges. They will participate in discussions, and read short stories, news articles, and essays for comprehension. They will also write essays and reflections relating to the 6 themes of AP Spanish Language and Culture. In addition, they will have multiple opportunities to listen to authentic sources relating to the 6 themes. Students will also be watching/listening to the End of the series *El Tiempo Entre Costuras*, and *Gran Hotel*.

***Prerequisite – LAN 301/302 and Department Approval***

**LAN 501 - Spanish Film**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10 to 12*

This class will explore the concepts of history, culture, geography, religion, immigration, language, etc.. through the lens of various films from Spain, Mexico, Chile, Colombia, Argentina, Guatemala, Paraguay, and other countries in Latin America. Students will watch the films together, discuss and write about their observations and ideas surrounding the aforementioned themes. In addition, students will read additional analysis or material related to the film’s themes.

**LAN 502 - Fun Around the Hispanic World**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10 to 12*

Students will explore Hispanic cultural expressions via culinary art and food, music and dance, art and fashion, and language and idiomatic expression.

# *Religious Studies*

## **REL 101 – Introduction to Catholic Christianity**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

This course will examine the basic fundamentals of Catholic theology. It will provide a foundation which will enable students to develop their faith, knowledge and core beliefs of Catholicism.

## **REL 102 – Understanding Catholic Christianity**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

This course will continue development of student knowledge and participation in the teachings of the Catholic Church as proclaimed by Jesus Christ.

## **REL 201 – Sacred Scripture: Hebrew Testament**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

This course will examine the Old Testament and its foreshadowing of the New Testament and Jesus Christ. It will help students understand Creation, Jewish tradition, The Chosen People, and the prophets.

## **REL 202 – New Testament: Christian Testament**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

This semester will begin with the Gospels. Through the four Gospel writers, students will learn of Jesus' Incarnation, teachings, and Paschal Mystery. The Book of Acts and New Testament Letters will help students understand the development of Christianity in the years following Jesus' Ascension.

## **REL 301 – Morality in the Modern World**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 11*

This course will provide students with methods and insight when making moral decisions. Examples of such are Conscience, Sources of Morality, and Natural Law. Moral issues such as Sexuality and Beginning and End of Life Issues will encourage students to seek guidance from Catholic teaching as well as develop interior reasoning and moral thinking.

## **REL 302 – Catholic Social Principles**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 11*

This course will encourage higher-level thinking and discernment of a variety of topics in our world such as racism, sexism, treatment of the elderly and disabled, terrorism, the environment and others.

## **REL 501H/502H – Retreat Peer Ministry Honors I & II**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grade 12*

This course will take place over two semesters. Students will apply for this course and, if accepted, they will be trained to plan and implement retreats for each of the different classes. In addition, students will cover one of the following electives as well. The choice of which additional elective will be left at the discretion of the teacher before students make decisions of their choice.

## **REL 503 – Christian Family Living**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This elective will focus on vocation. Our primary vocation being the Great Commandment to love God with all of our being and to love others as ourselves. This will be accomplished by looking deeper at ways we can reach out to those most in need. The course will also cover the primary vocations of married life, single life, and religious life.

## **REL 504 – Catholicism and Secularism**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course will explore the historical and contemporary relationship between Catholic beliefs and practices with the concept of secularism. It will examine how the Church interacts with a society that can seemingly act separate from religious authority.

**REL 505 – Theodicy and the Holocaust**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

In Pope John Paul II's 1998 letter regarding the Vatican's publication of *We Remember: A Reflection on the Shoah*, he wrote, "May the Lord of history guide the efforts of Catholics and Jews and all men and women of goodwill as they work together for a world of true respect for the life and dignity of every human being, for all have been created in the image and likeness of God." In this spirit, this class seeks to examine the justice of God and the injustice of the Holocaust. Students will explore the history of Jewish-Christian relations and the birth of anti-Semitism, the role of anti-Semitism during the rise of the Third Reich, the evolution from persecution to the Final Solution, the religious and historical implications of the Holocaust, and theodicy in the modern world.

***Note – this course may count as a Social Studies Elective.***

**REL 506 – Introduction to Philosophy**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course provides a general consideration of human nature and the nature of the universe, knowledge, perception, freedom and determinism, and the existence of God. Students will identify and compare the various types of logical arguments, major philosophical views of reality, rationalist and empiricist theories of knowledge, and at least one value theory. In addition to critically analyzing the significant arguments for the existence of God, students will describe the problem of Evil and examine religious explanations for the existence of Evil.

**REL 507 – History of the Catholic Church**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Students will explore the significant eras of Church history by encountering the Church's "heroes" (martyrs, saints, theologians, activists, etc., in their context) who, sustained by Jesus and the Holy Spirit, have lived and preached the Gospel as a covenant with God in their lives and in response to their times. Students will learn that the Church is the People of God...living as the Body of Christ today.

***Note – this course may count as a Social Studies Elective.***

**REL 508 – World Religions**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course will provide a comprehensive survey of major religious traditions across the globe, exploring their key beliefs, practices, historical development, sacred texts, ethical teachings, and cultural contexts, with a focus on understanding the similarities and differences between various faiths like Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, while promoting critical analysis and respectful dialogue about diverse religious perspectives.

# *Life Core Courses*

## **LCC 101 – Computer Foundations**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 9*

This is a mandatory course that will provide an introduction to the computer, exploring the essential concepts and information about the computer. The physical components of the computer will be discovered. A practical knowledge of Google applications and Adobe video editing software is achieved. Students will develop proficiency in using Google-based application packages, which includes word processing (Docs), spreadsheet (Sheets), and presentation software (Slides). Current issues such as social networking and Internet safety are explored. Additional coursework will include fundamentals of typing.

## **LCC 201 – Health**

*½ Credit*

*Grade 10*

The emphasis on this course is self-responsibility and that choices have consequences. In line with the contemporary attention to individual and group health problems, the State Department of Education now mandates that all students have a minimum 1/2 credit in health education which must include the topics of stress management, suicide prevention, nutrition, drugs (including alcohol, tobacco, and steroids), and disease (including sexually transmitted diseases). The focus of this course will be for students to understand that health and wellness are lifelong and cumulative and that knowledge translated into positive health practices can extend youthfulness and postpone aging. The course also stresses principles adaptable to living life to the fullest extent today, toward accepting oneself, associating harmoniously with others, and developing an awareness of our physical, social, mental, spiritual, and environmental responsibilities. This course will include individual health problems, as well as the health problems facing us as a society and how we can deal with them. Student participation in understanding the areas of health that affect them today and in the future is the major objective of this course.

## **LCC 301 – Public Speaking**

*Grades 11-12*

Students who pass this course will become aware of the importance of communication in both personal & professional settings. Students will gain awareness of their own personal speech habits; cultivate poise and self-confidence; improve posture, voice (speed and volume) and diction; and increase comfort in answering extemporaneous questions.

## **LCC 302 – Personal Finance**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11-12*

This class will combine economic theory and practice to help students learn how to make real-life decisions about college choice, employment options, consumer choices, and personal finance. Students will gain a basic understanding of fundamental economic concepts and learn how to use these concepts to address everyday problems they will encounter in their own lives.

## **LCC 303 – Leadership**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 11-12*

Students that complete this course will understand that leadership is a choice. Students will understand that leadership, at its core, is about how you treat people. They will develop time management, goal setting, and prioritization skills; be able to create an image that helps them realize their idea of success; understand the skills required to lead a group of people; learn how to be a good team member; and be able to begin to build and maintain their network, and understand concepts of negotiation and conflict resolution.

# *Physical Education*

## **PE 101/102 – Physical Education**

*1/4 Credit Each*

*Grades 9-12*

New York State mandates that all students in high school must take physical education in order to fulfill the requirements for graduation. In lieu of Physical Education, Dance Class may be selected and will fulfill the Physical Education requirement.

## **PE 103/104 – Dance**

*1/4 Credit Each*

*Grades 9-12*

This course will give students a well-rounded experience in Dance Study. It will include the history of dance, dance terminology, ballet, barre, basic tap, and exercises to facilitate students' balance, coordination, and agility. Dances popular in the 1930s through the present will be studied. Participation is mandatory. This course may be taken in place of a Physical Education class. The option to participate in two show productions is offered.

# Fine Arts

## **FA 501 – Art Foundations**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9 to 12*

A traditional foundation course to introduce the concepts, principles, and elements of Two-Dimensional Design, Color Theory, and Aesthetics that apply to any field within art or design. Emphasis will be on solving art and design problems in a variety of media and explored through lectures, studio assignments, and critiques.

## **FA 502 – Art Survey**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-12*

Art Survey is a lecture course designed to introduce students to the history of human creativity, from prehistory to Contemporary Art, by examining the evolution of material culture and how it was, and still very much is, a product of the times in which it was made. Students will explore design concepts and materials and how they were utilized by distinct cultures throughout the ages from ancient civilizations, through specific art movements from various parts of the world to present day trends in art, architecture, film, commercial design, and fashion. Contemporaneous trends in music and literature will also be explored as relevant influences on the visual arts of their times.

## **FA 503 – Art Elective**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-12*

A studio course where students may work in the art medium of their choice in a logical, progressive manner that explores aesthetics, art history, and a proper use of materials and techniques.

***Note – Previously taking FA 101 is suggested though not required for this course***

## **FA 504 – Music Elective**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 9-12*

This course will focus on the role and sounds of popular music from the 1920s through the present day. Students will learn to identify and apply the elements of music to popular music. Students will also learn about the social role of popular music. Students will listen to music extensively, watch performances, study lyrics, and explore the production and marketing of popular music. This is a non-performance class that is open to all students.

## **FA 505/506 – Mixed Chorus Honors I & II**

*½ Credit Each*

*Grades 9 to 12*

Students will learn proper vocal technique and music literacy. In addition, students will listen to and evaluate their own performances and the performances of other choirs. The repertoire of the Chorus will provide students with a variety of music from around the world and throughout music history. Students will learn teamwork, discipline, and professionalism through public and in-school performances.

***Note –***

- ***Students may take one or two semesters of this course***

# Social Sciences

## **SOC 501 – Psychology**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This engaging course introduces students to the fascinating study of Psychology involving human behavior and mental processes. Through a mix of interactive lessons, discussions, and hands-on activities, students will explore key psychological concepts, theories, and research methods. Topics include Cognition, Emotions, Gender, Learning and Memory, Personality and Motivation, Stress and Health, Psychological Disorders, Psychological Thrillers and Forensics, Social Psychology and Social Media, and Careers in Psychology. Students will develop critical thinking skills by reviewing and testing research theories, conducting social experiments, and applying psychological principles to everyday life. Whether students are curious about how the mind works, interested in pursuing a career in psychology, or looking to better understand themselves and others, this course offers valuable insights and skills for growth.

## **SOC 502 – Entrepreneurship**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

Various aspects of Entrepreneurship and the steps necessary to bringing a business to life will be covered. Included in this course will be the completion of a viable business plan along with a presentation to an outside panel of “judges” outlining your product and plan. We will also watch movies appropriate to the subject. Much of the work will be in group form, and equal participation is not only expected but required.

## **SOC 503 – History and Future of Business**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10-12*

This course is designed as an introduction to the critical relationship politics has played (and continues to play) in the shaping of business during the industrial revolution and beyond in America. This course is conducted through lecture, viewing appropriate docu-series episodes, group-paced instruction, and individual independent research. Assignments range from a mix of daily assignments, to projects graded on effort/attempt, as well as projects graded on overall appearance and completion of given requirements.

## **SOC 504 - The Happiness Project: What are happy people doing?**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10 to 12*

The Science of wellbeing and positive psychology. You will learn what psychological science says about “living the good life” You will engage in evidence-based behavior proven to “boost your mood”. You will explore strategies that promote happiness.

## **SOC 505 – Emotions!**

*½ Credit*

*Grades 10 to 12*

Joy-Sadness-Anger-Disgust-Fear-Envy-Embarrassment-Anxiety: Inside Out’s take on the brain... “A neuroscientist perspective”. The connection between the brain and Language (PNL Neurolinguistic Programming). You will learn about emotions, how they play a role in your life, how to understand and control them to reach success, and the impact of self-talk on your behavior and on how you feel.

# Academies

***Note – Students take two Academies per year, with second selected in December.***

## **ACA 101 – Academy of the First Year**

*¼ Credit*

*Grade 9*

This academy is designed as an introduction to St. Mary's High School and our expectations and values. The goal is to identify ways in which students will feel confident and driven within the academic setting and beyond, engaging them with a variety of resources and activities.

## **ACA 102 – College Prep**

*¼ Credit*

*Grade 12*

This academy is for 12th graders as they enter their last semester at St. Mary's High School. Activities include budget planning, study styles, living on their own, and college life. Recent graduates return to share what they have learned in their first years of college.

## **ACA 103 – Athletic Administration**

*¼ Credit*

This academy explores the behind-the-scenes operation of running a sporting event, an athletic program, or a school-wide activity, including planning, set-up, operation, and take-down.

## **ACA 104 – Content Creation**

*¼ Credit*

This academy is open to students who are looking for more experience in creation of content for the Internet and want to add to their artistic portfolios. The academy is also open to students who see the Visual Arts as more of a hobby and enjoy looking at and creating beautiful works of art.

## **ACA 105 – Criminal Justice**

*¼ Credit*

In this academy, students interested in justice and public service will build a strong foundation of the skills, knowledge, and experience needed to pursue careers in this field. Few fields combine theory and practice so effectively, opening diverse avenues for applying the tools of intellect to the problems of society.

## **ACA 106 – Education**

*¼ Credit*

This academy is designed for students who have an interest in education and would like to start their career path toward becoming a future educator. The goal is to empower the next generation teaching force, building the skills necessary for strong teachers. Students will learn by watching different teaching techniques and theories and then put those into practice through creative lesson planning, innovative educational technology, and cooperative educational experiences that will give future teachers a foundation for success.

## **ACA 107 – Engineering & Experimental Design**

*¼ Credit*

This academy is focused on exposing students to the fundamentals of chemical, civil, electrical, and mechanical engineering. Through a combination of theory and hands-on projects, students will be introduced to the different fields of engineering. Students will also engage in the process of experimental design, used by science professionals, to collect, analyze, and present their own scientific data.

### **ACA 108 – Entrepreneurship**

#### *¼ Credit*

This academy prepares students to pursue a business-related major in college by providing an overview of the principles associated with the topic. These principles will then be put into practice through the development and management of several on-campus initiatives, including The Lancer Fund Stock Market Challenge, concession stand management, and more, bringing the concepts of small business management to life.

### **ACA 109 – Finance**

#### *¼ Credit*

This academy prepares students to pursue a financial-related major in college by providing an overview of the principles. These principles will then be put into practice through the development and management of several on-campus initiatives, bringing the concepts of accounting to life.

### **ACA 110 – Global Citizenship & International Relations**

#### *¼ Credit*

This academy will create an international understanding among students and a desire to celebrate and participate in the various traditions that make the world, and our community, a unique place. Students will learn to acknowledge the presence of multiple cultures, languages, and ways of living across the globe and the current needs and political, social, and economic issues surrounding various ethnic groups in several different countries. In the tradition of St. Francis, the Lancers in this academy will develop a “citizen of the world” mentality, learning our place on a global scale and things they can do to make the world a better, more peaceful place – both in local communities and the world at large.

### **ACA 111 – Health & Science Professionals**

#### *¼ Credit*

This academy is designed to give students a greater understating of the healthcare, science, and mental health fields. After receiving a background in biology, chemistry, and psychology, students will conduct research and perform experiments in a laboratory setting, simulating work done by healthcare and science professionals. The goal of this academy is to provide students with a base level

of experience so they can go on to pursue careers as doctors, nurses, therapists, pharmacists, social workers, lab technicians, psychologists, and more.

### **ACA 112 – Hospitality & Event Planning**

#### *¼ Credit*

This academy exposes students to these rapidly growing fields. This academy will be extremely hands-on, as students will work to plan, execute, and manage various events and functions. Rooted in tourism and travel, Hospitality & Event Planning gives student a taste of what the industry can be like on a global scale, taking them all over the country, and even the world, if they choose to pursue careers in these fields.

### **ACA 113 – Law**

#### *¼ Credit*

In this academy, students interested in law and governance will build a strong foundation of the skills, knowledge, and experience needed to pursue careers in this field. The Law Academy at St. Mary’s High School combines the liberal arts advantage with the lens of Catholic understanding.

### **ACA 114 – Music Industries & Careers**

#### *¼ Credit*

This academy introduces students to the business side of the Performing Arts world, covering key areas like live events, artist management, digital platforms and behind-the-scenes careers. The course explores career opportunities in music production, marketing, theater, and everything in between helping students build essential skills and industry knowledge.

### **ACA 115 – Business Management**

#### *¼ Credit*

This Academy will examine the strategies and mechanics of the day-to-day, and long-term management of a business; whether owned privately by an entrepreneur, a large corporation, or a not-for-profit foundation. A variety of business models and respective expectations of business and project managers will be presented through the professor's lectures, guest speakers, documentaries, and field trips. Professor Christian has managed privately owned art galleries and antique stores in the Hamptons, corporate and private retail businesses, and not-for-profits throughout New York State.

# ***Service Hours Resources***

***St. Mary's Diploma requires 100 Hours of Community Service.  
Marian Diploma requires 200 hours of Community Service.***

**Below is a list of contacts for Community Service:**

## ***St. Mary's High School***

- Athletic Director
  - o Mr. Zachary Weiss – [zweiss@smhlancers.org](mailto:zweiss@smhlancers.org)
- Dean of Student Life and Enrollment
  - o Mrs. Andrea Drabik – [adrabik@smhlancers.org](mailto:adrabik@smhlancers.org)
- Religion Teachers
  - o Deacon Robb Ciezki – [rciezki@smhlancers.org](mailto:rciezki@smhlancers.org)
  - o Ms. Auguste Pautler – [apautler@smhlancers.org](mailto:apautler@smhlancers.org)

## ***Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Elementary School***

- Ms. Heather Maier – [hmaier@nativityofmaryschool.org](mailto:hmaier@nativityofmaryschool.org)

## ***Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Elementary School***

- Mrs. Karol Cassel – [kcassel@school.olbsdepew.org](mailto:kcassel@school.olbsdepew.org)

## ***St. Mary's Elementary School***

- Mrs. Jayne O'Grady – [ogradyj@smeschool.com](mailto:ogradyj@smeschool.com)

***Please contact the Religion Teachers for additional contacts.***