

HOLYOKE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

Course of Studies For Academic 2011/12

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FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Introduction to Art (725)

One semester / .5 Credit / Gr. 10, 11, 12

This course is an introduction to art, artistic thought and creative problem solving. Students explore line, color, shape, form, space and texture. Beginning drawing and painting are essential parts of the course. **\$25 materials fee in lieu of textbook.**

Basic Art (724)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to help students develop the ability to communicate in a visual form. The development and growth of both creativity and technical skill is an important cornerstone of artistic activity. Drawing, painting and sculpture form the core of this course. Line, color, shape, and texture are the major areas of study. Using a wide range of projects and media, this course helps the student to master the skills needed for effective visual communication. **\$45 materials fee in lieu of textbooks.**

Intermediate Art (705)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

This course continues to build on the basic elements of design, but with the goal of increased technical and artistic expression. Students study figure drawing, printmaking, painting and sculpture. The goal of this course is to encourage a more mature approach to visual art and to creativity. **\$45 materials fee in lieu of textbooks.**

Advanced Art (727)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr.11, 12

The advanced art course is designed to be a more mature approach to artistic production. Students are expected to be involved in their own artistic exploration. The curriculum is organized to offer maximum flexibility in student directed projects. The emphasis is on creative problem solving and continued technical and intellectual growth. A wide range of media is available. Student portfolio preparation for college admission can be part of the course work. Students are also encouraged to participate in local art shows and contests as part of this course. **\$45 materials fee in lieu of textbook.**

Pottery (742)

One semester / .5 Credit / Gr. 12

This is a fundamental course in creating beautiful objects in clay. It is the study of one of the oldest crafts using contemporary materials and ideas. Clay building techniques include hand-designed projects, wheel thrown work and some sculpture. Students explore glazing and decorating as they finish their creative designs. The use of clay as a medium for student expression forms the core of this studio course. **\$45 materials fee in lieu of textbook.**

A Cappella Chorus (701)

One semester/ .5 Credit/ Gr.10, 11, 12

Designed to energize, console, challenge and nurture souls, a cappella singing empowers students to experience the healing power of music. A cappella music seeks to build vocal skill by singing four part harmony. Students are introduced to sight reading, intonation, rhythm and singing dynamics. The musical repertoire consists of folk, sacred, gospel and contemporary music sung in multiple languages. Enrollment in the course **requires** all rehearsals and performances for the A Cappella Singers. **INTERVIEW / AUDITION REQUIRED. Permission of instructor required.**

Advanced A Cappella (702)

One semester/ .5 Credit/ Gr. 10, 11, 12

The course seeks to refine vocal skills, introduce students to the art of directing, explore singing with creative dynamics, and improve sight reading skills. Achieving good pitch and being able to "hold one's part" are prerequisites. Students have the option of learning – independently – and teaching a song of their choice (in multiple parts). **Prerequisite: Two sections of A Cappella Chorus (701) and permission of the instructor.**

Performing Arts I (704)

One semester/ .5 Credit / Gr. 10-12

The Performing Arts class brings theatre into the classroom. Storytelling, readings, monologues, creative writing and the history of Broadway Theatre through the perspective of producing and directing are explored through dynamic individual and group activities. Students will DO theatre as well as study it. Come immerse yourself in drama!

Performing Arts II (762)

One semester / .5 Credits / Gr. 11-12

This class involves writing short scripts, then producing and directing them. Some video projects are also involved. The study of Children's Theatre as well as the production of some child-centered theatre works are a major part of the curriculum, with possible performance opportunities at local elementary schools. **Prerequisite: Performing Arts I.**

Advanced Art Study – Elms College (TBA)

1 Semester/ .5 Credit/ Gr. 11-12

Advanced art students are eligible to take art courses at Elms College as dual enrollment courses.

Separate registration process. See guidance counselors

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English I (011)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9

Freshman English introduces students to various literary forms: short story, novel, poetry, myth, epic, drama, biography and autobiography. Students also study the essay and are given opportunities to write all types of essays. Mechanics of grammar are reviewed with emphasis on problem areas. Vocabulary study concentrates on definitions of words and their usage. Students begin preparing for SATs through grammar and vocabulary practice. Portfolio requirements: coherent paragraph, abstract, 1st person narrative, descriptive essay, and creative writing. Fundamental work is done on the writing of a formal research paper. **Research paper required.**

English I Honors (002)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9

The main goal of this course is to expose students to a wider variety of reading and writing experiences. Opportunities for an in-depth study of literary pieces will also be provided. The ability to analyze, critique, and create will be fostered as well. Oral presentations and panel discussions are assigned. Students continue exploring grammar and vocabulary building. Students begin preparing for the SATs through grammar and vocabulary practice. Portfolio requirements: coherent paragraph, abstract, 1st person narrative, descriptive essay, and creative writing. The mechanics of the research paper will be an important focus. **Research paper required.**

English II (026)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10

Sophomore English reinforces the study of literary types introduced in the first year. It develops an appreciation of various types of essays through writing in response to class readings. Workbooks are used for grammar and vocabulary. Vocabulary study is increased by examining words in literary context. Students continue preparing for SATs through close textual analysis of challenging literary works. Portfolio requirements: abstract, comparison/contrast essay, cause/effect essay, analogy, and creative writing. Work is continued on the writing of a formal research paper. **Research paper required.**

English II Honors (027)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10

In-depth and extensive study of the literary forms introduced in the first year is pursued. Critical evaluation techniques are strengthened through discussion and writing assignments. Additional required reading further develops these skills. Sequential grammar and vocabulary workbooks reinforce good writing and word study. Students continue preparing for SATs through close textual analysis of challenging literary works. Portfolio requirements: abstract, comparison/contrast essay, cause/effect essay, analogy, and creative writing. Emphasis is given to the mechanics and format of a research paper. **Research paper required.**

American Literature (035)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11

Juniors study the development of American literature from its Puritan beginnings to the emergence of contemporary authors. Varied, frequent writing assignments grounded in the subject material develop writing skills. Concentration on grammar and vocabulary skills is an important component of the course. Students continue preparing for SATs by the continued study of grammar and vocabulary as well as practice responding to writing prompts similar to those used in standard testing. Portfolio requirements: abstract, definition essay, analysis (symbolism) essay, and creative writing. **Research paper required**

American Literature Honors (034)

Full Year / 1 Credit/ Gr. 11

This course affords students an opportunity to do in-depth work in the study of American literature, which traces the chronological development of America's literature and ideas. Varied and frequent writing assignments based on the works studied develop writing skills, while students reinforce grammar and vocabulary skills. Students continue preparing for SATs through grammar and vocabulary as well as by responding to writing prompts similar to those used in standard testing. Additional outside readings will be covered. Portfolio requirements: abstract, definition essay, analysis (symbolism) essay, and creative writing. **Research paper required.**

American Literature /Language and Composition Advanced Placement (036)

Full year/ 1 Credit/ Gr. 11

This course affords students an opportunity to do in-depth work in the study of American literature, which traces the chronological development of America's literature and ideas. It also focuses on the use and effectiveness of rhetorical devices in standard literature and especially in nonfiction prose such as diaries, biographies, essays and argumentation in all its forms. Students practice analyzing language and learn to use techniques of close and critical reading to understand the subtleties of language. There are writing assignments keyed to the AP essay format as well as practice for the multiple choice section of the AP exam in Language and Composition. Portfolio requirements: abstract, definition essay, analysis (symbolism) essay, and creative writing. **A literary research paper is required. Students taking the AP class will be required to take the AP test. Weekly after school sessions are required.**

English Literature (047)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

Seniors explore a survey of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twentieth century. Critical thinking is developed through class discussion and varied written assignments. Depending on student need, writing skills focus on clear, concise and coherent written expression with added emphasis on the research paper. Students continue practice in grammar, vocabulary and critical reading to assist them with SATs. Portfolio requirements: analysis essay, persuasive/argumentative essay, evaluation essay, and creative writing. **Research paper is required.**

English Literature Honors (046)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

Honor students concentrate on the history of British literature from its oral beginnings to its mastery in the twentieth century. Critical thinking is developed through class discussion and varied written assignments. Assignments concentrate on advanced writing proficiency and vocabulary development. Students continue practice in grammar, vocabulary and critical reading to assist them with SATs. Portfolio requirements: analysis essay, persuasive/argumentative essay, evaluation essay, and creative writing. The process of writing a well-documented research paper is covered. **Research paper is required.**

Literary Explorations (048)

Full Year/ 1 Credit/ Gr.12

(Elective)

This course provides exciting and challenging drama and fiction to heighten students' appreciation of great literature. Through critical analysis and provocative questions, students enjoy daily discussion and challenge one another's interpretation of themes, styles, and philosophical ideas of the classic writers.

Literary Explorations Advanced Placement (049)

Full Year/ 1 Credit/ Gr. 12

(Elective)

Drama and fiction are explored through critical analysis, provocative questions, and discussion. Additionally, students are challenged through an independent study program, which extends their reading into the realm of multi-cultural literature. The AP component involves independent reading and practice writing for the AP exam. **Students receiving AP credit must take the AP exam. Weekly after school sessions are required.**

LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Spanish I (401)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language, starting with greetings and commonly used expressions, gradually adding all categories of verbs in the present tense, to a constantly expanding vocabulary base. There is a heavy focus on grammar and usage. Throughout the course students are encouraged to participate in speaking the language. Students are also introduced to the culture and customs of the Hispanic world.

Spanish II (406)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is a continuation of Spanish 1, beginning with a review of vocabulary and verbs in the present. The students learn new verb tenses, grammar, vocabulary and common expressions. They engage in simple conversation and do short readings for comprehension and exposure to Spanish culture. **Students with an average lower than C-WILL NOT be recommended for the 3rd level of Spanish unless they do additional work over the summer.**

Spanish III Honors (431)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10, 11, 12

The objective of this course is to move the student closer to proficiency in Spanish by using lessons learned at the previous levels. The focus here shifts to an application of the language and an understanding of its importance on a global scale. The student works toward an understanding of grammatical constructions, vocabulary, usage and expressions, a variety of readings, mini-lessons and dialogues. The goal is to heighten understanding and to allow students to feel more comfortable reading and speaking another language.

Spanish IV Honors (445)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

The emphasis of this course is to achieve a higher level of understanding in both the spoken and written aspects of the language. Students continue to expand vocabulary, their understanding of grammar and their ability to communicate in Spanish. Additionally, students read short stories and current events articles, and research and prepare 2 oral presentations in the Spanish language.

Spanish V Honors (446)

Full year/ 1 Credit/ Gr.12

The objective of Spanish V is to enable the student to increase skills in: comprehending formal and informal spoken Spanish, proficiency in reading Spanish narratives and literary texts with good overall comprehension, demonstrating good written control of most grammatical forms and processes, and improving speaking proficiency that allows them to communicate with a level of fluency and accuracy that does not impede communication. **Permission of the teacher is required.**

French I (412)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12

French I is an introduction to the French language and culture. In this course students are taught basic vocabulary and daily life situations. Special emphasis is placed on grammar, including the placement and agreement of adjectives, the use of the present tense and future tenses of common French verbs. In addition to creative projects, students practice language and connect to culture through grammar, oral/aural activities, exercises in reading/listening comprehension and translation as well as oral and written projects of the students' choice.

French II (422)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course students continue their study of French by reviewing and building upon the vocabulary they have acquired during the first year. Students learn the present and imperative as well as the past tenses of all regular French verbs, and a growing number of irregular verbs. Various activities help students gain confidence in reading, writing and speaking the French language. Special emphasis is placed upon pronunciation skills with constant oral reviews.

Students with an average lower than C- WILL NOT be recommended for the 3rd level of French unless they do additional work over the summer.

French III Honors (425)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10, 11, 12

In addition to past and present tenses, students learn the future of regular and irregular verbs as well as the subjunctive tense. Emphasis is placed on the students' ability to use the language in regular situations involving conversation, writing and listening and written comprehension. Students are required to complete quarterly projects to tie together their use of the language and their knowledge of French culture.

French IV Honors (428)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

This course covers the second part of Valette and Valette *Rouge* (Chapters 21-end) completing the students' knowledge of the basic grammatical structures of the language. It is designed to be challenging as well as culturally enriching. The French language is explored in contemporary literary, dramatic and cinematic forms as well as in journalistic and popular media.

French V Honors (429)

Full year/ 1 Credit/ Grade 12

This course is available for students with an exceptional interest in French language and culture. Grammar reviews continue with more emphasis on writing French and developing reading and speaking fluency. **Interview required.**

Latin I (451)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Fr. 9,10,11,12

Students learn the fundamentals of the Latin language. Through extensive Latin and English readings, students explore everyday life throughout the early Roman Empire, and the mythology and history of Rome.

Latin II (453)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10,11,12

Students continue to work on mastering the Latin language. Latin and English readings focus on Roman Britain and then proceed to the history and culture of Imperial Rome. Students also study the historical and archaeological methods used to uncover information about ancient Roman life. **Prerequisite: C- in Latin I**

Latin III Honors (455)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

Students master the forms and constructions of Latin grammar. Latin readings vary from year to year but always include some poetry and some prose. Texts include poems by Catullus and parts of *The Satyricon* by Petronius. Students also read selections from the *Aeneid*. **Prerequisite: C- in Latin II**

Latin IV Honors (459)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

Students review grammar as they read from mostly unadapted Latin literature. Selections of prose and poetry vary from year to year according to student interests. **Prerequisite: C- in Latin III**

AP Latin: Vergil (462)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

Students read, translate and analyze passages on the AP Latin: Vergil syllabus. Readings from other authors support the study of the themes and rhetorical devices found in the *Aeneid*. **Prerequisite: B- in Latin III**

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Algebra I College (213); Honors (209)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9

Algebra I covers sets of numbers and their properties, use of variables to write and solve equations and inequalities. Graphs, functions and systems of equations are also included as well as some basic probability and statistics. **Honors** level includes the above as well as polynomials and factoring.

Algebra II College (236); Honors (237)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10, 11, 12

Algebra II focuses on linear and quadratic functions, systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, probability and statistics. **Honors** classes move faster and cover topics in more depth.

Geometry College (223); Honors (219)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9, 10, 11

The study of geometry emphasizes the understanding of geometric vocabulary and the application of that vocabulary to geometric proofs. The relationship of figures and objects to everyday life is also included, as well as the application of algebra to equations and word problems. **Honors** classes move faster and cover topics in more depth.

Pre-Calculus (246)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

This course expands topics covered in previous courses, while preparing students for calculus. It includes in depth study of advanced topics in algebra, functions, trigonometry.

Pre-Calculus Honors (245)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

This course expands topics covered in previous courses, while preparing students for calculus. The study includes an introduction to modeling, linear, quadratic, trigonometric, exponential/logarithmic functions.

Advanced Mathematics (249)

Full Year/ 1 Credit/ Gr. 12

Advanced Math is designed for senior math students who have successfully completed algebra 2 with at least a C-average. The course begins with a chapter of geometry and trigonometry to prepare students for the SAT in the fall. The course also includes problem solving and critical thinking skills, number recognition and calculation, consumer mathematics and financial management, counting methods and probability theory, statistics, and set theory. In election years, the course will cover voting methods and apportionment. The course reviews selected topics from algebra and basic mathematics for those who will take college mathematics placement tests.

Calculus Honors (240)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

This course includes a brief review of advanced algebra, geometry and trigonometry. The limit of a function, derivative of a function, differentials and their applications are covered in first semester. The indefinite integral and definite integral along with its applications are stressed in second semester.

Calculus Advanced Placement (250)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

This course follows the guidelines set by the College Board following our approved AP Calculus AB syllabus. It includes a course overview and philosophy, a course planner, and teaching strategies. Students have access to practice AP exams and are offered the opportunity to take a practice AP exam that will be corrected and returned to them (usually the last Saturday in March). **Students who choose AP credit must take the AP exam.**

Accounting (631)

Full year/ 1 Credit/Grades 11, 12

In this course, students learn how to record financial transactions for various types of businesses (service, corporate and merchandising) into journals, ledgers, balance sheets, and income and capital statements. The students are able to critically analyze financial records and interpret them.

Accounting 2 (635)

Full year/ 1 Credit/ Grade 12

In this second-year course the student continues to apply the principles of accounting in the areas of Corporation Accounting, Management Accounting, and Manufacturing Cost Accounting. **Prerequisite: Accounting 1 and permission of instructor.**

NOTE:

Only Honors level students are allowed to take double mathematics courses in their sophomore year. This will enable them to reach Calculus – the senior mathematics honors course.

The Honors program is a four year commitment. It does not end with pre-calculus in the junior year

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Freshman Religion: The Living Word of God (513)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9

This course is designed to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. The first semester presents an overview of Sacred Scripture emphasizing the Bible as the Living Word of God. The second semester introduces students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God – the Second Person of the Trinity. Students learn that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. Students also learn who Christ calls them to be. **5 hours of community service is required. This can be done over the summer.**

Sophomore Religion: Sacred Scripture (528)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10

This course aims to adhere to Pope Benedict XVI's observation that the Christian message is not only informative but also life changing. The first semester consists of an overview of the Old Testament examining salient themes of revelation, creation, original grace and sin, salvation history, covenant, and prophecy from both the Jewish and Catholic perspectives. The second semester's focus is the New Testament specifically a study of the gospels. Students are encouraged to listen to the Word and to respond to the Risen Lord and His call. The following topics are also examined: Christology, salvation, justice, Mary, the Trinity, the Eucharist and other sacraments, early church development through the Acts of the Apostles as well as Pauline and Catholic epistolary literature. **10 hours of community service is required**

Junior Religion: Sacraments/Morality (537)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11

This course is divided into 2 semesters. The first part of the course focuses on the history, purpose and symbolism of the sacraments. The latter part of the course focuses on principles of moral theology and applications to the moral life in the context of identifying with and imitating the Person of Jesus Christ. **15 hours of community service is required.**

Senior Religion: World Religions (554)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

World Religions acquaints students with the major religious traditions of India, the Near East and the Far East. The course also explores saints, religious heroes and heroines in relation to social justice issues. **20 hours of community service is required.**

Senior Religion: Christian Leadership/Social Justice (555)

Full Year/ 1 Credit/ Gr. 12

The main focus of this course is on training students to be Christian leaders in the school. They learn small group facilitation skills, communication skills and public speaking skills. Students are trained to organize and present retreats on campus for underclassmen, to plan and lead liturgical celebrations, and to be active participants in their parishes. The other component of the course focuses on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching and how students can apply these teachings to their lives. Membership is based on a screening process which includes an application, an interview, and recommendations from faculty members. **20 hours of community service is required.**

Community Service Requirement

All students are **required** to perform works of community service. Validation of service must be in writing by an adult supervisor. Students are required to complete the mandatory hours of service before the 4th quarter of each school year. **Failure to complete community service will result in an F for one academic quarter of the respective religion course for that year. Community service for the year must be completed before taking the next religion course.**

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Environmental Science (300)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 9

This course is an integrated science course that includes various aspects of earth science, chemistry and biology providing the foundations of ecology. It includes the human impact on the environment: social, economic and political mechanisms that influence that impact. Students use guided and inquiry based lab investigations to support the curriculum.

Environmental Science Honors (301)

Full Year/ 1 Credit/ Gr. 9

This course is designed to offer students a faster paced, yet in-depth exploration of Environmental Science including the integration of Ecology, Biology and Chemistry, taking students from general principles to specific applications. Emphasis is placed on long term independent outdoor observation skills and scientific journaling, citizen scientist opportunities and inquiry based lab experiences, as well as independent and group research projects involving the critical evaluation of various current environmental issues.

Biology College (323)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10

Biology approaches the study of life from a microscopic perspective, beginning with biochemistry and continuing into cells and genetics, ending with a broad understanding of higher organisms with an emphasis on anatomy and physiology. This is an interactive course that involves the use of technology to enhance the learning experience. Laboratory work is an integral part of Biology and helps reinforce lecture content.

Biology Honors (319)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 10

Honors Biology is a comprehensive fast paced approach to Biology. The Honors level covers all topics of the natural world spanning from cellular molecular Biology into the study of higher organisms. The use of technology is incorporated to reinforce lecture and laboratory materials while promoting student-directed learning and comprehension. Students are expected to use and understand critical thinking and application based assessments to help them grasp material at a deeper level. The laboratory is the center of the course and is used for course work and independent research. The course is designed for perspective science majors.

Chemistry (336)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

Survey topics important to the science of chemistry include the nature of matter and energy, atomic theory, chemical formulas and equations, stoichiometry, kinetic theory, gas laws, periodic law, electron configurations, chemical bonding, solutions, acids and bases. Laboratory work is directly related to topics covered in the classroom. Competence in mathematical relationships and the ability to apply such relationships to scientific principles is required.

Chemistry Honors (337)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

Honors Chemistry is a course embracing the study of the various substances that compose the universe, their combination, and the process by which they act one upon another. Additional topics such as equilibrium, oxidation-reduction reactions and a brief overview of organic chemistry will be covered. The course is intended for students who may be prospective chemistry or science majors and requires commitment to challenging, faster paced coursework involving more in depth and critical thinking applications. The laboratory work and lab reports are intended to prepare students for college-level science courses.

Physics (342) Honors (344)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 11, 12

This course explores the study of the physical world and universe, the nature of matter and energy and how they are related. The development of the mathematical analysis of the physical world, motion, heat, light, sound, electricity and magnetism, is supported by laboratory exploration. **Honors level** students approach the topics with more depth and more sophisticated mathematics.

Forensic Science (338)

One semester / .5 Credit / Gr. 12

This course involves the application of science and technology to criminal and civil law enforcement. Students focus on the areas of chemistry, biology and physics and geology and how they are used to evaluate and assess the evidence from crime scenes. This is a laboratory course.

Advanced Biology Honors (346)

Full Year / 1 Credit / Gr. 12

Advanced Biology is an intensive full year course that utilizes a college text and college level labs, following the AP format. Emphasis is placed on the main biological themes such as biochemistry, cell biology, metabolism, anatomy and physiology, genetics and diversity. The course involves a copious amount of independent and laboratory work that takes students into a deeper understanding of these important biological concepts. Critical thinking and application based assessment is used to help evaluate students' progress on the material. Students complete the 12 labs set forward by the College Board as part of their AP Biology curriculum and are encouraged to take the Biology AP Exam.

Summer work and reading are required.

Independent Science Research Experience (350)

Full year/ 1 Credit/ Gr. 12

This course requires science department approval. This independent research experience is intended only for serious honors level students who are expecting to pursue a STEM career in college. Students submit a research proposal before being approved for this course. Students perform independent research over the summer on their topic that will be reviewed and approved by the advising teacher. In the fall, additional research is done and an experiment plan is designed. In the spring term students prepare a full scientific paper and/or poster on the research and experiment and submit an abstract to the Southern New England Junior and Humanities Symposium with the expectation of presenting at a conference. Students may be supported by an industry professional or a college professor, hence they may be performing their experiments in a lab off site and/or after school. For applications, see Science Department Chairperson. **Prerequisite: Grade of 90 in all Honors level math and science classes; 4 science credits earned or concurrent.**

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

World Civilization (114)

3 Semester course / 1.5 Credit / Gr. 9-10

In all three semesters of World Civilizations, fundamental skills of critical reading and note-taking, as well as research and writing are reinforced through an historical lens. Students have regular practice with historical investigation and writing while using modern technology and research tools, and also work with primary and secondary sources.

First Semester: Ancient Rome – The Renaissance and Reformation (500A.D. – 1650)

The first semester of World History begins with an in-depth study of ancient Rome and the military, political, economic and social reasons for its fall. The course introduces students to the Byzantine Empire and the development of Medieval Europe. A major focus of the first semester is the rise of Christianity and Islam and the conflicts between these two for supremacy, as well as the power struggles between monarchs and popes, and the spread of Lutheran ideas.

Second Semester: First Global Age – The Industrial Revolution (1415-1850)

The second semester begins with a study of pre-Columbian civilizations of Central and South America. Students study the European domination in the Americas during and after the Age of Discovery and the rise of the nation state in Europe. The French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, and the economic and political roots of the modern world are also examined in this semester.

Third Semester - World History: Modern Era (1850-present) (115)

The emphasis for this semester is the rise of imperialism, nationalism and militarism throughout the world. The causes and consequences of the great military and economic events of the past century are examined, including World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War and myriad issues facing the world today.

U.S. History (133)

3 Semester Course / 1.5 Credit / Gr. 11-12

An all three semesters of U.S History, fundamental skills of research and writing are reinforced through an historical lens. Critical reading and thinking skills are exercised as students work with primary documents and engage with local historical sources. Students have regular practice with historical investigation, research, and writing while using modern technology and research tools to prepare them for college-level courses.

First Semester (1492-1800)

This course is a survey of the social, economic, and political forces that shaped colonial and early American society. The course begins with a survey of the indigenous cultures and pre-Columbian history of the Americas, relationships between Europeans and Native Americans and early colonial development. The political and economic causes of the American Revolution are studied with specific attention given to the foundation of the U.S. government with a study of the Constitution and the various political philosophies contained within it. The first two presidential administrations are also examined as our country began its unique experiment in government with Presidents Washington and Adams.

Second Semester (1800 - 1900)

The evolution of the U.S. from the era of Jeffersonian Democracy to the turn of the century is examined in the second semester of U.S. History. The growth of the United States through expansion of territory and industry, are the focus of this course. This expansion led to great wealth and opportunity in the U.S, but also to the growth of sectionalism between North and South. Students investigate the causes of the Civil War by tracing attempts at compromise leading to the Civil War. The Reconstruction of the nation after the war, and the expansion and industrialization that followed, are the focus of the remainder of the semester.

Third Semester -Twentieth Century (1900 - present) (152)

Students approach the twentieth century through three lenses: economic policy, political and social issues, and foreign policy, with the goal of greater understanding of our modern world through increased understanding of our recent past. Emphasis is placed on the creation of and attempts to reform our economic, legal and political institutions and policies. Students examine the growing and changing role of the U.S. in world affairs, through periods of isolationism, world wars, Cold War and the modern issues of terrorism and attempts at global peacemaking.

U.S. History Advanced Placement

3 Semester Course/ 1.5 Credits

This course covers all the material provided in the three semesters of United States History with additional preparation for the Advanced Placement U.S. History exam. The course is designed to provide AP students with analytical skills and factual knowledge to deal critically with the issues and events of U.S. History. Students analyze and interpret primary sources, including documentary material, maps, pictorial and graphic evidence of historical events. The course satisfies the U.S. History requirement. Students taking this class are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam.

First semester: U.S. History Advanced Placement (137) – Grade 10

This course introduces students to the format, pace and depth of an advanced placement course. The material covered parallels the content of the first semester of U.S. History but with the added challenge of depth and amount of reading material, more work with primary sources, and AP test preparation in the form of essays and multiple choice tests.

Second and Third Semester: U.S. History Advanced Placement (138) – Grade 11

This course continues the content outlined in the U.S. History class with added emphasis on analyzing and interpreting issues and events in United States history through the use of primary source materials and test preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam. **Students are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May of the Junior year.**

Psychology (140)

One semester / .5 Credit / Gr. 12

Psychology is an introductory course in the scientific study of human behavior. It is presented from an eclectic view with equal emphasis on psychoanalytic, cognitive, behavioral, humanistic, and biological views of human behavior. Topics include methodology, learning, development, emotions, motivation, personality, and abnormality. Research projects and experiments allow students to explore their interests and learn about the broad field of psychology.

History of Popular Arts & Culture: Pop Music in the 20th Century (128)

One Semester/ .5 Credits/ Gr. 12

This course focuses on a particular genre of art or cultural expression each semester at the discretion of the instructor. Topics are the various genres of popular music developed or honed in the U.S. during the 20th century, including Jazz, Blues, Rock n' Roll, Folk/Protest, Punk, Heavy Metal, and Rap, and the influence of history and culture on these genres, as well as their subsequent influence on history and culture. Students work with primary and secondary sources and have the opportunity to do independent research on topics of interest.

War and Peace (129)

One Semester/ .5 Credits/ Gr. 10-11-12

This course focuses on the United States' involvement in World War II and the Holocaust. Students use both primary and secondary source material to understand the motivations for, and origins of both World War II and the Holocaust. In addition, students focus on the perceptions of those who experienced the war and the Holocaust. Finally, the students use a variety of media to understand the ways in which these events and media are discussed and commemorated in the modern day.

American Government: Current Events and Civic Engagement (145)

1 Semester/ .5 Credits/ Gr. 10-11-12

This course is designed to build knowledge and understanding of current events, U.S. government and critical thinking skills, as well as give students knowledge of their rights and responsibilities as informed citizens in a democratic society. The course includes the study of the U.S. Constitution, current government agencies and bureaucracy, modern politics, elections and current political ideas. It uses print and online news sources and resources as its text to help students learn to follow current events and learn critical research skills. Students are encouraged to form their own informed interpretations of current events and issues.

TECHNOLOGY

Web Design in HTML (602)

Half Year/ .5 Credits/ Gr. 10, 11, 12

This is a basic hands-on course in using Hyper Text Mark-up Language. HTML is the text editor used in about 90% of the world's websites. Students will learn the fundamentals of HTML, web design, tags, links, use of color, graphics and frames to create their own website.

Multimedia (606)

Half Year/ .5 Credit / Gr. 10, 11, 12

This course teaches methods for converting real life objects such as pictures, documents, audio and video recordings into digital data stored on a computer. It also teaches how to manipulate this digital data to create slideshow and video presentations.

Visual Basic (609) FALL SEMESTER ONLY

Half Year/ .5 Credit/ Gr. 10, 11,12

This course teaches the principles of programming through simple games creation, including how to create an application interface (WINDOW), object-oriented programming (OOP), processing data using loops and adding graphics, audio and animation.

Computer Aided Design (CAD) (608) SPRING SEMESTER ONLY

1 Semester/ .5 Credits/ Gr. 10, 11, 12

This course teaches the basics of two and three dimensional object and layout design including architectural design, object modeling and part or product drafting.

Advanced Computer Study – Elms College (TBA)

1 Semester/ .5 Credit/ Gr. 11-12

Advanced computer students are eligible to take computer science courses at Elms College as dual enrollment courses. **Separate registration process. See guidance counselors.**

