

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute

2024-2025 course catalog

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute transforms the lives of students from diverse backgrounds through academic excellence and care for the whole person in a respectful, Lasallian Catholic community, developing each student's unique talents in preparation for college and life.

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute offers a rigorous and comprehensive curriculum designed to support our mission of preparing students for college and life. The Course Catalog includes a variety of options designed to meet our students' various interests and abilities.

table of contents

- 4** Computer Science
- 5** English
- 8** Mathematics
- 9** Modern Languages
- 10** Physical Education/Health
- 10** Religion
- 11** Science
- 13** Social Studies
- 15** Visual & Performing Arts
- 17** Visual & Performing Arts
Non-Academic Overelectives
- 17** Independent Electives

graduation requirements

The general distribution of the 30.0 credits required for graduation is outlined in the Courses of Study listed on the right. Some particular items to note:

- The Class of 2025 and the Class of 2026 require 29 credits for graduation.
- All students are required to take a course in Health (.5 credit). Online Health or Summer Health is available at SJCI at an additional cost.
- All students are required to complete one (1.0) full Fine Arts credit by the end of their sophomore year.
- All students are required to take Public Speaking (.5 credit) during their senior year.
- Students are required to take Government & Economics in their junior and/or senior year.
- All students are required to complete one additional Math or Science credit during their senior year, for a total of seven (7.0) Math/Science credits.
- Graduation requirements may be adjusted in some areas for students entering SJCI after their freshman year.
- Incoming freshmen who have received credit for accelerated programs in elementary/middle school will generally be placed in Honors or advanced level courses during their freshman year. Credits do not transfer in.

courses of study

Class of 2028

Course	Credits
Religion 9	1.0
English 9 or 9H	1.0
Geometry or Geometry H	1.0
Biology, Geology, or Chemistry	1.0
The American Journey 9 or 9H	1.0
Modern Language	1.0
Fine Arts	1.0
Physical Education	.5

Class of 2027

Course	Credits
Religion 10	1.0
English 10 or 10H	1.0
Algebra I/IH, Algebra II/H	1.0
Chemistry, Geology, or Physics	1.0
World or AP World History	1.0
Modern Language	1.0
Physical Education	.5
Health	.5
Elective	1.0

Class of 2026

Course	Credits
Religion 11	1.0
English: AP or Elective	1.0
Algebra II, Int. Algebra, or Pre-Calculus	1.0
Science: AP, Physics or Environmental	1.0
Social Studies: AP or Electives	1.0
Modern Language	1.0
Elective	1.0
Physical Education	.5

Class of 2025

Course	Credits
Religion 12	1.0
English: AP or Elective	1.0
Social Studies: AP or Electives	1.0
Electives	2.0
Physical Education	.5
STEM	1.0
Public Speaking	.5

course placement/changes

SJCI has prepared this course description brochure to assist students in the course selection process. All course placements are contingent on final June grades and completion of course prerequisites. In some cases, course offerings are tentative, based on student needs and staffing availability. The school reserves the right to withdraw any course or section of a course, as well as limit the number of students scheduled for a given course or section. Students should consult with their counselor, teachers, and parents in the selection process. After the course request and verification processes are completed, all course selections are considered final. Once an over-elected course is scheduled, a student may not drop the course without the school's approval.

christian ministry

In the spirit of our founder, St. John Baptist de La Salle, and in keeping with our philosophy, a Christian Ministry Service Project is required of all students who attend SJCI. All students must complete 20 hours of service at an approved site by the close of the third marking period.

honors/advanced placement courses

Honors and Advanced Placement courses are designed to challenge a student. These courses require increased academic class work and homework. Students should carefully evaluate their total academic, activity, and social obligations as they select Honors and AP courses each year. These courses are given extra weighting when calculating a student's Grade Point Average. Weightings are as follows: Honors at 1.03; AP at 1.05. All Advanced Placement students are required to take the AP examination in their subject area in May.

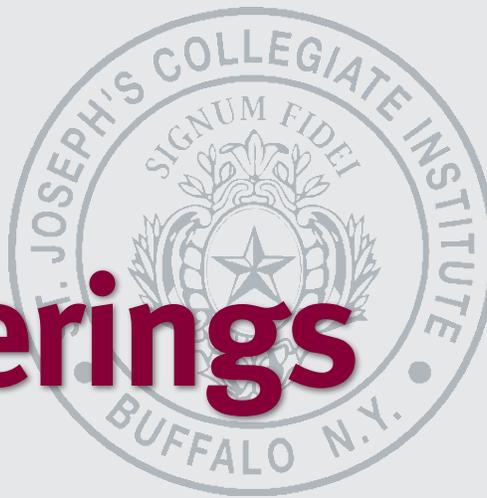
summer reading requirement

All students must complete a summer reading assignment. Reading lists will be distributed near the end of the second semester. Summer reading assignments will be integrated into the September curriculum in various subject areas.

course fees

Courses that have additional operation fees include laboratory science courses, art courses, Digital Electronics, Engineering, and Computer Aided Design. These fees will be billed after the start of the semester. All AP courses have an exam fee. Any courses associated with a college or university have additional fees for books and college credit.

2024-2025 Course Offerings



computer science

Computer Aided Design 1 – Architecture

8064 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will introduce students to architectural and structural design using Revit Architecture. Residential and Commercial designs will be covered. Structures designed by the students on the software will also be built using real building materials (wood, ceramic tile, gypsum board, etc. for structural analysis. Students may enroll in both CAD1 and CAD2 concurrently.

Computer Aided Design 2 – Mechanical

8065 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will introduce students to mechanical design using AutoCAD. Mechanical design teaches students how to illustrate mechanical parts in 2D and 3D views. Parts designed by the students on the software will also be built using 3D printers. Students may enroll in both CAD1 and CAD2 concurrently.

Cybersecurity & Computer Forensics

8033 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will introduce students to various tools that will allow them to create and protect against cyber threats. This is a fast paced class with a new topic taught weekly. Topics include: virus creation and removal, manipulated images, fake websites, passwords, facial recognition, fingerprints, remote connections, and more.

E-Commerce

8050 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will teach students how to conduct business online and manage the technical issues associated with constructing an e-Commerce Website. Students will learn how to create servers, websites, apps, and office related documents, and explore how to create images for branding.

Intro to Coding

8070 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will survey different industry-leading technologies in computer science, web development, and data science. Students will learn foundational programming terminology and skills. An overview of HTML/CSS, JavaScript, C/C++, Java, and SQL will be included.

Advanced Placement Computer Science A

8020 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is a college level course in Computer Science. It will use as its medium the Java programming language. Students will, in the course of the year, learn to code in Java and then use this information to learn several standard programming algorithms. The course will closely follow the course outline offered by the College Board. Basic course topics include Object-Oriented Program Design, Program Implementation and Applications, Program Analysis, and Standard Algorithms. All students will be prepared for and expected to take the AP Computer Science examination in May.

Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles

8021 (1.0 Cr.)

This course offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. All students will be prepared for and expected to take the AP Computer Science Principles examination in May.

english

freshmen

English 9

3006 (1.0 Cr.)

This literature course is designed to expand students' cultural awareness and help create global citizens through the close examination of great works of literature from around the world. Students will engage with the cultural, racial, and religious differences that have bound and divided the peoples of the world and be encouraged to meet these new perspectives with tolerance and an open mind. The literature component of the course focuses on the various genres – drama, poetry, short story, novel, and non-fiction – in both classic and contemporary works. It stresses the importance of reading quality literature and developing writing skills through frequent essays and other composition assignments. English 9 will build the foundation of strong high school writing and critical thinking.

English 9 Honors

3007 (1.0 Cr.)

This advanced course examines literature in greater depth than the English 9 course, adding classic and contemporary works by authors such as Satrapi, Shakespeare, Camus, and Golding. Through more rigorous study, students will expand their cultural awareness and become global citizens through the close examination of works of great literature. Students will engage with the cultural, racial, and religious differences that have bound and divided the peoples of the world and be encouraged to meet these new perspectives with tolerance and an open mind. The composition component of the course expands on existing writing and critical thinking skills through analytical papers, opinion responses, creative writing, and close reading.

sophomores

English 10 – The Great Works

3034 (1.0 Cr.)

This literature course is designed to strengthen the reading comprehension and cultural awareness of students. This class is designed around masterworks of literature and will thematically explore issues of justice, identity, class struggle, and the complexities of human connections. Major works may include Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, and Orwell's *1984*. Building on the foundational skills of English 9, this class continues the development of complex skills in writing and critical thinking through analytical papers, argumentative essays, and personal reflections. In addition, research methodologies will be developed and students will produce a fully completed research project.

English 10 Honors – The Great Works

3035 (1.0 Cr.)

This advanced literature-based course is designed to strengthen the reading comprehension and cultural awareness of students in great depth. Higher standards in written work are expected, and the reading load is significantly greater, usually accounting for three works per semester. This class is designed around great masterworks of literature and will thematically explore issues of justice, identity, class struggle, and the complexities of human connections. Major works may include Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, Shelley's *Frankenstein*, and Orwell's *1984*. Building on the foundational skills of English 9 Honors, this class continues the development of complex skills in writing and critical thinking through analytical papers, argumentative essays, and personal reflections. In addition, research methodologies will be developed and students will produce a fully completed research project. *Prerequisite: The recommendation of English 9 teachers.*

juniors & seniors

Exploring Banned Books: Unveiling Literary Taboos

3073 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed to challenge conventional thinking and ignite discussions about freedom of expression, censorship, and the power of storytelling. It's an exploration into literature that has sparked debates, stirred emotions, and even faced prohibition. To encourage critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and cultural awareness, students will examine the reasons behind censorship and consider the implications it has for society. Engaging with this literature will allow students to cultivate skills and methods of rhetorical analysis and writing at a higher level. Through in-depth discussions, essays, and presentations, students will not only explore the texts but also engage with the socio-political contexts that lead to censorship.

Crime and Detective Fiction

3062 (1.0 Cr.)

This course addresses the topic of crime in classic and contemporary fiction and film. Crime and detective fiction can offer intense action, intellectual challenge, and access to criminal underworlds, political and social critique, and the exploration of the psyche. By its very nature, crime challenges authority and the boundaries of social norms while also revealing a great deal about the fears, taboos, and paranoia of a society. We will begin with the Gothic crime tales of Sherlock Holmes, and then examine the "hard-boiled" noir detective classics of mid-century America, along with contemporary accounts of crime and detective work in fiction and film. We

will focus on the social, historical, political, and psychological frameworks of these stories, and follow detectives both smart and cunning, and damaged and alone. We will read the stories of crime, trials, and detective work that shake the very foundations of the soul, and reveal the psyche of those who dare trespass society's norms. Along with reading and analyzing literature and film, students will also write five major essays, including two major research papers and one research-based presentation that address the core elements of writing, while also emphasizing the skills of collecting and evaluating research.

Gods and Heroes: Myth, Meaning, and Sacrifice

3063 (1.0 Cr.)

The ancient Greeks and Romans created these great myths to not just leave us with great stories of heroic action and valiant characters, but to try to provide answers to man's great questions: What is our relation to a higher power? What is a hero? How are humans flawed? Are we in control of our own destinies? The foundation of this course is based on Homer's great epic, and designed to look at heroic actions taken by valiant characters, the great journey, a look at man's fate vs. free-will. Students will then look at how the ancient myths have influenced our modern culture through literature. Written works may include Homer's *Odyssey*, *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving, *Good Omens* by Neil Gaiman, *Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger, *The Spire* by William Golding, and *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* by C.S. Lewis. Students will study rhetorical devices, style, and form of literature as it relates to several modern novels, poetry, and verse. Students will practice critical thinking and analytical writing skills with the course culminating in a comprehensive research project and paper on ideas presented in class.

The Psychology of Fear: A Study in Horror Literature

3068 (1.0 Cr.)

This class will examine the dark, twisted side of human nature. Through the study of horror literature, students will dissect the intricate plots, complex characterizations, and the artistic crafting of suspense of the selected works. Besides literary analysis, students will be introduced to psychological concepts and perspectives (Biological, Cognitive, Behavioral, Evolutionary, Humanistic) and will explore how personality disorders, mass hysteria, trauma, and fear play a factor in literature and everyday life. Written works may include *Dracula* by Bram Stoker, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson, and *The Shining* by Stephen King. Along with reading and analyzing literature, students will also write four to five major research papers and at least one research-based presentation that address the core elements of writing, while also emphasizing the skills of collecting and evaluating research.

Human Rights: Understanding Justice to Inspire Change

3064 (1.0 Cr.)

***Not offered 2024-2025**

Human rights have been violated, both in the United States and abroad. This course will examine historical and modern biases and oppressions based on such things as race, gender, socioeconomic status, religion, culture, etc., and explore where

an individual fits in making a change in today's world. Students will read at least five major works, possible titles including *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, *Night* by Elie Wiesel, and *Native Son* by Richard Wright, and additionally will read one independent book per semester. Along with reading and analyzing literature, students will write at least five analytical papers that address the core elements of writing, while also emphasizing the skills of collecting and evaluating research.

Rebellion Literature

3069 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will examine those individuals who just can't seem to follow the rules. These individuals and groups spawned literary, cultural and artistic movements that derived energy from dissatisfaction, and the diversity, grittiness and unpredictable nature of their environments. We will spend time examining the nature and development of these rebels, including the angst-fueled protagonist in *The Catcher in the Rye*, the worldwide culture of graffiti artists like Banksy and Sheppard Fairey, the childlike innovation of artist Jean-Michel Basquiat, and the dissatisfied transcendental philosopher, Henry David Thoreau. We will also study various writers and poets who felt the need to question, challenge and upturn conformity. We will try to understand the social, political and economic contexts of their works as well as how their rebellious attitudes shaped counter cultures and opened spaces for youth culture and identity to have a say in the world. This course will incorporate student driven research and will be reading and writing heavy. Written works may include: *The Catcher in the Rye*, *Walden*, *Brave New World*, and *Dr. Faustus*.

Science Fiction Literature

3067 (1.0 Cr.)

Science fiction isn't really a fanciful view of the future; it is a harsh examination of the now. This genre, more than any other, tackles the difficult questions we have about our social and political structures, scientific breakthroughs, and philosophical views on our very existence. In this course, students will read five to six major works of science fiction. Major works may include Wells' *The Time Machine*, Asimov's *Foundation*, and Card's *Ender's Game*. Each explore a different facet of the genre and tackle many challenging themes. We will be analyzing these texts using history, sociology, psychology, religion, politics, and of course, scientific principles. Along with reading and analyzing literature, students will also write two major research papers and one research-based presentation that address the core elements of writing, while also emphasizing the skills of collecting and evaluating research.

Spy Literature

3071 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will explore the genre and the history of spies and espionage from World War II to the Cold War and right to the War on Terrorism and the era of Homeland Security. Students will read a survey of great spy fiction and non-fiction; stories will cover the codebreakers who helped take down the Nazi regime to the Soviet hunting James Bond to the CIA analysts

preventing the next 9/11. The class will also incorporate some of the great spy films of all time. The course also investigates the complex history and geo-political issues that shape espionage. We will look how WWII shaped the Cold War, the chess game between the US and Soviet Union that played out in Afghanistan and Vietnam, the gun-running and drug cartels and their impact on South America, the religious and political tensions found in the Middle East, and the Patriot Act and homeland security issues on our shores.

The Wrongfully Accused: Exposing Injustices through Literature

3074 (1.0 Cr.)

This course delves into the unfortunate reality of wrongful convictions, shedding light on the flaws embedded within the legal system. Through various works, students will explore the causes, consequences, and potential solutions surrounding cases of individuals who have been unjustly convicted. This course will also look at how race, social status and other factors play a role in the wrongfully convicted. Drawing on real-life examples, legal frameworks, and societal implications, this course aims to foster a critical understanding of the complexities inherent in the justice system.

Advanced Placement English

3046 (1.0 Cr.)

Students in this course will read poetry, fiction, and drama in great detail to better observe how literary artists use language to create meaning. Major works may include titles like *Richard III*, *Jane Eyre*, *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*, *Death of a Salesman*, and *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*. There are also frequent readings in poetry and non-fiction prose. Since the typical college English course is a writing course, the AP English course at St. Joe's is especially structured to make students more disciplined and precise writers, through weekly written assignments and frequent exercises in revision and timed writing. The AP English course is offered in cooperation with the College Board's Advanced Placement program. All students who take the course must also take the national exam in May. *Prerequisite: Sophomore or Junior year English teachers will recommend students who may select this course.*

Advanced Placement Seminar

3040 (1.0 Cr.)

AP Seminar is an innovative course that equips students with independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are valued by colleges. This class engages students in cross-curricular conversations and readings based on student interest that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. This course is designed around six essential skills and their development—critical thinking and reasoning, critical reading, inquiry and research, argumentation, communicating publicly, and collaboration. Students will practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational literary and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal

accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn how to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. *AP Seminar can be taken junior or senior year and meets the required English credit.*

Advanced Placement Research

3041 (1.0 Cr.)

AP Research is an interdisciplinary course that encourages students to demonstrate critical thinking and academic research skills. Students will design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question of individual interest. Through this inquiry, they will further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Seminar scoring 3 or above on the AP Seminar exam.*

mathematics

Geometry

1124 (1.0 Cr.)

This is the first course in a 3-year integrated sequence of mathematics that will include elements of algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra/trigonometry each year. The primary focus of Geometry will be building students' geometric knowledge while also introducing basic algebra concepts.

Geometry Honors

1125 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is open to students who have successfully completed Algebra 1 in 8th grade. Geometry Honors is the beginning of a 3-year sequence which will prepare students to take Advanced Placement Calculus during their senior year. The primary focus for this course will be topics in geometry, but elements of the course will be designed to further the students' understanding of algebra. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I with a Regents score of 85% or above and/or departmental approval.*

Algebra I

1014 (1.0 Cr.)

This is the second course in a 3-year integrated sequence of mathematics that will include elements of algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra/trigonometry each year. The primary focus of Algebra I will be on expanding students' understanding of algebraic concepts, but elements of the course will be designed to further the student's knowledge of both geometry and trigonometry. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry.*

Algebra I Honors

1015 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is open to students who have successfully completed Geometry and demonstrated exceptional ability who have not previously completed Algebra I. This course will include topics from Algebra I as well as additional advanced topics. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry with a minimum grade of 90% in all four quarters and departmental approval.*

Algebra II

1213 (1.0 Cr.)

This is the third course in a 3-year integrated sequence of mathematics that will include elements of algebra, geometry, and advanced algebra/trigonometry each year. The primary focus of Algebra II will be on expanding students' understanding of advanced algebraic concepts. Elements of this course will be designed to further the students' knowledge of both geometry and trigonometry. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry in either order with a minimum grade of 75% in both courses or departmental approval.*

Algebra II Honors

1225 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is open to students who have successfully completed Geometry Honors or Algebra I Honors and demonstrated exceptional ability. This course will include topics from Algebra II as well as additional advanced topics. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry Honors or Algebra I Honors with a minimum grade of 85% and departmental approval. Students not previously enrolled in Honors must have a minimum course grade of 90% in all four quarters of the previous year and departmental approval.*

Intermediate Algebra

1203 (1.0 Cr.)

This junior level course is an alternative to Algebra II that will further develop the concepts learned in Algebra I and extend those into more advanced algebraic applications. This course will also include statistics and data science with less emphasis placed on trigonometry while preparing students for the Math portion of the SAT. *Prerequisites: Departmental approval.*

Introduction to College Algebra

1234 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed for students who wish to continue building their algebraic skills in preparation for college level math. Topics include practical applications in Pre-Calculus, economics, and engineering. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Intermediate Algebra with a minimum final grade, in June, of 75% and/or departmental approval OR students enrolled in Algebra II who do not meet the prerequisite for Pre-Calculus (with departmental approval).*

Introduction to Statistics with Probability

1320 (1.0 Cr.)

This course prepares students to successfully step into a college statistics course. Students will develop an understanding of the statistic principles used in business and economics courses, as well as other careers that rely on statistics. The course emphasizes statistical thinking and problem solving, and less theory. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra II or Intermediate Algebra.*

Pre-Calculus

1304 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed to assist students in the transition from skill development in mathematics to the abstract approach encountered in college mathematics programs. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra II in June, with a minimum final grade of 75%, and/or departmental approval.*

Pre-Calculus Honors

1305 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed to prepare students for AP Calculus in senior year. Topics will include function analysis, complex number applications, polar coordinates, and matrices and will also feature advanced mathematical problem solving

(as modeled by the math team leagues in which our school participates). *Prerequisites: All students must have departmental approval. Students not enrolled in Algebra II Honors must also have a minimum course grade of 90% in all four quarters of Algebra II.*

Applied Mathematics and Calculus

1315 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed to provide accelerated students with the opportunity to continue their study of mathematics at an advanced level, with a focus on applications. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus Honors with a minimum final grade of 80% and departmental approval.*

Advanced Placement Calculus - AB

1316 (1.0 Cr.)

This is a college level course offered in conjunction with College Board. Topics will include real analysis, analytic geometry, limits, derivatives, related rates, maximum minimum problems, integration, areas bounded by curves, volumes of solids of rotation, and differential equations. Students will complete the AP Calculus AB Examination given in May. *Prerequisites: Enrollment is by invitation of the Mathematics Department with final placement based upon June grades.*

Advanced Placement Calculus – BC

1317 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is the equivalent of a full-year engineering calculus course. Topics will include differential calculus: techniques of taking the derivative and applications of the derivative; integral calculus: techniques of integration including partial fractions and trig substitution and applications of the integral; introduction to the calculus of parametric equations and polar coordinates; introduction to the application and solution of simple differential equations; sequences, series, power series, and approximations of functions using infinite power series. Students will complete the AP Calculus BC Examination given in May. *Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus Honors and by invitation of the Mathematics Department, with final placement based upon June grades*

Advanced Placement Statistics

1506 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed to give students a fundamental understanding of the elements of probability, basic concepts of hypotheses testing, inferences about populations, and regression analysis. Designed as an in-depth look at the applications of statistics within the real world, the students will complete the AP Statistics Exam in May. *Prerequisite: Mathematics Departmental approval.*

Gifted Math Program

1405/1406 (1.0 Cr.)

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute participates in the Gifted Mathematics Program offered at the State University of New York at Buffalo.

modern languages

French 9 2014 (1.0 Cr.)

German 9 2114 (1.0 Cr.)

Spanish 9 2214 (1.0 Cr.)

Level 9 courses are designed to acquaint students with a modern world language and to develop the skills of listening comprehension, speaking, reading and basic paragraph writing. Students study grammar, fundamental vocabulary and culture in a communicative environment. There is no prerequisite for these courses.

French 10/10 Honors 2024/2025 (1.0 Cr.)

German 10/10 Honors 2124/2125 (1.0 Cr.)

Spanish 10/10 Honors 2224/2225 (1.0 Cr.)

Level 10 courses focus on conversation, listening comprehension, culture, reading and paragraph writing. There is a continued emphasis on communicative proficiency. Honors level students will have additional work and responsibilities while exploring the language at an increased pace. *Prerequisite: Prerequisite: 1.0 language credit from New York State. Departmental approval for Level 10 Honors placement.*

French 11/11 Honors 2034/2035 (1.0 Cr.)

German 11/11 Honors 2134/2135 (1.0 Cr.)

Spanish 11/11 Honors 2234/2235 (1.0 Cr.)

Chinese 11/11 Honors 2318/2322 (1.0 Cr.)

Level 11 courses emphasize listening comprehension, reading, culture, composition and speaking skills. Level 11 Honors courses include additional work and responsibilities while exploring the language at an increased pace. Supplementary materials are used throughout these courses. *Prerequisite: Departmental approval for Level 11 Honors placement.*

French 12/12 Honors 2044/2045 (1.0 Cr.)

German 12/12 Honors 2144/2145 (1.0 Cr.)

Spanish 12/12 Honors 2244/2245 (1.0 Cr.)

Chinese 12/12 Honors 2319/2323 (1.0 Cr.)

Level 12 courses are designed to enhance the skill levels through speaking, reading, advanced composition and research. Greater attention is also given to the culture of the target language. Level 12 Honors includes additional work and responsibilities while exploring the language at an increased pace. Supplementary materials are used throughout the courses. *Prerequisite: Department approval for Level 12 Honors Placement.*

AP French 2056 (1.0 Cr.)

AP German 2156 (1.0 Cr.)

AP Spanish 2256 (1.0 Cr.)

The Advanced Placement program is an intensive study of the foreign language, requiring considerable reading, writing, listening and speaking. All students will take the College Board AP Examination given in May. *Prerequisite: Enrollment into AP courses is by invitation of the department.*

Chinese Seminar III 2328 (1.0 Cr.)

Chinese Seminar IV 2329 (1.0 Cr.)

These courses are designed to enhance the student's skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing in Chinese characters. Community and festival culture is researched along with analysis of Chinese music and poetry.
Prerequisite: Departmental approval.

physical education/health

freshmen/sophomores

Physical Education 9 7100 (.5 Cr.)

Physical Education 10 7200 (.5 Cr.)

Students continue to build fundamental movement skills through instruction and participation in practice and game-play in many sports, including but not limited to soccer, football, volleyball, hockey and whiffle ball. Game concepts and strategies are introduced and reinforced. Throughout the course, an emphasis is placed on improving individual levels of physical fitness while introducing students to ways to maintain a physically active lifestyle. Cardiovascular exercise, proper warm up, stretching, and safe resistance training are intertwined throughout the curriculum in order to improve the health and wellness of the individual. Students are fitness tested twice a year using the Fitnessgram assessment program.

Health

7000 (.5 Cr.)

This course is an introduction to modern health and personal care. Topics include first aid, social and communicable diseases, mental illness, nutrition, drugs, alcohol, smoking, and other related health topics. This course is required by New York State.

juniors/seniors

Physical Education 11 7300 (.5 Cr.)

Physical Education 12 7400 (.5 Cr.)

This course continues the development of the individual and group skills begun during the freshman and sophomore years. The emphasis is more on the performance of previously learned skills and lifetime activities. Students will need to demonstrate more advanced skill techniques and will be graded accordingly.

religion

At St. Joe's, we aim to mentor our students in five distinct aspects of our Catholic Lasallian tradition: Respect for all Persons, Faith in God, Quality Religious Education, Concern for the Poor, and Appreciation of our Individual God-given Charisms.

freshmen

Religion 9

5004 (1.0 Cr.)

This course focuses on the students' own relationship with and their faith in the presence of God. This course recognizes that we believe in the living presence of God in each other, in our community, and in our world. The course provides an introduction to the Lasallian learning community and the tradition of which St. Joe's is a part.

sophomores

Religion 10

5024 (1.0 Cr.)

This course focuses primarily on the relationship one has with the figure of Jesus Christ. We recognize the Brotherhood that is formed at St. Joe's and use this course to celebrate diversity and welcome all members of our community. An inclusive community is the Body of Christ and students in this course will reflect on how that is lived out in our Church.

juniors

Religion 11

5035 (1.0 Cr.)

This course focuses on how students live out their relationship with Jesus. The course further addresses how a relationship with Christ and the Church can lead to choices that are in accord with God's plan. Respect for all persons is a cornerstone of our community, and this course highlights the many ways that we are called to honor and respect the dignity of all individuals.

seniors

Religion 12

5047 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is offered to all seniors as an introduction to the broader study of religion. The course focuses on the common elements present in most religions as well as an exploration of some of the individual religious traditions of the world, with a comparison of these religions to Roman Catholicism and in particular through the lenses of the Lasallian traditions. Additionally, students will reflect on the meaning of the school's mission in their lives through the SJCI STAR (Senior Talk And Reflection) Project – a capstone project designed to bring a reflective closure to a student's experience at St. Joe's.

science

Biological Systems

0014 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will focus on connecting biological concepts of all living systems through the study of living organisms and vital functions using human systems as a model. Major topics of study will include matter and energy, structure and function, reproduction and inheritance, and natural selection and evolution. Students will develop critical thinking and analytical skills, and be introduced to the technique of laboratory investigation as a vital source of learning.

Geology & Climate Science

0024 (1.0 Cr.)

Students in this course will explore Earth and the astronomical entities that surround this great planet, identifying and exploring the processes that have shaped, and continue to shape our planet. Students will delve into oceanic conditions that support life on our fragile planet and analyze both regional and global weather and climatic patterns. Students will also analyze the world regionally - major internal and external events of Earth and the continents, including comparison of natural conditions, human activity, and cultural features. This course will emphasize the use of critical thinking and laboratory skills to gain a better understanding of the world around us.

Chemistry

0034 (1.0 Cr.)

Students will examine fundamental chemical concepts. Students will be challenged to develop a basic understanding of the interactions of matter both at the macroscopic and particulate levels. Students will be engaged in laboratory work to develop 21st century problem solving and scientific literacy skills. The essential elements of this course will enable students to make informed decisions about relevant scientific issues in their daily lives. This course fosters a desire to further investigate the wonder, excitement, and dynamic nature of science. Topics include atomic structure, bonding, stoichiometry, gases, thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, redox, and environmental chemistry. This course follows the American Chemical Society's high school curriculum. *Prerequisite: Completion of Structure and Function of Biological Systems or a Grade of 85% on the NYS Living Environment Regents Exam in 8th grade.*

Honors Chemistry

0035 (1.0 Cr.)

Students will examine conceptual and quantitative foundations of chemistry while being challenged to develop an in depth understanding of the interactions of matter both at the macroscopic and particulate levels. Students will be engaged in laboratory work to develop 21st century problem solving and scientific literacy skills. The essential elements of this course will enable students to make informed decisions about relevant scientific issues in their daily lives. This course

fosters a desire to further investigate the wonder, excitement, and dynamic nature of science. Topics include atomic structure, electron configurations and transitions, bonding, stoichiometry, gases, thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium, acids and bases, redox, and environmental chemistry. This course follows the American Chemical Society's high school curriculum, but involves a more mathematical approach to chemical principles. *Prerequisites: Enrollment by invitation of the Science Department, based upon a student's performance in Structure and Function of Biological Systems. Final course placement will be determined after final exams in June*

Physics

0044 (1.0 Cr.)

Students will explore physical phenomena at both a quantitative and conceptual level. Topics include Newtonian mechanics, electricity and magnetism, wave phenomena, and modern physics. Students will learn to devise and carry out laboratory experiments in order to deepen their knowledge of these topics. A strong foundation of high school mathematics and science knowledge is assumed; advanced mathematics is not required.

Astronomy

0054 (1.0 Cr.)

Students in this course will study celestial objects and phenomena that occur outside of the Earth's atmosphere on both a conceptual and quantitative level. Major course topics include stellar and extragalactic astronomy, which will focus on the formation of stars and the stellar life cycle, the origin of elements, as well as the formation of planets and solar systems, the detection and analysis of exoplanets. Students will also learn how astronomical research is conducted and what tools are used by astronomers of the past and present. *Prerequisites: Basic understanding of Algebra and Geometry will be assumed. It is recommended that students have taken Geology/Earth Science, Chemistry, and/or Physics before taking this course. This is designed to be a 4th science course and can be taken concurrently with another science course.*

Digital Electronics

0056 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will give students a working knowledge of analog and digital electronic technologies, including the design and construction of circuits and schematic diagrams. Students will gain experience in Arduino microcontroller programming, a language based on C/C++, and will use this language to control functions of robotic mechanisms. This class is designed to supplement topics learned in Physics and Chemistry as applied to engineering. Students will be expected to identify and assemble electronics components onto a breadboard, as well as construct robotic mechanisms from bare pieces; an aptitude for hands-on projects is vital for success. A special laboratory fee is charged.

Introduction to Engineering

0055 (1.0 Cr.)

Students will explore selected topics in engineering with an emphasis on the engineering design process. Topics include mechanical advantage, mechanisms, fluids, thermodynamics, materials science, electrical systems, and robotics. There is an extensive laboratory component where students apply scientific principles to different design challenges. This class is designed to supplement topics learned in other core science classes. Concurrent enrollment or completion of 3 of the following (Biology, Geology & Climate, Earth Science, Chemistry, Physics, or an AP science course) is advised. A special laboratory fee is charged.

Environmental Science

0053 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is an introduction to environmental science. This is a writing intensive course that examines the environmental impact of population growth on natural resources, mineral and resource extraction, water resource use and water pollution, air pollution and climate change, agriculture, and conventional and sustainable energy supplies. Emphasis is placed on a holistic approach to environmental science using class discussions and case studies to instill the objectives of the course. It is recommended that students have taken Biology and Chemistry before they register for this course. Students in this course will be encouraged to challenge the AP Environmental Science Examination given in May.

Forensics: The Science of Crime

0061 (1.0 Cr.)

Students will explore the fascinating world of Forensic Science that delves into the methods, techniques, and principles used to investigate and solve crimes. Designed to ignite curiosity and critical thinking, this course combines scientific inquiry with real-world application, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of different forensic processes. Students will learn about introductory forensic concepts such as eyewitness testimony, types of evidence, and evidence collection, including hair, DNA fingerprinting, blood evidence, and arson. An emphasis will also be placed on the human body as evidence, as we dive into death, the autopsy, and toxicology. Students will also engage with hands-on activities, case studies, and even a mock crime scene. Prerequisites: Completion of Biological Systems or Freshman Chemistry. Sophomores must take Geology and Climate Science, Chemistry, or Physics in conjunction with this course. Enrollment preference will be given to sophomores.

Kinesiology and Exercise Science

0060 (1.0 Cr.)

This course introduces students to the science of human movement, with a focus on anatomy, biomechanics, exercise physiology, and sports related performance and nutrition. Students will develop a biological understanding of human training, performance, and recovery during physical activity with an emphasis placed on fitness and health. It is recommended that students have taken Biology and Chemistry before taking this course. This is designed to be a 4th science course and can be taken concurrently with another science course.

Advanced Placement Biology

0116 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course and to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement exam given in May. This course is an in-depth, content intensive study of biological principles which include extensive laboratory investigations. A special laboratory fee is charged. *Prerequisite: 90% or higher in both Biology and Chemistry.*

Advanced Placement Chemistry

0126 (1.0 Cr.)

This is a college level course taught in conjunction with College Board's Advanced Placement program. Students will be required to perform a minimum of twenty college investigations. A special laboratory fee is charged. All students will take the AP Chemistry Examination given in May. *Prerequisites: An average of 93% in both Chemistry and mathematics along with department approval.*

Advanced Placement Physics

0136 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is the equivalent of the first two semesters of college Physics that engineering or science students would take. The first semester will cover mechanics, which includes the dynamics of motion, statics, harmonic and rotational motion, and gravitation. The second semester will cover electricity and magnetism, with a special emphasis on the theoretical applications of Maxwell's Laws. It is expected that students will sit for both parts of the AP Physics C exam given in May. This course is calculus based and builds on the topics covered in regular physics. *Prerequisites: Mathematical fluency, along with completion (co-enrollment) in AP Calculus. Departmental approval is also required.*

social studies

freshmen

The American Journey

4014 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is a survey of the history of the United States. 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 present day. Importantly, the course will develop a student's writing, study, and analytic skills as he begins his high school years. Skill development will be a major part of this course.

The American Journey – Honors

4015 (1.0 Cr.)

This course addresses the same topics and requirements as The American Journey with the addition of greater detail in subject matter and skills taught. The course aims to prepare students for success in Advanced Placement courses (AP World History, AP US History, AP European History) to be taken in future years.

sophomores

Understanding the World

4024 (1.0 Cr.)

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

Advanced Placement World History

4026 (1.0 Cr.)

This class examines all aspects of world history from the Middle Ages to today. This Honors class culminates in the students taking the Advanced Placement World History Examination given in May. The purpose of the 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.*

juniors/seniors

Introduction to Economics

4044 (.5 Cr.)

Introduction to Economics examines the major components of America's economic system, combining economic theory and practice to help students learn how to make real-life decisions about employment options, consumer choices, and personal finance. This course involves discussions and examinations of economic theories and their application to policy and

its effect on societal well-being. Students will gain a basic understanding of fundamental economic concepts and learn how to use these concepts to address problems within our society.

American Government: Democracy in Action

4054 (.5 Cr.)

"The Miracle at Philadelphia"! This is the title of one of many books on the drafting of our constitution. How did this foundational document lead to the greatest expansion of civil liberties and economic stability the world has ever seen? We will begin with an examination of the constitutional foundation that has led to this success. This survey of the political process will then explore the role and responsibilities of our branches of government, the electoral process, political beliefs, civil rights and public policy.

The American Way of War

4051 (.5 Cr.)

This seminar style course will explore not only the broader field of proper military history, but the American way of making war. It will explore the different categories of American war (wars of expansion, existential wars, wars of principle), how we raise armies and how we equip them, and how those armies fight. It will also explore how war impacts society and culture on the home front, paying particular attention to how the categories of war affect the home front differently.

The Civil War Era

4052 (.5 Cr.)

This is a survey class on the coming of the war through Reconstruction, roughly covering the years 1845-1865. While it would certainly deal with the military aspects of the war, it is not a military history course. The primary goal will be to understand the multiple meanings of this transformative event in American history. Those meanings can be defined in multiple ways: national, sectional, racial, constitutional, individual, social, intellectual, or moral. The course will examine several broad themes including the crisis of union and disunion in an expanding republic; slavery and race as a national problem and personal experience and the experience of modern, total war for soldiers and society.

Criminal Justice Studies

4053 (.5 Cr.)

This is the ideal course for anyone interested in law enforcement or criminal law. This survey course will examine the nature and foundation of criminal justice in the US, Federal and State Court systems, constitutional rights of the accused, the role of punishment and law enforcement, and the NYS Penal or Criminal Code.

US Sports History

4086 (.5 Cr.)

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 US 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.

Created History: Alternative American Narratives 4088 (.5 Cr.)

The American love affair with the movies is a long, intense, and problematic one. Since its inception, cinema has represented, recorded, reimagined, and changed American history. We live in a time when many Americans learn much of their “history” through the movies, so this class will aim to challenge students to question and evaluate their perception of United States history and how that understanding is affected by the manner in which they learn it. We generally think of movies as a diversion from our real lives, but they are also historical documents themselves that allow us to understand the cultural values, beliefs, and anxieties of the times in which they were made. The course starts from the premise that the content in films, then, as with written sources, can and should be critically analyzed for its perspectives, interpretive choices, biases, and reliability. We will examine how well or how poorly major films have portrayed the past and consider possible reasons for that success or failure, but we will also explore how movies actively take part in the production of history by engaging with current and past events. Examples of films that might be screened include *The Best Years of Our Lives*, *M*A*S*H*, *The Molly Maguires*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Glory*, *Birth of a Nation*, *The Crucible*, *Saving Private Ryan*, *Lincoln*, *Mississippi Burning*, *Malcolm X*, *Inherit the Wind*, *Zero Dark Thirty*.

Advanced Placement African American Studies 4027 (1.0 Cr.)

AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that draws from a variety of fields - history, literature, the arts, geography, science - to explore the vital contributions and experiences of African Americans, from ancient African societies to the present. This dynamic and robust course introduces students to the rich history, culture, and literature of African Americans and the larger African diaspora. Students will deepen their understanding of African American life from the past and present through an array of disciplinary perspectives, and apply analysis and research skills as they review primary sources and original artifacts.

Advanced Placement American History 4036 (1.0 Cr.)

The 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. *Prerequisite: Placement is based on present teacher recommendation and department approval.*

Advanced Placement European History 4056 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will enable students to understand the principal themes in European history from the fifteenth to the twentieth centuries. The material presented is designed to be both

stimulating and challenging. At the end of the course, students will take the College Board AP European examination given in May. *Prerequisite: Placement is based on present teacher recommendation and department approval.*

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics 4046 (1.0 Cr.)

Students enrolled in AP Economics will learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze and explain economic concepts at the college level. AP Macroeconomics is concerned with the economic system as a whole, with particular emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination. Students will become familiar with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students may take one or both sections of AP Economics.

Advanced Placement Microeconomics 4047 (1.0 Cr.)

Students enrolled in AP Economics will learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze and explain economic concepts at the college level. AP Microeconomics introduces students to the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual economic decision-makers. Students will learn about the operation of product and factor markets, distributions of income, market failure, and the role of the government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students may take one or both sections of AP Economics.

Advanced Placement U.S. Government and Politics 4066 (1.0 Cr.)

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 AP exam in U.S. Government and Politics given in May. *Prerequisite: Placement is based on present teacher recommendation and department approval.*

visual & performing arts

Band Foundations - Brass and Woodwind

6008 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is for the beginning student who is interested in learning the trombone, trumpet, flute, clarinet or saxophone. No prior experience is necessary. Certain instruments are furnished for a nominal fee. *Class enrollment is limited.*

Band Foundations - Percussion

6014 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is for the percussion student who has had some previous experience through either a school program or private lessons. Basic snare and reading skills will be developed. Each student must purchase drumsticks, pad, stand, and metronome through the instructor. These will be used for all classes. *Class enrollment is limited.*

Strings

6005 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is for the intermediate or advanced strings player. Standard literature is performed. Attendance at assigned performances, recordings, special events, and related rehearsals is required as part of a student's evaluation. This course will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:30 am - 8:15 am. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is for intermediate or advanced players.*

Concert Band

6044 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is for the intermediate or advanced brass and woodwind instrumentalist. Standard concert band literature is performed. Attendance at assigned performances, recordings, special events, and related rehearsals is required as part of a student's evaluation. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.*

Percussion Ensemble

6015 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is for the intermediate or advanced percussionist. Standard concert band literature is performed as well as percussion ensemble literature. Attendance at assigned performances, recordings, special events, and related rehearsals is required as part of a student's evaluation. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.*

Combo Ensemble

6068 (1.0 Cr.)

This course will give experienced instrumental students the opportunity to play in a small jazz ensemble group setting. Students will learn the basics of jazz from reading music/ charts, rhythms and improvisation. Performances and concerts in and out of the school are a mandatory part of the course requirement. *Prerequisite: Department approval after audition and participation in Concert Band or Varsity Singers.*

Freshmen Singers

6104 (1.0 Cr.)

This course intended for the beginning singer is a survey of musical elements through the experience of singing and listening. Vocal technique will be introduced along with elementary music reading and analysis, learning to match pitch, and reading simple rhythms. Students will learn to work as a team and encourage the success of their classmates. Elements of music and the instruments of the orchestra will be discussed as well as an overview of major periods in music and their characteristics. Students will participate in the Christmas Departmental concert as well as two school liturgies.

Glee Club

6114 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is a men's choral group whose repertoire ranges from two to four part arrangements. Sight reading and elementary music theory are presented in addition to choral performances. Concerts and special rehearsals are required of each student (although usually limited to the Christmas and spring departmental concerts). Students participate in SJCI liturgies, including Sunday Family Masses and special liturgies through-out the school year. Admission is open to incoming freshmen according to experience. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.*

Varsity Singers

6124 (1.0 Cr.)

This ensemble explores and studies three and four part men's choral arrangements, as well as solo singing experience. The pace is more advanced than Glee Club. Students are expected to study scores on a daily basis, and a serious extended commitment is required of all students. Ensemble members are required to participate in all SJCI liturgies, departmental concerts, other concert events, and Sunday Family Masses at SJCI and at various parishes in the Diocese of Buffalo. Members will also participate in Glee Club as time permits. Occasional after-school rehearsals are required. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is by audition and permission of the director.*

Music Theory

6074 (.5 Cr.)

***NOT OFFERED IN 2024-2025**

This course is a survey of a variety of the hardware and software that is used to make and produce the music you listen to today. Students will take a hands-on approach to learning techniques of audio recording. Students will understand the fundamentals of music theory and aural skills that include rhythmic and melodic notation, harmony, scales and chord progressions. Programs such as Logic Pro, Sibelius, MainStage and Audacity will be used in the course. Students should have experience in singing or playing an instrument. All necessary equipment will be provided for the class. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.*

Survey of Audio Engineering

6145 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is a survey of a variety of the hardware and

software that is used to make and produce the music you listen to today. Students will take a hands-on approach to learning the terms and techniques of audio recording. Basic principles of the elements of music will be taught in addition to listening skills and analysis. Programs such as Logic Pro, Audacity, GarageBand, Adobe Audition and Final Cut Pro will be used in the course. All necessary equipment will be provided for the class.

Introduction to Theater History

6154 (1.0 Cr.)

***NOT OFFERED IN 2024-2025**

This is a comprehensive introduction to the Theater Arts in our world. Students study basic elements of theater design, a brief historical significance, and participate in interactive creative theatrical exercises to develop an appreciation and understanding of Theater Arts in our society. This course is a study of the development of theatrical literature, theatrical production, personages, and major events, which comprise the history of theater from primitive man through the Baroque period.

Advanced Acting

6036 (.5 Cr.)

This junior and senior class is designed to provide the opportunity for more advanced study of the basic techniques, acting styles, and improvisation learned during Introduction to Acting. Workshops, improv games, creative exercises and journaling will help students to continue to develop their natural talents and apply them for possible college or professional auditions. Students will also have an opportunity to direct a short play utilizing the talents of the Introduction to Acting students at the end of the year using other theatre arts students. This course meets after school and is arranged by the instructor. Grading is based on attendance, leadership, and execution on a more advanced level of the various projects during the year. This course is offered after school on days arranged by the instructor. *Prerequisite: Enrollment is by permission of the instructor.*

Public Speaking 12

3104 (.5 Cr.)

This course provides the opportunity for practical experience in speaking before an audience. By making presentations in the “safe environment” of the classroom with personalized feedback, students will find themselves more confident and better prepared for speaking situations in college, at work, and in the community. Grading is based on frequent oral presentations and participation in class. Speech topics include: sales speech, political speech, eulogy, best man speech, business presentation, oral readings, and coach/rally speech. Students may take both Public Speaking courses. Completion of a Public Speaking course is a graduation requirement for all students.

Studio Art 1

6204 (1.0 Cr.)

This course introduces students to the basic elements and

design principles, while working in a studio atmosphere with a variety of media. Basic drawing methods are also introduced. Good design is stressed in each project, along with proper presentation of finished works. Appreciation of work, past and present is also related to art production.

Studio Art 2

6210 (1.0 Cr.)

This course builds on the basic art elements and principles, while working in a studio atmosphere with a variety of media. More advanced techniques and materials are introduced. Good design is stressed in each project, along with proper presentation of finished works. Appreciation of work, past and present is also related to art production. *Prerequisite: Studio Art 1, grade 85/higher, and/or permission of the instructor.*

Studio Art 3

6211 (1.0 Cr.)

This course continues to build students’ mastery of art elements and design principles, while working in a studio atmosphere with a variety of media. Focus becomes more conceptual with student driven themes, subject matter, and representation while mastering materials from Studio 2. *Prerequisite: Studio Art 2, grade 85/higher and/or permission of the instructor.*

Studio Art 4

6212 (1.0 Cr.)

As a culmination of the Studio series, students will get to work with more advanced materials, such as plaster and oil paint, and further express their own voice. Projects will be introduced thematically and students will have the opportunity to come up with their own ideas of representation, how they choose to compile their artwork, and what medium they want to use. Students will be required to submit a final portfolio and artist statement. *Prerequisite: Studio Art 3 with a grade 85/higher.*

Advanced Placement Studio Art: Drawing or 2D Design

6236 (1.0 Cr.)

***NOT OFFERED IN 2024-2025**

Students study art styles and techniques at an advanced level to develop a portfolio in three sections: quality, breadth, and concentration. Completion of the portfolio demands self-discipline to apply creative talents to a variety of projects, both assigned and self-structured. College credit through the College Board may be awarded based on the evaluation of the student’s portfolio and the college attending. *Prerequisite: Completion of Studio Art 1-3.*

Introduction to Photography

6253 (.5 Cr.)

Taught by a professional photographer, this course will cover basic photography principles of composition, lighting, exposure, aperture, and depth of field using the students’ and/or classroom digital cameras. Students will learn to manipulate and print using Adobe Photoshop. It is preferable that students have their own digital camera or smart phone camera but not required.

visual & performing arts: non-academic overelectives

The following courses meet outside of the school day and are not included in a student's course load or grade calculations. Students are rated according to an alphabetical grade that appears on report cards and permanent records.

Jazz Lab Band

6064 (1.0 Cr.)

The Jazz Lab Band concentrates on the performance of high quality big band literature. After-school rehearsals and performances are a required element of this course. Dedication to improvement of skills and musical knowledge is essential to participate in Jazz Lab Band. Individual practice outside of rehearsal is required. Students must be participating in a curricular music ensemble to be a part of the Jazz Lab Band. Permission of the instructor is required.

Swing Choir

6134 (1.0 Cr.)

This course is a mixed choral group performing numerous concerts throughout the school year. The music literature emphasizes Broadway show tunes, popular music, and light jazz and gospel. Outside working practices and concerts are required. Prerequisites: Audition required; instructor's permission; co-enrollment in Glee Club or Varsity Singers.

Theater Production 1—Fall Drama

6155 (.5 Cr.)

This course provides a semester opportunity based on involvement in the Fall Drama Production. Each student involved in the Fall drama as a actor, designer, crew member, and/or stage manager will enroll in this course to provide them academic credit for their involvement. This course meets after school, is co-ed, and the grade is calculated by participation, meeting deadlines, and the SJCI project based assessment guidelines.

Theater Production 2—Spring Musical

6156 (.5 Cr.)

This course provides a semester opportunity based on involvement in the Spring Musical production. Each student involved in the Spring Musical as a actor, designer, crew member, and/or stage manager will enroll in this course to provide them academic credit for their involvement. This course meets after school, is co-ed, and the grade is calculated by participation, meeting deadlines, and the SJCI project based assessment guidelines.

Workshops

The Visual and Performing Arts Department offers a variety of non-graded, non-credit bearing workshops taught by professionals in their fields through an Artists in Residence Program. Highly trained professionals offer these opportunities for the students outside of the school day in a variety of artistic venues including: Strings, Dance, Musical Theater, Graphic Design, Sculpture, Animation, Set Design, and Lighting. Sign-ups for these workshops take place as they are offered. Successful completion of the workshops can be noted on the student's transcript, but grades will not appear on the report card.

independent electives

Business Studies: Fundamentals of Leadership

4084 (1.0 Cr.)

This full-year course highlights and strengthens personal character and cognitive skills indispensable for the successful business or organizational leader of the 21st century. Students develop core competencies highly valued in today's rapidly evolving business world including creative thinking, problem solving, and facilitation skills. Throughout the course, students will extract, interpret, and apply theories and evidence from research on topics ranging from innovation, entrepreneurship, and creativity in hands-on, collaborative activities. At the culmination of the course, students will have the ability to assess and improve a team's ability to solve complex challenges and facilitate that process using simple frameworks and a number of cognitive tools.

Introduction to Film

9440 (1.0 Cr.)

The goal of this class is to help students interpret and reflect on film. It will cover the film process, filmmaking techniques, and how to critically analyze the art form. The class will also delve into the historical, political, psychological, and philosophical aspects of film. Students will explore how history impacted filmmaking and how those films reflect the identity of the time period. They will learn how a film is created (script writing, financing, directing, cinematography, acting, editing, sound, music, special effects, and distribution). *Prerequisite: Students must have an 85% or higher average in English the previous year.*

Psychology: Exploring Human Behavior and the Mind

4074 (1.0 Cr.)

This is a full-year survey course in general psychology. The purpose of this course is to examine the major areas that are studied and explored by psychologists. Some of the topics that will be examined are: Personality, Mental Illness, Intelligence, Alternate States of Consciousness and Stress.

Yearbook Design

8105 (.5 Cr.)

Students will learn the aspects of SJCI yearbook design and production. These aspects include, but are not limited to: publication design, photo-journalistic writing, organization skills, and teamwork. Students in this class are responsible for the creation and production of a certain number of assigned page layouts. Page layout assignments include: collecting and taking photographs, conducting interviews/polls, writing captions and stories, organizing the information into well-designed page layouts, meeting deadlines, and editing the pages. Students learn skills that range from using computer software programs such as Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Photoshop to using equipment such as digital cameras. This course will meet once a week after school throughout the school year.