



ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTION CATALOG

School Year 2017-2018

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

The academic program at Assumption is designed to meet the abilities, talents, aptitudes, and interests of all students. The course of study is college preparatory for all students, although those in the academic level may need to enter the preparatory program of the college to which they are admitted.

Assumption Required Credits for Graduation

Class	Credit	Comments
Theology	4	Must be taken all four years.
English	4	Must be taken all four years.
Math	4	Must be taken all four years.
Science	3	Required: Biology, Chemistry Strongly recommended: Physics
Foreign Language	2	---
Geography	½	---
U.S. History	1	---
World History	1	---
Government	½	---
Fine Arts	½	See note.
Humanities	½	See note.
Public Speaking	½	---
Health	½	---
Physical Education	½	---
Electives	5½	---
TOTAL CREDITS	28	

Note: Choice of Art, Drama, Music: a full credit in AP Art History or AP Music Theory meets the Fine Arts and Humanities requirements; three full credits in fine arts exempt a student from the Humanities requirement.

Course Selection Policy

Each spring, students select courses for the next school year with the help of their homeroom teachers, the dean of studies, the guidance counselors, and teachers. Students are responsible for noting the prerequisites for courses, if any, and obtaining the necessary signatures on the **online** registration form. The **printed AHS online registration form**, signed by the parent/guardian and including any necessary teacher signature(s), the **tuition selection form**, and a **\$200 registration fee** are due to the school office by **Friday, February 24**. Registration forms turned in after February 24 will be assessed a \$250 fee. Registration forms turned in after March 3 will not be guaranteed placement.

Once a student submits her course selection form and fee, every effort is made to accommodate her requests and the master schedule is developed. For this reason, a student who is granted a change from her original schedule is assessed a \$20 course change fee.

The school reserves the right to cancel a course or refuse a schedule change. As a school committed to meet the individualized needs of our students, courses with insufficient numbers may be cancelled or offered as online courses.

Course Levels of Difficulty

The quality points, which determine class decile, are based on semester grades and levels of the classes. The grade-point average is based on final grades as noted on page 40 of the Student/Parent Handbook.

Courses are leveled according to the degree of difficulty and the depth of subject matter, as well as the requirements of the course. **All levels are part of a pre-college curriculum.**

- AP -** Advanced Placement; College Board approved course; students prepare to take AP exams. Students will pay the \$91 per exam fee in April. **(Course numbers ending in a 0 are AP.)**
- DC -** Dual Credit (DC) college level course; credit may be earned through University of Louisville, Western Kentucky University, or JCTC. See each course for details. **(Course numbers ending in 1 are DC.)**
- AD -** Advanced; accelerated college preparatory course for students capable of the most rigorous high school curriculum. Some Advanced courses also qualify for Dual Credit. See each course for details. **(Course numbers ending in a 2 are Advanced.)**
- HI -** Honors I; college preparatory course for students capable of in-depth consideration of concepts and more independent study and research. **(Course numbers ending in a 3 are Honors I.)**
- H -** Honors; college preparatory course based on standard high school curriculum. **(Course numbers ending in a 4 are Honors.)**
- AC -** Academic; college preparatory course for freshman and sophomore students requiring emphasis on basic skills. **(Course numbers ending in a 5 are Academic.)**

BUSINESS

ADVANCED ACCOUNTING I

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Advanced - 2502

Prerequisite: Advanced or Honors I level Math teacher recommendation
This introductory course covers accounting theory and the accounting cycle for corporations. The central objective of this course is to introduce students to the role of accounting in business, the accounting model, and basic financial accounting concepts. This course is highly recommended and beneficial for those who wish to obtain a degree in any area of business while in college.

APPLIED ECONOMICS

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Honors - 2104

Affiliated with Junior Achievement, this course introduces the American economic system, including supply and demand, production and marketing, and the stock market. Students organize and run a company, manufacture and sell a product, buy stock in their company, and earn money from the profits made by selling the product. A stock game enhances this process. A community businessperson visits weekly to supplement the text. This course is highly recommended for those students who wish to own their own business in the future.

BUSINESS LAW I

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Honors I - 2303

This course introduces the application of legal principles and procedures to personal business problems. It deals with present day criminal and civil laws and how they relate to minors. Included in the course are units on the Kentucky court system and DUI laws. Community speakers enhance the class. This course is very beneficial for those who wish to obtain a degree in business in college.

BUSINESS LAW II

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Honors I - 2313

Prerequisite: Business Law I
This course continues the study of law with emphasis on consumer rights and responsibilities regarding credit, marriage, employment, car ownership, insurance, and owning and renting property. This course is very beneficial for those who wish to obtain a degree in business while in college.

DC INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Advanced – 2401

Prerequisite: Any teacher signature
This class qualifies for dual credit through Western Kentucky University as defined in the following WKU course description: BUS 100C. Introduction to Business - Designed to serve as an introduction to the business world. The course is designed to serve students regardless of their major fields. The course provides students with a survey of the business world from an organizational standpoint; that is, foundations of the social, legal, competitive, and economic environment of business organizations. Fundamentals of the importance of the internal organizational structure, effective information systems, planning, management, and how the key functions of business organizations, such as human resources administration, labor management relations, marketing, finance, insurance, and accounting operate within organizations.

DC PERSONAL FINANCE

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Advanced – 2222

Prerequisite: Any teacher signature
This class qualifies for dual credit through Western Kentucky University as defined in the following WKU course description: FIN 161 Personal Finance - Designed to serve the personal finance needs of students regardless of their major fields. Practical applications in personal and family financial planning, including credit, buying, borrowing, banking, insurance, investments, taxation, estate planning and home ownership.

PERSONAL FINANCE

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Honors - 2224

This class is designed to help students learn and apply valuable life skills in money management, career planning, saving and investing, credit management, and retirement planning. By exploring successful strategies to grow and protect wealth, students will discover the richness of information available to manage their lives and their resources. This course is relevant to those starting down the path to personal financial independence.

RETAIL SALES

½ Credit
Grades 10, 11, 12
Honors – 2214

This course guides students through the retail industry as it transacts in physical retail establishments and on the internet. Students will explore day-to-day operations of a retail business and will put their classroom skills to work in the Assumption High School Campus Store selling, stocking, taking inventory, advertising, and working with customers. In addition, they will plan and design a product to be produced and sold in the campus store. Students will take field trips to retail establishments in our community to see and apply what they've learned in class.

COMMUNICATIONS

ARGUMENTATION AND DEBATE

½ Credit
Grades 10, 11, 12
Advanced – 3442

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation
Argumentation and Debate provides a unique opportunity to engage in the transactional nature of the communication process, with students exchanging ideas from opposing viewpoints. Students will study the skills utilized in effective argumentation, examine the processes of creating and delivering a public argument, and construct sound arguments through research and critical thinking. This class does **not** fulfill the Public Speaking requirement.

COMPETITIVE SPEECH

½ Credit
Grades 10, 11, 12
Advanced - 3432

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation
Assumption fields a competitive speech team and competes in local, regional, and statewide competitions. Competition categories range from extemporaneous speaking to storytelling. This class will assist students in a wide range of areas, including critical thinking and analytical skills. Students will analyze literature and develop presentations based on the categories in which they compete. Students will be expected to provide feedback to peers and respond to constructive criticism in their own performances. Students taking this first semester course should have a strong desire to compete in this area and be willing to travel to tournament locations during the course of the school year. This class fulfills the Public Speaking requirement.

JOURNALISM I: MEDIA

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
Advanced - 3311

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation
This course studies the fundamentals of journalistic information gathering, writing, and editing. Press law and ethics are also studied. This course is required for all students who want to work on the school newspaper, yearbook, or *RocketLaunch* and is open to qualified students in Honors, Honors I, and Advanced levels. To be eligible to join the Journalism II: Newspaper or the Journalism II: Yearbook staff, a student must **also** take one of the following ½ credit electives: Digital Photography, Graphic Design. To join the *RocketLaunch* staff, which is a part of Journalism II: Newspaper, a student may take Video Production.

JOURNALISM II: NEWSPAPER

1 Credit
Grade 12
Advanced - 3221

Prerequisite: Journalism I: Media, adviser recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course expands upon concepts from Journalism I: Media. Students gain actual experience in writing, desktop publishing, design, maintenance, and video production as they produce the school newspaper, *The Rosecall*, and school media website, *RocketLaunch*. Students are required to put in hours after school and on weekends, as well as sell advertising for the paper.

JOURNALISM II: YEARBOOK

1 Credit
Grade 12
Advanced - 3321

Prerequisite: Journalism I: Media, adviser recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course expands upon concepts studied in Journalism I: Media and focuses on advanced copywriting and editing, photography, layout and design, and ad design. Students desktop publish the school yearbook, *The Rosecast*, using InDesign. They will also be able to use Photoshop and Illustrator skills as well as digital photography skills. They are required to put in hours after school and on weekends, as well as sell ads. Students are required to return after graduation to complete final yearbook spreads.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

½ Credit
Grades 11, 12
DC - 3411
Honors – 3414

This course investigates the communication process, speech preparation, and execution. It will help students become critical, discriminating listeners. Students will gain confidence as they prepare, deliver, and evaluate various types of speeches: personal experience, demonstration, informative, persuasive, award, and impromptu. Students in DC Public Speaking may earn dual credit.

VIDEO PRODUCTION

½ Credit
Grades 10, 11, 12
Honors - 3444

This class introduces the basics of video production utilizing a personal camcorder and video editing equipment. Students study video technologies, basic equipment operation, video composition, basic lighting and audio production planning, and visual storytelling. Students work in groups to create video projects utilizing post-production editing. No prerequisites. Successful completion of this course, along with Journalism I: Media, fulfills the prerequisite for Journalism II: Newspaper for students wishing to work on the staff of *RocketLaunch*.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

INTERNET AND COMPUTERS FROM THE GROUND UP

½ Credit
Grades 10, 11, 12
Advanced - 2302

Do you feel helpless and confused when your computer misbehaves? Ever wonder just what is going on in there? Technology is everywhere, and there is no job, career, field of study, or even part of your personal and social life that isn't affected by it. Now is the time to learn how computers work instead of just how to use computers. Students who complete this course will qualify for and be given priority consideration for a summer PAID INTERNSHIP in our Boeckmann Lab!

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

1 Credit
Grades 11, 12
AP – 2400

Prerequisite: Previous math teacher recommendation
The design and implementation of computer programs to solve problems involve skills that are fundamental to the study of computer science. This includes the development and analysis of algorithms and fundamental data structures, and the use of logic and formal methods.

AP PRINCIPLES OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

1 Credit
Grades 11, 12
AP – 2300

Prerequisite: Previous math teacher recommendation
This course covers the basic principles of computer science and will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. Students will use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions. This course is designed to open a pathway for students to continue studies in college-level STEM and computing courses. Students will prepare for the AP exam and create a digital artifact to submit to earn AP credit. (Source: College Board)

ROBOTICS

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 2304

This will be a semester long introductory course of robotics. Students will learn some of the history behind robotics, the different classifications of robots, some basic programing, and the ability to see robots being used in the real world. Students will have the opportunity to design and construct their own robots and then program them to complete certain tasks.

ENGLISH

ENGLISH I

1 Credit

Grade 9

Advanced - 3102

Honors I - 3103

Honors - 3104

Academic - 3105

This course includes the study of writing, literature, vocabulary, and speaking. A writing workshop emphasizing narrative, descriptive, and expository writing is used. Writing skills are developed through a process approach involving portfolio reflection and assessment. Various genre of literature are studied. Research skills are developed and vocabulary study comes from the text or words in context. Speaking skills are developed through formal and informal speeches, presentations, and discussions.

ENGLISH II

1 Credit

Grade 10

Advanced - 3202

Honors I - 3203

Honors - 3204

Academic - 3205

This course includes the study of writing, literature, vocabulary, and speaking. A writing workshop is used, which builds on the skills developed during freshman year and emphasizes more complex forms of exposition. These writing skills are developed through a process approach. Independent and class novels are read with a focus on American literature. Research skills are developed through a research project. Vocabulary study comes from the text. Speaking skills are developed through formal and informal speeches, presentations, and discussions.

ENGLISH III

1 Credit

Grade 11

Advanced - 3302

Honors I - 3303

Honors - 3304

This course includes the study of writing, literature, vocabulary, and speaking. Complex expository and persuasive writing tasks, as well as writing in connection with the literature studied, are primary features. Essays are analyzed, independent and class novels are read, and British literature is studied. A “career search” research paper is completed. Vocabulary study comes from the text, and speaking skills are developed through formal and informal speeches, presentations, and discussions.

AP ENGLISH: LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

1 Credit

Grade 10

AP - 3300

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course examines the ways in which writers use language through intensive reading of prose written in a variety of periods. Students read the works of many respected writers in numerous genres—novels, memoirs, poems, essays, plays, and speeches—in order to examine the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way conventions of genre and the resources of language contribute to effective writing. Writing skills are developed through the continued use of the writing process approach, multiple genres, and for multiple purposes. Students enrolled in the course are required to take the AP English Language and Composition examination in May.

AP SEMINAR

1 Credit

Grade 11

AP - 3310

Prerequisites: English teacher recommendation.

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundations, literary, and philosophical texts listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

ENGLISH IV

1 Credit

Grade 12

Honors I - 3403

Honors - 3404

This course includes the study of writing, literature, vocabulary, and speaking. Writing in response to literature and further development of complex expository and persuasive skills are emphasized. Essays are analyzed, independent and class novels are read, and world literature and multicultural literature are studied. Research skills are developed by writing a research paper, and vocabulary study comes from the text. Speaking skills are developed through formal and informal speeches, presentations, and discussions.

DC ENGLISH IV

1 Credit

Grade 12

DC - 3401

Prerequisites: English teacher recommendation and ACT composite minimum score of 20 or PSAT verbal score of 50.

This course, offered in conjunction with Western Kentucky University, provides the opportunity to obtain three hours of college credit. A critical analysis of literature and an in-depth study of various essay forms are completed. Further development of complex composition skills is emphasized. Frequent vocabulary study is also included. A research paper is required.

AP ENGLISH: LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

1 Credit

Grade 12

AP - 3400

Prerequisites: English teacher recommendation and Advanced or AP English III. Completed summer work submitted to teacher on first class day. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This AP course includes advanced genre study of drama, poetry, short story, novel, and essay and a critical analysis of each. This course is designed to help students read more perceptively, think more critically, write more effectively in a variety of discourses, and discuss literature more fluently. It is mandatory for all AP English IV students to complete and submit all assigned summer work on the first class day. Students who fail to follow this guideline must register for a course other than AP English IV. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition examination in May.

CREATIVE WRITING

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 3112

Honors – 3114

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation

This course studies the nature of creativity, gives students practice in writing several genres (including poetry, fiction, and drama), and emphasizes developing an individual writing style. Students will be asked to read and critically analyze their individual writing. During this process, students will become acquainted with critical-thinking techniques and how to apply them in analyzing their own work and giving feedback to peers. A publishing effort will be required.

CREATIVE WRITING 2

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 3122 Honors – 3124

Prerequisite: Creative Writing 1

This course furthers the study of the nature of creativity begun in Creative Writing 1. The course gives students further practice in writing several genres (including poetry, fiction, and drama), and encourages students to experiment with writing style. Students will be asked to read and critically analyze their individual writing as well as others’. During this process, students will deepen critical-thinking techniques and apply them in analyzing their own work and giving feedback to peers. Students will present a research project about a writer and his/her tips for writing. Publishing efforts will also be required.

FILM STUDIES

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors I – 3254

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation

This course focuses on the evaluation of film as an art form. Students will learn to apply methods of critical evaluation to viewing of film by experiencing films of diverse styles and genres from a variety of time periods. Students will gain insight into the impact of film on our society in the 20th and 21st centuries. Study will include analysis of storytelling elements as well as the evaluation of the artistic elements film including scriptwriting, editing, directing, acting, musical score, cinematography, lighting, sound effects, and other elements. The course will include research of topics such as the history of cinema, the influence of icons of the film industry and the impact of historical events and American culture on film. Class discussion, research, writing, and presentations will all be included as students become critical analysts of the art of film making.

MYTHOLOGY

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 3222

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation

This course studies the use of myth in general and the mythology of ancient Greece and Rome in particular. Students taking this course will gain an in-depth understanding of the role of myth in the ancient Greek and Roman cultures and be able to identify and comprehend mythological allusions in literature, vocabulary, art, products and their marketing, and science.

NOVELS: A GOOD READ

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors 1 – 3243

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation

This course is designed for students who enjoy reading in their leisure time. It will provide students with the opportunity to read and discuss accessible novels in a variety of genres. Genres will include detective/mystery, science fiction and/or fantasy, historical fiction, realistic fiction, and young adult fiction. Both whole class selections and student choice selections will be read during the semester. Study of each genre will also be included; for example, research and activities related to the great mystery writers of all time can be explored while the class is reading a detective story together. Other areas of study will include research of significant modern authors, trends in contemporary books (such as the graphic novel), and the influence of novels on culture. The class will include seminar/“book club” discussions and projects.

FINE ARTS

Nonperforming

AP ART HISTORY

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

AP - 1630

Prerequisite: Advanced Social Studies or English teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

The AP Art History course explores such topics as the nature of art, its uses, its meanings, art making and responses to art. Through investigation of diverse artistic traditions of cultures from prehistory to the present, the course fosters in-depth and holistic understanding of the history of art from a global perspective.

AP MUSIC THEORY

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 10810

Prerequisite: Music Department Chair signature and/or minimum of five years private instruction (letter from teacher required). See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course focuses on preparing students to take the AP exam in Music Theory. It will cover musicianship, theory, sight reading, music dictation, and musical materials and procedures. It is designed to develop a student’s ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. The course assumes fluency in reading notation. It is ideal for those considering a career in music. This course fulfills the Fine Arts and Humanities requirements. If planning for future years, please note AP Music Theory may not be offered during the 2018-2019 school year.

THE HISTORY OF ROCK AND ROLL

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 10504

This course is designed for those students who have an interest in music but do not enjoy singing or playing an instrument. It explores the development of Rock and Roll from its beginning to present time. This course does **not** fulfill the Fine Arts requirement.

Performing

BEGINNING CHORUS

½ Credit

Honors - 10114

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This is a beginning level, one semester course which focuses on proper vocal production to produce good tone quality and basic music theory. Students sing in unison, two-part harmony, and three-part harmony as well as learn basic sight reading skills. Students participate in a public performance at Christmas or in the spring, depending on when the course is taken. Students may take this course more than once.

CHAMBER CHOIR

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 10123

Prerequisite: Beginning Chorus and/or a vocal audition and signature from instructor

A one-time rental cost of \$40 for the concert dress for first-year students will be collected by the teacher on the first day of class.

This is an intermediate level, full year course which focuses on proper vocal production to produce good tone quality and basic music theory. This class concentrates on three-part harmonization, sight singing, and some advanced techniques. Students represent the school in various regional, state, and national forums. Students may take this course more than once.

ADVANCED CHOIR

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 10202

Prerequisites: Beginning Chorus or Chamber Choir, a vocal audition, and signature from instructor

A one-time rental cost of \$40 for the concert dress for first-year students will be collected by the teacher on the first day of class.

This is an advanced level, full year course for musically talented vocalists which emphasizes music reading, sight reading, advanced vocal techniques, and stylistic interpretation. This class concentrates on three- and four-part harmonization as well as advanced sight singing. Students represent the school in various state, regional, and national forums. Students may take this course more than once.

ADVANCED INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

½ Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 10402

Prerequisites for Advanced: Three or more years of private or class instruction, an audition, and a signature from instructor

This course is designed for students who would like to play a traditional instrument in a small group setting (violin, flute, clarinet, trumpet, oboe, etc.) Guitar, keyboards, and electric bass are not instrumental options. Students will practice and perform chamber music and advanced ensemble music. The school cannot provide an instrument for a student who does not have one; it may be necessary for the student to rent one.

GUITAR I

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 10704

Class Fee: \$40 will be collected by the instructor the first day of class

This one semester course is designed for a beginning acoustic guitar player who has limited or no experience on the guitar. This course emphasizes music reading, sight reading, individual and group guitar techniques, and stylistic interpretation. Students will represent the school in school concerts and assemblies. Students should have access to a guitar at home if possible, but for classwork a guitar will be provided.

GUITAR II

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 10703

Prerequisites: Beginning Guitar I or private lessons (which include note reading) and signature from instructor

Class Fee: \$40 will be collected by the instructor the first day of class.

This one semester course is designed for the student who has had previous experience playing the guitar. Students must be able to read treble clef notes and play basic chords. This course emphasizes music reading, sight reading, individual and group advanced guitar techniques, and stylistic interpretation. Students will represent the school in school concerts and assemblies. Students should have access to a guitar at home if possible, but for classwork a guitar will be provided. Students may mentor beginning students. The music will be a continuation of the prior semester. This class may be taken more than one time.

ACTING I

½ Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Honors - 3514

This course covers beginning lessons in acting, basic theatre terminology, and the production aspect of theatre. Exercises in movement, voice, imagination, concentration, trust, partner/group interaction, and character development prepare the student for basic monologue and scene work. The student will collaborate with classmates to build an acting ensemble and create a culminating showcase for an invited audience.

ACTING II

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 3512

Prerequisite: Acting I or instructor approval

This course is for students who are interested in a deeper, more thorough study of acting, building on skills learned in Acting I and/or school productions. Emphasis is placed on different theatre styles, improvisation, character development, audition techniques, monologues, and scene work. The semester culminates in a showcase performance for an invited audience.

TECHNICAL THEATRE

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 3602

Prerequisite: Acting I or instructor approval

This course is for students interested in the “behind the scenes” of theatre. Students will learn how to work as a part of a team to design, create, and build the lighting, sets, costumes, sound, makeup, props, and publicity for a play. Students will also directly apply what they learn by providing in-class tech support for the current Rose Theatre Company production. This class builds real skills that go beyond the stage!

ADVANCED THEATRE

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced – 3612

Prerequisite: Acting II or Technical Theatre or signature from theatre director

This course is an advanced study of theatre for actors and technicians. Students will participate in challenging, fun, and engaging projects covering many areas of theatre including directing, script analysis, acting, stage management, costumes, set, sound, lights, props, and make-up. In addition, the class will produce the Broadway musical, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, in the spring. The class is performance and production oriented.

Visual

INTRO TO DRAWING & PAINTING

½ Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Honors - 1114

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

No experience necessary! In this entry-level course, students will learn the basics of drawing and painting with ebony pencil, pen and ink, oil pastel, watercolor, and acrylic paint. Every student can learn how to make her artwork appear realistic and three dimensional.

DRAWING I

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 1124

Prerequisite: Intro to Drawing and Painting

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This is a class for anyone who has an interest in learning to draw. The class will focus on fundamental drawing skills. Students will learn about proportion and perspective, drawing from life, value and mark making, and how to use a variety of basic drawing media such as pencil, pen, charcoal, and colored pencils. Students will also learn about a variety of artists.

PAINTING I

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 1113

Prerequisites: Intro to Drawing and Painting, Drawing I

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This is a class for the student who has an interest in learning to paint. Students will learn the fundamentals of creating art with acrylic and watercolor paints. Color theory and color mixing will be a major part of this class as students begin to work in this medium. Throughout the semester students will study famous painters, the art movements with which they are associated, and their works.

DRAWING II

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 1133

Prerequisites: Intro to Drawing and Painting, Drawing I

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

In this intermediate course, students will learn how to further apply the elements and principles of art to their artwork. Students will use a variety of media and processes including, but not limited to, colored pencil, charcoal, graphite, and printmaking. Students will explore these media along with different artistic styles as they create several works of art.

PAINTING II

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors I - 1143

Prerequisites: Introduction to Drawing and Painting, Drawing I, Painting I

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This is a class for the committed artist interested in developing her painting skills. The class will cover more advanced painting topics such as portraiture, abstract, and en plein air painting. Students will continue work with acrylic and watercolor paint, but will also learn how to work with oil paints. Students will continue to study a variety of famous artists and their works.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 1614

Materials Requirement: a digital camera with manual exposure options

A complete photography course that covers the history as well as the art of photography, the course incorporates the elements of art and principles of design and utilizes Photoshop to edit our photography. Students will learn camera basics including all semi-automatic functions, aperture, shutter speed, and manual. This course stresses the awareness of elements and principles of photography to create beautiful, exciting and individualized compositions. Projects will include portraits, action photography, architecture details, landscapes, nature, photojournalism, and still life. Students must have a digital camera with semi-automatic functions for this class. The camera needed could be an advanced point and shoot or a DSLR.

DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY II

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I – 1623

Prerequisite: Digital Photography

Materials Requirement: a digital camera with manual exposure options

Students will continue to learn more advanced settings on their DSLR camera. They will continue to explore elements of composition and lighting while expanding their experiences using various subject matters. Additional Photoshop techniques will enable students to continue editing their photos as well as experimenting with the digital scanner to create photo images. A digital portfolio is compiled and work is displayed throughout the semester. Field trips and guest speakers will enhance our learning environment. Students must have a digital camera that has a manual mode function.

AP STUDIO ART: DRAWING

Grades 11, 12

AP - 1140

Prerequisites: Intro to Drawing and Painting, Drawing I and Painting I, Drawing II or Painting II, and teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This is a college level class in which students will add to their portfolio from DC Drawing & Painting II. The portfolio will be developed around a personal theme that students expand on throughout the school year. Students will select their own subject matter and media for this course as they complete 12 original pieces. In May, digital images of the artwork and five selected originals will be sent to the College Board for judging. All artwork will be returned to the students.

AP STUDIO ART 2-D DESIGN

Grades 11, 12

AP - 1150

Prerequisites: Introduction to Drawing and Painting, Drawing I, Painting I, Drawing II, or Painting II, teacher recommendation or Photography I and Photography II AND two other 2-D art classes (graphic design, drawing, painting) and teacher recommendation.

A materials fee of \$37 is payable each semester on the MBS site.

This is a college level class in which students will add to their portfolio from DC Drawing & Painting II. The portfolio will be developed around a personal theme that students expand on throughout the school year. Students will select their own subject matter and media for this course as they complete 12 original pieces. In May, digital images of the artwork and five selected originals will be sent to the College Board for judging. All artwork will be returned to the students.

INTRO TO CERAMICS & SCULPTURE

½ Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Honors - 1404

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This course introduces students to the wide range of materials used to make three-dimensional artwork. Students will explore many different sculptural materials including cardboard, wire, fabric, and clay. The elements and principles of 3-D art will be our guide in learning the basics of 3-D design.

CERAMICS I

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 1414

Prerequisite: Intro to 3-D or Intro to Ceramics & Sculpture

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This is an introductory course in ceramics that explores a variety of hand-building techniques along with an introduction to the wheel. Students will create a pinched bowl, slab box, modeled rattle, and a coiled vase as basic projects. More advanced projects will include a functional teapot and a sculptural shoe.

CERAMICS II

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 1423

Prerequisite: Ceramics I

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This course further develops the hand-building techniques taught in Ceramics I. These skills are expanded on in larger forms and more intricate surface techniques. Wheel throwing is also taught more in depth. Students will create a self-portrait bust, a large sculptural form from observation, a slabbed vessel, and several functional objects on the wheel.

SCULPTURE

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 1153

Prerequisite: Intro to 3-D or Intro to Ceramics & Sculpture

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

This course explores various three-dimensional techniques and media using the principles of design learned in Intro to 3-D. Students will expand on that knowledge to learn more about carving, mold making, and casting as well as kinetic forms and metal work. Projects include plaster figures, wood or stone carved sculpture, metal jewelry, and cast glass.

AP STUDIO ART: 3-D DESIGN

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 1220

Prerequisites: Intro to Ceramics and Sculpture, Ceramics I, Ceramics II, and Sculpture or teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

A materials fee of \$37 is due each semester, payable on the MBS site.

This course is designed to allow the advanced art student the opportunity to further develop the skills taught in previous 3-D art courses. It is an intense study of various three-dimensional techniques and media, resulting in an AP portfolio consisting of 16 works to be reviewed for college credit.

GRAPHIC DESIGN I

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors - 1514

Graphic Design I offers the basic concepts of design and photo editing with hands-on projects and computer manipulations. Students will use Adobe Photoshop CS6 and Adobe Illustrator CS6 to enhance existing graphics, create their own artwork, and produce electronic art pieces. Students will explore the evolution of design movements and designers who have impacted the field of graphic design.

GRAPHIC DESIGN II

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors I - 1523

Prerequisite: Graphic Design I

This course offers more in-depth coverage of Adobe Photoshop CS6 and Adobe Illustrator CS6 as used in professional graphic design. Students will create artwork to be used in advertising, logos, book covers, and other printed materials. Students will also explore illustrative qualities of design while creating projects for magazine illustration and other fields of design. Modern graphic artists will be showcased, and students will create pieces in different areas of design such as identity design, promotional design, and branding.

ADVANCED ART – 2-D DESIGN

1 Credit

Grades 12

Advanced - 1142

Prerequisites: Introduction to Drawing and Painting, Drawing I, Drawing II, Painting I, Painting II, and teacher recommendation

A materials fee of \$37 is payable on the MBS site.

Advanced Art is for the student who wants to continue with her art making but does not wish to complete the AP portfolio. During this class, students will develop some of their own drawing, painting, and mixed media projects, and some will be assigned. Students will utilize all of their artistic skills in a variety of challenging projects throughout the year. Students will also have the opportunity to use new and experimental media in combination with the traditional drawing and painting media.

GUIDANCE

ACT PREPARATION

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12 (If sufficient enrollment, seniors take first semester and juniors may take either semester.)

Honors - 1014

A complete ACT preparation course will prepare the students for the ACT. This course includes test-taking strategies, home study work, and frequent practice tests. Course fee covers the cost of materials, testing, and scoring. Several practice tests to simulate real ACT tests are given and provide valuable feedback after each so that students can chart their progress.

HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

BALANCING FITNESS AND NUTRITION

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 5814

Students will learn to balance their nutritional intake as related to their physical activity level. Course content will include fitness walking, conditioning the cardiovascular system, nutritional facts, dietary guidelines, and balancing energy expenditure with caloric intake. Mindfulness meditation will be introduced and practiced daily. Students will be required to purchase a pedometer for daily fitness walking.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors - 5404

This course introduces students to child development concepts, including theories of development, reasons for observing children, and childcare concepts. The study of development covers the six stages of a child's life cycle, beginning with the prenatal stage. Students will focus on the physical, intellectual, and social-emotional development of newborns through twelve years of age.

FITNESS THROUGH DANCE

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 5424

Fitness through dance is designed to increase health related fitness levels in students through Polynesian inspired dance. Students will participate in a fitness lesson, specific dance warm up, muscular fitness training, cardiovascular endurance training, learn a dance verse, and a cool down daily. Students will also learn the cultural background behind each dance. Students will participate in an end of the semester performance where they will perform all dances in front of an audience.

HEALTHY FAMILY LIVING

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors - 5514

This course is designed to help students develop the skills needed to make a successful transition from adolescence into the world of adulthood, marriage, and family life. Topics covered include communication skills, relationships, dating, marriage, pregnancy, childbirth, parenting, and finances.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

½ Credit

Grade 9

Honors – 5114

This course is designed to increase health-related fitness levels through fitness, dance, individual sports, dual sports, team sports, and recreational activities. Topics include cardiovascular endurance, muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition, FITT principle, training principles, and CPR training.

HEALTH

½ Credit

Grade 9

Honors - 5124

This course is designed to educate young women about the six categories of risk behaviors as identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The six categories include tobacco use, unhealthy dietary behaviors, lack of physical activity, alcohol and drug use, sexual behaviors and STDs, and unintentional injuries and violence. This course will promote making responsible decisions in an effort to achieve optimal health and wellness now and in the future.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I

1 Credit

Grade 9

Advanced - 6102

Honors I - 6103

Honors - 6104

Academic - 6105

In this course, standard Algebra I skills are introduced and developed. Topics include inequalities, functions, linear equations, linear systems of equations and inequalities, exponents, polynomials, quadratics and radicals.

ALGEBRA I LAB

½ Credit

Grade 9

Academic - 6225

Students enrolled in Academic Algebra I (6105) are concurrently enrolled in this course for the first semester. The additional course helps students to better understand traditional Algebra I concepts by moving through the material at an academically appropriate pace. Students will have the opportunity to review basic math concepts in order to be successful in a traditional Algebra I course.

GEOMETRY

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10

Advanced - 6202

Honors I - 6203

Honors - 6204

Academic - 6205

Prerequisites: Algebra I, previous math teacher recommendation

This course includes application of geometric relationships and principles. Topics can include inductive and deductive reasoning, points, lines, planes, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, coordinate geometry, area, volume, and transformations. Algebra skills are reinforced throughout this course.

ALGEBRA II

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11

Advanced - 6302

Honors I - 6303

Honors - 6304

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry, previous math teacher recommendation

This course builds upon the knowledge gained in Algebra I. Topics can include the study of functions (linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational), systems of equations and inequalities, polynomials, rational expressions, conics, and the complex number system. Sophomores in Advanced or Honors I Geometry may also take Advanced or Honors I Algebra II simultaneously.

PRECALCULUS

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

DC - 6311

Advanced - 6312

Honors I - 6313

Prerequisites: Algebra II, previous math teacher recommendation, ACT mathematics score of 23 or better required for DC level.

Topics include functions and graphs, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry and geometry, and an introduction to calculus.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA

1 Credit

Grade 12

Honors - 6414

Prerequisites: Algebra II, previous math teacher recommendation

This course prepares college-bound students for the topics covered in a college algebra course. Topics include trigonometry, functions and their graphs, and a review of topics from algebra.

DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

1 Credit

Grade 12

Honors - 6444

Prerequisites: Algebra II, previous math teacher recommendation

This course explores some of the less traditional topics in mathematics not covered in previous courses. Topics include problem solving, set theory, logic, consumer mathematics, measurement, probability, statistics, and other topics that apply to life outside of the classroom. Students will also review for the ACT before the October and December test dates.

CALCULUS FOR BUSINESS

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 6422

Prerequisites: Precalculus, previous math teacher recommendation

This course is designed for the student who has an interest in business. Topics include limits, derivatives, and integrals of algebraic functions and their business applications.

DC CALCULUS I

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

DC - 6421 (Available for dual credit through JCTC at time of publication)

Prerequisites: Precalculus, previous math teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This is an integrated course in analytic geometry and calculus of single variable functions. Topics include limits, derivatives, and integrals of algebraic and transcendental functions and their applications.

AP CALCULUS I AB

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP AB - 6420

Prerequisites: Precalculus, previous math teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

Students are prepared for the AP Calculus AB exam. Topics covered are the same as those for DC Calculus I with additional application problems, tests, and assignments included to match the rigorous nature of the AP exam. Students have the option of taking the AP AB exam in May.

PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS

1 Credit

Grade 12

Honors I - 6433

Prerequisites: Algebra II, previous math teacher recommendation

This course covers the basic concepts of probability and statistics and how these concepts relate to real world applications. Topics include gathering and exploring data, recognizing the misuse and abuse of statistics, normal distributions, probability rules, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing.

AP STATISTICS

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 6430

Prerequisites: Algebra II, previous math teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

The AP course follows the College Board syllabus— and is equivalent to a one-semester, non-calculus-based college statistics course. Topics include exploring data, normal distributions, producing data, probability rules and distributions, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing.

SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

1 Credit

Grade 9

Advanced - 8112

Honors I - 8113

Honors - 8114

Academic - 8115

This course studies the structure and function of living organisms from the molecular, cellular, selected organs, organ systems, and whole organism levels. Special emphasis is placed on the interdependency of organisms and complexities of the patterns of life. Students perform laboratory experiments, engage in group work, create projects, and construct models to expand their knowledge of living systems.

AIR AND SPACE

GUIDED STUDY: FOUNDATIONS IN AIR & SPACE

1 Credit

Grade 9

Advanced - 8912

This course is a course offered through a collaboration with the National Air and Space Education Institute. Through independent online assignments and weekly after school meetings, students are introduced to all aspects of aviation including history, maintenance and aerospace. Regular field trips to Hangar 7 at Bowman field are a required aspect of this course. Students will also coordinate independent completion of flight simulations on flight simulators either at Assumption High School or at Bowman Field.

FUNDAMENTALS IN AEROSPACE SCIENCE

1 Credit

Grade 10

Advanced - 8922

This course is a course offered through a collaboration with the National Air and Space Education Institute. Through independent online assignments and study hall and/or after school meetings, students continue their study in all aspects of aviation. At the end of this second course, students will choose to follow one of the following paths: Flight, Maintenance, Space Science or Engineering. If a student chooses a flight path, there is an additional requirement that a student signs up for flight school which is approximately \$500.

CHEMISTRY I

1 Credit

Grade 10

Advanced - 8212

Honors I - 8213

Honors - 8214

Academic - 8215

This course examines the classification and properties of matter, atomic structure, molecular structure, chemical bonding, chemical equations, and stoichiometry. Also included are an analysis of the periodic table, graphing techniques, and safe laboratory procedures. Lab experiments are performed.

ADVANCED CHEMISTRY II

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8502

Prerequisites: Chemistry I, Chemistry teacher recommendation

A continuation of Chemistry I, this course delves into topics not covered during the introductory course such as equilibrium, kinetics, thermodynamics, and beginning organic chemistry. Laboratory skills will be expanded with an emphasis on becoming independent operators in the lab.

AP CHEMISTRY II

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 8410

Prerequisites: Chemistry teacher recommendation, Physics. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course builds heavily upon the foundation laid in Advanced Chemistry I and includes advanced topics in inorganic chemistry, atomic structure, periodicity, solubility, equilibrium, redox, kinetics, electrochemistry, and acid-base systems. Preparation for the AP exam is expected, and laboratory attendance outside of regular class time is required.

PHYSICS

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8422

Honors I - 8423

Honors - 8424

Prerequisites: Chemistry teacher recommendation for DC Physics; strong math skills

This lab course provides a sound background for college science courses. Trigonometry is an integral part of physics, which provides an explanation of various common phenomena such as motion, force, heat, electricity, and light.

AP PHYSICS 1: ALGEBRA BASED

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 8400

Prerequisites: Chemistry teacher recommendation, strong math skills

This course is the equivalent to a first semester college course in algebra-based physics. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits.

ADVANCED BIOLOGY II

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8432

Prerequisites: Biology, Biology teacher recommendation

A continuation of Biology I, this course will both review and delve further into topics covered during the introductory course such as genetics, ecology, cellular biology, biochemistry, evolution, and environmental issues. Laboratory skills will be expanded with an emphasis on becoming independent operators in the lab and research. Field trips, guest speakers, and hands-on activities will supplement the course.

AP BIOLOGY II

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 8430

Prerequisites: Recommendation of Biology teacher; Anatomy and Physiology recommended; strong chemistry background necessary. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This intensive course includes a detailed study of molecular biology; explores the role of genetics in evolution; and includes a comparative study of microorganisms, plants, animals, physiology, and their impact on the environment. Preparation for the AP exam is expected, and laboratory attendance outside of regular class time is required.

BIOTECHNOLOGY

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8802

Honors - 8804

This course is actually Biotechnology and Engineering. Biotechnology and engineering are major contributors to the advancement of agriculture, medicine, and environmental sciences. Students are introduced to various traditional fields of engineering through projects with rockets, bridges, 3D printers, and others. This course explores biotechnology through the study of viruses, bacteria, case studies, and genetic engineering. This course employs principles of biology, chemistry, physics, and math. This advanced level class allows students gain knowledge and critical skills through long-term investigations.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

AP - 8440

Prerequisite: Recommendation of Biology or Chemistry teacher. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course examines the scientific principles, concepts, and laboratory investigations required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8442

Honors - 8444

Prerequisite: Biology teacher recommendation

This lab course investigates the structure and function of the tissues, organs, and systems of the human body. Lab experiments and dissections are required.

ASTRONOMY

½ Credit

Grades 10,11, 12

Honors - 8454

This course provides an introductory tour of the nighttime sky and a detailed study of the birth and death of stars. Hands-on activities help supplement an in-depth study of planets and other celestial bodies. Also included are modern explorations in space and future studies in cosmology.

MARINE BIOLOGY

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors - 8464

This course investigates the world's diverse marine ecosystems. Students explore the marvels of marine life and their interdependency with each other and their environment. Marine organisms and oceanography, along with environmental issues, are studied in depth.

FORENSIC SCIENCE I

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8602

Honors - 8604

This semester course provides students with an understanding of the basics of forensic science and what it entails. Students will build their powers of logical thinking, apply previous learning from other science courses, and enhance their reasoning skills. Topics include fingerprint analysis, DNA evidence, and physical and chemical means of identification.

FORENSIC SCIENCE II

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 8702

Prerequisites: Forensic Science I, Forensic Science I teacher's recommendation

This semester course introduces students to the fields of forensic science most closely linked to biology, such as forensic anthropology (examination of human remains), forensic entomology (use of insects in determining postmortem interval), and forensic pathology (use of medical science to examine living victims in an effort to gather evidence).

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD GEOGRAPHY

½ Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 9522

Honors I - 9523

Honors - 9524

Academic - 9525

Prerequisite: Social studies teacher recommendation required for the Advanced level.

This semester course examines the interrelations of humans and their environments; patterns of location of their activities; and regional, national, and global variations among their cultures. This course also examines the surface of the earth: continents, countries, climates, and natural resources.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

AP - 9520

Prerequisite: Dean of studies or English teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surfaces. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to analyze human social organization and its environmental consequences. Students also learn about methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. (Source: College Board).

U.S. HISTORY

1 Credit

Grade 10

Advanced - 9202

Honors I - 9203

Honors - 9204

Academic - 9205

This course surveys United States history from the Civil War to modern times. Special emphasis is placed on major wars, social movements, culture, and diplomatic relations with other countries. The study of ethnic groups and of current events is an integral part of this course.

AP U.S. HISTORY

1 Credit

Grade 10

AP - 9210

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam in U.S. History and provides students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. Students learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. The course examines time periods from discovery and settlement of the New World through the recent past.

WORLD HISTORY

1 Credit

Grade 11

Advanced - 9302

Honors I - 9303

Honors - 9304

Prerequisite: U.S. History teacher recommendation required for the Advanced level.

This course surveys world history from the Renaissance through the modern era with a focus on Europe and its impact on the larger world. It introduces students to major historical eras of world history as well as the politics, philosophy, socioeconomic conditions, and arts of various ages. Geography and current events are also integral parts of this course.

AP WORLD HISTORY

1 Credit

Grade 11

AP - 9310

Prerequisite: U.S. History teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

AP World History prepares students for the World History AP exam. The course surveys world history, focusing on major historical eras of world history, as well as the politics, philosophy, socioeconomic conditions, and arts of various ages. Students learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretation presented in historical scholarship. Geography and current events are integral parts of this course.

U.S. GOVERNMENT

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 9412

Honors - 9414

Prerequisite: Social studies teacher recommendation required for the Advanced level.

This course examines the U.S. Constitution, the basic structure of U.S. government, and its institutions. The course familiarizes students with various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that comprise U.S. political reality. Topics include the Constitution, political beliefs and parties, civil rights and civil liberties, and major Supreme Court cases. Major domestic and foreign issues are emphasized.

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 9410

Prerequisite: U.S. History teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course prepares students for the U.S. Government and Politics AP exam. It involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. policies and the analysis of specific case studies. It familiarizes students with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that comprise U.S. political reality. Topics include the Constitution, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties and interest groups, and civil rights and civil liberties.

PSYCHOLOGY

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 9602

Prerequisite: Social Studies teacher recommendation.

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors - 9604

This course focuses on detailed information about the following: history, careers and approaches to psychology, research methods and famous psychology experiments, brain research, sensation and perception, memory, learning, motivation, emotions, infant and child development, personality theories, psychological disorders, treatment for psychological disorders, and social psychology.

AP PSYCHOLOGY

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 9600

Prerequisite: Social studies teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course focuses on preparing students to take the AP exam in Psychology. This intense course covers topics including research methods, development, learning, the brain, emotions, sensations, perception, personality theories, psychological disorders, therapy for psychological disorders, and social psychology.

SOCIOLOGY

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 9702

Honors - 9704

Prerequisite: Social studies or English teacher recommendation required for Advanced level.

This course studies human behavior in a group situation. Students explore culture, social movements, mass media, the family, and specific social issues such as affirmative action and crime.

WOMEN'S ISSUES IN SOCIOLOGY

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors - 9714

Women's Issues in Sociology is a semester course that deals with the issues women face in society, both past and present. The course includes a study of women in cultures throughout the world. This course starts with a cultural history of women and then studies the socialization of women by the mass media. The course also looks at how women have changed over the course of history. Other topics pertaining to women are covered, including violence against women, women in politics, and women in the workplace.

HUMANITIES I

½ Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 9812

Honors - 9814

Prerequisite: Social studies teacher recommendation required for Advanced level.

This course helps develop the student's appreciation of drama, music, architecture, sculpture, and painting of the Western culture. Emphasis will be placed on experiencing important works of each period and genre. Students will create projects in each of these areas.

HUMANITIES II

½ Credit

Grades 12

Advanced - 9822

Prerequisite: Humanities I or AP Art History

This hands-on course expands on some of the topics covered in Humanities I, including painting, music, and drama. In addition, both videography and dance will be covered. For each of these units, students will individually or as a class create unique and imaginative artistic projects (e.g. students will film and edit a documentary, choreograph and perform a dance, and write and act in a play). All of these projects will then be showcased at the Humanities II Extravaganza which takes place at the end of the semester.

THE HOLOCAUST AND OTHER MODERN ATROCITIES

½ Credit

Grades 11, 12

Honors - 9914

This course will examine the root causes and events of the Holocaust. Anti-Semitism and the nature of prejudice will be studied along with other examples of 20th and 21st century genocide and modern atrocities.

THEOLOGY

RETREAT PROGRAM

Every student is invited to participate in an overnight retreat each of her four years at Assumption. The retreat program complements the classroom program of religious studies. It provides the student the opportunity to reflect on her identity, to form community, and to examine her relationship with God in an atmosphere conducive to prayer and reflection.

SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM: A CHRISTIAN THROUGH SERVICE

As a Catholic school, it is important that our students live their faith by learning to "love one another" and answer their Baptismal and Confirmation calls to serve as Jesus did. Assumption's four-year service program gives students the opportunity to experience peace and justice issues and learn to think globally as they act locally in the community.

FRESHMAN ACTS

Freshmen are encouraged to become involved in their immediate neighborhood, parish, and school communities. The objectives of the freshman volunteer program are to raise student awareness of needs around them, develop their interests in responding to those needs, and increase their confidence in making contacts and inquiries in these service areas.

SOPHOMORE ACTS

Service is a required component sophomore year and is directly tied to the theology curriculum. Sophomore service is a guided, 10-week program where each student, using her unique gifts and talents, provides assistance to an assigned community agency. Throughout the first semester, sophomore theology classes are provided ongoing opportunities to prepare students for this unique second semester learning experience.

JUNIOR ACTS

During the junior service program, students are required to complete a minimum of 15 hours of service to be completed by the end of the semester in which the Catholic Social Teaching course is taken. As a curriculum driven program, juniors address and connect their service experience to a social justice issue. Appropriate issues include hunger, poverty, homelessness, the elderly, the environment, abuse, special needs, and refugees.

SENIOR ACTS

The senior service program, a significant component of the required senior theology class, is project based, which allows seniors to identify their own passions, align these passions with needs of the larger community, and generate opportunities for service to alleviate these needs. Additionally, seniors are offered the optional opportunity to serve during Mission Week. Seniors may serve locally for two days of service or for a weeklong mission trip. These trips provide the opportunity for cultural immersion while serving the poor in both rural and urban, national and international, sites.

SCRIPTURE

½ Credit

Grade 9

Honors - 7124

In this course students will acquire a general knowledge and appreciation of Sacred Scripture. Students, through their study of the Bible, will encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ.

CATHOLIC BELIEFS

½ Credit

Grade 9

Honors - 7114

In this course students will understand Jesus Christ as the ultimate Revelation to us from God, will learn who they are called to be, and what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

½ Credit

Grade 10

Honors - 7224

In this course students will explore the life, suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus and will become aware of the parallels between these events in the life of our Savior and those in their personal, daily lives. Students will learn from these experiences how to live their lives in Christ.

THE LIVING CHURCH

½ Credit

Grade 10

Honors - 7234

In this course students will understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. Students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today.

CATHOLIC MORAL TEACHING

½ Credit

Grade 11

Honors - 7314

In this course students will learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

½ Credit

Grade 11

Honors - 7304

In this course students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and vulnerable, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.

SACRAMENTAL LIVING

½ Credit

Grade 12

Honors - 7404

In this course students will explore the origins, themes, rituals, and symbols of the Sacraments and discover the wisdom and relevance they offer for one's lifelong search for meaning.

ELECTIVES - Seniors:

Seniors have Sacramental Living as a required semester course each year and may choose an elective for the other semester.

ECUMENISM

½ Credit

Grade 12

Honors – 7484

In this course students will engage in the study of various Christian traditions, as well as world religions, to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths may be found in many churches and faiths whose beliefs and practices differ from the Catholic faith.

CHRISTOLOGY

½ Credit

Grade 12

Honors - 7454

In this course students will learn the images of Jesus Christ from Gospel perspectives and how Jesus calls us to live out the Reign of God.

MERCY SPIRITUALITY

½ Credit

Grade 12

Honors - 7474

In this course students will learn the classical spiritualities and the spirituality of Catherine McAuley which forms the basis of who we are as a community and as individuals.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Note: World Language classes for third year are offered only at the Honors I level and above. Fourth-year classes are offered at the Advanced level and above.

FRENCH I

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 4102

Honors I - 4103

Honors – 4104

This course familiarizes students with the French language through the development of basic skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Students also explore various cultural topics. Students enrolled in the Advanced and Honors I levels prepare for advanced language study.

FRENCH II

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 4202

Honors I - 4203

Honors - 4204

Prerequisite: French I teacher recommendation

This course continues the development of French reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students learn more complex grammatical structures and build their vocabulary. Students also increase their knowledge of the culture of the French-speaking world. Students enrolled in the Advanced and Honors I levels prepare for advanced language study.

FRENCH III

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 4302

Honors I - 4303

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced or Honors I French II and French II teacher recommendation

This course continues to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Grammar and vocabulary build on concepts mastered in the preceding years of study.

FRENCH IV

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 4402

Honors I - 4403

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DC or Honors I French III and French III teacher recommendation.

This course reviews basic and intermediate grammatical structures and introduces advanced grammatical topics. Students refine speaking, reading, and writing skills and continue building a practical vocabulary.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IV

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP - 4400

Prerequisite: French III teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course is designed to prepare students for the AP French Language and Culture exam and is equivalent in difficulty to a fifth- or sixth-semester college French course. Students interpret and respond to a variety of authentic aural and written sources in French related to the six themes of the course: Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Families and Communities, Global Challenges, Personal and Public Identities, and Science and Technology. Students engage in both interpersonal and presentational writing and speaking tasks based on the six themes and learn grammar that will help them successfully complete the tasks of the AP exam. All students are required to participate actively in class and to complete AP test prep work as part of this course.

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE V

1 Credit

Grade 12

AP - 4500

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DC French IV and French teacher recommendation.

See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course is designed to prepare students for the AP French Language and Culture exam and is equivalent in difficulty to a fifth- or sixth-semester college French course. Students interpret and respond to a variety of authentic aural and written sources in French related to the six themes of the course: Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Families and Communities, Global Challenges, Personal and Public Identities, and Science and Technology. Students engage in both interpersonal and presentational writing and speaking tasks based on the six themes and learn grammar that will help them successfully complete the tasks of the AP exam. All students are required to participate actively in class and to complete AP test prep work as part of this course.

SPANISH I

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 4112

Honors I - 4113

Honors – 4114

Academic - 4115

This course familiarizes students with the Spanish language through the development of basic skills in listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Students also explore various cultural topics. Students enrolled in the Advanced and Honors I levels prepare for advanced language study.

SPANISH II

1 Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 4212

Honors I - 4213

Honors - 4214

Academic - 4215

Prerequisite: Spanish I teacher recommendation

This course continues the development of Spanish reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills. Students learn more complex grammatical structures and build their vocabulary. Students also increase their knowledge of Hispanic culture. Students enrolled in the Advanced and Honors I levels prepare for advanced language study.

DC SPANISH III

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

DC - 4311

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced Spanish II and Spanish II teacher recommendation

This course refines speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills and increases students' practical vocabulary. More complex grammatical structures are incorporated into writing and speaking assignments. Students read and discuss short literary works. Students are expected to converse in Spanish and to comprehend written and spoken language. Three hours of college credit may be earned for this course.

SPANISH III

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced - 4312

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Advanced or Honors I Spanish II and Spanish II teacher recommendation

This course refines speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills and increases students' practical vocabulary. More complex grammatical structures are incorporated into writing and speaking assignments. Students read articles and short stories in the target language. Students are expected to converse in Spanish and to comprehend written and spoken language.

SPANISH III

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

Honors I - 4313

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish II Honors I and Spanish II teacher recommendation

This course continues the practice of reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills learned in the previous years. Students are expected to converse in Spanish and to comprehend a variety of written and spoken input. Students review basic grammatical structures and are introduced to intermediate structures and additional vocabulary. Students will be introduced to short literary readings and complete various culture projects.

SPANISH IV

1 Credit

Grades 11, 12

Advanced - 4412

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Honors I or Advanced Spanish III and Spanish III teacher recommendation

This course is the equivalent of a second- or third-semester college Spanish course. Students are expected to converse in Spanish with classmates and the teacher regularly about the topics introduced in the course. Students will be required to read and listen to authentic materials from a variety of sources and discuss them in Spanish. This course reviews basic and intermediate grammatical structures and students continue to build practical communicative proficiency in Spanish. In addition, students explore a variety of topics related to Hispanic culture.

DC SPANISH IV

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

DC - 4411

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DC or Advanced Spanish III, Spanish III teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course is the equivalent of an intermediate college level Spanish course. Students are expected to converse in Spanish with classmates and the teacher regularly about the topics introduced in the course. Students will be required to read and listen to authentic materials from a variety of sources and discuss them in Spanish. This course reviews intermediate grammatical structures and introduces advanced grammatical topics. Students continue to build spoken and written communicative proficiency in Spanish. In addition, students explore a variety of topics related to Hispanic culture. Three hours of college credit may be earned for this course.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IV

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

AP - 4410

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DC Spanish III and Spanish III teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture exam and is equivalent in difficulty to a fifth- or sixth-semester college Spanish course. Students interpret and respond to a variety of authentic aural and written sources in Spanish related to the six themes of the course: Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Families and Communities, Global Challenges, Personal and Public Identities, and Science and Technology. Students engage in both interpersonal and presentational writing and speaking tasks based on the six themes and learn grammar that will help them successfully complete the tasks of the AP exam. All students are required to participate actively in class and to complete AP test prep work as part of this course.

AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE V

1 Credit

Grades 10, 11, 12

AP - 4510

Prerequisites: Successful completion of DC Spanish IV and Spanish IV teacher recommendation. See Course Levels of Difficulty for further requirements.

This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Spanish Language and Culture exam and is equivalent in difficulty to a fifth- or sixth-semester college Spanish course. Students interpret and respond to a variety of authentic aural and written sources in Spanish related to the six themes of the course: Beauty and Aesthetics, Contemporary Life, Families and Communities, Global Challenges, Personal and Public Identities, and Science and Technology. Students engage in both interpersonal and presentational writing and speaking tasks based on the six themes and learn grammar that will help them successfully complete the tasks of the AP exam. All students are required to participate actively in class and to complete AP test prep work as part of this course.