

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department offers students comprehensive English courses based on student ability and interest levels. Each teacher guides the student through all phases of English basic to a high school education. These phases include specific lessons and assignments in literature, correct usage, grammar, writing, vocabulary, spelling, speech and basic techniques of research. The English teacher identifies and guides the gifted students, motivates the average student to reach his/her full potential, and encourages and helps the student who learns at a slower rate.

Each student is required to participate in the required summer reading program sponsored by the English Department. Students must complete their required reading over the summer to prepare them for the next year's work. For a student to continue in the Honors courses here at Wildwood Catholic High School, he/she must be recommended by his/her current English teacher and be approved by the department chairperson.

Elements of Language and Literature (Grade 9)

This curriculum includes an aggressive, in depth look at all literary genres: novels, poetry, non-fiction, short stories and drama. Emphasis will be placed on analytical, interpretive and critical thinking. A variety of both traditional and contemporary literature will be covered. Students will become familiar with the life and works of William Shakespeare, with emphasis on *Romeo and Juliet*. *Students will do an extensive study of vocabulary in order to enhance written and oral skills and prepare for the SAT's. Formal writing will follow the standard 5 paragraph essay structure. Students will be given a variety of assignments including group projects, creative writing, role-playing and oral presentations. The major focus of the course is the development of literal, interpretive, analytical and critical reading and writing skills.*

American Literature (Grade 10)

American Literature is a survey course of American Literature beginning with the study of early American literature and taking the student through the historical time periods, continuing up to and including modern American literature. Representative selections from various genres in each time period are examined. The course will also include collaboration with U. S. History I. Students will be required to write a comprehensive research paper that will be applicable to both courses of study. As with all courses in the English department, critical thinking and SAT preparation will be emphasized

Honors American Literature (Grade 10)

Students who are in this Honors American Literature course are highly motivated and have well developed writing and critical thinking skills. Students work independently and possess a spirit of inquiry as they are expected to raise as well as respond to literary questions. The ability to read both literally and inferentially is essential. Critical reading and writing skills should be superior. This course will go beyond the standard American literature curriculum, and will require more outside readings, challenging vocabulary study, self-directed writing assignments, and a more in-depth discussion of great American authors. Students will be required to write a comprehensive research paper that will be applicable to both courses of study. As with all courses in the English department, critical thinking and SAT preparation will be emphasized.

British Literature (Grade 11)

British Literature is a survey course beginning with the study of *Beowulf through the twentieth century*. *The development of English as a language is incorporated into the literature study. Selections are studied within the framework of the historical time period in which they were written. Major works include Beowulf, Canterbury Tales, Mac Beth, and additional works from the great canon of British literature. This course allows students to improve and master skills which emphasize critical thinking, analysis, interpretation and evaluation, and writing analytical essays. SAT preparation is an essential component of this course.*

Honors British Literature (Grade 11)

Honors British literature is an intensive study of British literature. Selections are studied within the framework of the historical time period in which they were written. Major works include *Beowulf, Canterbury Tales, Mac Beth, and additional works from the great canon of British literature. This course allows students to improve and master skills which emphasize critical thinking, analysis, interpretation and evaluation, and writing analytical essays. SAT preparation is an essential component of this course. Students must work independently and possess a spirit of inquiry as they are expected to raise as well as respond to literary questions. The ability to read both literally and inferentially is essential. Critical reading and writing skills should be superior. This course will go beyond the standard British literature curriculum. Students will be expected to read extensively beyond the standard curriculum, write coherently and analytically and conduct research.*

World Literature (Grade 12)

The senior English curriculum uses primary sources and focuses on a cross section of literary works from around the world. Four major genres (novel, drama, short story and non-fiction) are included. Portfolio writing is done on a weekly basis on a variety of topics encompassing creative, expository, narrative and persuasive writing. An analytical term paper is assigned. In the first quarter, emphasis is placed on writing of college essays. Outside independent reading is encouraged.

Honors World Literature (Grade 12)

This course is recommended for highly motivated students who are capable of reading analytically, writing clearly, thinking metaphorically and speaking articulately. Honors students are expected to work independently and cooperatively and to possess a spirit of inquiry that sets them apart. Major readings will include novels, drama, poetry, non-fiction and short stories from the canon of world literature. Portfolio writing will be done on a weekly basis on a variety of topics encompassing creative, expository, narrative and persuasive writing. In the first quarter, emphasis is placed on writing of college essays. A longer analytical research paper will be assigned. Independent outside reading is required.

AP English Language and Composition (Elective - Grade 11)

This course is recommended for highly motivated students who are capable of reading analytically, writing clearly, thinking metaphorically and speaking articulately. Honors students are expected to work independently and cooperatively and to possess a spirit of inquiry that sets them apart. Major readings will include novels, drama, poetry, non-fiction and short stories from the canon of world literature. Portfolio writing will be done on a weekly basis on a variety of topics encompassing creative, expository, narrative and persuasive writing. In the first quarter, emphasis is placed on writing of college essays. A longer analytical research paper will be assigned. Independent outside reading is required.

Journalism (Elective – Grades 11, 12)

This course in Journalism has a variety of purposes: To help students understand how news is produced and delivered, to make students critical consumers of mass media information, to teach the traditions, conventions, style, and principles that govern the culture of journalism, and to appreciate the ethics and legalities of reporting the news. Students will be considered members of the school newspaper staff and be required to write, edit, and critique articles. They will learn how to write succinct articles using Associated Press Style of writing, handle deadlines, support peer review, manage layouts, submit work for traditional publication, how a freelance market works, and the mechanics of e-journalism.

MATH DEPARTMENT

Algebra I

The course is the first algebra for secondary school students. Its goal is to acquaint the student with the basic rules of algebra and functions covering areas of the real number system, set theory, polynomials, factoring, equations and inequalities, graphing and solving problems. The proper terminology and usage of rules is stressed with an awareness of the student's needs in later math classes. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

Geometry

The course helps the students to understand and use the basic terms and figures of geometry. The focus is the traditional plane geometry course with an emphasis on logic and proofs. All plane and two dimension figures are reviewed with a view towards their use in algebra 2 and pre-calculus. The three dimension figures are presented for the rules of surface area and volume. The third main area of focus is the right triangle trigonometry. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the state-ment of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while develop-ing a positive self-image."

Honors Geometry

The course helps the students to understand and use the basic terms and figures of geometry. The focus is the traditional plane geometry course with an emphasis on logic and proofs. All plane and two dimension figures are reviewed with a view towards their use in algebra 2 and pre-calculus. Topics include angles and angle relationships, triangles, congruence and similarity, polygons and circles. The three dimension figures are presented for the rules of surface area and volume. The third main area of focus is the right triangle trigonometry. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the state-ment of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while develop-ing a positive self-image."

Algebra 2

All students will develop an understanding of algebraic concepts and processes and will use them to represent and analyze relationships among variable quantities and to solve problems. Important concepts are made understandable to all students through instructional diagrams and graphics, interactive activities, and numerous examples. Computers and graphing calculators are to be an integral part of the learning environment. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

All students will develop an understanding of algebraic concepts and processes and will use them to represent and analyze relationships among variable quantities and to solve problems. Important concepts are made understandable to all students through instructional diagrams and graphics, interactive activities, and numerous examples. Computers and graphing calculators are to be an integral part of the learning environment. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

Pre-Calculus; Pre-Calculus Survey

(Pre-requisites: Algebra 2, Geometry)

These courses are a preparation course for any college calculus-based freshman class. Students will review main topics of functions including the trigonometry functions. There is a heavy stress on the graphical aspects of exponential functions to a further depth from Algebra II. Emphasis is placed on the techniques needed to solve the various functions. Instruction in these courses will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal experience ..." and the statement of objectives "to create... an atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

Honors Pre-Calculus

(Pre-requisites: Hon. Algebra 2/Trigonometry, Geometry, and Dept. Approval)

The course is a preparation course for our calculus class. Students will review main topics of functions including the trigonometry functions. There is a heavy stress on the graphical aspects of functions. The course deals with the functions of the logarithmic and exponential functions to a further depth from the Algebra II / Trig class. Emphasis is placed on the techniques needed to solve the various functions. The final part of the class introduces Limits and the use of Summation notation. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

Honors Calculus

(Pre-requisites: Pre-Calculus and Dept. Approval)

The course is an introduction to college calculus. Students will review main topics of trigonometry and pre-calculus. The main part of the course deals with the three areas of Limits, Differential calculus, and Integral calculus. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

AP Calculus

(Pre-requisites: Completed AP application and Dept. Approval, Honors Pre-Calculus)

The course is an introduction to college calculus that will prepare students for the Advanced Placement test in Calculus AB. Over the summer before the start of class, students will review main topics of trigonometry and pre-calculus. The main part of the course deals with the three areas of Limits, Differential calculus, and Integral calculus. The final weeks of the course will be focused on practice AP tests. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

SAT Prep

Each freshman takes a course designed to prepare the student for the College Board standardized testing that takes place throughout high school. Students learn test-taking techniques, sample Math and English questions, supplement learning with online videos and questions and learn of the importance of College Board testing and preparation for the next level of education.

Personal Finance

The course is an introduction to many concepts or ideas that most American adults have to understand in order to be productive members of society. This semester-long course explores many simpler concepts, such as gross pay and tax deductions from a paycheck, how to balance a checkbook/write checks, and write a résumé. A few of the more in depth topics are the tax system in the United States, mortgage and car payments, and stocks, bonds, and the stock market, among many other topics. Instruction in this course will reinforce the School's Philosophy "to challenge students to strive for personal excellence..." and the statement of objectives "to create ... (an) atmosphere in which students will learn to the best of their ability while developing a positive self-image."

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Biology

This course will explore the principles governing the physical and chemical behavior of matter. An emphasis on problem solving will require skill in mathematics, including manipulation of units, significant figures, exponents and algebra. Topics include states of matter, the metric system, atomic structure, the quantum theory, periodic properties, the mole concept, naming compounds and writing formulas, balancing chemical equations, stoichiometry, the gas laws, stoichiometry of gases, solutions and naming and writing formulas for organic compounds. Laboratory activity involves manipulation of laboratory apparatus, handling of chemicals, measurements, observations, collection of data, mathematical analysis of data to arrive at conclusions. Safety in the laboratory is stressed.

Chemistry

This course will explore the principles governing the chemical behavior of matter. The topics will include states of matter, metric system, atomic structure, the quantum theory, periodic properties, the mole concept, naming compounds and writing formulas, balancing chemical equations, stoichiometry, the gas laws, study of representative gases and solutions. Mathematics is an intrinsic part of the course. Students are prompted in the steps of the problem solving process. Students will develop skill in manipulation of units. Laboratory activity involves manipulation of laboratory apparatus, handling of chemicals, measurements, observations, collection of data, mathematical analysis of data to arrive at conclusions. Safety in the laboratory is stressed.

Honors Chemistry

This course will explore the principles governing the physical and chemical behavior of matter. An emphasis on problem solving will require skill in mathematics, including manipulation of units, significant figures, exponents and algebra. Topics include states of matter, the metric system, atomic structure, the quantum theory, periodic properties, the mole concept, naming compounds and writing formulas, balancing chemical equations, stoichiometry, the gas laws, stoichiometry of gases, solutions and naming and writing formulas for organic compounds. Laboratory activity involves manipulation of laboratory apparatus, handling of chemicals, measurements, observations, collection of data, mathematical analysis of data to arrive at conclusions. Safety in the laboratory is stressed.

Physics

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of classical physics. Topics covered include the metric system, kinematics, vectors, circular motion, pendulums, Hooke's Law, mass and weight, dynamics, Newton's Three Laws of Motion, momentum, elastic and inelastic collisions, and energy. Mathematical problem solving forms an intrinsic part of this course. Skill in basic algebra is required. In the lab students work together following procedures, manipulating laboratory apparatus, taking measurements, making observations and collecting data. Students use mathematical analysis of data to arrive at conclusions.

Honors Physics

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of classical physics. Topics covered include kinematics, vectors, dynamics, Newton's Three Laws of Motion, momentum, elastic and inelastic collisions, energy, circular motion, gravity, pendulums, electricity, electric circuits, magnetism, electromagnetism and light. Mathematical problem solving forms an intrinsic part of this course. Skill in algebra, geometry, trigonometry as well as familiarity with the metric system, manipulation of units and significant figures is required.

Laboratory activity stresses critical thinking. Students work together to develop procedures, manipulate laboratory apparatus, take measurements, make observations and collect data. Students use mathematical analysis of data to arrive at conclusions.

Forensic Science

This year-long elective course provides an introduction to the topics of criminology within the field of forensic science. Study includes the applications of concepts from the areas of biology, chemistry, physics and geology to analyze and investigate evidence that may be discovered in a criminal investigation. Classroom activities include experiments, projects, case studies and the incorporation of technology.

Marine Science

This course is designed and developed to engage students in the scientific investigation of the marine environment. Areas of concentration will be physical oceanography, marine biology, and applied marine ecology. This will include the history and methodology of the study of oceans, as well as the physics, chemistry, and biology of our marine world. A focus will be placed on local tourism, and our local coastal environment. Students will be given a unique opportunity to research topics, conduct experiments, collect,

analyze, and report data using technology, and present their findings through various media.

Pre-Engineering

(Pre-requisites: Chemistry, Algebra II & Trigonometry)

This course will introduce students to basic engineering concepts. The course is project oriented. Students work together in teams to develop models and working prototypes for various projects. Students will develop skills in time management, brainstorming, sketching, documentation of work and expressing concepts and ideas. Students will develop communication skills by researching and presenting reports to the class on various engineering projects of the past. A large component of the course is involved with building and programming various robots, some of standard design and some designed by the student to solve a given problem. In addition students will investigate the various types of professions related to engineering. It is recommended that students have completed Honors Chemistry and Honors Physics with a B average or above.

Description: This course is designed to include the following topics: mechanics, heat, sound, light, and electricity. To reinforce the basic principles learned, the curriculum is coordinated with laboratory experiments. Problem solving is included as an integral part of the course in an effort to develop in the student a logical and coherent pattern of reasoning and thinking.

Anatomy

This study is a two-semester course devoted to the examination of the structure, organization, and functions of the human body. During this course, each student will gain an appreciation for the mechanics and efficiency of the human body. Students will explore the individual body systems and how they function together to sustain human life. Diseases, techniques to prevent and heal illness, and medical ethics topics surrounding the human body will also be studied during this course. Students will have the opportunity to investigate the different professions that involve Health and Anatomy. Each student will be required to participate in laboratory exercises to develop critical thinking skills, scientific techniques, and a practical understanding of the human body. Laboratory exercises will include the use of scientific technology and dissection. Evaluations will consist of laboratory exercises, tests, quizzes, and research topics presented in an oral and written manner.

AP Biology

(Pre-requisites: Completed AP application and Department Approval, Biology, Honors Physics)

Advanced Placement Biology is the equivalent of a first-year college biology course. Three general areas are cov-

ered: Molecules and Cells (25%); Heredity and Evolution (25%); Organisms and Populations (50%). The two main goals of AP Biology are to help students develop a conceptual framework for modern biology and to help students gain an appreciation of science as a process.

Emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of concepts rather than memorizing terms and details. This emphasis generates the structure of the AP Biology course that is composed

of topics, concepts and themes. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Biology Exam. Students who enroll in this course are eligible for college credit from Camden County College through the High School Plus Program.

Health

Health is a one-semester required course that emphasizes the six components of health: physical, mental, social, spiritual, emotional, and environmental. The goal is for students to obtain health literacy so that they can make educated decisions based on the current research. Students learn the benefits of proper nutrition and exercise on the body and mind, and also what is detrimental to achieving optimal health. Topics covered are the six components of health, risk factors, stress, healthy family and marriage, role of vitamins, sleep, drugs and alcohol, infectious disease, planning workouts, and diet. Also discussed are any current health related news stories that occur as the semester is in progress.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Wildwood Catholic High School adheres to the New Jersey State Core Curriculum Standards for the teaching of Social Studies. Required courses are Global Perspectives, US History I and US History II.

Global Perspectives - Grade 9

This course is a survey of world history from the Renaissance and Age of Discovery to the events of the present day. The course places particular emphasis on research, geographic and map-reading skills, use of primary source materials as well as comprehension of the events and forces which have shaped our modern world.

United States History I: Colonial America to the Age of Industrialization - Grade 10

This course is an in-depth survey of the history and culture of the United States from the English colonies through the industrial age. Special emphasis is placed on the role of government, the development of democracy, the historical importance of the Constitution and the forces which shaped our particular American culture. Students will be required to hone their research skills with the use of oral presentations that incorporate technology and reflect critical thinking skills. There will be a continuation of skills necessary to understanding the history of our country, including map interpretation, research and use of primary source materials.

United States History II: Industrial Age to the Present - Grade 11

This course continues the in-depth study of the history and culture of the United States with emphasis on the United States involvement in global conflicts, the development of a uniquely "American" culture, and the role of the United States as a global leader. Again, students will be required to hone their research skills with the use of oral presentations that incorporate technology and reflect critical thinking skills. This course will utilize many different learning sources including primary source material, historic

documentaries and Internet source material in addition to a traditional textbook.

Heritage of the Western World I and II

Students can gain 3 college credits per semester. These are semester long, dual credit courses through Seton Hall University.

Heritage of the Western World I examines the political, social, economic and intellectual developments in an-

cient, medieval and early modern times. Emphasis is placed on the historical problems and forces which have shaped our world today. Always remember that "who we are is who we were". It is vital that students learn the lessons of the past in order to confront and solve the challenges of the future.

Heritage of the Western World II examines the political, social, economic and intellectual developments from early modern times to the present. Emphasis is placed on the historical problems and forces which have shaped our world today.

Psychology

In this course students begin to understand and interpret basic psychological theories and how they are ap-

plied. Mental illness is a major part of today's society and this course can help us to understand how and why people behave the way they do. This course deals with many issues concerning the psychological community and possible career outlooks. This course can offer insight to help us to decide what is "normal" and what "abnormal" behavior. The reality we live in for the most part is in the world of the mind. If we can begin to understand how the mind works, we can begin to see our own personal blocks that can keep us from achieving self-actualization.

WORLD

LANGUAGES

DEPARTMENT

Wildwood Catholic High School students are required to take three years of a world language. Honors students are expected to take four years of the language. The fourth year of French and the fourth year of Spanish are offered as dual credit courses through Seton Hall University.

French I

This course introduces the basics of the French language. French I students develop an understanding of specific vocabulary and grammar. As students gain proficiency in these areas, the communication skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking are emphasized. Students will gain an understanding of the culture and civilization of the French speaking world through reading, audio-visual materials and discussion.

Honors French II

(Pre-requisite French I)

This course will build on the foundation established in French I. Students will gain proficiency in communicating in the target language. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills will be emphasized. Through reading, discussion, and audio-

visual materials, students will gain an understanding of the cultures in French-speaking countries.

Honors French III

(Pre-requisite Honors French II)

This course enables the students to improve and grow in all areas of the language. Students will significantly increase their command of the language through classroom reading and discussion. Finer grammar points are treated as previously learned structures are reviewed. Students will increase their awareness of French culture and tradition by working with short stories, historical readings, newspapers and magazines. Components of French government and history are presented in this course.

Intro to French Literature and Composition I and II

Each semester students can earn 3 college credits.

(Pre-requisite Honors French III)

In these semester long, dual credit courses through Seton Hall University, students acquire an understanding of works of French literature through the reading of literary selections. French culture, customs, history and geography are also presented. There is a continued emphasis on conversation and writing in the target language.

Spanish I

Students will develop the four basic skills of a language: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students will appreciate the culture of Spanish speaking countries. Grammar and vocabulary are presented in culturally authentic situations to promote the application of these skills.

Spanish II

(Pre-requisite Spanish I)

This course emphasizes the vocabulary and skills learned in Spanish I. Students will improve proficiency in communicating in the target language. Listening, reading, writing, and speaking will be practiced daily to provide continued foundation in the language. Spanish-speaking cultures will be observed through text stories and videos.

