

# GET IN THE LAKER SPIRIT

## High School Course Descriptions

The following is a list of all High School Course Descriptions. The courses highlighted in Gold are the proposed course offerings for the 2021 - 2022 school year. The final schedule of classes will be determined by the number of students interested in each and teacher availability. Please note that some of the electives will run for a semester versus a full year.

LMC students must complete 28 credits to graduate. Each student must earn 4 Theology credits, 4 Math credits, 4 English credits, 3 Science credits, 3 Social Studies credits, 2 Performing and/or Fine Arts credits, 2 Foreign Language credits, 0.5 Physical Education credit (can be granted from Varsity sport and/or Marching Band), 0.5 Health credit, and 5 Elective credits. As well as successful completion of the Senior Capstone project.

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 9**

*Required for grade 9 unless special circumstance*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

English 9 focuses on building independence and fluency in reading and writing. The course will focus on these questions:

- What makes a classic? Why do we teach them?
- How do we classify literature?
- How can we use mentor texts to develop our own writing?

During the year, students will explore and analyze literature through all eras and genres. Example texts include *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Odyssey*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *Of Mice and Men*.

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 10: American Literature**

*Required for Grade 10 unless special circumstance*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

The goal for English Language Arts 10 is to continue to build a solid foundation of knowledge, skills, and strategies using America's great writers and speakers as an anchor. Through the study of the words of the founding fathers, students will learn the basics of argument and rhetoric. Through the Romantics, such as Poe, Melville, and Irving, students will learn how to captivate an audience. Through the works of the Harlem Renaissance, students will begin to explore the depth and breadth of the human experience. This course in American Literature concludes with the post-war era with selections from Arthur Miller, Randall Jarrell, and Sylvia Plath. This course will also focus on writing.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (CONT'D)

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 11: British Literature**

*Required for Grade 11 unless in AP English course, dual enrollment, or special circumstance*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

English 11 is a survey course of major authors, trends, and genres of British Literature. Special emphasis is given to analytical writing and the writing process. Students' papers will incorporate research skills and proper documentation of credible, academic sources which will include both electronic and printed material. Grammar and usage skills will be reviewed as needed and incorporated into the writing process; vocabulary skills will be stressed through the use of vocab.com. Students will focus on an in-depth analysis of at least five to six major works including: *Beowulf*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Macbeth*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Frankenstein*; and any of the following: *Brave New World*, *Lord of the Flies*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Pride and Prejudice*.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS 12: World Literature and Composition**

*Required for Grade 12 unless in AP English course, dual enrollment, or other special circumstance*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

The goal for English Language Arts 12 is to continue and expand upon the concepts learned in English 9-11 and prepare each student for college or careers using contemporary and classic world literature as an anchor. The course will focus heavily on writing, specifically the final Capstone project from the Diocese, as well as a variety of shorter pieces.

### **LITERATURE AND FILM**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned English credit*

Literature and Film is a course that will explore the connections between literature and film through an in-depth study of film, writing, and film production from a literary perspective. Students will: study film history, read novels that inspire film, and analyze film through discussion and extensive film analysis papers. Students will become more knowledgeable and appreciative readers and more perceptive viewers of film through learning basic cinematic techniques that define different genres of film. Students should expect to produce college-level written analysis and extensive outside reading.

### **YEARBOOK**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Elective credit*

In this class, students will complete the myriad of tasks to create a quality yearbook that reflects the pictorial history of the activities for the present school year. Students will learn appropriate communication skills. In addition to other tasks, students will learn to develop a theme, design the cover, create end sheets and a title page that reflect the theme, create master designs for each section, create a workable ladder, set-up type specs and graphic elements for each section, determine story and photo ideas and assignments, "shoot the shot," organize the sale and distribution of the yearbook, sell advertising, finalize completed computer pages, establish and meet publication deadlines, and edit pages. Students will use computer programs such as Jostens YearTrack and Excel to complete the tasks. In addition, they will learn how to use a digital camera with zoom lens.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (CONT'D)

### **JOURNALISM**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

This course teaches principles of newspaper work and desktop publishing. Students explore differences between writing for the newspaper and other types of writing. Types of journalistic writing include: news, feature, and sports. Students maintain a writing portfolio, maintain a Wordpress style website, and meet several deadlines throughout the course. In addition to writing and researching articles for the school newspaper, students will have the opportunity to explore digital video and editing techniques.

### **AP LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special permission is granted*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 9, 10, (potentially 11) preferably with "B" or better and writing sample submitted to instructor.*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

### **AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special permission is granted*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 9, 10, (potentially 11) preferably with "B" or better and writing sample submitted to instructor.*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school English credit*

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level course sequenced to follow AP English Language and Composition and calls for rich, high-level thinking. Students will engage in critical readings from works that range from the sixteenth century through the twenty-first century. This course will broaden human understandings about the world around us and help to sharpen awareness of language as well as understanding of the writer's craft. Students will refine their writing skills and be taught the four critical elements of analysis: identify the section of prose or poetry; identify the literary device being discussed; incorporate evidence from the text; and include commentary that clearly and insightfully explains how the evidence works to illustrate the author's purpose. Students can expect to engage in the reading of short stories, poetry--including epic poems, sonnets, and drama--to include a Shakespearean tragedy and novels. Students can expect many hours of homework each week.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (CONT'D)

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned English credit*

This course will focus on helping students to develop skills to speak and create in front of an audience. The course is structured to help students learn by doing, and will focus primarily on several projects throughout the semester. Each project will focus on a specific skill that will build throughout the course of the term. Some examples would be: silent film, Pecha Kucha, and product commercials.

### **CREATIVE WRITING**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned English credit*

This course will focus on expressive writing in many different forms. Students will have the opportunity to explore several different types of poetry and prose styles, as well as responding to literature, art mediums, quotes, and music. Originality and writing that shows thought will be emphasized. Strategies to avoid writer's block and new ways to uncover ideas for writing will be studied. Peer reviews and discussion are essential elements to this course.

# THEOLOGY

## **THEOLOGY 9: Sacred Scripture**

*Required for students in grade 9*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Theology credit*

The freshman course in theology is an introduction to Sacred Scripture, the study of which allows students to encounter the living Word of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. Students will preface their study of Scripture by analyzing both the forms of and limits to man's knowledge of God through reason and Divine revelation and the role of the Church as the authentic interpreter and guardian of Sacred Scripture, with a particular focus upon the covenantal nature of God's self-revelation and an extended reading of the *Gospel according to St. John*.

## **THEOLOGY 10: The Creed, the Church, and the Sacraments**

*Required for students in grade 10*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Theology credit*

The sophomore course explores: (i) the Trinitarian, Christocentric, and ecclesial dimensions of the Catholic faith as it has been formulated in the great creeds of the Church; and (ii) the nature of the sacraments and their critical role in the economy of salvation.

## **THEOLOGY 11: Morality**

*Required for students in grade 11*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Theology credit*

The junior course treats both moral philosophy and moral theology. The former examines and critiques various ethical theories (relativist, utilitarian, deontological) before turning to a study of the nature of human happiness and the virtues in general. The latter explores the supernatural vocation of the human person and his call to holiness, the theological virtues, the Beatitudes, and the moral teachings of the Catholic Church.

## **THEOLOGY 12: Apologetics and Prayer**

*Required for students in grade 12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Theology credit*

The senior course considers common challenges to the Catholic faith and offers apologetic responses (natural, Christian, and Catholic) to these disputed questions. The four-year theology sequence concludes with a theoretical account of prayer and its importance in the Christian life through a reading of primary sources drawn from selected spiritual masters and the experience of various forms of prayer in the Catholic tradition. Students will receive time and guidance to complete their Senior Capstone project (graduation requirement of Diocese of Kalamazoo).

# SCIENCE

## **BIOLOGY**

*Available to students grades 9-10, and grade 8 early high school students*

*Prerequisites: Grade 8 early high school students must test into the course and take in collaboration with Science 8*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This NGSS-aligned course explores the living world with emphasis on biological interactions in everyday life. Students will investigate cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, cellular processes, and the diversity of life. Concept oriented information, laboratory experiences, experimental design, technology, and data analysis are emphasized. This course includes a laboratory component.

## **CHEMISTRY**

*Available for 9-12, recommended to take with or after Geometry*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology and Algebra I*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

Introductory chemistry concepts are presented with emphasis on the formation of solid study habits and methods in problem solving. In this NGSS-aligned course, students will investigate the structure and properties of matter, chemical reactions, forces and interactions, energy, and waves and electromagnetic radiation. This course includes a laboratory component.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

*Elective Science Credit*

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This course provides an introduction to a wide range of topics including Earth science, geology, meteorology, ecology, human impacts, and conservation science. Students are required to participate in field and laboratory activities that may take place outside of school hours.

## **PHYSICS**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra II*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

In this course, students will explore the mathematical trends in the physical world. Concepts examined will include 1 and 2 dimensional motion, types of energy, heat, sound, light, and electricity. Problem solving and qualitative ideas will be emphasized. Students will practice scientific method of experimenting, recording and analyzing data.

## **ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY**

*Elective Science Credit*

*Available for students in grades 10-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This intensive course is designed for students considering careers in the fields of medicine or applied sciences. Students will explore the structure of the human body as well as the functions of various body systems. Students will also explore cellular biology, basic chemistry, and gross anatomy and physiology of the body. This class includes a laboratory component featuring microscopic analysis of specimen, dissections, formal laboratory write-ups, and projects. This course requires a significant amount of memorization.

## SCIENCE (CONT'D)

### **AP BIOLOGY**

*Available for students in grades 11-12*

*Prerequisites: Recommended "B" or better in both Biology and Chemistry and successful completion of Algebra II*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This course is rigorous and requires dedication, extra time, and effort on the part of the highly motivated student. It will prepare students for college-level Biology classes and affords the student opportunity to earn college credit upon passing the AP Biology exam taken in May. This course will explore basic biochemistry, ecology, cellular processes, genetics, molecular biology, biotechnology, evolution, botany, and zoology. This course will follow the AP Biology program as designed by College Board. The AP Biology syllabus proposed by LMC has been approved by College Board. In order to earn credit equivalent to a college-level Biology course, students must pay for and pass the AP Biology exam in May.

### **AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Prerequisites: Completion of Biology and Algebra I, recommended "B" average in previous science courses*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This course is rigorous and requires dedication, extra time, and effort on the part of the highly motivated student. It will prepare students for college-level Environmental Science classes and affords the student opportunity to earn college credit upon passing the AP Environmental Science exam taken in May. This course will explore ecosystems, biodiversity, population ecology, Earth systems and resources, land and water use, energy resources and consumption, atmospheric pollution, aquatic and terrestrial pollution, and global changes. This course will follow the AP Environmental Science program as designed by College Board. The AP Environmental Science syllabus proposed by LMC has been approved by College Board. In order to earn credit equivalent to a college-level Environmental Science course, students must pay for and pass the AP Environmental Science exam in May in order to earn college credit.

### **PSYCHOLOGY**

*Available for students in grades 10-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This intensive course is designed for students considering careers in the fields of medicine or applied sciences. Students will explore the structure of the human body as well as the functions of various body systems. Students will explore various topics including the biology of mind, consciousness, human diversity, development, sensation and perception, learning, thinking and language, intelligence, social psychology, emotions, stress, psychological disorders, and psychological therapies.

### **ZOOLOGY**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Science credit*

This laboratory intensive course is designed for students that have completed high school biology and are considering careers in the fields of medicine, applied sciences, or veterinary sciences. This course provides a survey of invertebrate and vertebrate organisms. The focus of this course will include anatomy and physiology, phylogeny (evolutionary connections between organisms), and taxonomy (classification) of selected animal phyla. Dissections are REQUIRED.

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## **WORLD HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY**

*Required for Grade 9 unless special circumstance*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Social Studies credit*

This course is a survey of world history from early civilizations to the present day. The class takes both a chronological and thematic approach, giving students both a sense of historical progression and the ability to see global patterns among various societies. A strong emphasis will be on current global issues, giving students an understanding of the connection between world history and what is happening in the world today. Developing geography skills and incorporating current events will be an important part of this course.

## **US HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY**

*Available to students in grades 10-12*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History & Geography*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Social Studies credit*

This course covers the period from 1870 through today. The political, social, and economic foundations of modern America are studied in an effort to understand the fast paced changes that affect us today. The first semester will review early American history and then cover 1870 through present day. Geography, economics, civics and current events will be incorporated into the class.

## **AP US HISTORY**

*Available to students in grades 10-12*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History & Geography, recommended "B" average in History and English*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Social Studies credit*

This course is designed to prepare students for the AP US History Test and therefore is an opportunity for college credit. This course covers the period from early human migration patterns to the Current Era. It is an intensely comprehensive study of the history of the United States as it developed and eventually became a world power. Emphasis is placed on the social, economic, and political aspects of history.

## **CIVICS**

*Available to students in grades 10-12*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History & Geography*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Social Studies credit*

This course will cover the form and function of federal, state, county, township, city, and village governments. The rights and responsibilities of citizens will be stressed. The course will emphasize the historical development of our nation's government and will also present the relationship between our government and economy.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES (CONT'D)**

### **ECONOMICS**

*Available to students in grades 10-12*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History & Geography*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Social Studies credit*

This course will provide students with a general introduction to the concepts of economics and the advantages of a capitalistic society. Students will be exposed to concepts of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and personal finance. Students will participate in stock market analysis and mock activities. This course will prepare students for college-level economic courses.

### **WORLD RELIGIONS & CULTURE**

*Available for students in grade 12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Social Studies credit*

The purpose of this course is to help students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God's Revelation, the course is intended to help students recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian Churches and ecclesial communities as well in non-Christian religions.

### **AP EUROPEAN HISTORY**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History & Geography and US History or AP US History, recommended "B" average in History and English coursework*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Social Studies credit*

In AP European History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from approximately 1450 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction of Europe and the world, economic and commercial development, cultural and intellectual development, states and other institutions of power, social organization and development, national and European identity, and technological and scientific innovations.

# MATHEMATICS

## **ALGEBRA I**

*Available to students in grades 8-9 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of 7th grade math and teacher recommendation*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

This is a required, first year algebra course. The key content involves writing, solving, and graphing linear and quadratic equations, including systems of two linear equations or inequalities. This course also includes study of monomial and polynomial expressions, exponents, functions, and rational expressions. Quadratic equations are solved by factoring, completing the square, graphically, or by application of the quadratic formula. Algebraic skills are applied in a wide variety of problem-solving applications.

## **GEOMETRY**

*Available to students in grade 9-10 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

Geometry introduces students to the basic principles of Euclidean geometry. Students will learn key definitions, symbols, notations, theorems, and properties of geometric figures which serve as the foundation for the course. Emphasis is placed on developing deductive reasoning and logical thinking skills through the use of geometric proofs. Geometry includes a study of right triangle trigonometry that is developed through similarity relationships, two- and three-dimensional figures, transformations, area, surface area, and volume formulas.

## **ALGEBRA II**

*Available to students in grades 10-11 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

Algebra II extends and builds upon concepts learned in Algebra 1 in order to improve problem-solving skills. Algebra II continues the study of algebra with a focus on the analysis of functions, including linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions. Algebra II will also extend on the trigonometry based started in Geometry. Emphasis will be made on solving, graphing, transforming and modeling these functions. Many connections will be made with the aid of graphing calculators in order to represent functions analytically, graphically, and numerically.

## **ALGEBRA II (2 YEAR COURSE)**

*Available to students in grades 10-11*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry*

*Credit: Successful completion of this two year course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

This course will cover the same content as the one year Algebra II class. The two year format will allow students to learn the concepts at a slower pace, with more time built into the schedule for questions and teacher support.

## MATHEMATICS (CONT'D)

### **PRE-CALCULUS**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

Pre-calculus is the preparation for Calculus. The study of the topics, concepts and procedures of pre-calculus deepens students' understanding of algebra and geometry and extends their ability to apply such procedures at higher conceptual levels. The theory and applications of trigonometry and trigonometric functions are developed in-depth. New mathematical tools, such as vectors, matrices, and parametric equations are introduced. Pre-calculus is strongly recommended for all college-bound students. These topics are prerequisites for many college programs in science, engineering, medicine, and business.

### **STATISTICS**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

Statistics provides students the opportunity to analyze, organize, and engage in data as well as develop insight and skills that are needed to confront our data-driven society. Utilizing all mathematical backgrounds, the course incorporates both statistical calculations and theory. The applications span a broad range of topics including business, sports, health, environment, history, entertainment, and more. Statistics focuses around four main areas: analysis of patterns in data and display of data, collection of valid data through well-developed plans, usage of probability to anticipate data distributions, and employment of statistical inference (i.e. how confident we are about a particular hypothesis).

### **AP CALCULUS AB**

*Available to students in grade 12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and Pre-Calculus, recommended "B" average in previous math courses*

*Credit: Successful completion of this course will result in 1 earned high school Math credit*

This course develops students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and provides experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. This course is designed for students intending to major in business, economics, or natural and social sciences. This course moves at a faster pace than standard Calculus AB, allowing for ample review time prior to the AP exam in May.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE

## **FRENCH I**

*Available to students in grades 8-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Foreign Language credit*

This course introduces the students to elementary French conversation and being able to express themselves in everyday situations. This course addresses basic elementary grammar, the reading of simple French stories, beginning French composition, authentic listening activities and the culture of French speaking locations and people. Main conversation topics include: introducing oneself, talking about food, family, interests and different actions in the present and past tenses.

## **FRENCH II**

*Available to students in grades 9-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of French I*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Foreign Language credit*

This course is a continuation of the first year experience with the French language. Students will learn grammar beyond French I, including the future and conditional tenses, as well as grammatical items such as question formation and pronoun usage. The students will be engaged in intermediate French conversations, reading of intermediate selections, composition and study of French speaking locations and people. Main conversation topics include: hobbies, holidays, school activities, and a typical day.

## **SPANISH I**

*Available to students in grades 8-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Foreign Language credit*

Spanish I, a course based on Michigan's Academic Standards for World Languages, introduces students to effective strategies for beginning Spanish language learning, and to various aspects of Spanish-speaking cultures. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing, providing opportunities to make and respond to basic requests and questions, understand and use appropriate greetings and forms of address, participate in brief guided conversations on familiar topics, and write short passages with guidance. This course also emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as reading isolated words and phrases in a situational context and comprehending brief written or oral directions. Additionally, students will examine the practices, products and perspectives of Spanish-speaking culture; recognize basic routine practices of the target culture; and recognize and use situation-appropriate non-verbal communication. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding Spanish language and culture outside of the classroom.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE (CONT'D)

### **SPANISH II**

*Available to students in grades 9-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Foreign Language credit*

Spanish II, a course based on Michigan's Academic Standards for World Languages, builds upon effective strategies for Spanish language learning by encouraging the use of the language and cultural understanding for self-directed purposes. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing, providing opportunities to make and respond to requests and questions in expanded contexts, participate independently in brief conversations on familiar topics, and write cohesive passages with greater independence and using appropriate formats. This course also emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as using contextual clues to guess meaning and comprehending longer written or oral directions. Students will address the presentational mode by presenting prepared material on a variety of topics, as well as reading aloud to practice appropriate pronunciation and intonation. Additionally, students will describe the practices, products and perspectives of Spanish-speaking culture; report on basic family and social practices of the target culture; and describe contributions from the target culture. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding Spanish language and culture outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH III**

*Available to students in grades 10-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish I and II*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Foreign Language credit*

Spanish III, a course based on Michigan's Academic Standards for World Languages, builds upon effective strategies for Spanish language learning by facilitating the use of the language and cultural understanding for self-directed purposes. This course encourages interpersonal communication through speaking and writing, providing opportunities to initiate, sustain and close conversations; exchange detailed information in oral and written form; and write cohesive information with greater detail. This course also emphasizes the continued development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as using cognates, synonyms and antonyms to derive meaning from written and oral information, as well as comprehending detailed written or oral directions. Students will address the presentational mode by presenting student-created material on a variety of topics, as well as reading aloud to practice appropriate pronunciation and intonation. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas as well the application of understanding Spanish language and culture outside of the classroom.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE (CONT'D)

### **AP SPANISH: Spanish IV**

*Available to students in grades 11-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish I-III, recommended "B" or higher in Spanish I-III*

*Credit: The successful completion of this year long course results in 1 Foreign Language credit*

AP Spanish (Spanish IV) a course based on CollegeBoard's Advanced Placement Spanish curriculum and Michigan's Academic Standards for World Languages, provides a context for integration of the continued development of language skills and cultural understanding with other content areas and the community beyond the classroom. The skill sets that apply to the exchange of written and oral information are expanded through emphasis on practicing speaking and listening strategies that facilitate communication, such as the use of circumlocution, guessing meaning in familiar and unfamiliar contexts, and using elements of word formation to expand vocabulary and derive meaning. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas through the design of activities and materials that integrate the target language and culture with concepts and skills from other content areas. The use and influence of the Spanish language and culture in the community beyond the classroom is explored through the identification and evaluation of resources intended for native Spanish speakers.

### **LANGUAGE INDEPENDENT STUDY**

*Available to students in grades 10-12 unless special circumstance*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I & II or French I & II*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Foreign Language credit*

The Language Independent Study allows students to learn a language not currently offered at Lake Michigan Catholic. The course will be conducted online through Rosetta Stone. Popular languages are German, Chinese, Japanese, and Latin.

## VISUAL, PERFORMING, AND APPLIED ARTS

### **ART: 2D & 3D Art**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned Visual and Performing Art credit*

The elements and principles of design are the basic core upon which the Art Program is developed. Each level of Art is built upon the previous year of study. Students are able to use a wide variety of materials in the areas of Calligraphy, Drawing, Acrylic Painting, Oil Painting, Pottery, Collage, Colored Pencil Drawing and many other artistic endeavors.

### **AP STUDIO ART: Portfolio Building**

*Available for students in grades 10-12*

*Prerequisites: At least two semesters of a high school visual art class must be completed with a grade of B or better.*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned Visual and Performing Art credit*

This course is a rigorous and demanding journey into artistic creation. As a college-level course, it challenges artists to investigate formal and conceptual issues in 2D design. Over 24 pieces will be created during the year. Students will be challenged to develop their own artistic voice while at the same time showing their versatility as they use a variety of media and expand on different themes. Students will be personally involved in a sustained investigation of all three aspects of the portfolio: Quality, Concentration, and Breadth. Examples of assignments and slides from AP Art students will be shown and discussed in detail. Students will be encouraged to develop their own ideas within the context of each portfolio. Students will review the principles and elements of design that they had been previously introduced to in the prerequisite courses. They will be asked to identify how these principles are used in local and master works of art, and articulate this in written and oral formats. Students will have the option of creating a Drawing, 2D, or 3D portfolio during this class.

### **BAND: Marching and Concert Performance**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 Visual and Performing Art credit*

High School Band is a performance oriented ensemble that participates in a myriad of settings. These may change yearly, but performance opportunities generally include: marching in parades, executing drill and design at football games, performing at Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association Festivals, performing at school concerts (Christmas and Spring), school events (Class Night, Baccalaureate Mass, Graduation). In addition to the large ensemble performances, individual students may also perform or participate in Michigan School Band & Orchestra Association Solo and Ensemble Festival, Mass, pep bands, All-Star Band, Lake Michigan Youth Orchestra, and other city or religious services or celebrations.

## VISUAL, PERFORMING, AND APPLIED ARTS (CONT'D)

### **JAZZ BAND**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Visual and Performing Art credit*

This select ensemble studies big band instrumentation and performs the music of the foremost big band composers, past and present in a variety of music styles. Training in the art of improvisation is also stressed, and through the study of jazz history and styles the students receive a complete jazz experience. Students participate in a number of performance that include formal concerts, festivals/competitions, lunch concerts and community events.

### **CHOIR**

*Available for students in grades 8-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Visual and Performing Art credit*

Students will study choral music from various periods of musical history, as well as concentrate on the fundamentals of music and developing musicianship skills. Emphasis is placed upon the development of the individual voice and the choral sound. Students are encouraged to participate in solo and small ensemble singing opportunities. Students will participate in the Christmas and Spring Concert performances.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

### **HEALTH**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Prerequisites: None*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Health credit*

The goal of this course is to learn about the health topics that will impact immediate and future development and motivate students to act on that health-enhancing information. Students learn the steps to healthy decision-making and practice refusal skills for a variety of risk behaviors. Personal safety and stress reduction techniques will also be taught. Building healthy relationships and understanding concepts that build self-esteem are emphasized while taking a comprehensive look at nutrition, fitness, mental health, challenging diseases and the dangers of alcohol, drugs, and tobacco.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Physical Education credit (can be taken multiple semesters)*

This course is required to meet Michigan Merit Curriculum graduation guidelines. Physical education is a sequential, developmentally appropriate educational program that provides students with the knowledge, skills, fitness, and attitudes necessary to lead a healthy lifestyle. All students will show competence in the following six physical education content standards: motor skills and movement patterns, understanding of movement concepts, principles, strategies, and tactics as they apply to the learning and performance of physical activities, regular participation in lifelong physical activity, achieving and maintaining a health-enhancing level of physical fitness, exhibiting responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others in physical activity settings, and value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and/or social interaction.

### **STRENGTH & CONDITIONING**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Physical Education credit (can be taken multiple semesters)*

Recommended for Junior Varsity and Varsity athletes, this course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardiorespiratory endurance activities. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime.

# **BUSINESS & FINANCE**

## **INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned Elective credit*

This course provides opportunities to learn and experience a variety of topics in the field of business. Students are exposed to various economies, their roles in our economy, entrepreneurship, marketing, managing financial and technological resources, business operations, accounting, and the use of social media. Course activities involve students in writing, investigating, problem-solving, demonstrating, and reporting. Students will also utilize an online learning environment. This course will also look at the importance of ethics and social responsibility. Students will build a foundation for further studies in business and develop the business knowledge and skills they will need in their everyday lives.

## **MARKETING I**

*Available to students in grades 10-12*

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Introduction to Business*

*Credit: Successful completion of this year long course will result in 1 earned high school Elective credit.*

Marketing I provides students with the fundamentals of marketing with exploration in topics of retail sales, business presentations, management, entrepreneurship, business ethics, and more. Students will put their knowledge into action by participating in Whirlpool's Innovation Challenge (if offered).

## **GLOBAL TRADING**

*Available for students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Elective credit or grade 12 Math.*

The Finance Lab provides students with a hands-on learning environment to examine the principles of market structure which drive the financial marketplace. Students will work with software simulation programs to provide a real-world experience. Dual-screen monitors at each station as well as LED tickers winding along the lab will provide continuous live feed of current stock process. Students will work in breakout spaces designed for group projects and classroom meetings.

## **PERSONAL FINANCE**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester long course will result in 0.5 earned high school Elective credit or grade 12 Math.*

In this introductory finance course, students learn basic principles of economics and best practices for managing their own finances. Students learn core skills in creating budgets, developing long-term financial plans to meet their goals, and making responsible choices about income and expenses. They gain a deeper understanding of capitalism and other systems so they can better understand their role in the economy of society. Students are inspired by experiences of finance professionals and stories of everyday people and the choices they make to manage their money.

## **ADDITIONAL COURSE OFFERINGS**

### **ENRICHMENT/STUDY HALL**

*Available to students in grades 9-12*

*Credit: No credit is granted for this course.*

Students may use their Enrichment/Study Hall period to work on coursework, study, seek out additional assistance, participate in tutoring, etc.

### **CO-OP**

*Available to students in grades 11-12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester or year long course will result in 0.5 Elective credits per semester.*

Cooperative education (CO-OP) provides students in grades 11 and 12 with the opportunity to earn high school credit through completion of paid work. Students must be legally allowed to work in the United States and achieved their work permit (if applicable). Students must work at least 3 hours per week and submit quarterly evaluations from their supervisors.

### **INTERNSHIP**

*Available to students in grade 12*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester or year long course will result in 0.5 Elective credits per semester.*

Students can participate in an unpaid internship to gain firsthand, real-world experience in a field or career in which they are interested in pursuing. Potential internships include Business, Law, Politics, Medicine, Education, and more. Students must complete work-related tasks for their internship at least 3 hours per week.

### **COLLEGE DUAL ENROLLMENT**

*Available to students in grades 11-12*

*Prerequisite: 3.0 cumulative GPA for 11th grade, 2.7 GPA for 12th grade (some college courses require specific SAT subject scores or placement tests)*

*Credit: Successful completion of this semester or year long course will result in 0.5 credits per semester AND college credit.*

Students can take up to 6 college credits per semester (average 2 classes per semester) in almost all subject areas including English, Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Social Sciences, Business & Finance, Medicine, Art, and more. This is recommended for students seeking increased rigor in their course schedule and the opportunity to earn college credit before graduating high school. A “C” or higher is required to earn the college credit. Note: Not all college courses transfer to other institutions.