

**ST. MARIA GORETTI HIGH SCHOOL  
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS  
2018-2019**

**Mission Statement**

St. Maria Goretti, an archdiocesan high school, provides an educational environment committed to Catholic values and traditions. Our college preparatory program emphasizes academic excellence and nurtures the whole person through spiritual and physical development. The uniqueness of each individual is recognized, respected and affirmed by the school community. Guided by the spirit and example of St. Maria Goretti, our young men and women are prepared to lead lives of service working to shape a just and compassionate society.

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## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

### Requirements

All students in order to graduate must pass all required courses and fulfill all academic requirements. The academic requirements are consistent with the State of Maryland's requirements for graduation.

Requirements are as follows:

<b>English</b> <i>Required courses</i>	<b>4 credits</b> Intro to Literature and Composition World Literature American Literature British Literature or AP American Literature & Composition
<b>Math</b> <i>Required courses</i>	<b>4 credits</b> Algebra I Geometry Algebra II
<b>Science</b> <i>Required courses</i>	<b>3 credits</b> Biology Chemistry
<b>Social Studies</b> <i>Required courses</i>	<b>3 credits</b> U.S. History U. S. Government (beginning with the class of 2018) World History
<b>Religious Studies</b> <i>Yearly retreats are required</i>	<b>4 credits</b>
<b>Foreign Language</b>	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>Physical Education/Health</b> <i>Required courses</i>	<b>1 credit</b> Freshman PE/Health
<b>Fine Arts</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Technology</b>	<b>1 credit (requirement met via Chromebook Program)</b>
<b>Electives</b>	<b>4 credits</b>
<hr/>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>28 credits</b>

*All students are required to complete 100 hours (25 hours per year) in the Community Service Program in order to graduate.*

***AP Exams:*** Students who are enrolled in an AP course are expected to take the AP exam for which there is a fee (currently \$94.00).

**NOTE:** Admittance to Honors and AP courses is subject to instructor recommendation as well as successful completion of the prior course in the academic sequence. Prerequisites are included with course descriptions.

## **RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**Requirements** – Four years of Religious Studies are a requirement for all students. (Credits are adjusted for transfer students.) In addition, the Service Learning requirement (a minimum of 25 service hours per academic year) is a pass/fail component of the Religion grade. (Refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for specific details of the Service Learning program.)

The Religious Studies curriculum follows the doctrinal framework established by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (as outlined in the *Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age*). The content and order of this framework offers a systematic approach to catechesis and ensures that our students will receive a comprehensive and authentic presentation of the Catholic faith to engage their minds, hearts, and spirits.

### **001 – Religion: Scripture**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 9**

**CP**

**Required**

This course offers students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Christian Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course, they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

### **002 – Religion: Christology**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 9**

**CP**

**Required**

In this course, students are introduced to the work and person of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God and the second person of the Trinity. Students will explore the understanding that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who He is, the students will also learn who He calls them to be.

### **003 – Religion: Soteriology**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 10**

**CP**

**Required**

This course helps students to further understand all that God has done for us through His Son, Jesus Christ. Students will discover that—for all eternity—God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with Him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails. A separate chastity unit is included at the end of this course.

### **004 – Religion: Ecclesiology**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 10**

**CP**

**Required**

This course is intended to help students understand that, in and through the Church, they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know how the Church is the living Body of Christ today, with both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn about the sacred nature of the Church through the events in the life and history of the Church.

### **005 – Religion: Sacramentology**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11**

**CP**

**Required**

In this course, students will more fully realize that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may profoundly encounter Christ throughout their lives.

### **007 – Religion: Morality**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11**

**CP**

**Required**

This course helps students to understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plans for their lives. Students will learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

**008 – Religion: Catholic Social Teaching** **CP**  
**.5 Credit** **Year: 12** **Required**

This course introduces students to the Church's social teaching. In particular, 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. Using "Faith-in-Action" methodology, a wide range of social justice topics will be discussed and analyzed.

**009 – Religion: Ecumenism and Inter-religious Dialogue** **CP**  
**.5 Credit** **Year: 12** **Required**

In this course students will come to understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as 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 as well as non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.

**020 - Faith, Science, and Reason** **CP**  
**.5 credit** **Year: 12** **Elective**

In Catholic understanding, "truth cannot contradict truth", thus the truths of supernatural faith and the truths of natural reason (science and philosophy) cannot in principle be opposed. This course examines the relationship between faith and science from the perspective that, contrary to popular myth, revealed truth and scientific truth are both complementary and mutually enriching. Specific topics to be discussed include cosmology, quantum theory, human evolution, anthropology, and artificial intelligence.

## **ENGLISH**

**Requirements:** Four years of English are a requirement for all students. Courses are available in college preparatory, honors, and advanced placement (AP) levels; teacher recommendation, writing sample, and/or minimum grade in prior-year classes are required for placement in honors and AP courses. Electives are available for students in grades 11 & 12 who wish to continue the development of their skills in literary analysis, speaking, and writing.

**107 - Intro to Literature and Composition** **CP**  
**1 credit** **Year: 9** **Required**

This course combines a genre-based survey of literature with the study of vocabulary, grammar, and usage. Students read and respond to poetry, novels, short stories, and drama with a focus on developing an increasing ability to respond critically to the material both in class discussion and written form. Students will explore literary devices and methods in order to more fully respond to literature. Texts may include *The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaman, *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee, *Shoeless Joe* by W.P. Kinsella, and *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare.

**108 - Intro to Literature and Composition** **Honors**  
**1 credit** **Year: 9** **Elective**

Students in an Honors English class should: have an exceptional work ethic, be highly self-motivated, be able to read independently and to analyze literature beyond the plot, already possess competent, polished writing skills, and enjoy the challenges of complex, critical-thinking opportunities. Intro to Lit / Comp Honors will be fast-paced and challenging! It would benefit the student if (s)he has a passion for literature and language.

Primarily using the Prentice-Hall literature book, in conjunction with teacher-selected pieces, students will explore, analyze, and discuss literary genres such as: short fiction ("The Birds", "Harrison Bergeron", "The Most Dangerous Game"), poetry ("Casey At the Bat", "I Hear America Singing", "The Raven", "Beware Do Not Read This

Poem”), drama (Shakespeare’s *Romeo & Juliet*), and nonfiction (“*Silent Spring*”, “*A Celebration of Grandfathers*”, “*A Lincoln Preface*”, “*Tuesdays With Morrie*”). Furthermore, a summer reading is traditionally assigned. Dickens’s *Great Expectations* and *A Tale of Two Cities* have been used. Related literary terminology will also be studied when appropriate (conflict, foreshadowing, theme, meter, simile, metaphor, etc.).

Compositions derive especially from literature read and discussed. Basic paragraphs present: character analyses, explanation of the theme of a piece of literature, the effect of rhyme in a poem. Longer, usually five-paragraph essays allow students to explore a topic in more depth and detail: the nature of the sibling relationship in “*The Scarlet Ibis*”, the bases for critical acclaim of “*The Most Dangerous Game*”. Students will also craft original poetry based on pieces studied in class: the use of iambic pentameter, for example, as seen in Shakespeare’s sonnets and T.S. Eliot’s “*Macavity the Mystery Cat*”. Furthermore, students will create short fiction pieces paralleling stories read, like “*The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*”. As determined by the teacher, suitable grammatical concepts will be introduced or reviewed or reinforced throughout the writing process. The students’ study of vocabulary will enhance both the writing and reading experiences. **Prerequisites:** *Incoming freshmen requesting placement in Intro to Literature and Composition Honors are required to submit a writing sample and a teacher recommendation from their prior school.*

### **142 - World Literature**

**1 credit**

**Year: 10**

**CP**

**Required**

This course provides students with an introduction to other cultures through world literature readings in short fiction, poetry, nonfiction, and drama. Readings will come primarily from *Prentice Hall Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes*. Continued development of grammar, vocabulary, writing, discussion, and critical thinking skills will be an ongoing focus of the course. Initially, the construction of a well-developed paragraph will be reviewed. Students will then move on to the Introduction-Body-Conclusion format for essay writing. Shakespeare’s tragedy *Julius Caesar* will be the year’s culminating activity.

### **144 - World Literature**

**1 credit**

**Year: 10**

**Honors**

**Elective**

Students in an Honors English class should: have an exceptional work ethic, be highly self-motivated, be able to read independently and to analyze literature beyond the plot, already possess competent, polished writing skills, and enjoy the challenges of complex, critical-thinking opportunities. Like other honors classes, World Lit Honors will be fast-paced and challenging! It would benefit the student if (s)he has a passion for literature and language.

Proficiency in critical, analytical reading and thinking, in the composition of extended expository writing, in the understanding and usage of grammatical concepts, and in the development of the student’s vocabulary is expected.

Students will broaden their existing writing skills as they learn to construct debatable thesis statements for persuasive compositions. Too, other types of writings will be examined, discussed, and replicated, such as satire and nonfiction. A look at the fundamentals of research open up the possibility of a 3 - 5 page paper related to class readings. Shakespeare and his *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* would serve that purpose.

The scope of the literature read, discussed, and analyzed is world-wide. While the literary genres remain the same, the length and complexity and challenge of many titles will be plain. Sophocles’s *Antigone* (with summaries of *Oedipus the King* and *Oedipus At Colonnus*) and Shakespeare’s *Julius Caesar* will be the dramatic readings. Epics and legends include excerpts from *Don Quixote* and “*Morte d’Arthur*” and “*Rama’s Initiation*”. The Prentice-Hall literature book will be the source of many readings; teacher-selected additions like Twain’s “*The War Prayer*” will be included. A summer reading assignment has been traditional. Possible titles include: *The Book Thief*, *Things Fall Apart*, and *Night*. **Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 88% in Intro to Literature and Composition CP or a minimum average of 80% in Intro to Literature and Composition Honors.*

### **122 American Literature**

**1 credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

**CP**

**Required**

Juniors will explore the major genres and significant periods of literary development in this traditional survey of American literature. Through their reading of representative works of fiction and non-fiction from each era, students will gain a comprehensive overview of the issues and ideas that have shaped our national literature. Selections may include novels like *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Of Mice and Men*, and *Life of Pi*. In addition, students will develop and refine their critical reading and literary analysis skills through both traditional essays and informal in-class writing opportunities. The acquisition of these skills, combined with systematic vocabulary instruction, will prepare students for the SAT and ACT college admissions tests.

### **121 - American Literature**

**1 credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

**Honors**

**Elective**

To facilitate a student's entrance into this course, an overall 88% average in World Literature, and a teacher's recommendation, are strongly advised. In this course, juniors will learn the fundamentals of rhetoric, close reading, argument, and synthesis in this examination of American literature. They will grasp the rhetorical concepts and apply them to both written and visual texts. Students will learn about the analysis of diction and syntax with an emphasis on their literary effects. In addition, students will be introduced to the essential language of argument: claims, evidence, fallacies, and arrangement. Students will use this language to explore ideas, craft arguable claims, develop evidence, and construct persuasive essays. Finally, students will understand the effective synthesis of multiple sources in developing an informed argument. We will explore these four areas of focus using the works of classic American writers. Students will read several novels from major American authors whose works are milestones in the development of the American idea. Selections may include *The Great Gatsby*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *The Sound and the Fury*. The acquisition of these skills, combined with systematic vocabulary instruction, will prepare students for the AP Language and Composition exam and the SAT and ACT college admissions tests.

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 88% in World Literature CP or a minimum average of 80% in World Literature Honors.*

### **132 - British Literature**

**1 credit**

**Year: 12**

**CP**

**Required**

This course is an overview of the rise and development of the English language and English literature from literary and historical perspectives. Through the reading of *Beowulf*, selections from Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, excerpts from Arthurian legend, Elizabethan sonnets, Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, 17<sup>th</sup> century metaphysical poetry, and both pre-Romantic and Romantic poetry and prose, students will gain a detailed idea of the full scope and variety of British literature. Regular formal essays, in-class writings, quizzes, and tests, as well as the weekly systematic acquisition of vocabulary, will help to prepare students for the various kinds of reading, thinking, and writing challenges they will meet during their freshman year in college.

### **131 - British Literature**

**1 credit**

**Year: 12**

**Honors**

**Elective**

This course focuses on the great English poets, Shakespeare, and the rise and development of the English language from literary and historical perspectives. Students will read *Beowulf*, a wide variety of tales from Chaucer, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, selections from Arthurian legend, Elizabethan sonnets, Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, the 17<sup>th</sup> century metaphysical poets, Gray's *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*, and the Romantic poetry of Blake, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Keats, Byron, and Shelley. Regular formal essays, in-class writings, quizzes, and tests, as well as the weekly systematic acquisition of vocabulary, will provide students with a strong and deep foundation from which to address the various kinds of reading, thinking, and writing challenges they will meet during their freshman year in college.

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 88% in American Literature CP or a minimum average of 80% in American Literature Honors.*

### **150 - AP English Literature & Composition**

**1 Credit**

**Year:12**

**AP**

**Elective**

This senior level course is designed for students who are interested in scoring well on the AP Literature and Composition exam in the spring of their senior year and, more importantly, acquiring a detailed, focused, and deep

appreciation of fiction, poetry, and drama in a variety of cultural and historical settings. Students will work and learn at the college freshman level. Course work will include: regular in-class writings, formal essays, class discussions, and varied assessments on topics including the fine points of Greek drama, the musical devices of poetry, and literary terminology in both the traditional and modernist novel. Students will work and learn at the college freshman level. Readings for this course include, but are not limited to: Sophocles' Theban plays, Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, poets such as Donne, Eliot, Keats, Herrick, Coleridge, Dickinson, and Millay among others, as well as the novels *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys, *As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner, and *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* by James Joyce. Students in this course are required to take the AP English Literature and Composition exam.

**Prerequisites:** *Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 85% in American Literature Honors.*

**176 - ETC American Horror Story**

**ETC**

**1 Credit SMG**

**3 Credits MtMary's Year: 11, 12**

**Elective**

A study of American horror fiction and film, with particular emphasis on central practitioners (Edgar Allan Poe, H. P. Lovecraft, Alfred Hitchcock, and Stephen King) as well as the philosophical and cultural implications of their works.

*Prerequisites: Minimum SAT score of 500 on both ERW and Math section. See page 20 for additional information, including Mt. St. Mary's tuition fee for the course.*

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**Requirements** – All students are required to take and receive a passing grade in U.S. History, U. S. Government, and World History. Students in grades 11-12 may take AP European History to fulfill the World History course requirement if not previously met. Students in grades 10-12 may take AP Government to fulfill the Government requirement if not previously met.

**222 – U.S. History**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9**

**Required**

Beginning with a focus on the creation of the American republic, students will explore the development of American government, economy, and society. This course will examine the turning points in modern American history, with an emphasis on the role of the United States on the world stage as well as the changes in American culture since WWII. As a foundational course, U.S. History CP will build reading and writing skills, as well as include simulations, debates, and projects.

**221 – U.S. History**

**H**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9**

**Elective**

Beginning with a focus on the creation of the American republic, students will explore the development of American government, economy, and society. This course will analyze the turning points in modern American history, culminating in an examination of challenges of balancing security while preserving the founding ideals. As an honors course, U.S. History Honors requires intensive reading, including primary sources, participation in seminar-style discussions, and rigorous writing assignments. **Prerequisites:** *For incoming freshmen requesting Honors placement, available test scores, such as the HSPT or PARCC, will be reviewed. Teacher recommendation from the prior school also may be provided in cases where test scores are not indicative of the student's performance .*

**232 – U. S. Government & Politics**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 10**

**Required**

This survey course addresses the functions of local, state and federal government in the United States and the role of citizen participation in each. This course also includes the basic provisions and principles of the Constitution and its growth through amendments. Legislative and executive roles and Supreme Court decisions are researched and discussed,

as well as conservative and liberal views of the role of the government in the economy. The function of political parties, responsibilities of citizens, and political behavior are also examined in this course. Various enrichment materials, such as historical documents, newspapers, and current event reports, enable the student to understand how our government continues to develop.

### **231 - U. S. Government & Politics**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 10**

**H**

**Elective**

This survey course addresses the functions of local, state and federal government in the United States and the role of citizen participation in each. Students will explore separation of powers, federalism, significant Supreme Court decisions, checks & balances, voter behavior, grassroots movements, and the role of the media in politics. As an Honors course, students will work with primary & secondary sources, taking into account a diversity of perspectives.

***Prerequisites:** Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 90% in US History CP or a minimum average of 80% in US History Honors.*

### **240 – AP American Government & Politics**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 10-12**

**AP**

**Elective**

This course provides an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. In addition to studying the general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics, students will analyze specific case studies. Topics covered will include the constitutional underpinnings of the U.S. Government, political parties, interest groups and mass media, and institutions of national government, as well as civil rights and civil liberties. Students are expected to write at or above grade level. ***Prerequisites:** Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 95% in US History CP or a minimum average of 90% in US History Honors.*

### **212 - World History**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 11**

**CP**

**Elective**

Beginning with a focus on the key beliefs and influence of six major world religions, this course will trace the development of civilizations around the world. Students will examine the religious, political, and economic developments of the Ancient Empires and will trace the rise of feudalism, trading networks, and exploration. The course will explore the intellectual, scientific, and economic trends which allowed European nations to attain dominance in the first global age as well as the individuals, nations and international organizations who have framed the modern world. As a foundational course, World History CP will build reading, writing, and geography skills, as well as include simulations, debates, and projects.

### **215 – World History**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 11**

**H**

**Elective**

Beginning with a focus on the key beliefs and influence of six major world religions, this course will trace the development of civilizations around the world. Students will examine the religious, political, and economic developments of the Ancient Empires and will trace the rise of feudalism, trading networks, and exploration. The course will explore the intellectual, scientific, and economic trends which allowed European nations to attain dominance in the first global age as well as the individuals, nations, and international organizations who have framed the modern world. As an honors level course, students will work with primary and secondary sources in order to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and develop the ability to express historical understanding in writing. ***Prerequisites:** Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 80% in AP US Government and Politics or a minimum average of 90% in US Government & Politics.*

### **238 - Global Connections in the 20th Century**

**½ Credit**

**Year: 12**

**CP**

**Elective**

This semester course introduces students to major changes in global history since the First World War. The course will explore the roles of ideology, diplomacy, international organizations, and military power in world affairs. Students will

examine how colonies and developing nations have challenged the power of the West. Sharpen your understanding of global historical trends, including economic globalization, wealth and poverty, the spread of democracy, ethnic and religious conflicts, environmental degradation, and global pandemics. Readings include historical documents, classic texts in the study of international relations, and current perspectives on the state of the world from multiple disciplinary perspectives.

**207 – AP U. S. History**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

**AP**

**Elective**

By structure and content, this course is comparable to college-level United States history classes. The course covers United States history from exploration, discovery, and settlement to present day. Students will explore the political, social, diplomatic, economic, and cultural history of the United States. The course is designed to increase students' knowledge and understanding of issues, controversies, and complexity of United States history. Research projects as well as document-based questions and essays will be assigned on a regular basis. *Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation is required for placement. Students must have earned a minimum average of 85% in AP US Government and Politics or a minimum average of 95% in US Government & Politics.*

**208 - Human Geography**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 12**

**CP**

**Elective**

This semester course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Human geography incorporates the concepts and methods associated with several of the disciplines within the social sciences, including economics, geography, history, and sociology. Major course concepts include using and interpreting maps and spatial data, understanding the impacts of population growth and decline, analyzing the patterns and processes of cultural differences, identifying different scales of political organization, examining major agricultural production regions, analyzing patterns of industrialization and their impacts on development, and a detailed look at cities and urban geography.

**239 - WWII & The Holocaust**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 12**

**CP**

**Elective**

This semester course offers a survey of the causes, events and consequences of World War II, the largest and most destructive armed conflict in human history. In addition to an overview of major military operations, the course will assess the impact that both dictators and democratic leaders had on the war. Topics will include the impact of the war on women and families and on marginalized peoples, including an exploration of the development of antisemitism, the Holocaust and resistance movements. This semester course will incorporate memoirs, readings from historians, contemporary and modern films, literature, propaganda, art, music and geography.

**237 - Medieval Civilization**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 12**

**CP**

**Elective**

This semester course will concentrate on life and death in Europe from about 1000 CE to 1453. Topics will include the roles of nobles, townspeople, and peasants within feudal institutions; the importance of the Catholic Church in politics and daily life; the transformation of agriculture; the customs, rituals and superstitions that provided a framework for living and dying; the emergence of civic and commercial institutions; interactions between Christians, Muslims, and Jews; and the ebb and flow of long-distance trade across the Eurasian system. This semester course will include primary & secondary source readings and an exploration of medieval European geography, architecture, and art.

**273 - ETC Introduction to Criminal Justice**

**1 credit SMG**

**3 credits MSM**

**Year: 11,12**

**ETC**

**Elective**

A general introduction to the three components of the American justice system: the police, the courts and corrections. Special emphasis on the historical development, procedures, problems and directions for reform of each component. *Prerequisites: Minimum SAT score of 500 on both ERW and Math section. See page 20 for additional information, including Mt. St. Mary's tuition fee for the course.*

**277 – ETC General Psychology**

**ETC**

**1 Credit SMG**

**3 Credits HCC**

**Year: 11, 12**

**Elective**

Designed as a foundation course and prerequisite to other psychology courses, general psychology introduces the data, concepts, theories, principles and methods of contemporary psychology while examining the dynamic factors that influence behavior. *Prerequisites: Hagerstown Community College will work with students on prerequisites. Please see page 19-20 for additional information. There is an additional HCC tuition fee for this course.*

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE**

**Requirements** – At least three high school credits in foreign language are required of all students.

**Electives in Foreign Language** – Third and Fourth level courses are available in French and Spanish. These are Honors/AP courses and prepare students for course placement at institutions of higher learning.

**Advanced Placement of Ninth-Graders** – Students who have had French or Spanish in eighth grade as a sequential (not an exploratory) course may be placed in a level II course. Placement tests are available through the Guidance Office.

**FRENCH**

**311 – French I**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course is an introduction to basic structures, everyday vocabulary in a cultural context, a study of present and past tense verb forms and a cultural study of France and Francophone countries. Objectives are to achieve communicative proficiency at the novice level in the five areas of foreign language study competency: listening, speaking, reading, writing and culture. Cooperative games and multimedia materials will be used for the practice of pronunciation and comprehension.

**312 – French II**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10, 11, 12**

This course reviews material covered in French I and adds new structures, vocabulary and verb tenses in a cultural context. Objectives are to achieve communicative proficiency at the intermediate level in the five foreign language competency areas. Composition skills will be introduced. The course will be supplemented with videos in French and multimedia activities.

**317 – French III**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 10, 11, 12**

This course will build on skills learned in French I & II; grammatical structures will be expanded. Idiomatic and conversational skills will be practiced and refined. A variety of materials will be used, including video and multimedia.

**313 – French III**

**H**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 10, 11, 12**

This course will build on skills learned in French I & II; grammatical structures will be expanded. Idiomatic and conversational skills will be practiced and refined. French history and literature will be examined using a variety of materials, including videos and multimedia.

**314 – French IV**

**H**



This is a higher level Spanish course to help students increase their ability to express themselves in both spoken and written Spanish. Students will review all the grammatical tenses that they have studied so far and use them to create authentic dialogues in the target language for use during class discussions. Authentic materials such as magazine articles, newspaper articles, websites and videos will be used throughout the year. There is also a cultural component to this course which will enable students to have a better understanding of the Spanish and Hispanic cultures.

### **332 – Spanish AP**

**AP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

The main objective of this course is to prepare for the AP Spanish Language Examination offered by the College Board Testing Program. Students will build a strong foundation and confidence for taking the advanced placement exam. The course will be supplemented with multimedia materials including films, podcasts and online work. Students who complete the AP Spanish Language course will accomplish the following:

1. Improve listening comprehension.
2. Demonstrate proficiency in reading Spanish narratives and literary texts with good overall comprehension.
3. Master the ability to write in Spanish on topics of general interest.
4. Attain a speaking proficiency that allows them to communicate facts and ideas, discuss topics of current interest, and have immediate recall of a broad range of vocabulary in order to speak with a level of fluency.

### **LATIN**

#### **301 – Latin I**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9,10,11,12**

In the first year course, students will learn the fundamentals of Latin grammar through chapter exercises and simple translations of Latin to English and English to Latin. The focus in the first year will be the conjugation of Latin verbs in the indicative mood for both the active and passive voices, the declension of nouns and adjectives, and the basic syntax of phrases and clauses, as well as the development of vocabulary and elementary reading skills. In addition, students will be introduced to ancient Greco-Roman civilization through studies of its history, religion, and culture. The text for this course will be *Jenney's First Year Latin*.

### **MATHEMATICS**

**Requirements** – Four years of mathematics are required for graduation. Public colleges in the State of Maryland require completion of Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. It is required that a TI-83 or TI-84 calculator be purchased by every incoming freshman.

#### **412 – Algebra I**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10**

**Required**

This course is designed to refresh, review, and remediate basic algebra tools and skills. Topics include operations with real numbers, equations, inequalities, exponents, graphing, roots and radicals, and quadratic equations. Upon completion of this course, students should be prepared for success in geometry and beyond.

#### **422 – Geometry**

**CP**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10**

**Required**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra I. Its concentration is on relationships among geometric figures and the use of mathematical observation and reasoning. Topics include triangle relationships, congruency and similarity, parallel lines, properties of quadrilaterals, angles and circles, and right triangle trigonometry.

#### **421 – Geometry**

**H**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10**

**Elective**

This course is designed to show the structure of a mathematical system, to use logical reasoning and to provide an excellent background for further mathematical studies. Topics included are inductive reasoning, deduction and proof,

parallels and perpendiculars, congruent triangles, circles, angles, construction, coordinate Geometry, area and volume, and right-triangle trigonometry. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I Honors and/or the recommendation of the instructor.

**432 – Algebra II** **CP**  
**1 Credit** **Year: 10, 11** **Required**

Course topics include different methods of problem solving, linear and quadratic functions and their graphs, translation and symmetry of graphs, systems of equations, radical equations and an introduction to complex numbers. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and the recommendation of the instructor.

**431 – Algebra II** **H**  
**1 Credit** **Year: 10, 11** **Elective**

This course is designed to provide an excellent background for students who wish to take Pre-Calculus and Calculus. This course covers algebraic axioms and proof, set theory, equations and inequalities, graphing, relations and functions, polynomials and factoring, formulas, logarithmic functions, Cramer's Rule, and trigonometry. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I Honors and/or the recommendation of the instructor.

**435 – Pre-Calculus** **CP**  
**1 Credit** **Year: 11, 12** **Elective**

Course topics covered include linear and quadratic functions, polynomial functions, applications of the graphs of these functions, solving inequalities in one and two variables, exponential and logarithmic functions and their applications, analytic geometry, sequences and series, matrices and their applications, analytic geometry, sequences and series, matrices and their applications. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II and the recommendation of the instructor.

**434 – Pre-Calculus** **H**  
**1 Credit** **Year: 11, 12** **Elective**

This course provides a firm background for AP Calculus. Topics include functions and their graphs, trigonometric and circular functions, polar coordinates, vectors and their applications, determinants, sequences and series, exponential and logarithmic functions, conic sections, statistics and probability, and limits. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II H and/or the recommendation of the instructor.

**442 – AP Calculus AB** *(447 – Calc AB Lab)* **AP**  
**1.5 Credit** **Year: 12** **Elective**

Course topics covered include: limits, graphing functions, extrema and concavity, differential and integral calculus, the Mean Value Theorem, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, area, volume, L'Hôpital's Rule, Riemann sums, and Euler's Method. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus H and/or the recommendation of the instructor.

**445 – AP Calculus BC** *(446 – Calc BC Lab)* **AP**  
**1.5 Credit** **Year: 12** **Elective**

This course is designed for students with superior mathematical ability. Topics covered include: limits, graphing functions, extrema and concavity, differential and integral calculus, the Mean Value Theorem, The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, area, volume, Riemann sums, analysis of planar curves in parametric form, polar and vector form, vector functions, Euler's Method, L'Hôpital's Rule, polynomial series, convergence and divergence, and Taylor's series. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus H or AB Calculus and the recommendation of the instructor.

**440 – Statistics** **H**  
**1 Credit** **Year: 12** **Elective**

This is a course to complete the fourth year of mathematics, preferably for seniors. Topics covered include descriptive statistics, basic probability, binomial and normal distributions, confidence intervals, one and two sample

hypothesis testing, and regression analysis. Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of Algebra II and/or the recommendation of the instructor. Students are encouraged to take the AP exam in May.

### **493 – ETC College Algebra**

**1 credit SMG**

**3 credits HCC**

**Year: 11,12**

**ETC**

**Elective**

This course is a problem solving approach to the nature of mathematics as a logical system. The structure of the number system is developed axiomatically and extended by logical reasoning to cover essential algebraic topics: algebraic expression, functions, and theory of equations.

*Prerequisite: Prospective Essence students must complete HCC placement tests or have the required SAT/ACT scores to be exempt from testing. A student is exempt from placement testing if he/she scores 500 or higher on SAT mathematics and/or SAT critical reading; 21 on the ACT mathematics and/or ACT English; or has completed college-level courses in mathematics or English. Please see page 19-20 for additional information. There is an additional HCC tuition fee for this course.*

### **488 - ETC College Trigonometry**

**1 Credit SMG**

**3 credits HCC**

**Year: 11,12**

**ETC**

**Elective**

The study of exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions, as well as their applications. Topics include: triangles, trigonometric identities and equations, polar coordinates, equations and graphs, the complex plane and DeMoivre's Theorem. Total of 45 contact hours.

*Prerequisite: Prospective Essence students must complete HCC placement tests or have the required SAT/ACT scores to be exempt from testing. A student is exempt from placement testing if he/she scores 500 or higher on SAT mathematics and/or SAT critical reading; 21 on the ACT mathematics and/or ACT English; or has completed college-level courses in mathematics or English. Please see page 19-20 for additional information. There is an additional HCC tuition fee for this course.*

## **SCIENCE**

**Requirements** – Students are required to take three years of science. Biology and Chemistry are required courses.

### **537 - Intro to Chemistry & Physics**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10**

**CP**

**Elective**

This course provides an introduction to chemistry and physics. First semester focuses on Newtonian physics to include kinematics, energy and wave motion. Second semester focuses on topics in chemistry to include atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical bonding and gas laws. Problem solving, data analysis and lab work are essential components of this course. *Co-requisite: Algebra I CP.*

### **522 – Biology**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10**

**CP**

**Required**

This course includes the study of the cell, molecules that make up living systems, patterns of heredity, evolution of plant and animal life, energetics, taxonomy, ecology and environmental science. The course includes appropriate lab work and application of the scientific method. Basic writing skills are essential. It is recommended that students have successfully completed Algebra I.

### **521 – Biology**

**1 Credit**

**Year: 9, 10**

**H**

**Elective**

This course is designed for highly motivated students with an aptitude in science and math and is considered a pre-AP Biology course. Topics include biochemistry, cell biology, energetics, genetics, ecology, environmental science, evolution, human anatomy & physiology. The course includes appropriate lab work and application of the scientific method. Basic writing skills are essential and successful completion of Algebra I is required.

**532 – Chemistry****1 Credit****Year: 10, 11****CP****Required**

This course is designed for students who seek a general knowledge of chemistry. This course includes study of the periodic table, atomic structure, chemical bonding, stoichiometry, and gas laws. Lab work is integral to the course.

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I.*

**531 – Chemistry****1 Credit****Year: 10, 11****H****Elective**

This course is designed specifically to prepare students who plan to major in science or engineering and is intended as a pre-AP class. This course includes study of the periodic table, atomic structure, chemical bonding, stoichiometry, gas laws, acid-base chemistry, thermodynamics, kinetics, and equilibrium problems. Lab work is integral to the course. *Prerequisite: 80 or higher in Algebra I Honors AND Honors Biology OR Departmental Approval.*

**561 – Biology II****1 Credit****Year: 11, 12****CP****Elective**

Biology II is an extension to introductory biology that focuses on evolutionary biology and the increasing complexity of life forms on planet Earth. The course will cover the evolution of life by examining the taxonomy and phylogeny of protists and Fungi. In addition, students will study plant diversity, life cycles and plant anatomy and physiology which will be followed by a comparative study of invertebrate and vertebrate zoology. There will be extensive lab work including dissection. There is a lab fee for this course. *Prerequisites: successful completion of Bio 521/522, chemistry 531/532 and/or Departmental approval.*

**598 – Environmental Science****1 Credit****Year: 11, 12****CP****Elective**

This course focuses on the physical, chemical and biological processes and the anthropological activities that shape and influence our environment. Students will examine the cause and effect of human activity, human population growth and land use change with respect to environmental impacts. Students will learn that change will have both negative and positive impacts and Economic development and environmental protections are not mutually exclusive. Students will evaluate and analyze environmental systems and explore contemporary issues both natural and human induced. Students will become familiar with environmental problems and their causes as well as the resources needed to mitigate their impact on ecosystems. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry.*

**551 – Human Anatomy/Physiology****1 Credit****Year: 11, 12****H****Elective (offered on alternate years; offered 2018-19)**

This course is designed for motivated students interested in learning how the human body functions. The structure and function of individual organ systems, their interactions and interdependence are examined. The curriculum includes detailed investigation of integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, digestive, excretory, respiratory & reproductive systems. Additional topics include special senses, cell biology, histology and pathology. Fetal pig dissection is required. There is a lab fee for this course.

**543 – Physics I****1 Credit****Year: 11, 12****H****Elective**

This course is strongly recommended for all students who plan to study science or engineering. This course is a mathematical study of Newtonian physics, with a focus on forces, linear and rotational motion, and conservation of momentum and energy. Complex problem-solving skills and scientific creativity are stressed. Lab work is an integral part of the course. *Prerequisite: 85 or higher in Algebra II.*

**544 – Physics II****1 Credit****Year: 11, 12****H****Elective**

This course is recommended for students planning to major in engineering in college. Topics studied include wave behavior, optics, electricity and magnetism and selected topics in modern physics. Mathematical problem-solving and lab work are integral to successful completion of this course. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II. While Physics I is recommended before taking this course, it is not mandatory.*

**520 – AP Biology** (519 – AP BIO Lab) **AP**  
**1.5 Credit** **Year: 11, 12** **Elective (alternating years; next offered 2019-20)**

AP Biology is an introductory college-level Biology course that incorporates lecture and laboratory work in an intensive examination of biochemistry, cell biology, energetics, classical and molecular genetics, comparative animal & plant anatomy and physiology, evolution, ecology, and taxonomy. Students will be expected to take the AP exam in May. There is a lab fee for this course. *Prerequisite: 80 or higher in Honors Biology, 90 or higher in CP Biology OR Departmental approval.*

**530 – AP Chemistry** (529 – AP CHEM Lab) **AP**  
**1.5 Credit** **Year: 11, 12** **Elective (offered on alternate years / 2018-19)**

According to the College Board, “The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium.” Significant laboratory work is included. Students will be expected to take the AP exam in May. There is a lab fee for this course. *Prerequisite: 80 or higher in both Chemistry Honors AND Algebra II Honors OR Departmental Approval.*

## FINE ARTS

**Requirements:** Introduction to Art and Introduction to Music are required semester classes.

## VISUAL ARTS

### Introductory level

**618 – Introduction to Art** **CP**  
**.5 Credit** **Year: 10** **Required**

This is a beginning studio course for sophomores. This course introduces the elements and principles of design by using creative problem solving, and it explores different media in both the 2 and 3D format. Many areas will be explored in addition to traditional drawing, painting and sculpture.

**670 - Introduction Design Studio** **CP**  
**.5 Credit** **Year:** **Elective**

Intro Design Studio will introduce the elements and principles of art through art & design projects exploring various art media. Students will work with two- and three-dimensional media as they learn about techniques, collaborative critique, and art historical reference. There is a studio fee for this class.

### Intermediate level

#### **Drawing & Painting Studios:**

**671 - Drawing Studio** **CP**  
**.5 Credit** **Year: 11,12** **Elective**

Drawing Studio will focus on traditional drawing and print media as students explore and expand their understanding of the elements and principles of art. Students will explore direct observation rendering, semi-abstraction, and concept-based imagery. Students will be encouraged to enter at least one art competition beyond the Gorette campus in this semester course. (Can be taken any semester after Intro.)\*

### **672 - Painting Studio**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**CP**

**Elective**

Painting Studio will focus on traditional painting media as students explore and expand their understanding of the elements and principles of art. Students will explore direct observation rendering, semi-abstraction, and concept-based imagery. Students will be encouraged to enter at least one art competition beyond the Gorette campus in this semester course. (Can be taken any semester after Intro.)\*

### **2-D Photo and Graphic Design Studios**

#### **673 - 2-D Photo**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**CP**

**Elective**

2-D Photo will expand on an understanding of the elements and principles of art. Students will work with digital photography and basic photo manipulation software as they hone their design and composition skills. Students will be introduced to basic graphic design and layout as a facet and complement of photographic composition. (Can be taken any semester after Intro.)\*

#### **674 - Graphic Design**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**CP**

**Elective**

Graphic Design will expand on an understanding of the elements and principles of art. Students will work with both manual graphic design and basic digital image and graphic design manipulation software as they hone their design and composition skills. Students will be introduced to historic and contemporary graphic design. (can be taken any semester after Intro.)\*

### **Architectural Drawing and Method: Level 1, Level 2**

*(to be taken in sequence in sequence)*

#### **675 - Level I**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**CP**

**Elective**

#### **676 - Level II**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**CP**

**Elective**

*Architectural Drawing and Method Studio* will introduce the tools of architectural drawing (drafting) and will explore the conceptual process of built environments. Students will learn orthographic, plan, linear perspective, and axonometric drawing techniques and will develop these drawing skills within the context of how a structure proceeds from place, to concept, to iterative design, to building. Collaborative projects and critiques will be a key part of Architectural Drawing and Method studio.\*

### **3-D Studio**

#### **3-D / Visual Problem-Solving Studio I & 3 - D /Visual Problem Solving Studio II:**

#### **677 - 3-D Studio/Design Learning Level I**

**CP**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**Elective**

3-D /Design Learning Studio will focus on dimensional media while students will be introduced to an iterative Design Learning process to solve relevant design problems. (3-D /Design Learning must be taken in sequence – any semester)\*

**678 - 3-D/Design Learning Level II**

**CP**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11,12**

**Elective**

3-D/ Design Learning Level II) students will collaborate in teams utilizing Design Learning skills to design, test, and construct a dimensional solution to a campus-based need/ "problem". (Semester) Level II will build on the material from Level I to include a class/team design/install project.\*

**MUSIC**

**Introductory level**

**627 - Introduction to Music**

**CP**

**.5 Credit**

**Year: 10**

**Required**

This required course is intended for students with little to no music background. It introduces the study of music including a mix of styles and genres from ancient history to the present. Students will learn basic music notation, harmony, rhythm, form and meter. Students will develop the ability to analyze music and effectively communicate musical expression within all genres.

**Intermediate level**

**681 - Vocal Ensemble**

**CP**

**.5 Credit**

**Elective**

This is an instructional course that promotes lifelong performance skills. In this course, major emphasis is on vocal development and music comprehension and study of a variety of choral repertoire. Students perform regularly at Mass, as well as winter and spring concerts and events. Students have the opportunity to audition for Maryland All State Senior Chorus. This course may require additional rehearsals (after school and weekend). *Prerequisites - Introduction to Music Course, or participation in middle school chorus or an audition.*

**682 - Instrumental Ensemble**

**CP**

**.5 Credit**

**Elective**

This is an instructional course that promotes lifelong performance skills. It is focus on learning proper habits in tone production, practice skills, intonation, and interpretation. Students perform regularly at Mass as well as winter and spring concerts and events. This course may require additional rehearsals (after school and weekend). *Prerequisites - Introduction to Music Course, or participation in middle school band or an audition.*

**683 - Musical Theater Arts**

**CP**

**.5 Credit**

**Elective**

This course is an exploration of American Music Theatre. Students will be required to participate in training and learning exercises. Students will be performing as soloists and as small ensembles. Students will prepare these performances as well as critique performances in an open and affirming environment. Students will explore the history and traditions of music theatre. Students will have the chance to be involved in Gorette productions. Finally, the class will participate in a

culminating showcase at the end of the year. *Prerequisites - Introduction to Theater or Introduction to Music. Must be willing to sing. Participation in musicals off campus.*

**684 - Music Foundations**  
**.5 Credit, Semester**

**CP**  
**Elective**

This is the intermediate course and prerequisite for AP Music Theory. In this course the students will expand on basic written theory, sight-singing with solfeggio, auditory skills and basic piano skills. Students are required to participate in the vocal ensemble or the instrumental ensemble. *Prerequisites - Introduction to Music or teacher recommendation.*

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH**

**Requirements** – 1 credit for graduation. Freshman PE/Health is required.

**720 – PE/Health**  
**1 Credit**

**Year: 9**

**CP**  
**Required**

**PE:** The physical fitness of the student is enhanced by a well-rounded physical education program which provides a variety of experiences to develop cardiovascular fitness, muscle endurance, flexibility, and strength. Instruction in sports skills, rules, and games strategy is also emphasized.

**Health:** The goal of Health is to familiarize the students with the many health concerns facing them in today's society. Emphasis is placed on prevention and responsibility of individuals to make intelligent and informed decisions concerning their lifestyle.

**705 – Men's Strength Training and Conditioning**  
**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

**CP**  
**Elective**

The emphasis of the class will be to promote proper strength and conditioning techniques in male students. Students will achieve this by using different elements of strength, speed and agility, endurance and flexibility training. Strength training will focus on the difference between strength and power. Speed and agility will be centered on first step quickness and technique. Endurance will concentrate on both muscular and cardiovascular. Flexibility will concentrate on injury prevention and increasing range of motion.

**706 – Women's Strength Training and Conditioning**  
**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

**CP**  
**Elective**

The class purpose will be to promote strength and conditioning techniques in female students. Students will achieve this by learning about different elements of strength and conditioning. Emphasis will be centered on core and lower body strength, endurance and flexibility.

**707 - Team Sports**  
**.5 Credit**

**Year: 11, 12**

**CP**  
**Elective**

Class will be based on constant competition in many different sports. Sports will range from soccer and basketball to badminton and handball. Sport performance stat taking and analysis will be incorporated as well.

**TECHNOLOGY**

**820 - Computer Science Fundamentals**  
**.5 credit**

**Year: 9,10,11,12**

**CP**  
**Elective**

Computer Science Fundamentals Express is a half credit course designed for high school students without a computer science background. Students learn to create computer programs that will help them learn to collaborate with others, develop problem-solving skills, and persist through difficult tasks. They will study programming concepts, computational thinking, digital citizenship, and develop interactive games or stories they can share. The course teaches

the foundational concepts of programming using drag and drop blocks in an accelerated fashion designed for older students. *Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 is required.*

### **821 - AP Computer Science Principles**

**1.0 credit**

**Year: 10,11,12**

**AP**

**Elective**

The AP Computer Science Principles (CSP) curriculum is a full-year, rigorous, entry-level course that introduces students to the foundations of modern computing and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. The course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. The course engages students in the creative aspects of the field by allowing them to learn the JavaScript language and develop computational artifacts based on their interests. Students will work individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and will discuss and write about the impacts these solutions could have on their community, society, and the world.

*Prerequisite: Students must have completed Algebra II CP with a minimum average of 88% or Algebra II Honors with a minimum average of 80%.*

## **COLLEGIATE COURSEWORK OPTIONS**

### **The ESSENCE Program - Hagerstown Community College**

The ESSENCE Program is designed to give high academic achievers the opportunity to earn college credits while still in high school. Hagerstown Community College offers ESSENCE classes at discounted tuition rates for high school students. The HCC tuition is billed by HCC and is in addition to Gorette's annual tuition rate.

Prospective ESSENCE students must complete HCC placement tests or have the required SAT/ACT scores to be exempt from testing. A student is exempt from placement testing if he/she scores 500 or higher on SAT mathematics and/or SAT critical reading; 21 on the ACT mathematics and/or ACT English; or has completed college-level courses in mathematics or English.

Gorette students have two options for taking ESSENCE classes.

#### **1. ESSENCE classes at Gorette (for juniors and seniors)**

Several ESSENCE courses will be offered on the campus of Gorette as part of the master schedule. The HCC course curricula will be followed but taught by Gorette faculty who also are adjunct instructors for HCC. Students will receive dual credit (HCC & SMG).

#### **2. ESSENCE classes at HCC's campus (for seniors only)**

Seniors may take ESSENCE courses at the HCC campus. The course selections will need to be approved by the Principal well in advance of the course start date. Approval will be based on content and compatibility with Gorette's master schedule. Students will receive dual credit (HCC & SMG) for approved courses. Please note: The school is not obligated to accept credit for any ESSENCE class that has not been approved in advance by the Principal. Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from HCC.

### **Mount St. Mary's University undergraduate classes at Gorette (for juniors and seniors)**

Through a partnership with Mount St. Mary's University, Gorette will offer one Mount St. Mary's class per semester in 2018-19. Students attend via Zoom teleconferencing to the Mount St. Mary's Frederick campus. Tuition for each Mount St. Mary's class (\$500) is in addition to Gorette's annual tuition. The course fee will be charged to the student's Gorette tuition account, as the school is invoiced by the university for the student's tuition.

In order to be eligible to register for an MSMU course, SMG seniors must have permission from their parents or guardians to participate, must be recommended by their high school principals to cross register, and must meet minimum requirements in terms of SAT scores (no less than 500 on any section). By successfully completing a Mount St. Mary's class, a student concurrently will earn 3 college credits from Mount St. Mary's and 1 credit from Goretti.

### **Summer Courses and Online Courses**

Depending on student interest, St. Maria Goretti High School may offer a core sequential Mathematics course on campus during the summer. Students will receive one credit for the course, and the grade will be factored in their GPA.

Students needing remedial coursework after a course failure may be required to take an online class via Educere, the school's remedial course provider. Not all courses are available via Educere, and some students may need to repeat a course during a subsequent academic year as part of their daily schedule. Grades for remedial coursework will bring the failing grade to a minimum passing grade of 65 on the student's transcript, regardless of the numeric grade earned for the remedial class

**Please note:** Any proposed course work taken outside of the daily schedule during the academic year must be approved in advance by the Principal. The school reserves the right to award credit on a Pass/Fail basis only for approved additional coursework, with the numeric grade for such coursework not factored into a student's GPA.