



**St. Maria Goretti Catholic
High School
Course Catalog
2023-2024**



**ST. MARIA GORETTI HIGH SCHOOL
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS
2023-2024**

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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.

St. Maria Goretti Catholic High School Graduation Requirements (effective class of 2026)

THEOLOGY	4 Credits: Yearly retreats required
ENGLISH	4 Credits
MATHEMATICS	4 Credits (one per year): Required Courses: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	.5 Credit
SCIENCE	3 Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) Credits: 1 Earth/Space Science Credit, 1 Life Science Credit, 1 Physical Science Credit
SOCIAL STUDIES	3 Credits: 1 U.S. History Credit, 1 World History Credit, 1 Government Credit
FINE ARTS	1 Credit: (Art and/or Music)
TECHNOLOGY	1 Credit
ELECTIVES	3.5 Credits
HEALTH	1 Credit (Class of 2025 and beyond)
WORLD LANGUAGE	2 Credits (same language)
Total Credits	27 Credits
Community Service	100 Hours (25 hours per year)

Max Dual Enrollment credits paid for by Goretti:

- 2 Electives
- 2 Math Classes
- 1 Science Class

These cannot be graduation requirements offered at Goretti.



Middle School Credit, Dual Enrollment, and Advanced Placement Courses

Middle School Credit

High school credit may be awarded for middle school courses in each academic curricular area under the following circumstances:

- The course is identified as an approved course for high school credit.
- The middle school course follows the outcomes and rigor of the approved high school course.
- The student passed the approved middle school course.
- Credit awarded in the middle school will not be calculated in a student's high school grade point average (GPA).
- Student must take Goretti's placement assessment (Spanish, Algebra I, Geometry) to show mastery of content for placement in Geometry, Algebra II, or Spanish II.

Advanced Placement

Students enrolled in an AP course are expected to take the AP exam. **One half of the exam fee will be paid for by Goretti. Students will be responsible for the other half of the fee.** Students who choose not to take the exam after it has been paid for will need to reimburse Goretti for the test fee. 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.

Dual Enrollment

The following are the Colleges/Universities that we have dual enrollment partnerships with.

Hagerstown Community College - The ESSENCE Program

Mount St. Mary's University

Marymount University

Shepherd University

Hood College

Wilson College

With advance approval from administration students are able to enroll in coursework at these colleges in order to earn college credit and Goretti credit concurrently. Tuition and fees are determined by the respective colleges and may be in addition to Goretti tuition. Admission criteria also are determined by the respective colleges and may require placement testing or certain GPA requirements.

Students interested in dual enrollment options must contact the Director of Guidance and the Principal for approval to participate in dual enrollment coursework during. Approval will be based on course content, compatibility with Goretti's master schedule, and the student's remaining graduation requirements. Please see additional criteria and regulations regarding dual enrollment outlined in Goretti's Dual Enrollment Form below.



St. Maria Goretti Catholic High School Dual Enrollment Approval Form

Semester Fall 2023

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Current Grade Level _____ Current GPA _____

St. Maria Goretti students will be permitted to take **pre-approved courses** for dual enrollment credit during their 11th and 12th grade experience. This form must be completed and signed by the parent/guardian and school counselor or school administrator prior to enrollment in these courses.

Course Name and Number	Name of College/ University	Dates	Location of Course	Approved

- **Students may only take dual enrollment courses that are not offered at Goretti.**
- **Students may only take dual enrollment courses with partnering institutions.**
- Dual enrollment courses may only be taken during the Junior and Senior years.
- A maximum of two courses may be taken concurrently. Non-residential classes will include one study hall in the student schedule
- At a maximum, Goretti will pay for one 3/4-credit math course and **two** 3-credit electives over the span of the student's high school experience. Exceptions will be subject to administrative approval.
- All grades for pre- approved dual enrollment courses will be reflected on high school transcripts.
- Core graduation requirements may not be taken during the summer to replace a course at Goretti
- Dual enrollment courses taken during the summer will **not** be reflected on a high school transcript.
- Students are responsible for purchasing their own textbooks and course materials. If textbooks are not purchased, students may be billed to their student account.
- Students are responsible for all **fees**. Any refunds or monies received from the college/university will be returned to Goretti
- If a student withdraws after the university's 100% penalty free withdrawal period and/or fails the course, parents/guardians will be responsible for reimbursing Goretti.
- Students will be required to give parent permission to access grades through the university.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature/Date

Counselor/Administrator's Signature/Date

2023-2024 Course Descriptions

THEOLOGY

Requirements – Four years of Theology are a requirement for all students. Service Learning requirement (a minimum of 25 service hours per academic year) is a pass/fail component on the transcript each year. Students must attend a grade level retreat each year.

THEO 101 – Faith and Revelation (.5 Credit) -- Year: 9 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.

THEO 102-- The Blessed Trinity (.5 Credit) -- Year: 9 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.

Prerequisite: Theo 101

THEO 201-- The Mystery of Redemption (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10 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.

Prerequisite: Theo 102

THEO 202--The Church is Christ's Body (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10 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. One quarter of this course will include Theology of the Body, a study of God and the purpose of our existence, as discovered and revealed through our bodies. Key Concepts to be Conveyed are: In order for a person to love another properly, he or she must first desire what is good for the other person. Lust is sexual desire apart from God's love. Theology of the body answers two fundamental questions: (1)

“What does it mean to be human?” and (2) “How do I live my life in a way that brings true happiness and fulfillment?” with one fundamental answer: self- giving. Theology of the Body helps us to understand how we were created in the image of God, our identity in Christ, along with our gifts and givenness, so that we may see ourselves and others the way God intended. Students will learn the truth about their bodies, their sexuality, and their unique call to love.

Prerequisite: Theo 201

THEO 301--The Sacraments (.5 Credit) -- Year: 11 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.

Prerequisite: Theo 202

THEO 302-- The Moral Life in Christ (.5 Credit) -- Year: 11 Required

Throughout this one-semester course, students will come to understand what morality is and how the Church, through both tradition and scripture, calls us to live in our daily lives. Students will also examine what it means to be a Catholic Christian in society today. A wide variety of moral issues will be examined in detail and students will have the opportunity to analyze these through a Christian lens.

Prerequisite: Theo 301

THEO 401--Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue (.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. (First Semester)

THEO 402--Understanding the Scriptures (.5 Credit) -- Year 12 Required

The purpose of this course is to give an overview of Sacred Scripture with an introduction to the basic principles for understanding and interpreting the Bible. Because of the extent of the scriptural material, this outline will not try to cover the vast content but rather offer comments about Scripture's purpose and religious significance. Given the limits of a semester of study, it will not be possible to introduce all the books of the Bible here. But every effort is made to project a sense of the unity of the narrative for the divine plan of salvation, the presence of God's action in this record of his Revelation, and his desire to share his merciful love with us. We will comment on authorship, date of composition, and formation of text of each book of the Bible be drawn from introductions in the New American Bible or from the Catholic Study Bible for the New American Bible

THEO 501--Faith and Film (.5 Credit) -- Year 11 or 12 Elective

This course will explore theological and religious themes, symbols and motifs that are found in a variety of films and videos. The screenings used are to open creative windows to understand ways of communicating the Christian faith and will assist the student in thinking critically about films from a theological and Biblical perspective. Students will analyze works on both the explicit and implicit messages the films communicate. An understanding of cinematic techniques will be incorporated into the course. Faith and Film is an elective that is showing in a classroom near you!



ENGLISH

Requirements: Four complete years of English are a requirement for all students.

Courses are available in college preparatory, honors, and advanced placement. English teacher recommendation, writing sample, and minimum grade average in prior-year classes are required for transitioning between on-level (CP) and advanced (Honors) placement. Electives are available for students in grades 11 & 12 who wish to continue the development of their skills in literary analysis, speaking, and writing.

ENGL 101--Intro to Literature and Composition (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 *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

ENGL 101H--Intro to Literature and Composition Honors (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 *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury, *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros, *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare, and *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. **Prerequisite: Incoming freshmen requesting placement in Intro to Literature and Composition Honors will be placed into the course based on faculty discretion following a Freshman Placement Test.**

ENGL 201--World Literature (1 credit) -- Year: 10 Required

World Literature, the College-Preparatory course of English II, focuses on different pieces of literature and different lenses found throughout the World. Through the exploration and analysis of short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and nonfiction texts, students will study literature from various regions around the world. Texts include works from the following authors: Chinua Achebe, Josephina Niggli, R. K. Narayan, James Joyce, Lesley Nneka Arimah, Italo Calvino, Selma Lagerloff, and Leslie Marmon Silko. Writing, reading, and critical thinking skills are refined during each unit through formal dialogue, paragraph responses, and essays of varying length. In addition to writing, student projects include presentations, short skits, and poetry readings. **Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENGL 101 or ENGL 101 Honors**

ENGL 201H--World Literature Honors (1 credit) -- Year: 10 Required

Honors World Literature, the honors-level course of English II, focuses on different pieces of literature and different lenses found throughout the world. Through the exploration and analysis of short stories, poetry, drama, novels, and nonfiction texts, students will study literature from various regions around the world. Texts include works from the following authors: Chinua Achebe, Josephina Niggli, R. K. Narayan, James Joyce, Lesley Nneka Arimah, Italo Calvino, Selma Lagerloff, and Leslie Marmon Silko. Writing, reading, and critical

thinking skills are refined during each unit through paragraph responses and essays of varying length. In addition to writing, student projects include presentations, short skits, and poetry readings. A high-level of proficiency in writing and reading skills are expected for this course.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

ENGL 301--American Literature (1 credit) -- Year: 11 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 works from the following authors: Walt Whitman, Langston Hughes, Hans Christian Anderson, Edgar A. Poe, Charlotte Perkins Gillman, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Lorraine Hansberry, James Baldwin, Flannery O'Connor, and Joyce Carol Oates. 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.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of ENGL 201 or 201H

ENGL 301H--American Literature Honors (1 credit) -- Year: 11 Required

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. Selections may include works from the following authors: Walt Whitman, Langston Hughes, Hans Christian Anderson, Edgar A. Poe, Charlotte Perkins Gillman, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Lorraine Hansberry, James Baldwin, Flannery O'Connor, and Joyce Carol Oates. 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 AP Language and Composition exam and the SAT and ACT college admissions tests.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

ENGL 302--Journalism (.5 credits) -- Year: 11, 12 Elective

Journalism explores the foundational concepts and practices of print journalism and develops students' writing to meet its style and conventions. Students work together to produce a school newspaper from conception to final issue. While the class will mostly work to develop the students' writing and communication skills, the class also emphasizes knowledge and skills in areas such as editing, interviewing, researching, and fact checking, and verbal and visual forms of news media like broadcast, radio, blogs, and podcasts. In addition, the students will read articles every week and focus on specific topics such as the Inverted Pyramid, Ethics in Journalism, and Editorial Writing.

ENGL 401-- Advanced Literature & Composition (1 credit) – Year 12: Required

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 excerpts from *The Dream of the Rood*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, selections from Arthurian legend, Elizabethan sonnets, Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, various poems from the Romantics, and moving into various texts from the modern era. Formal essays, in-class writings, quizzes, tests, and projects 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.

ENGL 401H-- Advanced Literature & Composition (1 credit) -- Year:12 Required

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 excerpts from *The Dream of the Rood*, *The Canterbury Tales*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, selections from Arthurian legend, Elizabethan sonnets, Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, various poems from the Romantics, and moving into various texts from the modern era. Formal essays, in-class writings, quizzes, tests, and projects 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.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

ENGL 501AP - AP Literature and Composition (1 credit)-- Year 11 or 12

The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

ENGL 503AP - AP English Language and Composition (1 credit)-- Year 11 or 12

The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the development and revision of evidence-based analytic and argumentative writing, the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts, and the decisions writers make as they compose and revise. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Additionally, they read and analyze rhetorical elements and their effects in nonfiction texts—including images as forms of text— from a range of disciplines and historical periods.

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation



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 10-12 may take AP Government to fulfill the Government requirement if not previously met or for enrichment as an elective.

SS 101--U.S. History (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 will build reading and writing skills, as well as include simulations, debates, and projects.

SS 101H-- U.S. History H (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 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. Administrative approval required.

SS 201--U. S. Government & Politics (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.

SS 201H--U.S. Government & Politics H (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. 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.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

SS 203H – Topics in Philosophy (0.5 Credits) – Year 10, 11, 12 Elective

Topics in Philosophy is a sixteen-week elective course that guides students through an exploration of various philosophers, philosophical topics, and modes of analysis and discussion. As a humanities course, there will be ongoing focus on the development of skills in reading and communication, both written and verbal. The course is organized into four four-week units: Introduction and Ethics, Plato, Enlightenment/ Modern Era Philosophy, and Romantic/ Existentialist Philosophy.

SS 207 – Home Economics (0.5 Credits) – Year 10, 11, 12 Elective

This Home Economics course will provide some of the tools necessary to be successful in life, by covering important topics such as time management, money management, cooking, hospitality, emergency preparedness, sewing, meal preparation, and more. **Fee based class**

SS 301--World History (1 Credit) -- Year: 11 Required

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.

SS 301H--World History H (1 Credit) -- Year: 11 Required

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.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

SS 408H -- Civil War Honors (.5 Credit) -- Year: 11, 12 Elective

U.S. Wars and Military Conflicts courses focus on the study of one or more wars and major military conflicts in which the United States had a significant role. In this case, the topic is the U.S. Civil War. This course concentrates on one of many topics related to The Civil War, including the causes; social, political, and economic effects. The honors level provides expectations and opportunities for students to work independently, at an accelerated pace, to engage in more rigorous and complex content, and to develop projects and products that reflect that level of understanding. Instruction in honors classes is at a rigorous pre-Advanced Placement level. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class

SS 409 - World Cultures (.5 Credit) – Year 10, 11, 12 Elective

In this course students will explore different regions and cultures of the world. They will examine diverse populations, religions, art, music, food, languages, customs, cultures and interactions within these cultures.

SS 410 –Criminal Investigations and Homeland Security (.5 Credit) – Year: 11, 12 Elective

This elective course will explore the basics of criminal investigation procedures and public safety in the United States through investigation, real-world application, and simulated experiences. Students will explore topics such as: evidence collection and analysis, warrants, constitutional rights, interrogations, disaster readiness, theories of justice, morality, counter terrorism, and careers in criminal justice.

SS 501AP–AP United States Government and Politics (1 Credit) – Year: 10,11,12

This is a college-level year-long course that not only seeks to prepare students for success on the AP Exam in May, but also provide students with the political knowledge and reasoning processes to participate meaningfully and thoughtfully in discussions and debates that are currently shaping American politics and society. It is important to note that this course is not a history course; it is a political science course that studies the interconnectedness of the different parts of the American political system as well as the behaviors and attitudes that shape this system and are the byproduct of this system. AP U.S. Government and Politics accomplishes these goals by framing the acquisition of political knowledge around enduring understandings and big ideas about American government and politics that can be applied to a set of disciplinary practices by using a set of reasoning processes. Through the development of this set of political knowledge, disciplinary practices, and reasoning processes, students will be able to analyze current and historical political events like a political scientist and develop factually accurate, well-reasoned, thoughtful arguments and opinions that acknowledge and grapple with alternative political perspectives.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

SS 504AP - AP Psychology (1 credit) - Year: 10, 11, 12

The purpose of this AP Psychology course is to introduce students to the study of the behavior and mental processes of the human brain. This class will prepare students for the AP Psychology Exam in May. There are several requirements that all AP classes have in common: high expectations of the students, a high level of rigor, and the expectation that students will engage in self-learning outside the classroom. There are many topics on the AP Exam in May. We will learn a great deal in class with rigorous learning activities. However, as in college, it will be necessary for all students to complete work and research topics at home that we may not discuss in class.

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

WORLD LANGUAGES

Requirements – At least two high school credits in foreign language are required of all students, in the same language. **Electives in Foreign Language** – Third level courses are available in Spanish, which is an Honors course that prepares students for course placement at institutions of higher learning.

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 after taking a placement test but must still take two years of a foreign language in high school. Level IV courses may be available as a Dual Enrollment option.

WLAN 101--Spanish I (1 Credit) -- Year: 9, 10, 11, 12

Spanish I is designed to develop an authentic and practical understanding of the Spanish language and culture. Students will learn basic vocabulary and grammar concepts to express their thoughts, feelings, and opinions in Spanish using basic, real-life situations and learning scenarios.

WLAN 201--Spanish II (1 Credit) -- Year: 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will build upon the foundation developed in Spanish I. They will continue to build vocabulary, learn new verb tenses and grammar concepts, and improve their ability to communicate with others and their community.

Prerequisite: Spanish I

WLAN 202--French II (1 Credit) -- Year: 9, 10, 11, 12

French II is designed to focus on successful communication through speaking, writing, reading, and listening, and provides a thorough grounding in aspects of culture. Activities blend different forms of communication and culture to ensure that students meet all standards.

Prerequisite: French I

WLAN 301H-- Spanish III (1 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will build upon the concepts developed in Spanish II. Students focus on applying vocabulary in a wider array of situations by learning about the past progressive and subjunctive moods and the present perfect, future and conditional tenses.

Prerequisite: Spanish II

MATHEMATICS

Requirements – A mathematics credit is required each year (minimum of 4) for graduation. Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II are mandatory for graduation. During the Senior year a course that is Algebra II or higher is required (not an elective course).. All students must have a TI-84 calculator for all math courses. If a student does not have a calculator their account may be billed.

MATH 101--Algebra I (1 Credit) Year: 9, 10 Required

This course is designed to enrich students' comprehension of algebra emphasizing modeling through real-world applications. Topics include equations, inequalities, exponents, graphing, roots and radicals, polynomials, and quadratic equations. Upon completion of this course, students should be prepared for success in Geometry and beyond.

MATH 101H--Algebra I Honors (1 Credit) Year: 9, 10 Required

This course is designed to enrich students' comprehension of algebra emphasizing modeling through real-world applications. Units will be enriched through mathematical extensions. Topics include equations, inequalities, exponents, graphing, roots and radicals, polynomials, quadratic equations, and rational functions. Upon completion of this course, students should be prepared for success in Geometry and beyond.

Prerequisite: Placement Test required for placement

MATH 201--Geometry (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, similarity, parallel lines, properties of quadrilaterals, angles and circles, and right triangle trigonometry.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I. Incoming freshmen who successfully pass the Algebra I placement test with a score of 70% or higher may be placed into Geometry.

MATH 201H--Geometry Honors (1 Credit) -- Year: 9, 10 Required

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 and the recommendation of the instructor. Incoming freshmen who successfully pass the Algebra and have a placement test score of 85% or higher may be placed into Geometry Honors.

MATH 301--Algebra II (1 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11 Required

This course emphasizes problem solving, reasoning, discovery and the use of technology. Topics covered include functions, quadratics, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, and exponential and logarithmic functions.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I.

MATH 301H--Algebra II Honors (1 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11 Required

This course is designed to provide an excellent background for students who wish to take Pre-Calculus and Calculus. This course emphasizes problem solving, reasoning, discovery and the use of technology. Topics covered include functions, quadratics, polynomials, rational expressions, irrational and complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions Trigonometry, probability, and sequences and series.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and teacher recommendation.

MATH 306--Algebra III – Year: 11, 12 Elective

Algebra III a year-long mathematics course designed to hone skills developed in Algebra II, while introducing and developing skills for PreCalculus. It will develop underlying skills necessary with graphing, evaluating, and interpreting functions. Students will review and build upon algebra concepts beginning with linear, quadratic, and exponential functions and extend through rational, radical, and trigonometric functions. This course meets the requirements for a fourth course for USMD completer.

MATH 401H--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. This course is virtual through a university partnership.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II and teacher recommendation.

MATH 501 AP – AP Statistics (1 Credit) - Year 12 Elective

The AP Statistics course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes evident in the content, skills, and assessment in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, probability and simulation, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus or Algebra III and the recommendation of the instructor.

Calculus I and II

Both Calculus I and Calculus II are available as dual enrollment courses.

SCIENCE

Students are required to take a minimum of three credits in lab sciences. One credit must be in Life Science, one Physical Science, and one Earth and Space Science.

SCI 102-- Earth and Space Science (1 Credit) Year: 10 Required

Earth and Space Science is an introduction to Earth's Role in the Solar System, and the various systems that make up the inner workings of our planet. Topics of meteorology, astronomy, climatology, oceanography, mineralogy, geology, and biogeochemistry are included throughout the course.

SCI 102H-- Earth and Space Science H (1 Credit) Year: 10 Required

Honors Earth and Space Science is a challenging course that focuses on the various systems whose interactions are responsible for the working of planet Earth. Topics include meteorology, climatology, oceanography, mineralogy, astronomy, geology, geomorphology, and volcanism. This course places emphasis on earth science phenomena using textbooks, maps, classroom activities, and laboratory experiences and field trips. Instruction in honors classes is at a rigorous level. Students will be expected to complete challenging assignments above grade level, both in and out of class.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

SCI 201--Biology (1 Credit) -- Year: 9 Required

This course includes laboratory work, study of specimens, projects/research, and a thorough understanding of scientific inquiry. Course content encompasses interrelationships of living things, levels of biological organization, cellular biology, biochemistry, genetics, and evolution. Students should be prepared to conduct investigations and write formal lab reports. Basic writing skills are essential. Real world application is a daily objective. Higher-level thinking will be incorporated into each lesson as well as use of technology when applicable to increase student achievement. Students are expected to participate in all activities and actively engage and ask questions during class. Students are also expected to review and study the content covered in class outside of school daily.

SCI 201H--Biology H (1 Credit) -- Year: 9 Required

This course is designed for highly motivated students with an aptitude in science and math and is considered a pre-AP Biology course. In addition to what is taught in Biology (SCI 201) other topics that are presented to the students include biochemistry, a more detailed study of cell biology, energetics, genetics, ecology, environmental science, and evolution. This course includes appropriate laboratory work, study of specimens, and a thorough understanding of scientific inquiry. Students should be prepared to conduct projects/research and write formal lab reports. Writing skills are essential. Real world application is a daily objective. Higher-level thinking will be incorporated into each lesson as well as use of technology when applicable to increase student achievement. Students are expected to participate in all activities and actively engage and ask questions during class. Students are also expected to review and study the content covered in class outside of school daily.

Prerequisite: Administrative recommendation

SCI 303H - Environmental Science Honors (.5 Credit) – Year: 11, 12 Elective

Environmental science is a course dedicated to understanding the interactions between earth's natural systems and the demands placed on them by the human population. This course examines the scientific principles behind natural phenomena and resource cycles, explores how we utilize these systems and our impact, and potential solutions for the resulting consequences of resource mismanagement and exploitation. The course includes elements of life science, physical science, and social science and focuses on breadth and interrelatedness of relevant current events. Concepts can be explored through inquiry based laboratory exercises, environmental health assessment techniques, student presentations and projects.

SCI 404H--Anatomy and Physiology Honors A (.5 credit) Year: 11, 12 Elective

This upper level science course is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of how the organ systems within the human body work together to maintain homeostasis, and how a failure in homeostasis results in a disease or health issue. Each unit includes laboratory work in the form of traditional labs and/or simulation activities, the study of specimens, and research-based projects. Students should be prepared to conduct research, work in small groups as well as independently, write scientifically, and communicate their understanding in a variety of methods. Real world application is a daily objective. Topics covered are: muscular, skeletal, and nervous systems. **Fee based class**

SCI 405H--Anatomy and Physiology Honors B (.5 credit) Year: 11, 12 Elective

This upper level science course is designed to provide students with a thorough understanding of how the organ systems within the human body work together to maintain homeostasis, and how a failure in homeostasis results in a disease or health issue. Each unit includes laboratory work in the form of traditional labs and/or simulation activities, the study of specimens, and research-based projects. Students should be prepared to conduct research, work in small groups as well as independently, write scientifically, and communicate their understanding in a variety of methods. Real world application is a daily objective. Topics covered are: circulatory, digestive, excretory, and reproductive systems. **Fee based class**

SCI 301H-- Chemistry Honors (1 Credit) Year: 11,12

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, reaction rates, equilibrium, gas laws and acid/base chemistry. Lab work is integral to the course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra I and Biology CP.

SCI 402H –Physics Honors (1 Credit) Year: 11,12

This course is designed for students who seek general knowledge of physics. This course includes study of Kinematics, Newton's Laws, Work and Energy, Gravitation and Circular Motion, Waves, Sound, Light, Mirrors and Lenses, Electricity and Electric Circuits.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Chemistry and Algebra II.

SCI 501AP –AP Biology (1.5 credits) – Year: 11, 12 Elective

Advanced Placement Biology is designed to offer students a solid foundation in a college level introductory biology course. Students should be highly motivated with an aptitude in science and math. This course is aligned to the College Board AP Biology Curriculum Framework and is based on four Big Ideas, which encompass core scientific principles, theories, and processes that cut across traditional boundaries and provide a broad way of thinking about living organisms and biological systems. The four Big Ideas include: Evolution, Energetics, Information Storage and Transmission, and Systems Interactions. Twenty-five percent of instructional time is devoted to hands-on laboratory work with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations. Investigations require students to ask questions, make observations and predictions, design experiments, analyze data, and construct arguments in a collaborative setting, where they direct and monitor their progress. Students are expected to take the AP Biology Exam in May. **Fee based class.**

Prerequisite: Successful completion SCI 201(Biology) and SCI 301 (Chemistry). Teacher recommendation required.

SCI 503AP –AP Physics C Mechanics (1 Credit) Year: 11,12

This course is designed to be equivalent to a one semester calculus-based mechanics course in college. The class proceeds at a relatively quick pace and the course content builds on prior knowledge. Thus, students should be prepared for a significant time commitment and should be fluent and confident in mathematical manipulations. The course requires calculus as a corequisite, and the use of calculus increases as the course progresses. This course covers kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, conservation of energy and momentum, circular motion and rotation, and gravitation. Strong emphasis is placed on solving a variety of challenging problems, some requiring calculus, and laboratory activities reinforce the theoretical content. Students are expected to take the AP Physics C exam in May.

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation

FINE ARTS

ARTS 105 – Painting I (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This course provides a foundational experience with painting. Exploration of the methods, materials, and concepts of acrylic painting will be carried out in a studio setting. Through specifically assigned problems, the beginning painting student will develop a visual painting vocabulary. Color theory, pictorial composition, figure/ground relationships, visual perception, spatial concepts, and critical thinking skills will all be emphasized.

ARTS 211-- Intro to Theatre (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This course will survey Theatre from the world of the ancient Greeks to the present day. Students will gain an appreciation of the aesthetics and humanistic aspects of Theatre. This course will help students appreciate the diversity of the human condition by examining dramatic literature from a variety of historical periods and ethnic cultures. This diversity will also be examined in live theatre productions, a medium that allows students to understand the human experience as a performing art. This course will assist students in developing effective writing skills. Students will be required to see a live performance and to write a critical review of the performance that they attend.

ARTS 301--Drawing Studio (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11,12 Elective

This studio course is a semester-long course that will introduce students to a variety of drawing styles and techniques. It will also explore a variety of drawing mediums, such as graphite, ink and watercolor. Students will understand and use basic elements of art such as line, shape and value, to render finished drawing projects which may be used in a portfolio.

ARTS 307 – Art Studio (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This studio course is a semester-long course that will build upon foundational art content while preparing the student for further high school art experiences. Students will examine elements and principles of art within a studio setting. Students will develop a portfolio of work during this course which will include work created using a variety of art mediums from pencil drawings to acrylic paintings.

ARTS 310-- Yearbook (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This course is designed to develop students' skills in digital/print media production as it applies to the sole completion of a large finished product, St. Maria Goretti High School's yearbook. Students learn basic principles of print media publishing and develop skills that include writing copy, captions and headlines; digital photography; desktop publishing and using appropriate technology tools for media production.

ARTS 312 – History of Cinema (.5 Credit) – Year 10, 11, 12 Elective

The goal of this course is to take the student beyond the role of a passive spectator of movies, and to explore the history of cinema from a cultural, ideological, and theoretical standpoint. Rather than viewing a film as some preexisting piece of art and/or entertainment, we shall examine how films are very much "of their time." Students are encouraged to develop their faculties for critical thinking regarding the history of film and how it relates to culture and ideology, and to demonstrate ability to discuss and write about these topics.

MUSIC

ARTS 103-- Music Appreciation (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This 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.

ARTS 200 – Class Piano and Keyboard (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

Class Piano provides students with individualized training in basic piano technique, musical notation, history, and culture. This course is designed to develop skills both individually and in small groups. Students will have the opportunity to explore repertoire from different cultures and historical periods as they learn the basics of note reading and performance technique. Students need no prior experience playing the piano to enroll in Class Piano.

ARTS 202-- Vocal Ensemble (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12 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. This course may require additional rehearsals (after school and weekend).

ARTS 207 – Music Production (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

Students will learn how to manipulate music by creating medley mixes, music re-arranging, and exploring the digital world of music. Digital audio and MIDI will be used and incorporated to create music files. Students will learn basic concepts on making beats and music patterns to be used in music production. Keyboard skills are helpful but not necessary.

ARTS 502 --Sacred Music and Sacred Art (.5 Credit) -- Year 11 or 12 Elective

In this course students will listen to, analyze, and discuss a variety of musical works. Students will engage with a variety of musical excerpts such as masses, oratorios, cantatas, chorales and motets. Students will examine the role of beauty in art and music and its ultimate purpose: to worship God. Students will view and examine various works such as paintings, sculptures, stained glass, icons and architecture. This course is for students who enjoy studying Theology through sight and sound.

BUSINESS -- Year: 11, 12 Electives

BUS 301 - Intro to Economics (.5 Credit) – Year: 11, 12 Elective

This course is focused on students learning how to identify factors that drive economic decisions, analyze economic choices, understand the differences between Microeconomics and Macroeconomics, and identify the types of economic systems. Students taking this high school economics course will learn about types of market structures, how Supply and Demand interact, and analyze productivity and standards of living, along with the balance between management and labor. Students examine government revenue, spending, and taxation. They analyze globalization, the global economy, and then look more closely at personal finance. Students identify how banks, the Federal Reserve, and the FDIC function, and they learn how data is collected to determine how to analyze the economy. Inflation, revenue, taxes, and other economic issues are explored.

BUS 410 – Financial Literacy (.5 Credit)- Year 11,12 Elective

This is a semester course where students will apply financial literacy reasoning in order to make informed, financially responsible decisions, relate choices regarding one's education and career paths to earning potential, plan and manage money effectively by identifying financial goals and developing spending plans, make informed decisions about incurring debt and maintaining credit worthiness, plan and achieve long-term goals related to saving and investing in order to build financial security and wealth, and develop financial planning skills to minimize financial setbacks.

TECHNOLOGY – Year: 10, 11, 12 Electives

TECH 103 – Keyboarding Essentials (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This course is intended to increase student's finger dexterity, skill, and proficiencies necessary for quick and accurate information processing on any keyboard. Correct key-stroking is stressed. Students also demonstrate their knowledge of word processing as a labor enhancing and problem-solving tool utilizing touch keyboarding skills and document processing in order to format letters, simple tables, memorandums, and reports using Google Docs. This course provides the keyboarding basics necessary for future academic requirements and job placement. It is geared towards students who are: 1) new to keying or do not key efficiently; 2) looking to increase keying speed and accuracy; or 3) interested in learning a basic overview of Google Docs and document processing.

TECH 301 – Computer Science Principles (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

Computer Science Principles introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. More than a traditional introduction to programming, it is a rigorous, engaging, and approachable curriculum that explores many of the foundational ideas of computing so all students understand how these concepts are transforming the world we live in.

TECH 303 - Film Production (.5 Credit) - Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This course will serve as an introduction to basic video production and editing. The goal of the course is for the student to develop the ability to capture great video images and to be able to edit elements together to tell a story. Some emphasis will be placed on creating video of social media and the tools most commonly used.

TECH 311 -- Graphic Design I (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

This course will use various design programs and apps to explore and understand basic elements of graphic design. Students will get familiar with the technical tools of the trade. They will study the theory and function of industry-standard computer hardware and software and learn the digital design principles professionals use to produce visual communications and digital products.

TECH 312 – Graphic Design II (.5 Credit) – Year: 11, 12 Elective

Students will begin to recognize the power of design by gaining more conceptual expertise and a stronger command of typography and visual language. Combined with solid craftsmanship skills, students will begin to produce projects that comprise a professional body of work. During this course we will dive deeper into design principles and marketing.

TECH 401H - Engineer Project Lab and SPARC Research Seminar (.5 Credit) - Year : 11, 12 Elective

Students will have the opportunity to create projects that demonstrate basic engineering principles by using tools and machines to fabricate devices capable of performing designated tasks. For interested students will be mentored for research projects capable of being presented at the SPARC Festival at Mount St Mary's University.

HEALTH

PHED 101-- Personal Health (.5 Credit) -- Year: 9 (Class of 2027+), 10 (Class of 2026) Required

This course covers content regarding personal health (nutrition, mental health and stress management, drug/alcohol abuse prevention, disease prevention, and first aid), and consumer health issues. The courses may also include brief studies of environmental health and personal development and/or community resources.

PHED 102 -- Health: Life Skills (.5 Credit) -- Year: 11 Required (Class of 2026)

Life skills includes the topics of human growth and development, interpersonal relationships, and career choices. A financial literacy component includes consumer decision-making, financial awareness, saving and investments, and loan and debt management.

PHED 301 – Exercise Science (.5 Credit) – Year: 10, 11, 12

This course takes an in-depth examination of the effects of exercise on the body. Through this course, students will learn basic anatomy, biomechanics, and physiology, as well as proper principles and techniques to design an effective exercise program. The study of nutrition and human behavior will also be integrated into the course to enhance the students' comprehension of this multifaceted subject.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Requirements – Students are required to take .5 credits of a Physical Education to graduate. While this requirement is satisfied in their Freshman year, students may take an additional elective in grades 10, 11, or 12.

PHED 203 - Lifetime Sports and Fitness – Year: 9 Required

This course is designed to provide students with experiences that they can use as lifetime recreational activities and as a continuing fitness program. The course allows students to experience lifetime activities and team sports, while incorporating fitness elements into class period.

PHED 205--Tai Chi: Form, Practice, and Theory (.5 Credit) -- Year: 10, 11, 12 Elective

Tai Chi Chuan is a holistic exercise routine that traces its origins through thousands of years of Chinese martial arts, science, and philosophy. While seemingly simple to the outside observer, for the practitioner tai chi requires intense focus and physical control, and with dedicated practice touts improvements in (but not limited to) the following: core strength, knee health, posture, mental focus, deep breathing and stamina, balance, and precision in movement. In this Tai Chi physical education course, students will learn a series of light warm-up exercises to loosen the joints and focus the mind; some fundamental stances to strengthen the legs and core muscles; and the short Thirteen Postures Tai Chi Form to integrate movement, memory, and artistic expression. The course will be supplemented with informational texts on anatomy, kinesiology, and tai chi's history, central theories, and key terms. Students will be assessed on participation and demonstration of the basic movements, the 13 Postures routine, and knowledge of key terms and ideas.

PHED 206 - Team Sports (.5 credit) Year: 11, 12 Elective

The purpose of this course is to develop the physical skills necessary to be competent in many forms of movement, knowledge of team sports concepts such as offensive and defensive strategies and tactics, and appropriate social behaviors within a team or group setting. The integration of fitness concepts throughout the content is critical to the success of this course. Units may include, but are not limited to, the following sports: Volleyball, Kickball, Dodgeball, Ultimate Frisbee, Flag Football, Team Handball & Basketball. This class will take place at the end of the day and students must have their own transportation to the Gael Center and a signed permission slip to dismiss and drive to the gym.

Summer Courses

Students needing remedial coursework after a course failure may be required to take an online class via Catholic Virtual or Educere. Not all courses are available via Catholic Virtual or 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.

