



Sacred Heart Academy

Curriculum Guide 2024-2025



Girl Focused  Future Ready

Our Mission

Sacred Heart Academy is where students become *Excelsior Women*, inspired to lead and make a difference. Guided by integrity, compassion, social justice, community, and service, our all-girls environment empowers every student to express themselves with confidence and pursue their passions with conviction.

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GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Sacred Heart Academy's balanced curriculum provides each student with a well-rounded academic foundation upon which to build. In addition to core requirements that provide broad exposure across several disciplines, an extensive selection of elective courses allows students to pursue special areas of interest. Honors, Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement courses are available for those students who qualify. Graduation from Sacred Heart Academy requires the successful completion of **27 credits** distributed as follows:

Department	Credit Requirement
English	4.0
Mathematics	4.0
Theology	4.0
Science	3.0 (4 encouraged)
Social Studies	3.0
World Languages	2.0 (3 encouraged)
Fine Arts	1.0
Physical Education	1.0
Business and Computer Technology / Interdisciplinary	0.5
Electives	4.5

Students in all grades are required to carry a minimum of 6.5 credits each year (with courses meeting during the school day), irrespective of their cumulative credit total earned towards the SHA graduation requirement (27 credits). Students are encouraged to plan their courses of study with advisors, teachers, and parents, mindful of the fulfillment of basic course requirements, intended college major, interests, and academic strengths.

GRADING SCALE

AP/DE, Excelsior and Honors courses are designed to challenge highly motivated students with proven study skills. Students who qualify for multiple challenging courses must carefully consider, with their parents and advisor, the number of these courses to select each semester. To advance to the next level in a subject, students who attend summer school must have approval from the principal/assistant principal and if deemed essential by them must pass the SHA final exam for the subject. A minimum 3.5 GPA constitutes Honors and 3.8, High Honors. Teachers will compute averages using the numerical equivalents in onCampus. The computer will convert the letter grade into quality points to adjust the grading scale for course level.

		<u>CP</u>	<u>Honors</u>	<u>AP</u>
Num. Equiv.	Letter Grade	Qual. Point	Qual. Point	Qual. Point
97-100	A+	4.33	4.67	5.0
93-96	A	4.00	4.33	4.67
90-92	A-	3.67	4.00	4.33
87-89	B+	3.33	3.67	4.00
83-86	B	3.00	3.33	3.67
80-82	B-	2.67	3.00	3.33
77-79	C+	2.33	2.67	3.00
73-76	C	2.00	2.33	2.67
70-72	C-	1.67	2.00	2.33
67-69	D+	1.33	1.67	2.00
65-66	D	1.00	1.33	1.67
Below 65	F	0.00	0.00	0.00

CURRICULUM PROGRESSION

FRESHMAN

SUBJECT AREA	COURSE	CREDITS
Interdisciplinary	Excelsior I/Excelsior II	0.5/Pass-Fail
English	Intro. to Literary Genres	1
Fine Arts	Intro. to Fine Arts	0.5
Mathematics (*)	Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II	1
Physical Education	PEI	0.5
Science	Biology	1
Social Studies	Human Geography	0.5
Theology	Theology I	1
World Language (*)	Spanish/Mandarin/French	1
TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS		7.0

(*) All incoming students are placed in the appropriate level math and world language as determined by the results of their Placement Tests in these subject areas.

SOPHOMORE

SUBJECT AREA	COURSE	CREDITS
English	British Lit.	1
Mathematics	Geometry/Algebra II	1
Science	Chemistry	1
Social Studies	Modern World History	1
Theology	Theology II	1
World Language	Spanish/Mandarin/French	1
Required Elective Credits		0.5 + 0.5
TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS		7.0 (6.5 minimum)

JUNIOR

SUBJECT AREA	COURSE	CREDITS
English	American Lit./ AP Lang.	1
Mathematics	Algebra II/Precalc/APCalc	1
Social Studies	U.S. History	1
Theology	Theology III	1
Required Elective Credits (+)		2.5 - 3.0
TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS		7.0 (6.5 minimum)

(+) Students may elect to fulfill the PE II requirement as a junior or senior

SENIOR

SUBJECT AREA	COURSE	CREDITS
English (++)	World Lit. + elective/ AP Lit	1
Mathematics	PreCalc/Stats/College Algebra/AP Stats	1
Social Studies (+++)	U.S.Gov/AP Gov.	0.5
Theology	Theology IV	1
Required Elective Credits		3.0 - 3.5
TOTAL REQUIRED CREDITS		7.0 (6.5 minimum)

(++) Students must complete at least 4 English credits to graduate. AP Literature meets the half-credit World Literature requirement and completes the four-credit graduation requirement in English.

(+++ Students must complete at least 3 Social Studies credits to graduate. AP Gov meets the half-credit U.S. Government requirement.

AP AND DE COURSES



Advanced Placement is a program run by the College Board (the makers of the SAT) that allows students to take special high school courses that can earn them college credit and/or qualify them for more advanced classes when they begin college.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

The AP exam is required for each Advanced Placement class. The College Board determines the fee, which is billed later, separately from tuition.

SHA's 21 AP course offerings include:

AP English Language & Composition	AP English Literature
AP Spanish Language	AP French Language
AP Mandarin	AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC	AP Statistics
AP Precalculus	AP Biology
AP Chemistry	AP Physics 1
AP Computer Science Principles	AP World History
AP U.S. History	AP Psychology
AP U.S. Government	

AP Environmental Science (^)	AP Music Theory (^)
AP Human Geography (^)	AP Macroeconomics (^)
AP Microeconomics (^)	

(^) Course offered through OneSchoolHouse (formerly Online School for Girls)

DUAL ENROLLMENT (DE) COURSES

SHA students have an opportunity to experience college courses and earn 30+ college credits at a significantly reduced cost through SHA's partnership with local colleges and universities. Dual Enrollment (DE) courses include courses offered at SHA in partnership with University of Connecticut (UConn) and Southern Connecticut State University. SHA's unique partnership with University of New Haven (UNH), offers SHA students the chance to take one course per year for free.



Students can earn high school and college credit through UCONN's ECE courses. UConn ECE courses are a great way to get ahead for college while in high school, and at a lower cost! They provide students with college course experience, workload management, and college credit.



Several courses currently taught at SHA carry college credit through SCSU's Dual Enrollment program. In addition to this, students can take up to 2 courses per semester at SCSU for \$65 per credit.



University of
New Haven

SHA's unique partnership with UNH offers students the opportunity to take one course per year at UNH for free and attend Summer programs at the University. SHA students also receive a 50% tuition discount upon acceptance to UNH in addition to a guaranteed job on campus should the student choose to enroll

NOTE: UConn/SCSU instructors are announced in the early spring. At that time, students will be notified of any changes to the list of DE -eligible courses.

UConn Early College Experience (UConn ECE) provides academically motivated students with the opportunity to take university courses while in high school. These challenging courses allow students to preview college work, build confidence in their readiness for college, and earn college credits that provide both an academic and a financial head-start on a college degree and other postsecondary opportunities. UConn ECE Instructors are high school teachers certified by the University. UConn ECE

faculty foster independent learning, creativity, and critical thinking - all important for success in college and careers. To support rigorous learning, University of Connecticut academic resources, including library and online classroom access, are available to all UConn ECE Students.

ONESCHOOLHOUSE (formerly ONLINE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS)

Along with more than thirty girls' schools nationally, Sacred Heart Academy is a consortium member of the OneSchoolHouse, a non-profit institution whose mission is to "provide the best education in a digital environment for girls." This exciting addition to our academic program enriches learning opportunities for our students.

The benefits are many:

- Increased flexibility in scheduling; and
- Preparation for the online educational experiences our students will find in college and beyond

Juniors and seniors can discuss their plan to take an online course with the Assistant Principal especially if they would like it to count towards the credits required for graduation. Courses from OneSchoolHouse are listed on a separate OneSchoolHouse transcript – these are part of the student's academic record but are not included in GPA calculations at Sacred Heart Academy. Tuition for these courses is not covered by Sacred Heart Academy. Since we are an affiliate school, our students receive tuition discounts. Full course descriptions can be found on the OneSchoolHouse website.

SHA's course offerings for credit through OneSchoolHouse are:

- Advanced Mathematics: Multivariable Calculus and Differential Equations (**)
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Human Geography
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Music Theory
- Marine Science

(**) If a student has completed AP Calculus BC & AP Statistics, SHA will cover the tuition for this course.

EXCELSIOR COURSES

Excelsior courses are our signature courses that distinguish our curricular offerings from the ones typically found in high schools. These form a unique category in our curriculum, distinct from AP and ECE. These courses have been designed to help students become proficient in problem-solving, independent thinking, communication, and collaboration – skills that are essential to meet the challenges of the 21st century. These courses involve student participation in external events such as competitions and community outreach activities at local schools. Students from these courses present their research/project to the entire school on a designated 'Excelsior Showcase Day'.

SHA's current Excelsior course offerings include:

Personal Finance
Honors Biotechnology Research Project
Modern Drama (Page to Stage)

ELECTIVE COURSES AND PRE-REQUISITES

The school reserves the right to cancel any elective class with insufficient enrollment.

Student qualification for courses will be evaluated at the time of student's course registration/request. A student may request placement in AP/Honors/Classes with pre-requisites in June after Final Report Cards have been posted. However, **any upgrade requests at year-end will be based on availability.**

SCHEDULE CHANGES AND/OR WITHDRAWALS

Course selections that are made in February for the following year may be changed until mid-June without penalty. After final grades are distributed, there will be a two-day period during which these changes may be made. These changes include course adds or drops related to pre-requisites. Any changes made after that time will be subject to a Schedule Change Processing Fee (\$25, Twenty-Five dollars).

No course changes are made during the summer months. Students must wait until the first cycle of the school year to make a schedule change.

Sacred Heart Academy does not allow students to change courses because of instructor preference. However, students may change a non-required course within the first cycle of each semester if the course has not reached its maximum enrollment. Parental signature and details of course add/drop are required on the schedule change form along with the \$25.00 processing fee. Students may start or stop attending class only with a new schedule in hand.

Once the cut-off date has passed, permission to drop either a full year, non-required or semester elective is rarely granted, and only in extreme circumstances. The course name and grade will appear on the report card and transcript with a WD (withdrawn) in the appropriate column. Students do not receive partial credit for the time spent in the class. Once a transcript has been sent to a college as part of the college application process, the college will be notified in writing of any change in the applicant's course load.

Any course change request for a second semester class will only be allowed if it does not impact any full year classes.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

All freshmen are required to take Excelsior I and Excelsior II.

102exI Excelsior I
GR 9 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This first-semester course provides first-year students with the skills necessary to utilize technology and school resources effectively. This course is designed to support students both academically and socially as they transition from middle school to high school. Organizational skills, study strategies, note-taking techniques, and time management strategies are taught and practiced throughout the semester. Throughout the semester, students will also be introduced to and become proficient in numerous computer applications that will enhance their student experience and academic performance.

Note: Successful completion of this course is required for progression into sophomore year.

202exII Excelsior II
GR 9 PASS/FAIL SEM

In the second semester of Freshman year, students delve deeper into their understanding of who they are as individuals and who they are in relationship to others. Students will explore public speaking and the many ways it is used in their personal, academic, and ultimately professional, lives. They will understand the concepts of interpersonal and intrapersonal relationships and how these concepts affect public speaking. Throughout the semester, students will research, write, and present an original TED Talk, a persuasive speech that demonstrates the students' new skills in public speaking.

Note: Successful completion of this course is required for progression into sophomore year.

For those students interested in integrating knowledge from a variety of subject areas, courses in this section are geared as electives in preparation for higher education.

001eth Bioethics
GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

The promotion of human dignity in healthcare and life science is the very heart of bioethics. What can be learned from past mistakes where human dignity was violated? And what is the role of the Church in bioethics? This course examines and debates several bioethical controversies, both past and present, such as: the eugenics movement, the Tuskegee Syphilis Experiment, mandatory vaccination, stem-cell research, cloning, and genetic testing/screening. Lectures, debates, reflections, and student presentations provide the format for the course.

Prerequisite: Biology (814 or 817)

003medtrm Medical Terminology DE
GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

QU Academy Program: 2 college credits (HSC 202)

This is a college course given in association with Quinnipiac University (2 credits). Students will master the basics of medical terminology through analysis of prefixes, suffixes, and roots, and other constructive methods. Students will be able to interpret medical tests, diagnoses, and pharmacological treatments. A systems approach is followed so that there is an overview of anatomical terms. Case studies will be used extensively for real world applications. This course is recommended for students interested in health science careers.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology. Dual enrollment with Quinnipiac University (2 credits).

006wrelH Honors World Religions
GR 11-12 QP 4.67 ½ CREDIT SEM

The desire for God is written on the human heart (Catechism of the Catholic Church #27). This course is a survey of the teachings of the major religions of the world and their relationship to the Catholic Church. The first half will explore the Western Abrahamic religions, focusing on non-Catholic Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. The second half will be devoted to the religions of the East, particularly Taoism, Buddhism, and Hinduism.

Prerequisite: Final GPA of 3.67 or higher. Dual enrollment with Albertus Magnus College in discussion.

002modra Modern Drama (Page to Stage) (2025-26)
GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

Moving from comedy to absurdism, from political protest to Broadway, students will experience a wide range of fascinating dramas that have been composed during the past century. Students will collaborate with theatre professionals from both the Long Wharf Theatre and Yale Repertory to gain further understanding of directing, designing, playwrighting and performing. Students will form their own theatre production teams and create plans for revivals of a selected show, including marketing, outreach, and performance details. Students will publish their proposals in the National Educational Theatre Arts student gallery.

007int Honors Fundamentals of Philosophy (2025-26)
GR 11-12 QP 4.67 ½ CREDIT SEM

The unexamined life is not worth living! From the very beginnings of philosophy in ancient Greece thousands of years ago to today, serious thinkers have engaged what are often called the Big Questions: is there a God, and what can we know about Him? What is reality? How ought I live my life? Does truth exist, and can we know it? Is there life after death? These questions will be examined considering the teachings of great philosophers such as Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Augustine of Hippo, Anselm of Canterbury, Thomas Aquinas, Rene Descartes, David Hume, and Immanuel Kant.

Prerequisite: Final GPA of 3.67 or higher. Dual enrollment with Albertus Magnus College.

BUSINESS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY

The Business and Computer Technology Department provides opportunities for students to expand their knowledge of aspects of the business world, including technology, marketing, management, and personal finance. One-half credit is required for graduation.

156entre Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management
GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

Throughout this hands-on course students develop the skills to effectively organize, develop, and manage their own business. These skills include idea generation, feasibility and risk assessment, marketing, management, customer service and financial projections. This course culminates with a Shark Tank - inspired exercise where students pitch their business concept to a team of professionals who will decide whether to invest in their idea.

157finance Personal Finance

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This is a half-year course designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential. Students will experience real world scenarios and use strategies covered in the course to help them make sound financial decisions. Students will design personal budgets; simulate use of checking and saving accounts; demonstrate knowledge of the stock market; evaluate and understand student debt, the cost of living, taxes, and more. This course will utilize the school's Bloomberg Financial Markets Lab where students have access to the Bloomberg Terminal. Upon successful completion, all students will become Bloomberg Market Concepts (BMC) Certified.

192cspAP AP Computer Science Principles (Advanced Placement)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

This full-year, rigorous, entry-level course introduces high school students to the foundations of modern computing. The course covers a broad range of foundational topics such as programming, algorithms, the Internet, big data, digital privacy and security, and the societal impacts of computing. This course follows Code.org's Computer Science Principles curriculum. Code.org is recognized by the College Board as an endorsed provider of curriculum and professional development for AP Computer Science Principles. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: [4.0 average in recent Science (Yearlong or Two Semester courses) and Math Course] **OR** [3.67 average in recent Science and Math course **AND** 3.8 Final GPA for the year].

ENGLISH

The English Department strives to provide students with a strong foundation in critical reading, analysis and writing through required courses that address grammar, vocabulary, composition, and literature. Elective courses offer an opportunity to study a particular aspect of English, whether writing-based or literature-driven. In all English classes, students regularly use technology for research, writing, and presentations. Four credits are required for graduation.

214engI Introduction to Literary Genres and Basic Composition

GR 9 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course introduces students to the genres of fiction, non-fiction, drama, and poetry. It exposes students to the language of literature and teaches them how to read each genre critically. The course also fosters the development of writing skills, incorporates both critical and creative assignments, and includes grammar and vocabulary components.

217engIH Honors Introduction to Literary Genres and Basic Composition

GR 9 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course is offered to students who have qualified based on their English scores on the entrance test. Like English I, this course introduces students to the genres of fiction, nonfiction, drama, and poetry; exposes students to the language of literature; and teaches them how to read each genre critically—but it does so in greater depth. The course also fosters the development of writing skills, incorporating both critical and creative assignments, and includes grammar and vocabulary components. Individual assignments/projects complement the material covered in class.

Prerequisite: A student may enroll in this class based on her performance on the high school entrance exam.

228engII British Literature

GR 10 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

Britain has a long literary tradition which has been spread throughout the commonwealth. To understand and appreciate the various ways authors respond to the values and stories brought to the world from classic British writers, this class begins with some of the classics, and discusses the ideas and values they represent. As the class moves into more modern literature, diverse voices from Britain and nations that were part of their colonization are studied, bringing varied responses to the mix of British values with those of modern writers.

Note: The successful completion of the research paper during sophomore year is required to advance to junior year.

229engIII Honors British Literature

GR 10 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

The British Empire has a long literary tradition which has been spread throughout the world through colonization. The class is taught thematically; in each unit students will study classic literature and more modern, diverse pieces from Britain and from her colonies with the same thematic ideas. Students will be able to compare the original values of Great Britain with the effects of colonization, and the resulting mix of those values on other populations.

Prerequisites: 3.67 in English I

Note: The successful completion of the research paper during sophomore year is required in order to advance to junior year.

All juniors are required to take 234, 237, or 290.

234engIII American Literature

GR 11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course examines masterpieces of American literature, surveying works from the Pre-Colonial period through the modern era. Writing, grammar, vocabulary, and critical discussion skills are emphasized. Independent reading assignments and critical essays are completed throughout the year, culminating in the production of a 7–8-page research paper which conforms to MLA guidelines required for course credit.

Note: The successful completion of the research paper during junior year is required to advance to senior year.

237engIIII Honors American Literature

GR 11 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course examines masterpieces of American literature, surveying works from the Pre-Colonial period through the twenty-first century. Writing, grammar, vocabulary, and critical discussion skills are stressed. Independent reading assignments and critical essays are completed each quarter, culminating in the production of an 8–10-page, in-depth, critical research paper which conforms to MLA guidelines and cites strong textual evidence from a minimum of 7 sources. Successful completion of the research paper during junior year is required in order to advance to senior English.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in English II

Note: The successful completion of the research paper during junior year is required to advance to senior year.

290langAP AP English Language & Composition (Advanced Placement)

GR 11 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR
 Designed for students with a firm foundation in writing, this course prepares students for college writing courses by emphasizing the complex literacy of reading, writing, thinking, and speaking. Students will be introduced to the specific requirements and rigorous standards of academic writing, including essay format, voice, and organizational strategies. Students are expected to assume an active role in the reading and writing process, which regularly includes roundtable discussion, peer editing, and frequent revision. Students produce and revise essays throughout the year and, at the end of the course, create a portfolio of their work. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisites: 4.0 in English II.

All seniors are required to take either 265 or 291.

265wldlit World Literature
 GR 12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
 World Literature surveys a selection of short stories, drama, and poetry from around the world, including the Mediterranean, Continental Europe, Africa, the Far East, the Middle East, and Latin America. Universal themes such as fantasy and imagination, friendships, love and romance, self-discovery, the individual and society, values and beliefs, war and peace, youth and age are explored. Students write a series of critical essays based on textual readings. The course continues the development of language art skills and vocabulary study of the previous years. Students are required to write an 8-page literature-based research paper following MLA guidelines.

291litAP AP English Literature (Advanced Placement)
 GR 12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR
 This course concentrates on comparative studies of famous pieces of literature which share theme, plot and/or other characteristics. Selections are chosen from different cultures, eras, and perspectives, and are discussed according to various schools of critical thought. The writing component includes genre studies, literary analyses and a 10-12-page research paper. Each student participates in panel presentations of selected major works. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in 290 or English III.

286writsem Writing Seminar
 GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
 Writing Seminar is a class that not only works on writing skills; students write a variety of papers, using multiple styles. Students generate ideas, plan, edit, and revise their assignments. Students also interact with different texts and reflect on a variety of ideas including current events and issues.

245myth Mythology as Literature
 GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
 Ancient Mythology forms the core around which much of Western art, literature, and music revolve. The topic of mythology will be approached by exploring universal themes and archetypes. By focusing on Classical Mythology, students will investigate the connections between myths of that period, and those of contemporary cultures in a fascinating variety. Creative writing, formal writing, and critical panel discussion skills are stressed, in addition to root-based vocabulary development. Students write 3-4-page expository essays and research multicultural myths.

250novel Graphic Novels
 GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
 This course will explore how graphic novels are built and told. Students will learn how to use conceptual vocabulary so they can discuss how

the graphic novel achieves its objective of obtaining the reader's attention and engagement. Their understanding will develop by examining a range of graphics such as Persepolis, Maus, etc. Students will write a blog, in class, on each class day to generate a paper; and two such papers (4-6 pages) will be developed from the blogs.

246fic Contemporary Fiction (2025-26)
 GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
Contemporary literature is literature written in our current time; come explore stories told in the 21st century. We will be discussing works around a central theme and explore what literature says about life and culture today. Through discussion, critical reading and writing, and literary analysis, students will gain a deeper understanding of how literature, societal beliefs, and ideals influence and reflect life today.

249journ Journalism and Memoir (2025-26)
 GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
In this course, students will learn about the practice of journalism and how it has shifted over the years. Students will also practice journalism, writing articles in a variety of styles for a variety of media, including blogs, memoirs, and newspapers. Students will also consider fundamentals like truth telling, fact checking, The First Amendment, diverse representation, and bias, and how these affect the news. Students will be creating a portfolio which will count toward their assessment for the class and will be encouraged to publish through The Alethea and Prism.

FINE ARTS

The Fine Arts Department offers a course of study in Art and Music. A minimum of 1 credit is required for graduation.

310arts Introduction to Fine Arts
 GR 9 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
 Topics covered in this semester long course includes art history and music theory, the vocabulary of music and art criticism, and the exploration of all styles of music and art from ancient to modern. The art component includes instruction in the use and understanding of various drawing and painting techniques and materials. In music, students will study musical fundamentals, apply basic music terminology to the analysis of music, develop and refine listening skills, and participate in a variety of both vocal and instrumental opportunities.

ART

325stdart Studio Art
 GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM
 Designed for both the beginner and advanced student who enjoys art and is serious about improving their drawing skills. This course introduces the fundamentals of drawing to structured problems that lead to the development of art skills and creative problem-solving ability. Students will use a variety of 2D art media and techniques, such as drawing, printmaking, painting, and digital work, as they work from direct observation to study still life, perspective, landscape, portraiture, and design. Students do not need to know how to draw to take this course.

*Note: This is the prerequisite for 327 and 345.
 Enrollment is limited to 20 students per class section.*

327paint Painting I

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is an introduction to painting and students will learn to work with acrylic, watercolor, and digital software. Students will study basic color theory, compositional and painting techniques as well as work with a variety of subject matter. Students will explore various artists and their styles and techniques, as they begin to develop their own.

Prerequisite: Studio Art (325)

Note: Enrollment is limited to 18 students per class section.

345porth Honors Art Portfolio

GR 12 QP 4.67 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is designed for the student with strong drawing, painting and design skills and possible interest in continuing the study of art beyond high school. Especially suitable for highly motivated students interested in building an art portfolio for the college admissions process. Student needs are assessed at the beginning of the semester, and that assessment drives the content of the course. A substantial amount of work is required outside of class and on a daily classroom basis.

Prerequisite: [Studio Art (325) and Painting (327)] OR [4.33 in Studio Art (325)]. Note: Enrollment is limited to 12 students.

330photo Digital Photography

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course provides students with the skills to take, alter, print, critique and appreciate digital photography and is taught from both technical and aesthetic perspectives. Students learn how to control the functions of a digital camera, create a balanced and interesting composition, and manipulate digital photographs through Adobe Photoshop. They will explore the history of photography and its development through to contemporary works of today. They will be expected to submit work illustrating the use of traditional and digital techniques to complete short and long-term projects. Presentation of work through class critiques is emphasized. *There is no text for this course.*

Note: A digital camera is not required.

364tvprod TV Production

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

TV Production introduces students to what it takes to create a daily TV show. This course begins with the fundamental principles of communications and quickly moves to their application in audio/visual communications. It incorporates the technical aspects of audio, lighting, and full-motion digital video production. The course includes the production of the school's daily news show *Good Morning SHAmerica*, as well as the making of short packages. Studio jobs are rotated so everyone is afforded an opportunity to work with and learn about audio/visual equipment, anchoring, directing, and producing.

Note: Enrollment is limited to 12 students.

365vidasst Video Production Assistant

GR 12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT YEAR

This independent study will focus on visual storytelling, scriptwriting and editing short videos to create content for daily TV programs as well as independent video projects. Student will learn how to plan, shoot, and edit various length digital video. Students will work in a highly collaborative and hands-on learning environment in TV studio, as well as independently on school community video projects and on their own portfolio development.

Prerequisite: Completion of TV Production and approval from teacher: Limit: 1 Student

*MUSIC***351orch Orchestra**

GR 9-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT YEAR

Students of various levels of proficiency (beginner to advanced) are required to already own (or rent) and to know the rudiments of their instruments. Additional instruction is given to build an ensemble capable of playing musical literature of various styles and periods. Members are also given the opportunity to perform in small chamber ensembles. Scheduled performances include a Christmas and Spring concert.

Note: Students must meet either after school on Mondays from 2:15PM to 3:30 PM, or on Thursday from 7:00AM – 7:55AM. Occasionally, there are specially scheduled rehearsals. Instrumentalists must take this course for both semesters to obtain credit. Attendance is mandatory.

358chamchoirH (10,11,12) Honors Chamber Choir

GR 10-12 QP 4.67 ½ CREDIT SEM

Students in Honors Chamber Choir focus their study on a variety of advanced sacred and secular choral repertoires drawn from the Western art music tradition, world music, and popular songs. Through rehearsals and performance, students develop their vocal abilities, sight-singing skills, and sense of ensemble. Study culminates in major performances each semester at the Christmas and Spring Concerts as well as other venues.

Prerequisites: To enroll in this class, students must pass an audition, held in January prior to registration. There will also be additional auditions in the fall for the spring semester. Students may register for fall & spring semesters of this course as well as take it in multiple grades.

363beginkey Beginners Keyboard

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

Designed as a course for beginners, students will use the keyboard to learn and understand the elements of basic keyboard playing. Students will be introduced to the foundational principles of notation, scales and keys, cadence patterns, chord classification and basic harmonic progressions as they gain keyboard skills.

Note: Class size is limited to 12

*DRAMA***368stage Stage and Screen DE**

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

SCSU Early College Program: 3 college credits (THR 382)

This course offers an introduction to the analysis of theatrical and cinematic performance and production. This course examines the symbiotic relationship between theatre and film and will provide an experiential and practical orientation to script work, adaptations, character profiles and on-camera acting. Other topics include theater terminology, safety procedures, and performance reels. Students will write formal essays as film critiques, record an audition monologue, and attend a professional theatre production.

370act Foundations of Acting DE

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

SCSU Early College Program: 3 college credits (THR 121)

Survey of dramatic literature and theatrical styles with an emphasis on the individual artistry of collaborating theatre practitioners. Students attend live performances, read plays, and write production critiques. From ancient Greek to hip-hop theatre, students will evaluate the role of theatrical performance in human life and culture.

WORLD LANGUAGE

The World Language Department requires entering students to take two consecutive years of study of the same language during their high school years. It is strongly recommended that students take three or four years of the same language. Five-year programs of study are offered in Latin, Spanish, and French with Advanced Placement courses in each language. Currently four-year program of study is offered in Mandarin Chinese.

SPANISH

413spI Spanish I

GR 9-11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course focuses on the basic foundations of grammar with a development of listening, speaking, and reading skills for the student with limited or no previous knowledge of Spanish.

424spII Spanish II

GR 9-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course continues to emphasize the basic skills of oral expression, reading, and writing using the text and supplemental materials. New grammatical skills are introduced and class participation.

Prerequisite: Spanish I (413). Incoming freshmen or transfers may enroll in this class based on their performance on the language placement test given by the World Language Department.

427spIII Honors Spanish II

GR 9-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course continues to develop vocabulary acquisition through oral expression, reading, and writing using the text and additional readings. Composition skills are stressed.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in Spanish I (413). Incoming freshmen or transfers may enroll in this class based on their performance on the language placement test given by the World Language Department.

434spIII Spanish III

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course entails the completion of the basic principles of grammar, composition skills, a survey of Spanish culture, and a practical application of conversational skills.

Prerequisite: Spanish II (424 or 427)

437spIII Honors Spanish III

GR 10-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course entails the completion and refinement of grammar principles and conversational skills. Aspects of Hispanic culture and literature are presented through selected readings.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in Spanish II (424 or 427).

444spIV Spanish IV: Conversation & Culture

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course is geared toward an integrated approach to the study of the language; designed to help students reach the Intermediate-High level of oral proficiency as defined by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). This course seeks to create relevant and meaningful contexts in which students will use their language skills. Previously learned grammar skills will be reviewed to enable the students to converse, understand, read and write with precision. The Spanish /Hispanic cultures will be looked at through a literary lens.

Prerequisite: 3.0 in Spanish III (434 or 437)

457splngAP AP Spanish Language (Advanced Placement)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

AP Spanish Language is offered on a sequential basis to juniors and seniors who have been recommended for the course after having completed Spanish III Honors or Spanish IV. The main objective of this course is to develop students' interpersonal communication skills in Spanish and to prepare them for the AP examination in May. The students will have the opportunity to learn how to participate in conversations, to develop cultural awareness and to prepare them to use the language in a formal and informal setting. All the activities relate to five goal areas outlined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century: Communication, Comparisons, Cultures, Connections, and Communities. The course will include a variety of academic and cultural topics and the use of authentic materials. All the course materials are written in Spanish. Students always interact in the target language with each other and with the instructor. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in Honors Spanish III (437) or 3.67 in Spanish IV (444)

FRENCH

416frI French I

GR 9-11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course provides a foundation of grammar with development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. It is intended for students with limited or no previous knowledge of French. The course incorporates a study of culture and the geography of the francophone world.

426frII French II

GR 9-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

Students continue to develop basic skills with more emphasis on oral expression, reading and writing. The course stresses vocabulary acquisition to enable students to speak with greater fluency.

Prerequisite: French I (416) Incoming freshmen or transfers may enroll in this class based on their performance on the language placement test given by the World Language Department.

429frIII Honors French II

GR 9-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

Students continue to develop basic skills with more emphasis on oral expression, reading, and writing. Vocabulary acquisition is stressed as well as composition and fluency in everyday speaking situations. Supplementary readings enhance comprehension.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in French I (416). Incoming freshmen or transfers may be invited to enroll in this class based on their performance on the language placement test given by the World Language Department.

436frIII French III

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course entails the completion of grammar requirements, further development of oral expression and introduction to composition and literature. A study of Francophone cultures enhances the students' appreciation of the French language and French-speaking peoples.

Prerequisite: French II (426 or 429)

439frIIIH Honors French III

GR 10-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course completes the study of French grammar and continues to improve the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Moreover, the study of a variety of French and Francophone cultural topics through history, literature, film, music and current events will complement the review of language structures and linguistic skills. Regular activities and assessments include reading assignments, oral presentations, compositions, class discussions, grammar exercises, quizzes and exams. The course is tailored for the students of French who want to continue their learning in Honors French IV or AP French the following year.

 Prerequisite: 3.67 in French II (426 or 429)

447frIVH Honors French IV DE

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

UCONN COURSE: 3 college credits (FREN 3250)

This course is designed for students who have satisfactorily completed the requirements of French III and wish to continue their study through the analyses of French movies. As an ECE course, this course is an intense study of oral French and involves learning of oral techniques of communication (in conjunction with weekly topics of conversation) associated with various francophone cultures as well as rigorous and active practice through dialogues, interviews, round tables, and oral reports.

 Prerequisite: 3.67 in French III (436 or 439)

Note: All students enrolled in this course will have mandatory concurrent enrollment in the University of Connecticut Early College Experience Program that allows students to earn 3 college credits. UConn will bill students separately for UConn ECE tuition in the fall.

449frenchAP AP French (Advanced Placement) (2025-2026)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

The AP French language course is the final level of study of French at the school. The purpose of this course is to prepare the students for the French AP examination in May. The goal is to reinforce and refine the skills acquired during the previous years (listening, reading and writing), as well as to broaden the students' understanding of French-speaking cultures around the world and major issues through different media (literature, music, films, magazines). The class is conducted exclusively in French and students are strongly encouraged to answer in French. AP exam fee applies.

 Prerequisite: 4.0 in Honors French III (439) or 3.67 in Honors French IV (447).

Classical Language: LATIN

All Latin courses are online offerings in collaboration with Educere/OneSchoolHouse.

450latIIIH Honors Latin III

GR 10-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course introduces students to the remaining, most challenging Latin grammatical structures and transitions students into the application of their grammatical knowledge to reading unadapted Roman literature. Emphasis is placed on developing translation skills and refining their ability to understand the literary aspects of Latin texts by reading selections from the works of a variety of Roman authors. Attention is also given to the historical and cultural backgrounds of the works studied, metrics, rhetorical devices, and textual analysis. Latin III students will typically read from the works of Pliny the Younger, Catullus, Ovid, Caesar, and Petronius, among others.

 Prerequisite: 3.33 in Honors Latin II OR departmental recommendation

452latIVH Honors Latin IV: Topics in Latin Literature

GR 11-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

In this course, students continue to develop facility with translating and analyzing Latin literature, as well as deepening their understanding of Roman culture and perspectives, through an exploration of select topics, such as Women in the Roman World, Politics and Corruption, Myth and Legend, Heroes and Heroism, and Race and Ethnicity. Focusing on various authors and works from both the Republican and Imperial periods, students will consider and discuss the ways in which these topics are portrayed at different points in Rome's history and how those portrayals reflect Roman social values and conceptions of Roman identity. Emphasis is placed on the importance of contextualization, the development and use of critical analysis, and the reading of and engagement with secondary scholarship.

 Prerequisite: 3.33 in Honors Latin III (450) OR departmental recommendation.

CHINESE

411chinI Mandarin Chinese I

GR 9-11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course is an introduction to the study of Chinese language and culture, providing a solid foundation in the basic skills of the Mandarin phonetic system (*pinyin*), reading, oral expression, writing, and tying simplified Chinese characters. Various projects and hands-on activities will allow students to explore Chinese culture, including holidays, food, and calligraphy. Class is supplemented by online activities such as web-based games and hands-on learning via physical activities.

421chinII Mandarin Chinese II

GR 9-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

In Mandarin Chinese II, students will build upon the skills they have learned in Mandarin Chinese I. In addition to learning more complex grammar and sentence patterns, students will continue to learn more vocabulary, work with longer dialogues, and do oral presentations. Class participation requires increased use of the Chinese language. Class is supplemented by a wide variety of audio and video materials, such as online activities and educational games.

 Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese I

431chinIIIH Honors Mandarin Chinese III

GR 10-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

Chinese will be spoken 80% of the time in this class. The third year of Chinese study is designed for accelerated students who have attained a higher mastery of Chinese. The course will not only further hone their speaking and listening skills but also focus on increasing their ability to read and write. Class is supplemented by online and real-life authentic materials with engagement classroom activities. Students will have opportunities to connect with peers and guest speakers in class or online.

 Prerequisite: 3.33 in Mandarin Chinese II OR departmental recommendation.

442chinH Honors Mandarin Chinese DE

GR 11-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

UCONN COURSE: 3 college credits (CHIN 1114)

The ECE Chinese course continues from the themes and language structures at the Chinese III course level, with an increasing focus on oral performances and conversations. Heavier emphasis on grammar and idiomatic Chinese expressions occurs in the first semester. In the second semester, Students are asked to read a range of authentic materials, and take examples from Chinese television, radio and internet

sources to test comprehension. Chinese will be spoken 100% of the time in this class and all course materials are written in Chinese.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in Honors Mandarin Chinese III (431) OR departmental recommendation.

Note: All students enrolled in this course will have mandatory concurrent enrollment in the University of Connecticut Early College Experience Program that allows students to earn 3 college credits. UConn will bill students separately for UConn ECE tuition in the fall.

440chinIV Mandarin Chinese IV

GR 9-11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

Chinese IV is designed for students who completed Chinese III. The goal is to further advance their Chinese language proficiency in communicating with native speakers. Students will learn to understand questions in Chinese, reply in Chinese and also communicate in everyday situations in the target language. They will incorporate listening, speaking, writing/typing and reading. Components from Chinese commercials, video, movies, and news excerpts will be used in this course. Students will be able to report on short videos, make professional presentations, and comment on global events in Chinese. The course will follow the ACTFL 5C's standards and create more opportunities to let students practice in actual Chinese situations. Open Educational Resource will also be used in this class.

Prerequisite: 3.33 in Mandarin Chinese III OR departmental recommendation.

443chinAP AP Chinese Language & Culture (2025-26)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

This class follows the framework provided by Collegeboard and focuses on 6 units: Unit 1: Families in Different Societies, Unit 2: The Influence of Language and Culture on Identity, Unit 3: Influences of Beauty and Art, Unit 4: How Science and Technology Affect Our Lives, Unit 5: Factors That Impact the Quality of Life, Unit 6: Environmental, Political, and Societal Challenges. This course provides students with maximum exposure to authentic culture and language. Students will practice distinct skills throughout the year —skills that will help them learn to think and act like Chinese speakers; —skills that will prepare them for the AP exam in May. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in Honors Mandarin Chinese III (431) OR 3.67 in Honors Mandarin ECE (442) OR departmental recommendation

MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department requires all students to take four years of mathematics. Students who take Algebra I or Honors Algebra I as freshmen and Geometry as sophomores can take AP Calculus as seniors if they meet the criteria for enrollment in a course entitled Honors Algebra II/Pre-Calculus as juniors. Another option is Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II on the Honors or College Prep level and then take Precalculus at the AP of College Prep level.

515algI Algebra I

GR 9 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course covers the real number system and its properties, polynomials, factoring, algebraic fractions, fractional equations, functions and their domain and range, solving linear inequalities, linear functions and their graphs, linear equations and systems, initial concepts of quadratic equations, problem solving with linear and quadratic equations, calculator representations of solutions for linear

and quadratic equations, proper graphing techniques for the Cartesian co-ordinate system.

517alg IH Honors Algebra I

GR 9 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

The student will develop a strong mathematical foundation upon which to build. Topics include the real number system, polynomials, inequalities, functions and their graphs, linear equations and systems, problem solving, and initial concepts of quadratic equations and exponential functions, radical expressions and equations, statistics and probability aligned with the Common Core. Since this is an honors course, problems of higher degree of difficulty will be presented as well as theoretical explanations of greater depth.

Prerequisite: A student may enroll in this course based on results from the Mathematics Placement Exam administered in Spring before freshman year.

524geom Geometry

GR 10 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course is an axiomatic approach to Euclidean geometry. Logical reasoning is used to explore the relationships between lines, planes, triangles, and polygons. Trigonometry coordinated geometry and exploration of solid figures are also studied; theory and application are equally considered. The course has a strong integration with Algebra I.

Prerequisite: Algebra I (515 or 517)

527geomH Honors Geometry

GR 9-10 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course is an in-depth axiomatic approach to Euclidean geometry. Topics include parallel lines and planes, triangles, polygons, circles, trigonometry, constructions, solid figures, and coordinate geometry. Abstract reasoning is developed in an advanced use of theory and application. The course has a strong integration with Algebra I.

Prerequisite: [3.67 in Algebra I (515/517)] OR A student may enroll in this course based on results from the Mathematics Placement Exam administered in May before freshman year.

534algII Algebra II

GR 9-11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course stresses the further advancement of the structure of Algebra and the development of computational and problem-solving skills as well as critical thinking. Topics include complex numbers, polynomial and rational expressions, the concept of functions and relations and their domain and range, linear and quadratic equations and their solutions both analytically and graphically, solutions for polynomial inequalities, radicals, exponents, inverse functions, synthetic division, rational functions and relations, difference quotient, formulae for circles, midpoints and distance, and detailed graphing rules for the representation of data on the Cartesian co-ordinate system. Technology is used to foster impact on students' learning and understanding of real-world math problems.

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry (524 or 527)

537algIII Honors Algebra II

GR 9-11 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course follows the same structure of Algebra II with additional emphasis on the applications of theorems and solving math modeling problems both analytically and graphically. This course stresses a fast paced, in -depth development of computational and problem-solving skills as well as critical thinking. Topics include complex numbers, polynomial and rational expressions, the concept of functions and relations and their domain and range, linear and quadratic equations

and their solutions both analytically and graphically, solutions for polynomial inequalities, radicals, exponents, inverse functions, synthetic division, rational functions and relations, Remainder Theorem, Factor Theorem, Intermediate Value Theorem, Difference Quotient and average rate of change, formulae for circles, midpoints and distance, and detailed graphing rules for the representation of data on the Cartesian co-ordinate system.

Prerequisite: [3.67 in Algebra I (515/517) **and** 3.67 in Geometry (524/527) in Grade 10] **OR** 3.67 average in Algebra I & Geometry **OR** 3.67 in Honors Geometry (527) in Grade 9

538algIItrigh Honors Algebra II/ Trigonometry

GR 9-11 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry is an advanced high school mathematics course designed to build upon the foundations laid in earlier algebra and geometry courses while introducing students to more advanced algebraic concepts, precalculus aspects, and trigonometric functions. Students in this course are expected to have a solid understanding of algebraic principles from previous courses and be ready to explore more complex mathematical concepts. This course is intended to prepare students for advanced mathematics courses, such as AP Calculus AB and BC, and to provide a strong mathematical foundation for future academic and professional pursuits in STEM (Science, Technology, Mathematics, Engineering, and Medicine) fields. Graphing calculators will be used for graphical investigations and explorations hence a TI83+ or TI84+C Silver edition graphing calculator is required.

Prerequisite: 4.33 in Algebra I (515/517) in Grade 9 and 4.0 in Geometry (524/527) in Grade 10 **OR** 4.0 in Honors Geometry (527) in Grade 9.

543precalcAP AP Precalculus (Advanced Placement)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

The main goal is to prepare students for other higher-level mathematics and science courses. The framework delineates content and skills common to college precalculus courses that are foundational for careers in mathematics, physics, biology, health science, social science, and data science. Students study each function type through their graphical, numerical, verbal, and analytical representations and their applications in a variety of contexts. Additionally, students apply their understanding of functions by constructing and validating appropriate function models for scenarios, sets of conditions, and data sets, thereby gaining a deeper understanding of the nature and behavior of each function type.

Prerequisite: 4.33 in Algebra II (534 or 537) or 4.0 in College Algebra (554) or 3.00 in Honors AlgebraII / PreCalc (539).

544statAP AP Statistics (Advanced Placement)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

Collecting, representing and processing data are activities of major importance to contemporary society. Topics covered in this course include the description and analysis of population distributions, change and growth of data, correlation, experiment design, probability models, linear regression, hypothesis testing and confidence intervals.

Graphing calculators and computers are used as tools for the facilitation of statistical tests on significant bodies of data. Advanced Placement Statistics acquaints students with the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Ideas and computations presented in this course have immediate links and connections with actual events. Computers and calculators will allow students to focus deeply on the concepts involved in statistics.

The TI83+ or TI84+C Silver edition calculator is required and is used as the technical tool to allow the student to calculate any tests or data required. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in current Math class which can be Algebra II (534) or 537) or Hons AlgII/PreCalc (539) or PreCalc (546/547) or Elem. Stats (553) or AP Calc AB (593) or College Algebra (554).

546precalc Precalculus

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

A rigorous course heavily focused on topics of analytical geometry; in particular the characteristic curves of mathematical functions and their meanings. Polynomial functions are heavily emphasized, with rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and their graphs, and analytical trigonometry. Functional analysis, analytic geometry, and the applications of these mathematical skills in the modeling of real-life situations are explored using symbolic, graphical, and numerical methodology. Technology allows the focus of the course to be on functional investigations and exploration. The TI83+ or TI84+C graphing calculator is required.

Prerequisite: 3.0 in Algebra II (534 or 537) or College Algebra (554) or successful completion of Honors AlgebraII / PreCalc (539).

553elstat Elementary Statistics

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

The primary aim of the course is to form a basic understanding and use of statistical concepts and methods to facilitate study and research in other disciplines. Major topics include exploring data and relationships among data, producing (collecting) data and understanding sampling distributions, and making statistically correct interpretations and inferences. The course is covered the following specific topics: data collection, descriptive statistics, both graphical and numerical, general and sampling distributions, measures of central tendency, measures of variability, grouped data, the normal distribution, central limit theorem, and the fundamentals of statistical inference, including confidence intervals and hypothesis testing and estimation, simple regression and correlation, the t-distribution and chi-square test. Required: TI84 +CE Graphing Calculator.

Prerequisite: Algebra II (534 OR 537) or College Algebra (554).

554collalg College Algebra

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

The course is designed to familiarize students with fundamental mathematical concepts such as inequalities, polynomials, linear and quadratic equations, logarithmic and exponential functions, and systems of linear equations in two variables. Upon course completion, students will have algebraic problem solving and quantitative reasoning skills needed for business and social science majors. This course also provides the algebraic skills needed to pursue higher level studies in mathematics.

SCSU: 3.0 credits (MAT 120)(Optional enrollment)

Prerequisite: Algebra II.

593calcAP AP Calculus AB DE

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 4 college credits (MAT 150)

AP Calculus AB ECE is a unique course that gives two main opportunities for high school students: to earn college/university credit and skills that prepare them for college/university. This course covers two courses MAT 150 (SCSU) and AP Calculus AB. Calculus I (MAT 150 in SCSU) is the study of limits, derivatives, definite and indefinite integrals, differential equations, and their applications. Consistent with AP philosophy, all main concepts of Calculus I will be expressed and analyzed geometrically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The graphing calculator TI 84+CE is required.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in 539/546/547 and a 4.0 on the end of semester exam. There is an ECE change fee if a qualified student requests to be added in June.

594calcAP AP Calculus BC (Advanced Placement)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

Calculus BC is a fast-paced full-year course in the calculus of functions of a single variable. It includes all topics covered in Calculus AB plus additional topics. Both the AB and BC courses represent college-level mathematics for which most colleges grant advanced placement and college credits. The Calculus BC exam has a Calculus AB sub-score so the students enrolled in this class will be receiving two AP scores. The content of Calculus BC is designed to qualify the student for college placement and credit in Calculus II, which is one course beyond that granted for Calculus AB. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in 593.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Physical Education courses are designed to develop an understanding of the health-related components of physical fitness; cardiovascular fitness, muscle strength and endurance, flexibility, and body composition, as they relate to a healthy lifestyle with an emphasis on the importance of health and wellness.

616pehlthI Physical Education and Health I

GR 9 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is designed to develop health-related physical fitness skills as well as the skills mentioned above in the Introduction. In addition, students will explore mental and social health topics, participate in fitness and circuit training and seasonal health and wellness activities. The primary goal for this course is for students to develop a foundation for a lifelong healthy lifestyle.

636pehlthII Physical Education and Health II

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is a continuation of PE and Health I and is designed to reinforce the importance of health-related physical fitness skills as well as the skills mentioned above in the introduction. Students will continue to participate in fitness and circuit training and seasonal health and wellness activities, but in a group setting that allows for peer instruction. Students will also be introduced to a diverse assortment of leisure activities with the goal of sparking lifelong interest. A focus is also placed on the exploration of various current mental and social health issues. The primary goal for this course is for students to develop the ability to take responsibility for a lifelong healthy lifestyle.

Prerequisite: Physical Education and Health I (616)

651peasst Physical Education Assistant

GR 12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

The role of PE Assistant is limited to Seniors with an interest in pursuing a career in Physical Education. Students will be assigned to a PE I class for the semester. Daily responsibilities include the facilitation of group activities and charting of fitness progression for all members of the class. PE Assistants are required to develop lesson plans to instruct and promote physical, mental, and social health and maintain a journal detailing all class activities. The primary goal for this course is for students to explore the skills needed to pursue a teaching career. Prerequisite: PE II and Departmental Approval

Note: This course does not fulfill the Physical Education and Health II requirement.

THEOLOGY

The Theology Department requires all students to complete four years of the required or core theology courses, a retreat experience each year, and a minimum of 25 hours of Christian Service. The theology curriculum provides students with the opportunity to participate in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church. The Theology of the Body for Teens, based on the teachings of Pope John Paul II, is integrated into the scope and sequence of the four-year theology curriculum. Each course develops and enhances the student's relationship with God through different types of prayer.

714theol I Theology I: Our Catholic Faith

GR 9 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

The freshman curriculum introduces the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, the Sacraments, a brief history of the Catholic Church, an introduction to Sacred Scripture, as well as an overview of the charism of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The curriculum follows the four pillars of the Church as outlined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and includes a study of Pope Saint John Paul II's theology of the body, to introduce students to the dignity and meaning of the human body and sexuality. The freshman curriculum incorporates a segment on devotion to the Sacred Heart and the charism of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Note: To receive credit for Theology I and advance to sophomore year, 15 hours of service must be completed by April 30th of Freshman year.

724theolII Theology II: Scripture

GR 10 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

Theology II offers a survey of the scriptures of Judeo-Christian tradition, highlighting the content of Genesis and Exodus, the Deuteronomic History, the Prophets, Wisdom, the four Gospel portraits of Jesus, the Acts of the Apostles, and the letters of St. Paul. Students develop an appreciation for the Jewish roots of the Christian faith as well as the relevance of the Bible for their personal faith life and the liturgical life of the Church. Intended outcomes of the course are to foster a growing love for the Bible as a valuable companion in students' lives.

Note: To receive credit for Theology II and advance to junior year, 25 hours of service must be completed by April 30th of Sophomore year.

734theolIII Theology III: Conscience Formation & Catholic Social Teaching

GR 11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

Theology III exposes the adolescent to the major principles and doctrines of the Catholic tradition, with focus on conscience formation, morality, and Catholic Social Teaching. The message of the Gospels is viewed in connection with the active response required of Christians called to discipleship. Special attention is given to the principles of human dignity and the common good and how these relate to current social problems in American society and the global community. The doctrine of the Mystical Body of Christ is emphasized through the principle of solidarity with the poor and marginalized. The course provides a method of moral decision-making through critical thinking to help students form a Christian conscience and to guide them in making moral choices in response to the moral issues facing the Christian in the 21st century.

Note: To receive credit for Theology III and advance to senior year, 15 hours of service must be completed by April 30th of Junior year.

744theoIV Theology IV: Life in Christ
GR 12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course is a culmination, synthesizing all major themes of freshman, sophomore, and junior theology to prepare students to live the Christian life as adults. Students investigate the importance of integrating more fully a Christ-like attitude of love and its implications for personal discernment. This course seeks to enhance a student's relationship with God through a deeper exploration of prayer, Ignatian spirituality, vocational discernment, the redemptive nature of suffering, and discipleship.

SCIENCE

The Science Department requires all students to complete a minimum of 3 credits in science for graduation, but students are encouraged to take 4 (or more) credits. These must include Core courses, Biology and Chemistry.

814bio Biology
GR 9 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This is a basic course in life sciences for the college bound student. The approach is from the perspective of molecular biology and focuses on the units of life – cells, genes and the biochemical processes therein.

817bioH Honors Biology
GR 9 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This lab-oriented course offers an in-depth analysis of the molecular and biochemical processes that characterize living organisms. Scientific article analysis and a class research project are used to supplement class materials.

Prerequisite: A student may enroll in this class based on performance on the high school entrance exam.

834chem Chemistry
GR 10 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course stresses abstract reasoning, mathematical analysis, and the investigation of chemical systems. Topics include atomic theory, structure of matter, periodicity, bonding, nomenclature and chemical reactions. Laboratory experience accompanies and supports conceptual material.

837chemH Honors Chemistry
GR 10 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course includes an intensive study of fundamental theoretical and experimental principles, stressing inductive reasoning in the investigation of chemical systems. Topics studied include those of 834chem plus acids/bases, solution concentrations and solubility. Mathematical applications of chemical concepts and laboratory experience form an essential part of this course. An independent research project is required.

Prerequisites: 3.67 in Algebra I (515 or 517) AND 3.67 in Biology (814 or 817)

895genes Human Gene Discovery Laboratory
GR 10 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

In this introductory course, students investigate a human disease gene as a class laboratory project while they research and try to diagnose the genetic disorder using OMIM, an online catalog of human genes and genetic disorders. The entire semester consists of continuous biotechnology experiments, done collaboratively in a problem-solving

format, which develop basic research skills and incorporate the use of specialized lab equipment.

Note: Human Gene Discovery (895) is recommended for those who plan to take AP Biology (890) and Honors Biotechnology Research Project (898).

849enganl Engineering Analysis
GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

The engineering discipline includes designing, testing and analyzing possible solutions to benefit society. This is a project-based course focused on the analytical process of optimizing potential design solutions to exemplar problems presented to teams or individual students. Students may explore fast growing engineering fields such as material science, environmental concerns, electronics/computer design and bio-mechanical engineering.

Prerequisite: 3.0 in recent full year Math and Science courses.

852microbio Microbiology
GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course surveys microorganisms that cause human infection: bacteria and archaea, protozoans, fungi, viruses, and prions. The study compares common diseases of the human body, their natural defense mechanisms, and the various anti-microbial drugs administered as treatment. The laboratory exercises involve microscopy and experiments with non-pathological organisms readily used in educational environments.

856forens Forensic Science
GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This lab-oriented course explores the applications of biology, chemistry, and physics to the investigation of crime. Topics and labs include crime scene investigation, hair and fiber analyses, fingerprinting, microscopy, forensic botany, forensic anthropology, and DNA profiling. Case studies, cold cases, and current events in criminal investigation will also be included.

860astron Introduction to Astronomy
GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is a hands-on, inquiry-based exploration of Astronomy. Using online simulations, computer-animated planetariums and in-class activities, the course will study the Earth's place in our Solar System, motion of the moon, stars, planets and constellations, seasons, and the structure of the Universe. Focused on the study of the night sky from Earth, additional topics include the physics of light and gravity and how those affect the universe and our perception of it. Projects include study of the planets and constellations, and additional topics may include black holes, expansion of the universe, space exploration and history of astronomy.

859a&p Anatomy and Physiology
GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This lab-oriented course studies body organization and the structure and functions of cells, tissues, and each of the human systems, giving attention to health issues and diseases. Dissections such as sheep heart, brain, kidney and fetal pig are included. Students will be expected to master medical terminology.

861a&pH Honors Anatomy and Physiology
GR 11-12 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course offers more intensive study of the structure and function of the human body. Gross to microscopic anatomy will be studied in light of physiological function. Heavy emphasis will be given to the cellular and molecular bases of physiology. Clinical case studies, virtual labs, and dissections will supplement the class activities.

Prerequisites: 3.67 in Biology (814 or 817)

[3.67 in Chemistry (834 or 837) AND 3.8 Overall GPA].

844physics Physics DE

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 4 college credits (PHY 200)

This laboratory course is a hands-on inquiry-based exploration of introductory topics in physics. Always focused on making connections between knowledge of science and its impact on our lives, the study of physics uses multiple pathways of scientific reasoning with specific emphasis on mathematical-analytical problem solving and conceptual and physical modelling to explore force and motion, energy & momentum, with optional topics that may include gravitation, waves, sound, electricity and magnetism.

Prerequisites: 3.0 in Algebra II (534, 537, or 539)

898biotechH Honors Biotechnology Research Project

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

In this laboratory course the class works as a research team to study a gene of their choice. The class starts by extracting DNA from an organism, then amplifying, and sequencing the gene of interest. The class designs its own experiments, masters the skills of DNA purification and quantitation, PCR, DNA sequencing, and bioinformatics. After analysis, the class prepares a scientific poster as they get ready to present their research to scientists such as those at Columbia University, New York. The class has also been submitting the results to GenBank which is NCBI's open access database of nucleotide sequences, used by scientists from all over the world. At present, we have 35 sequence submissions in GenBank.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in a previous full-year science course.

890bioAP AP Biology DE (Advanced Placement & SCSU)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 8 college credits (Bio 102 & Bio 103)

This college course explores in depth biological concepts such as: cellular and molecular biology, evolution and natural selection, genetics and inheritance, classification of organisms, and population dynamics. This course is highly recommended for students planning to major in sciences or the health professions. AP exam fee applies. Additional lab time may be required and will be discussed at the beginning of the school year.

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry; 4.0 average in Biology (814 or 817) OR [3.67 in Biology (814 or 817) and a 4.0 in at least one from 859/861/892/894/898] OR [3.67 in Biology (814 or 817) and a 4.0 in at least two courses from 856/852/865/895]. Students who did not have a 4.0 in Biology must meet the pre-reqs at the time of course enrollment.

Note: All students enrolled in this course will have mandatory concurrent enrollment in the Southern Connecticut State University's Early College Program that allows students to earn 8 college credits for the year. SCSU will bill students separately for the EC tuition in the fall and spring.

892chemAP AP Chemistry DE (Advanced Placement & SCSU)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 4 college credits (Chem121)

This college-level course expands on the principles and techniques learned in the first year of chemistry. An emphasis will be placed on matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics and thermodynamics. Students wishing to major in science, engineering, or the health professions or who must take chemistry in college are strongly encouraged to take this course. Additional lab time may be required and will be discussed at the beginning of the school year. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: [4.0 in Chemistry (834 or 837)] AND 3.67 in math OR

894physAP AP Physics 1 DE (Advanced Placement & SCSU)

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 4 college credits (PHY 200)

This is a course in first year Algebra-based physics at the college level. A high level of confidence in mathematical reasoning and processes is necessary throughout the course. Multiple pathways of scientific reasoning and modelling are used to explore topics including Newtonian mechanics, momentum and energy, rotational kinematics, and mechanical vibrations. AP exam fee applies.

896physAPlab AP Physics 1 Lab

GR 11-12 QP 5.0 ½ CREDIT YEAR

To provide sufficient time to cover the curriculum, additional lab time is required through concurrent enrollment in the ½ credit course AP Physics Lab, which meets once per cycle.

Prerequisite: 4.0 average in Biology (814, 817) and Chemistry (824, 834); Completed Honors AlgII/PreCalc(539) or Completed Pre-Calculus (546 or 547) with a 4.0 final grade average.

848engdes Engineering Design (2025-26)

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

Engineers solve problems using knowledge of science, mathematical and physical models, and a creative and iterative process. This is a project-based course focused around designing and optimizing innovative solutions through cooperative teamwork, creation and testing of prototypes, and presenting the product of this work to peers. Students will use the engineering process to complete both individual and group design projects at a level appropriate to their grade level and resources.

Prerequisite: 3.0 in recent full year Math and Science courses.

865gen Genetics (2025-26)

GR 11 - 12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course covers classical and molecular genetics. It presents an integrated approach to the study of genes (genotypes) and how mutations (alterations) therein, can have profound effects on proteins (phenotypes). The course also includes an introductory unit on forensics that serves to highlight the importance of DNA in modern day criminal investigations.

SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies Department requires students to complete 3 credits in Social Studies. These include Human Geography, Modern World History, U.S. History, and U.S. Government. The Social Studies curriculum provides students with a broad knowledge of the past and skills in the critical process of gathering, analyzing, and interpreting historical information.

917humgeo Human Geography

GR 9 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course serves as an overview of the development of human civilization and culture across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Students will gain an understanding of the world we live in and how people and cultures have spread and interacted throughout history, culminating in an independent research project and presentation. Students will be introduced to important skills in social studies, research and analysis, and critical thinking.

925mwhis

Modern World History

GR 10 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course focuses on the development of the modern world, beginning with the Industrial Revolution and continuing through the twentieth century. It emphasizes global interconnections between cultures and countries and focuses on the political, economic and cultural forces that affected the development of the modern world and contributed to the development of the society we live in today. Students will further develop important skills in social studies, research and analysis, and critical thinking.

926mwhisH Honors Modern World History

GR 10 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course focuses on the development of the modern world, beginning with the Industrial Revolution and continuing through the twentieth century. It emphasizes global interconnections between cultures and countries and focuses on the political, economic, and cultural forces that affected the development of the modern world and contributed to the development of the society we live in today. Students are expected to read primary source materials and write analytical papers, culminating in a final project making connections between events covered in the class.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in Human Geography (917).

NOTE: If 917 is taken in Term 2, the student must have a 1st Semester overall GPA of 3.67 or higher to register. The 917 -based pre-req will be checked at year-end.

962mwhisAP AP Modern World History

GR 10 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

Study the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that have shaped the world from c. 1200 CE to the present. It emphasizes global interconnections between cultures and countries and focuses on the political, economic and cultural forces that affected the development of the modern world and contributed to the development of the society we live in today. Students will become proficient in evaluating sources, analyzing evidence, contextualizing, and connecting historical events, and supporting a thesis. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in Human Geography (917) AND a 4.0 in Introduction to Literary Genres and Basic Composition (214 or 217) *NOTE: If 917 is taken in Term 2, the student must have a 1st Semester overall GPA of 3.67 or higher and meet the English Pre-req in order to register. The 917 -based pre-req will be checked at year-end.*

924ushis United States History

GR 11 QP 4.33 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course focuses on the forces that have shaped American history, with emphasis on the political, economic, and cultural development of our nation. It covers major events, key trends, and progressive issues in history, focusing on the diverse voices that make up American society. Social studies skills and historical research skills are strengthened in the process of completing an independent research project.

927ushisH Honors U.S. History

GR 11 QP 4.67 1 CREDIT YEAR

This course focuses on the forces that have shaped American history, with emphasis on the political, economic, and cultural development of our nation. It covers major events, key trends, and progressive issues in history, focusing on the diverse voices that make up American society. Students will read primary source documents and analyze historical data in order to complete an independent research project.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in Modern World History (925 or 926) or (AP Modern World History (962))

992ushisAP AP U.S. History (Advanced Placement)

GR 11 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

In AP U.S. History, students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in nine historical periods from

approximately 1491 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in Modern World History (925 or 026) or AP Modern World History (962) AND a 3.67 average in English courses.

All seniors are required to take either 914, 918 or 964.

914gov U.S. Government

GR 12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is a survey of American Government. Students will develop a basic familiarity with federal and state government and understand their role as active and engaged citizens. Students will critically read historical and contemporary primary source documents and analyze current issues.

919govH Honors U.S. Government

GR 12 QP 4.67 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course will examine various current events and how they relate to the history and structure of US Government. Through the use of reputable newspaper articles, we will cover topics like social justice and civil rights, immigration, civil liberties, crime and policing, and elections. Each unit will also include discussions/debates, opinion essays and/or objective essays.

Prerequisite: 3.67 in 924, 927 or 992.

965govAP AP U.S. Government DE (Advanced Placement & SCSU)

GR 12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 3 college credits (PSC 260)

This course provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other resources to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors. They will also read and interpret data, make comparisons and applications, and develop evidence-based arguments.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in 924/927/992 AND a 3.67 average in English courses.

982psych Introductory Psychology

GR 12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course introduces students to psychology through the engagement of diverse topics, including Development, Learning and Motivation, and Conditioning. Focusing on the development of the mind and body allows students to apply different techniques to improve the self while critically analyzing psychological studies. This practical approach is intended to encourage students to think critically about human behavior.

993psychAP AP Psychology DE (Advanced Placement & SCSU)

GR 12 QP 5.0 1 CREDIT YEAR

SCSU Early College Program: 3 college credits (Psy 100)

The aim of this Advanced Placement Psychology course is to provide students with the equivalent to that obtained in college introductory level psychology courses. Students will be expected to analyze research experiments and relevant journal articles. This course will survey fourteen major topics in psychology in which students will be able to apply important principles to their everyday life. AP courses and exams emphasize challenging, research-based curricula aligned with higher education expectations. AP exam fee applies.

Prerequisite: 4.0 in 924/927/992 AND a 3.67 average in English courses.

944womhis Women in History

GR 10-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is an introduction to the many and varied roles of women in American history and the struggle for women’s political, social, and legal equality. The course will examine women’s contributions to American culture, along with problems and obstacles they have experienced and overcome. Through the analysis of primary and secondary sources, students will explore the experiences and contributions of diverse groups of women, both prominent and lesser known.

945law Law and Legal System

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course is designed to introduce students to the structure and procedures of the United States legal system. This course will survey the history and structure of the American legal system, the theories behind and procedures of the criminal justice system, and the purposes of civil law. Students will learn about courtroom procedure and gain a practical understanding of their rights as protected by the United States Constitution. Students will actively engage in this class through debate, research and discussion of current affairs, and experiential learning projects.

947hol The Holocaust (2025-26)

GR 11-12 QP 4.33 ½ CREDIT SEM

This course offers students an in-depth analysis of Fascism, the Holocaust and World War II, while providing a more authentic and effective understanding of genocide as an historical phenomenon. This analysis seeks to create an understanding of the events leading up to, contributing to, and following the Holocaust. This course also aims to enhance critical awareness of and engagement with the Holocaust and genocide education.

