

Benedictine



College Preparatory

Course Catalogue 2019-2020

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Department of English

English 9 and Honors English 9: Grammar and Composition

Students study the intricate nature of grammar and writing, while reinforcing critical thinking and reading skills. Reading selections, writing assignments, and oral presentations are chosen to encourage students to respond creatively to a various types of essays (descriptive, expository, and persuasive). The study of grammar focuses on sentence structure variety, correct punctuation, spelling, and vocabulary development. Writing assignments require mastery of unity, coherence, and elaboration in paragraphs as well as longer papers. Students learn the fundamentals of documenting a research paper utilizing the research facilities in the school's media center.

Prerequisites for Honors: B or above in English 8; standardized test scores for reading and writing above the 85th percentile; recommendation of the admissions committee.

Credits: 1

Literature 9 and Honors Literature 9

Students will read a variety of works with an emphasis on classics. The curriculum for the year will include a novel, a play, poetry, and non-fiction. The goal of the class is to familiarize students with a wide variety of literary genres and to help them immerse themselves in the story and thought of the author. From this engagement with the literature, students will develop a vocabulary to better understand and discuss literature. Classes are taught using the discussion method, so students will be expected to come to class having read the material and ready to talk about it. There will also be a focus on public speaking.

Prerequisites for Honors: B or above in English 8; standardized test scores for reading and writing above the 85th percentile; recommendation of the admissions committee.

Credits: 1.0

English 10 and Honors English 10

Students read a variety of literature representative of the great works of the Western literary tradition. Students are introduced to differing literary forms, especially the epic and the tragedy. This course focuses upon and improves the disciplines of reading, analytic writing, grammar, vocabulary, and rhetoric. Students are responsible for research papers, requiring formal, documented papers in MLA format. In addition, students review and build upon skills studied in ninth grade in order to continue improvement in the wording, structure, variety, and punctuation of sentences. Lastly, this course provides historical context in which to situate American Literature in English 11 and British Literature in English 12. An honors section, which requires more advanced reading and writing, is offered to qualified students.

Honors Prerequisites: English 9 with a 90 or higher or Honors English 9 with an 85 or higher; a combined reading and writing PSAT score of 80 or higher; and the recommendation of the ninth grade English teachers.

Credits: 1

English 11 and Honors English 11

Students study the major periods of American literature to deepen their understanding of, and appreciation for, their cultural heritage. Literary texts are looked at analytically, and students are encouraged to see relationships between form and content. Helping students to become better editors of their work is the main focus of the writing course, which emphasizes analytical and persuasive writing. A research paper is required in which students demonstrate the ability to gather information from primary and secondary sources; to quote, paraphrase, and summarize accurately; and to cite sources properly. In addition to the regular course outline for English 11, the honors students read additional selections and do more extensive writing.

Honors Prerequisites: English 10 with a 90 or higher or Honors English 10 with an 85 or higher; a combined reading and writing PSAT scores of 85 or higher; and recommendation of the tenth grade English teacher.

Credits: 1

AP English 11 Language and Composition

This course is reserved for students of exceptional promise since it demands college-level work. It is a course that examines rhetoric, and it teaches students strategies for writing clearly and effectively, reading critically, and thinking analytically. By examining principles of composition and grammar and the components of literature that cause texts to be meaningful, students will enhance their ability to understand how to identify main ideas, author motivation, text organization, and tone and style. Students will also learn how to develop a basic critical terminology for literary genres, devices, and elements. Students will examine both fiction and nonfiction pieces. They will also improve their research skills and persuasive writing skills using the MLA format and method of citation. The AP exam is required for this course; students with qualifying scores may earn college credit.

Prerequisites: Honors English 10 with a 90 or above; PSAT Critical Reading and writing scores of 50, ACT English and reading scores of 24 or better or SAT verbal score of 500; and tenth grade English teacher's recommendation.

Credits: 1

English 12 and Honors English 12

The students survey British literature from Beowulf to the modern writers. The course emphasizes the history and development of the English language as expressed in some of the masterpieces of literature. Furthermore, students get a concise review of English grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. The writing component focuses primarily on the expository essay and seeks to sharpen students' critical thinking skills, their use of textual evidence, and their development of an individual voice and style. Several critical papers requiring documentation are assigned each quarter.

Prerequisites for Honors: English 11 with a 90 or above or Honors English 11 with an 85 or above; a combined reading and writing PSAT scores of 90 or higher; and recommendation of the eleventh grade English teacher.

Credits: 1

AP English 11 Language and Composition

This course is reserved for students of exceptional promise since it demands college-level work. It is a course that examines rhetoric, and it teaches students strategies for writing clearly and effectively, reading critically, and thinking analytically. By examining principles of composition and grammar and the components of literature that cause texts to be meaningful, students will enhance their ability to understand how to identify main ideas, author motivation, text organization, and tone and style. Students will also learn how to develop a basic critical terminology for literary genres, devices, and elements. Students will examine both fiction and nonfiction pieces. They will also improve their research skills and persuasive writing skills using the MLA format and method of citation. The AP exam is required for this course; students with qualifying scores may earn college credit.

Prerequisites: English 10 with a 90 or above or Honors English 10 with an 85 or above; a combined reading and writing PSAT scores of 94 or higher; and the recommendation of the tenth grade English teacher.

Credits: 1

AP English 12 Literature

This course is also reserved for students of exceptional promise since it demands college-level work. The immediate goal of the course is to help students become better writers through reading fiction, plays, and poems, and through writing analytical papers about their reading. In particular, AP English should help students bring their abilities in the writing process up to a university standard of excellence. Emphasis is placed on developing rhetorical and creative abilities, including selecting a provocative topic and exploring it with sound reasoning, creative thinking, and solid textual evidence. Furthermore, students get a concise review of English grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. Students will also sharpen the skills required in analytical reading, writing, and thinking and will continue to develop a basic critical terminology for literary genres. The AP exam is required for this course; students with qualifying scores may earn college credit

Prerequisites: English 11 with a 90 or above or Honors English 11 with an 85 or above; a combined reading and writing PSAT scores of 100 or higher; the recommendation of the eleventh grade English teacher.

Credits: 1

Foundations of Language

The coursework will emphasize the fundamentals of language, including sentence structure, vocabulary building, and learning strategies for improving reading comprehension. Improving reading fluency, maintaining a reading journal, and engaging in reading and writing exercises will be emphasized. Class discussions will facilitate the development and strengthening of fundamental reading skills. To strengthen reading skills, students will sample works from a variety of authors and genres, analyzing major themes and evaluating the works for their literary characteristics. They will work on discovering connections between the stories and their experiences.

Prerequisites: This course is available only on the recommendation of the Admission Committee.

Credits: 1

Journalism I

Journalism is a full year course that aims to develop specialized skills in news writing, sports reporting, editorial/opinion writing, feature writing, interviewing, and in using technology. Students will also develop an understanding of the social and legal responsibility of the press while they help write, edit, and publish school writings using Adobe *Creative Suite 3*.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of the current English teacher. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Credits: 1

Journalism II Honors

The students in Journalism II Honors are responsible for writing the school newspaper and for writing and editing a year-end literary journal. For the paper, students generate ideas and write the articles themselves. The articles are edited by a student editor, then submitted to the teacher for final approval before publication. The year-end journal publishes various types of creative material from Journalism I and II students, as well as material from other Cadets. Submissions for the journal include poetry, fiction, nonfiction, art, and photography. Journalism II students compile, edit, and publish the journal. Journalism II is mostly self-directed, so it requires considerable maturity and responsibility on the part of the students.

Prerequisite: Recommendation of Journalism I teacher and current English teacher. Open to juniors and seniors.

Credits: 1

Photojournalism/Yearbook

Yearbook is a one-year course where students produce *The Cadet*, the BCP yearbook. Staff members develop the theme of the yearbook, design section templates, write stories, take pictures, and submit completed layouts for publication. The class is hands-on and student-driven with leadership positions available. Interested individuals must be willing to interview fellow students and teachers, report and write about school events, photograph games and activities (sometimes after school), and demonstrate an aptitude for computer skills. Computer use, photography, and writing instruction are part of the class and are supplemented with off-campus workshops and conferences. Students who are interested in taking photojournalism must be reliable due to the inherent responsibility that comes with using expensive equipment (computers and cameras) and honoring publishing deadlines.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of the Photojournalism teacher and current English teacher. Application required. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Credits: 1

Survey of Literature

Students will study works from a variety of authors, reading the voices of different cultures. Literature and poetry from around the world and over the ages, including African American writers, female authors, and authors from many walks of life will be sampled. Students will analyze major themes, evaluating the works for their literary characteristics and discovering connections among the stories and students' experiences. The coursework will emphasize the readings and class discussions. Journal activities and creative writings are stressed in improving the writing process.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of the current English teacher. Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors.

Credits: 1

Department of Science

Physics I & Honors Physics I

This laboratory-oriented course explores the laws of nature and the techniques of science. The course provides the basic background material and skills needed for later science courses. The descriptive approach to the study of physics is complemented by demonstrations and hands-on activities and will include a focus on problem-solving techniques and strengthening Algebra skills. The course covers Newtonian Mechanics in one dimension (motion, force, momentum, and energy), wave theory and its applications to sound and light, properties of matter, and atomic and nuclear physics. Laboratory exploration is an integral part of this course. Honors Physics I requires more analytical reasoning and more complex mathematical analysis.

Honors Prerequisites: Currently taking Honors Geometry.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

Chemistry & Honors Chemistry

An introductory chemistry course in which students investigate atomic structure, mole relationships, states of matter, balancing equations, stoichiometry, gas laws, solutions, acid-base chemistry, and electrochemistry. Laboratory investigations and problem solving is emphasized. The mathematical problem solving training begun in Physics I is built upon in this course. Honors provides more in-depth study of the same topics, more challenging problem solving and more inquiry-based laboratory investigations.

Prerequisites: Completion of Physics I and Algebra I.

Honors Prerequisites: Grade of 85 or better in Honors Physics I and Honors Algebra I.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

Biology & Honors Biology

Biology is an introductory, inquiry-based science that seeks to guide students through the living world. Students will learn about organisms by exploring cell biology, genetics, evolution and taxonomy. Class discussion, lab exercise and independent assessment will be used to convey and reinforce the material. Honors students will be taught at the Pre-AP level, focusing on critical thinking, application and experimental design. These students will conduct quarterly projects and gain practice with AP formatted assessment questions in an effort to transition them into AP Biology their senior year.

Prerequisites: Completion of Chemistry.

Honors Prerequisites: Grade of 85 or better in Honors Chemistry.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

Anatomy and Physiology

Anatomy and Physiology will explore the structure and function of human body systems, including those related to the brain, heart and reproduction. In addition, common disorders related to each system will also be discussed through lecture, lab and case study analysis. At least two dissections will be a part of this course in an attempt to reinforce each individual system and their interactions.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of Biology teacher.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

Physics II & Honors Physics II

Physics II is a lab-based course which explores kinematics, dynamics, circular motion and gravitation, energy, momentum, simple harmonic motion, torque and rotational motion, electric charge and electric force, DC circuits, mechanical waves, optics, and sound. This course is mathematically rigorous and requires Algebra and Geometry.

Prerequisites: This course should be taken concurrently or after the completion of pre-calculus. ACT score of 23 or better.

Honors Prerequisites: This course should be taken concurrently or after the completion pre-calculus, or with the permission of the instructor; PSAT math score of 59 or SAT math score of 590.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

AP Biology

AP Biology is equivalent to an introductory, two semester college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes, energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. Students will develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts in and across domains. A summer assignment and the AP exam will be required components of this course.

Prerequisites: Completion of both Chemistry and Biology and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

AP Chemistry

This is an advanced second year course in Chemistry that focuses on Equilibrium, Kinetics, Thermodynamics, and Electrochemistry in addition to a review of Stoichiometry, Gases, Atomic & Molecular Structure, and Bonding. This is a lab and math intensive course which prepares the student for the Advanced Placement Chemistry Exam and to move directly into advanced Chemistry courses in college.

Prerequisites: Grade of 90 in Honors Chemistry; grade of 90 in Honors Algebra II; PSAT math score of 56, ACT math score of 23 or better, and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1 credit lab science

Department of Mathematics

Algebra I

Application of the properties of real numbers in algebraic expressions and equations. Emphasis is placed on solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities, factoring and its applications, developing and applying the properties of exponents and radical expressions, quadratic equations, and basic trigonometry. Students are taught to develop and use visual aids to problem solve, including charts, tables, graphs, and diagrams.

Credits: 1

Geometry & Honors Geometry

Primary emphasis of this course is placed on introducing the students to traditional plane geometry with some focus on formal proofs. Deductive reasoning is taught, fostered and encouraged. Included are theorems and postulates relating to points, lines, and planes which prepare the students for problem exercises with parallel lines, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. The course includes coordinate geometry. The Honors course is designed to offer to the math-oriented student a more rigorous thought-provoking experience relating to the Geometric concepts.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Honors Prerequisites: Algebra I with a 90 or above and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Algebra II and Honors Algebra II

In Algebra II, the skills and concepts of Algebra I are strengthened and expanded to include complex numbers. Additional emphasis is placed on the properties of exponents and roots, quadratic equations and functions, conics and polynomial functions. An honors section is available for strong math students. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Prerequisite: Geometry

Honors Prerequisites: Geometry with a 90 or above.

Credits: 1

Pre-Calculus & Honors Pre-Calculus

This course covers a wide variety of topics, including algebraic, exponential and logarithmic functions; systems of equations, matrices and determinants; sequences; trigonometric functions and graphs. Honors prepares students to perform well in calculus and all college-level mathematics.

Prerequisites: Algebra II with an 85 or above and teacher recommendation.

Honors Prerequisites: Algebra II with a 90 or above; PSAT math score of 53 or SAT math score of 530, satisfactory score on the Pre-Test, ACT math score of 22 or better, and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Calculus

This is an introductory course in Calculus and is designed to prepare the student to perform well throughout the calculus sequence in college. The course covers limits and continuity, differential and integral calculus with applications, logarithmic and exponential functions, calculus of trigonometric functions and integration techniques.

Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus with an 85 or above, math PSAT score of 53 or SAT score of 530, and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP Calculus (AB)

This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Calculus AB test and to perform well throughout the calculus sequence in college. The students cover limits and continuity, differential and integral calculus with applications, logarithmic and exponential functions, calculus of trigonometric functions, advanced integration techniques and, if time permits, sequences and series.

Prerequisites: Honors Pre-Calculus with an 85 or above, math PSAT score of 58 or SAT score of 580, and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP Calculus (BC)

In this second year AP Calculus course the students prepare for the AP Calculus BC Exam by continuing the study of calculus, which includes parametric and polar functions, vector-valued functions, advanced integration methods: by parts, trigonometric substitution, and partial fraction decomposition, improper integrals, convergence/divergence of infinite series, and Taylor and MacLaurin series and sums.

Prerequisites: AP Calculus AB or a 92 or better in Honors Pre-Calculus and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Statistics & Honors Statistics

This course prepares the student to develop statistical and probabilistic reasoning skills; to analyze data utilizing mathematical models and formulas to make informed summaries and conclusions; to apply measures of central tendency, variability, standard deviation, and correlation; to design a statistical experiment and to use sampling techniques, Microsoft Excel software, and graphing calculators. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Prerequisites: Three years of high school math, including completing Algebra II with a grade of 90 or higher; and teacher recommendation.

Honors Prerequisite: Algebra II or Pre-Calculus with a 90 or above; PSAT score of 53 or SAT score of 530, and Teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Business Accounting & Personal Finance

Business Accounting & Personal Finance is a preparatory course for students to be out on their own, and to equip them with the knowledge and tools to succeed monetarily in their future. Topics covered include Saving, Budgeting, Avoiding Debt, Consumer Awareness, Investing, Retiring, all forms of Insurance, Careers, Taxes, Giving, and Money & Relationships. Semester II we move into the Basics of Business Accounting. Students will become proficient with the “double entry/accrual system” of Accounting. Students will analyze the accounting equation, and then work their way through the 5 steps of the accounting cycle becoming fully knowledgeable on how to assemble and create each set of documents. This course would be most beneficial for those seeking a business degree upon graduation, and students who are going to enter the work force immediately after graduation by way of a trade school or military.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra II

Credits: 1

Department of Social Studies

World History I and Honors World History I

“Classical and Medieval History”

These courses focus on the study of history from the earliest civilizations to the present. Golden Ages of various cultures will be explored to recognize the contributions made by earlier civilizations to our civilization today. Significant attention will be given to the ways in which scientific and technological revolutions created new economic conditions which in turn produced social and political changes. The basic tenets of the world’s major religions will be studied and students will give evidence to support how these beliefs have shaped human behavior and institutions. Students will examine the ideas that have given rise to the institutions that helped to define our world – monotheism, capitalism, nationalism, imperialism, and communism. The courses will strike a balance between the broad themes of history and the probing of specific historic events, ideas, issues, persons, and documents. Using texts, maps, slides, charts, and computer-assisted research materials, students will develop competence in chronological thinking, historical comprehension, and historical analysis.

Prerequisites for Honors: SSAT in 85th percentile; counselor recommendation.

Credits: 1

World History II and Honors World History II

“Monarchs to Nations”

In this course students study the rise of the nation state in Europe, the Renaissance and the Reformation, the French Revolution, and the economic and political roots of the modern world. Additionally, students study the origins and consequences of the Industrial Revolution, 19th century political reform in Western Europe, and imperialism in Africa, Asia, and South America. Other topics of study include the causes and consequences of the great military and economy events of the past century, including World War I, the Great Depression, World War II, the Cold War, and the Russian and Chinese revolutions.

Prerequisites for Honors: B or better in H. World History I and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

United States and Virginia History & Honors US VA History

This course covers the development of American ideas and institutions from the Age of Exploration to the present. While the course focuses on political and economic history, this course also provides the students with a basic knowledge of American culture through a chronological survey of major issues, movements, people, and events in United States and Virginia history. Using lectures, readings, and discussions, the student develops historian skills such as being able to distinguish between facts and opinions, identifying bias, making hypotheses, and drawing conclusions from evidence.

Prerequisite: Grade 11

Prerequisites for Honors: Completed World History with an 88 or above or Honors World History with an 85 or above; English with an 88 or above Honors English with an 85 or above; and receive a teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

United States and Virginia Government

This course provides an understanding of the origins and workings of the American and Virginia political systems. The United States and Virginia Constitutions, the structure and operation of the United States and Virginia governments, the process of policy-making, with emphasis on economics, foreign affairs, and civil rights issues are examined as are the impact of the general public, political parties, interest groups, and the media on policy decisions. United States political and economic systems are compared to those of other nations with emphasis on the relationships between economic and political freedoms.

Prerequisites: Grade 12

Prerequisites for Honors: Completed US/VA History with an 88 or above or Honors US/VA History with an 85 or above; English with an 88 or above Honors English with an 85 or above; and receive a teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP United States History

The AP program offers a course and exam in United States History to qualified students who wish to complete studies in a secondary school equivalent to an introductory college course in U.S. history. The course focus is on historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative.) Seven themes (identity, work-exchange-technology, peopling, politics and power, America in the world, environment and geography – both human and physical, ideas-beliefs-culture) serve to create an understanding of content learning objectives which help students understand major historical issues and developments and the trends and processes that have played in role in change over time in the United States.

Prerequisites for Honors: Completed World History with a 93 or above or Honors World History with a 90 or above; English with a 93 or above or Honors English with a 90 or above; PSAT Critical Reading score of 50 or SAT Critical Reading score of 500; and a teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP United States Government & Politics

This is a reading and writing course designed to challenge the superior student. The number of students is limited and the program places the student within the framework of college-level requirements. At the conclusion of the course, the Advanced Placement Examination offers the possibility of receiving college credit for the course or waiving college requirements.

Prerequisites: Completed US History with a 93 or Honors US History with a 90 or above; English 11 with a 93 or Honors English with a 90 or above; PSAT Critical Reading score of 50 or SAT Critical Reading score of 500; and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP Macroeconomics

Economics is about how we, as a society, allocate scarce resources. Macro-economics is a subset of economics that analyzes how the structure and behavior of national and regional economies allocate those scarce resources to increase performance. Students will develop an understanding of the cause- and-effect relationship between the functionality of a country's economy and the underlying factors that can mitigate or facilitate future development. The course will emphasize the nature and functions of product markets, factor markets, and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. They will recognize the interdependency of the United States' economy with that of the global community. Additionally, the students will prepare for successful completion of the AP Macroeconomics exam.

Prerequisites: Honors Algebra II with a 90 or above and a 510 or higher on the Math SAT (PSAT 51); and a teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Department of Theology

All Theology courses at Benedictine are taught in accordance with the Catholic Diocese of Richmond Office of Catholic School's *Approved High School Theology Curriculum* and the USCCB published *Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework*. These are available online in more detail at www.richmonddiocese.org and www.usccb.org.

Theology 9

Semester I & II – “Introduction to Catholicism” The purpose of this course is to introduce Cadets to formal study of Catholic theology. Theology 9 will give a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the basic teachings of the Catholic Church. Cadets will be introduced to doctrine, ecclesiology, Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, the Trinity, spirituality, Christology, morality, the last things, the sacraments, and Mariology. A knowledge of the basic tenets of the Catholic faith will enable each cadet to better understand the tradition that he is a part of at Benedictine.

Credits: 1

Theology 10

Semester I – “The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture” The purpose of this course is to give cadets a general knowledge and appreciation of the 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.

Semester II – “The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)” The purpose of this course is to help cadets understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn 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.

Credits: 1

Theology 11

Semester I- “Life in Jesus Christ (Morality)” and “Theology of the Body Program for Teens” The purpose of this course is to help cadets understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God’s plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ’s disciples.

Semester II- Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ (Sacraments) The purpose of this course is to help cadets understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

Credits: 1

Theology 12—Catholic Apologetics

A year-long course in Catholic apologetics, cadets will be able to defend the teaching and belief of the Catholic faith in the areas of Theology of God, the Authority of the Catholic Church, the Sacraments of the Church, and the selected Moral teachings of the Church. Particular emphasis on the dangers of relativism will be faced, while building a strong and competent understanding of a full life within the Catholic Church. Students completing the course will have a working knowledge of the essential teachings of the Church. Students will complete a summer reading assignment (*Mere Christianity*) and regular readings throughout the year relevant to explaining and defending the faith. The course will move them through basic Christian and Catholic apologetics. Students should be able to defend any of the teachings of the Church from a Biblical, Catechetical, and Pastoral approach. Students will specifically work toward embracing the fullness of the Church’s teaching and achieve competence in explaining and, when necessary, defending the faith. This course will require a working knowledge of each of the sections. Along with regular on-going course work, each student will complete a year-long “capstone experience” project which will take a deeper look at one particular aspect of the Catholic Faith, culminating in a presentation and defense before peers and faculty.

Credits: 1

Department of Leadership

Leadership I

Semester I – Leadership I Students develop knowledge and understanding in basic leadership principles, conflict resolution techniques, develop team working skills, self-confidence, individual goal achievement, and learn school traditions. Elective topics include physical training/development, rope course activities and introduction to map reading/land navigation. Integrated with this course is a study and routine of physical education that develops a foundation for one to understand and appreciate its health benefits that are critical to our overall well-being. Through this, the young men of Benedictine will learn how to use physical education as a tool to further develop their overall character and well-being.

Semester II – “The Human Person” This course studies what it means to say that human beings are persons, i.e., beings endowed with freedom and an inner life capable of knowing and loving. Topics include: the union of body and soul; the powers of the rational soul and its immortality; human passions and temperaments, the complementarity of the sexes, and the theology of the body. From this study, the student will come to appreciate the profound dignity of every human person.

Credits: 1

Leadership II

Semester I – Leadership II Students focus on the development of knowledge and skills in wellness, fitness and first aid, (nutrition, first aid, injury prevention and drug awareness), citizenship and American government (group meeting process, constitutional rights and civil and military justice systems) and basic map reading. Elective topics include Physical Training/Development, rope course activities and map reading/land navigation.

Semester II – “Principles of Ethics” Based on reasoning derived from experience, this course introduces students to the study of voluntary human acts which lead to true human flourishing. St. Thomas Aquinas is used as a guide to investigate the purpose of human life, the nature of human action, the determination of good and evil acts, and the role of moral law, conscience, and virtue in achieving genuine human fulfillment.

Credits: 1

Leadership III

Semester I – Leadership III offers advanced work in leadership theory and application (diversity, performance indicators, negotiation, decision making and problem solving, foundations for success (communication, personal organization, financial planning and career exploration), and continuation in the development of leadership, drill, physical training/development and other elective subjects introduced in Leadership I and II.

Semester II – “Bioethical Issues at the Beginning of Life” In seeking to apply ethical principles learned in Principles of Ethics to contemporary bioethical issues, this course focuses primarily on issues that concern human life in its earliest stages of development. Using the dignity of human life and its inviolability as its starting point, this course studies topics such as: fertility care, abnormal pregnancies, artificial human reproduction, contraception, sterilization, abortion, vaccines from abortions, embryo adoption, scientific experimentation on human persons, stem cell research and genetic manipulation.

Credits: 1

Leadership IV & Honors Leadership IV

Semester I – Leadership IV Students develop a knowledge and understanding of advanced leadership principals (power bases and influence, leadership styles, management skills and motivation); teaching skills (lesson development, delivery and feedback), financial management skills and outdoor survival skills. Also includes continuation in the development of leadership, drill, physical training/development and other previously introduced electives. Sponsoring officers can receive Honors credit for successful completion of assignments as specified by the instructor.

Semester II – “Principles of Ethics” Based on reasoning derived from experience, this course introduces students to the study of voluntary human acts which lead to true human flourishing. St. Thomas Aquinas is used as a guide to investigate the purpose of human life, the nature of human action, the determination of good and evil acts, and the role of moral law, conscience, and virtue in achieving genuine human fulfillment.

Credits: 1

Honors Prerequisite: sponsoring officer rank

Department of Foreign Language

Latin I

The teaching of Latin has been a cornerstone of Western education for well over a thousand years. Shakespeare learned his English grammar through the study of Latin, and Latin provides around 60% of our language. Latin I provides students with a good foundation of English and Latin grammar, an understanding of etymologies and derivatives, and a glimpse of life in Roman times. The vocabulary of this course will be focused on Rome, her activities, and Christianity. Students will master the Latin noun cases, the declensions, personal pronouns, present and perfect systems for 1st-4th conjugation verbs, noun-adjective agreement, and translating. The Latin student will also be introduced to Roman mythology.

Credits: 1

Latin II

After reviewing and reinforcing concepts learned in Latin I, Latin II students will deepen their understanding of vocabulary and grammar. Students will explore connections with Latin terminology in law and medicine as well as compare the social customs of the Roman classes to those in modern societies. Students will learn about the birth of the Republic, the basic political system, and the Punic Wars, in addition to furthering their study of Roman mythology.

Prerequisites: Latin I with an 80 or above and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Latin III

In Latin III, students will strengthen their vocabulary and connection to the English language and begin in earnest their study of the nuances of Latin grammar. Students will be expected to read the Latin aloud with expression and understanding, and to draw connections between the texts and historical contexts with respect to the Roman military, government, and provincial life.

Prerequisites: Latin II with an 80 or above and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Honors Latin IV

The Honors Latin IV course is a study of literary style, devices, and genre through a wide reading selection focused on the writings of the Emperor Trajan, Pliny the Younger, Ovid, Horace, Phaedrus, Vergil, and more. Students will have a diverse understanding of history and culture to aid them in analysis and contextualization of these works as they bring to life the birth of the Empire in the classroom through reenactment, speech, and debate.

Prerequisites: Latin III with an 85 or above and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP Latin V

The AP Latin course focuses on the in-depth study of selections from two of the greatest works in Latin literature: Vergil's Aeneid and Caesar's Gallic War. The course requires students to prepare and translate the readings and place these texts in a meaningful context, which helps develop critical, historical, and literary sensitivities. Throughout the course, students consider themes in the context of ancient literature and bring these works to life through classroom discussions, debates, and presentations.

Prerequisites: H. Latin IV with an 85 or above and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Spanish I

This course is an introduction to the Spanish-speaking world through language and culture. Spanish I introduces students to basic, yet essential, vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students will be able to speak, read, write, and understand basic elements of Spanish in the present and past tenses including conversational topics concerning self, family, school, hobbies, and travel.

Credits: 1

Spanish II

This course is a continuation of the Spanish language grammatical structures with additional tenses and vocabulary introduced. There is greater emphasis on speaking, listening and writing skills at this level. Students will be able to speak, read, write, and understand Spanish in the present, past, future, and conditional tenses. Additionally, a greater emphasis of the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries will be studied.

Prerequisites: Grade of 80 in previous year and teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Spanish III

This course is a continuation of the Spanish language and grammar with emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills. Students will continue to refine their spoken and written language through role-playing and other real-world activities. Several facets of the history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries will be studied. Students will continue to increase their fluency and build their capacity to understand and speak Spanish.

Prerequisites: Grade of 80 in previous year and teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Honors Spanish IV

This course is an introduction to Spanish language literature with a continued emphasis on grammar through reading, writing, speaking, and listening activities. There is increased emphasis on spontaneous activities to increase fluency and build student's capacity for real-world communication. Various facets of history and culture of Spanish-speaking countries will be studied.

Prerequisites: Grade of 85 in previous year and teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Honors Spanish V

This course is designed to take students to a high level of linguistic and cultural competency. Proficiency in Spanish language and culture is the goal with a focus on six overarching themes that are at the heart of real-world communication.

Prerequisites: Grade of 85 in previous year and teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Department of Fine Arts

Introduction to Art and Design

The student will study and apply the basic design elements and visual art vocabulary in class assignments. Included in the exploration of several media including painting, drawing and printmaking, will be the concerns of aesthetics, history and criticism. The student will become familiar with the standards of safety, quality of product, and use of tools and techniques to create spatial illusion.

Open to: Grades 9-12

Credits: 1

2D Media I and II - Drawing, Painting and Printmaking

Emphasis in this class is placed on composition, selecting subject matter, and learning techniques and skills pertinent to various media. The class will experiment with a variety of media such as graphite, charcoal, ink, scratch board, pastels, various printing media, etc. Typical projects include life drawing, still life, portraits, working with photos and landscapes. Sketchbook homework and integration of history, aesthetics and criticism are part of this course.

Open to: Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Completion of Intro to Art and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

3D Media I – Ceramics & Sculpture

In this second-year course, students learn the basic design techniques to become proficient in the technical aspects of 3-dimensional design. The student will focus on basic sculpture in ceramics, including but not limited to hand building and wheel thrown clay vessels. This is done with an emphasis on creativity, craftsmanship, application and understanding of design principles, art history and studio safety.

Open to: Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Completion of Intro to Art and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Honors 3D Media II – Ceramics & Sculpture

This is a third-year honors level course, builds on the skills and modalities taught in Introduction to Art and 3-D Media I. Students will master advanced skills and expand their knowledge of the three-dimensional processes with an emphasis on ceramics both functional and non-functional. Assigned work throughout the course will emphasize the technical as well as, expressive and non-verbal communicative nature of three-dimensional media.

Open to: Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Completion of Intro to Art, 3-D Media I and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Photography I

This course is offered to higher level art students who are interested in a specific area of visual arts- photography. In addition to developing technical skills, this course provides an art historical foundation for photography. Slide presentations, critiques and class discussion are an integral part of this course. Slide presentations, discussions, individual work, inquiry, the National Geography Convention and trips are an important curriculum of the advanced arts curriculum. The students are expected to devote a substantial amount of time outside of the class toward their work. The emphasis will be on creating a large number of works in black/white film and investigating the process of printing in-depth. Students are expected to develop their own themes and issues to explore in their photos. 20th century photography and current photojournalism will be taught to motivate the student artist. The portfolios will include: explorations of pin-hole camera, photojournalism, and computer graphics.

Open to: Grades 10-12

Prerequisites: Completion of Intro to Art and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Photography II and Graphic Design

The students will first learn to use various image/manipulation programs. They will then learn to use these programs to visually communicate their ideas and be better prepared to compete in our ever-changing age of technology. Students will get an introduction and review of the fundamentals of design and color theory, in addition to a review of basic computer skills. This class will focus on creative problem solving as it pertains to fields of visual communication such as advertising, design, and commercial art.

Open to: Grades 11-12

Prerequisites: Completion of Intro to Art, Photography I and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

AP Studio Art – Drawing, 2D Media, and 3D Media

The student in this course will engage in advanced study in the medium of his choice as it pertains to the areas offered by the Advanced Placement testing service. This course is designed for those students who plan to attend art universities or schools and/or demonstrate a serious interest in the practical experience of art.

Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation

Credits: 1

Pipe and Drum Corps I

In the Drum Corp Course at Benedictine students will explore the essential building blocks of music (rhythm, melody, and harmony) using percussion instruments as their medium and learning tool. Along with forays into general music theory students will be introduced to basic music history and general music theory. In addition, percussion specific information, such as rhythm nomenclature, roll rudiments, paradiddle rudiments, flam rudiments, drag rudiments, mallet percussion technique, construction, maintenance, etc. will be disseminated. The Drum Corps will focus on marching cadences, drill and ceremony.

The Piping side of the Pipe and Drum Corps introduces the Cadets to the great Highland Warpipe. The course begins with a basic introduction to musical notation also a basic grasp of music theory, with the practice chanter being introduced almost immediately. The practice chanter is the most important tool any piper possesses. It allows him to practice his fingering and note reading anywhere and at any time. After the chanter becomes familiar, the pipes are introduced to the Cadets, and they begin the long difficult process of combining breathing techniques, bag regulation and chanter fingering.

Credits: 1

Pipe and Drum Corps II

This class is for second-year or advanced students to really hone the basic skills learned in the previous year. Nuances of both the pipes and the drums can be explored now that the gross movements have been mastered.

Prerequisites: Completion of Pipe and Drum Corps I and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Pipe and Drum Corps III

This class is for third-year or advanced students to really hone the basic skills learned in the previous year. Nuances of both the pipes and the drums can be explored now that the gross movements have been mastered.

Prerequisites: Completion of Pipe and Drum Corps II and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1

Pipe and Drum Corps IV

This class is for fourth-year or advanced students to really hone the basic skills learned in the previous year. Nuances of both the pipes and the drums can be explored now that the gross movements have been mastered.

Prerequisites: Completion of Pipe and Drum Corps III and teacher recommendation.

Credits: 1