

# CURRICULUM GUIDE

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2026-2027



Providence Catholic High School

1800 W Lincoln Hwy

New Lenox, IL 60451

[www.providencecatholic.org](http://www.providencecatholic.org)

# THE PROVIDENCE CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE PREPARATORY ACADEMIC PROGRAM

A Providence Catholic High School education is intended to provide each student with a four-year college preparatory program. A Providence education is a unified program of instruction which emphasizes a fundamental understanding of the basic skills and disciplines in the liberal arts. The Providence Catholic curriculum emphasizes excellence in theology, language arts, social science, mathematics, world languages, the sciences, the arts, computer science and applications, physical education, and business education. Providence Catholic graduates are expected to demonstrate mastery of many skills and disciplines.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The following courses constitute graduation requirements to prepare students for the most appropriate and successful college placement. In order to receive a diploma from Providence Catholic High School:

1. Each student must earn at least 22 credits to meet the academic requirements for graduation. Therefore, each year a student must take and pass courses worth at least 5 ½ credits except students taking freshman extension classes. If a student earns less than 5 ½ credits (5 credits freshman year) because of semester failures, these deficiencies must be made up in summer school to remain eligible to return to Providence Catholic for the next school year.
2. Each student must complete the following in order to graduate:

4 years of Theology 4 years of English 3 years of Math 3 years of Laboratory Science 3 years of Social Science: Including 1 year of U.S. History & 1 semester of American Government	2 years of World Languages: Same language in consecutive years 1 year of Physical Education or Band 1 semester of Health 1 semester of Economics 1 semester of Intro to Technology
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*The remaining credits are electives to equal at least 5 ½ credits per year or 22 credits over a four-year program of study. A student may not have more than one study hall per semester. The Principal may substitute designated courses from the Fine Arts or Computer Science & Applications Departments for the two-year foreign language requirement when needed.*

3. Each student is required to pass an examination on the United States and Illinois Constitutions.
4. Each student must complete the Illinois Civics requirement.
5. Each student must complete an approved retreat all 4 years.

6. Each student must take an ACT test.
7. Each student must complete A.C.T.S. hours per grade requirement to advance to the next grade/graduate.
8. Each student, in order to participate in commencement exercises and/or receive a diploma, must satisfy penalties imposed for poor conduct, financial obligations, and attend all baccalaureate and graduation practices and/or services.

## **HONORS COURSES**

Providence Catholic welcomes the challenge of gifted academic students and provides them with honors courses to meet their needs. Honors courses are intended to challenge and promote independent logical thinking, good study skills and academic achievement. Students are invited to participate in honors courses based on the following criteria:

1. Students must score in the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile or above in the particular academic subject area on the placement exam.
2. The student's academic ability must be verified by his/her elementary or junior high school.
3. Students enrolled in honors courses will be required to maintain a certain grade for each semester in order to take honors courses in a particular subject area the following year.
4. Students in honors courses must demonstrate high motivation, quality work and excellent study habits.
5. Students seeking admission into an honors course must have the approval of the chairperson of the academic department in which the course is taken. Selection criteria will include academic performance, motivation, study habits and attitude.
6. Students who did not take honors courses as freshmen, but wish to take them after freshman year, must have an A in the subject matter for each semester of the previous year and also receive the recommendation of the department chairperson.
7. Students not currently enrolled in an honors course who wish to take an honors course the following year, must achieve a certain grade each semester to qualify to move up to an honors course. The approval of the Department Chairperson may also be required.

<b>Freshman Year</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>
Algebra 1 Honors	Algebra 2 Honors
Algebra 2 Honors	Band Honors
Biology Honors	CAD with 2-D Drafting
English 1 Honors	Chemistry Honors
Geometry Honors	Geometry Honors
French 2 Honors	English 2 Honors
Spanish 2 Honors	Spanish 2 Honors
Spanish for Heritage Learners	French 2 Honors
	Spanish 3 Honors
	Spanish for Heritage Learners

Junior Year	Senior Year
3-D Design & Modeling	3-D Design & Modeling
Algebra 2 Honors	Anatomy & Physiology Honors
Anatomy & Physiology Honors	Band Honors
Band Honors	CAD with 2-D Drafting
CAD with 2-D Drafting	Calculus Honors
Chemistry Honors	Choir Honors
Choir Honors	Engineering Concepts
Engineering Concepts	English 4 Honors
English 3 Honors	French 4 Honors
French 3 Honors	INCubatoredu
Physics Honors	Physics Honors
Spanish 3 Honors	Spanish 4 Honors
Spanish 4 Honors	Spanish for Heritage Learners
Spanish for Heritage Learners	

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Advanced Placement courses are available for students who are capable of sustaining the demands these courses impose. All students taking Advanced Placement courses are required to complete the Advanced Placement examination at the end of the school year. Students must have school approval to take one or more AP courses. Providence Catholic reserves the right to add or delete Advanced Placement courses.

Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
AP Business with Personal Finance	AP Biology	AP Art: 2-D Design
AP Computer Science A	AP Business with Personal Finance	AP Art: Drawing
AP Computer Science Principles	AP Chemistry	AP Biology
AP European History	AP Computer Science A	AP Business with Personal Finance
AP US History	AP Computer Science Principles	AP Calculus AB
	AP English Language & Composition	AP Calculus BC
	AP European History	AP Chemistry
	AP Human Geography	AP Computer Science A
	AP Music Theory	AP Computer Science Principles
	AP Precalculus	AP English Literature & Composition
	AP Statistics	AP European History
	AP US Government	AP French
		AP Microeconomics
		AP Music Theory
		AP Physics
		AP Precalculus
		AP Psychology

		AP Spanish AP Statistics AP US Government
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## **ELECTIVE OFFERINGS BY DEPARTMENT**

**\* *Approved NCAA Core Course***

<b>Physical Education</b>	<b>Science</b>	<b>Social Sciences</b>	<b>Other</b>
Co-Ed PE Sports Medicine Sports Officiating Strength Training	3-D Design & Modeling Anatomy & Physiology * Anatomy & Physiology Honors CAD with 2-D Drafting Engine Design & Operation Engineering Concepts *	AP Business with Personal Finance AP European History * AP Microeconomics * Economics * INCubator * Introduction to Business * Macroeconomics *	BYU Distance Learning Study Hall

<b>Art</b>	<b>Computer Science &amp; Applications</b>	<b>English</b>	<b>Music</b>
2-D Design AP 2-D Design AP Drawing Drawing Introduction to Art Painting Studio	AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles Digital Marketing Intro to Programming Robotics	Speech Communication *	AP Music Theory Band (3 levels) Choir (3 levels) Guitar 1 Music Appreciation

## **GRADING SCALE & WEIGHTED GRADES**

Below is the Providence Catholic grading scale. Honors and AP courses receive weighted grades beginning freshman year. Grades in weighted courses receive more quality points than grades in non-weighted courses. Quality points affect weighted grade point average. The student transcript, which is forwarded to colleges and universities, will indicate honors courses and AP courses. The transcript will also indicate cumulative weighted GPA and cumulative non-weighted GPA.

<b>Percentage Earned</b>	<b>Letter Grade Earned</b>	<b>Non-Weighted GPA Points</b>	<b>Honors Level GPA Points</b>	<b>AP Level GPA Points</b>
97-100	A+	4.33	5.33	5.83
93-96	A	4.17	5.17	5.67
90-92	A-	4.0	5.0	5.50
87-89	B+	3.67	4.67	5.17
83-86	B	3.33	4.33	4.83
80-82	B-	3.0	4.0	4.50
77-79	C+	2.67	3.67	4.17
73-76	C	2.33	3.33	3.83
70-72	C-	2.0	3.0	3.50
67-69	D+	1.67	1.67	1.67
63-66	D	1.33	1.33	1.33
60-62	D-	1.00	1.00	1.00
59 or below	F	0.00	0.00	0.00

## **ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

### **Academic Integrity Code**

The PCHS Academic Integrity Code is a statement about the importance of honesty and integrity within our academic community. It articulates PCHS expectations of students in maintaining the highest standards in academic work.

Academic integrity lies at the heart of the values expressed in the PCHS mission statement and is inspired by the spirit of St. Augustine. When one comes to PCHS, one joins an academic community founded on the search for knowledge in an atmosphere of cooperation and trust. The

intellectual health of the community depends on this trust and draws nourishment from the integrity and mutual respect of each of its members.

While the teacher alone has the right and obligation to set academic requirements, the students, teacher, and parents will work together to establish optimal conditions for honorable academic work.

Violation of the Academic Integrity Code include:

1. Plagiarism – submitting another person’s writing or work as one’s own
2. Obtaining or accepting a copy of a test or test key
3. Giving or receiving test questions or answers to/from other students
4. Copying from another student’s test or knowingly permitting another student to copy during a test
5. Using materials or means which are not permitted during a test
6. Having someone else prepare homework, paper, project, report, or take-home exam
7. Permitting another student to copy one’s work or ideas
8. Changing grades in a grade book or on a computer grade sheet
9. Impersonating another student to assist them academically
10. Using Artificial Intelligence to create work that one presents as one’s own original work.

The following will be implemented for violations of the PCHS Academic Integrity Code:

1. The teacher will discuss the incident with the student.
2. The teacher will contact the parents/guardians and inform them of the incident.
3. The teacher will assign a zero for the academic work.
4. The teacher will record on an Academic Integrity Report Form the date and time of the contact with the parents/guardians, a written narrative of the incident and, when possible, attach a copy of the academic work in question.
5. The teacher will submit this Academic Integrity Report to the student’s counselor for inclusion in the student’s file.
6. The counselor will submit this Academic Integrity Report to the moderator of the National Honor Society.

Violations of the PCHS Academic Integrity Code are cumulative throughout the student’s career at PCHS. Upon the third documented violation, the student will be called before the school Academic Committee who will decide the appropriate sanction for the accumulated violations.

## **Blanchette Learning Commons**

The Bishop Blanchette Learning Commons (BLC) at PCHS is intended to enrich school curricula by providing materials not otherwise available to students and teachers. The BLC maintains a well-balanced print and digital collection to meet the interests, abilities, needs, and educational goals of our patrons.

The BLC is open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with the exception of Late Start days when the BLC opens at 8:30 a.m. The BLC may close early for special circumstances.

The BLC requires the same self-discipline and concentration as a normal class. Therefore, all school rules and regulations in regard to silent study, politeness, and attendance are in effect. Students

using the facilities must respect the needs of others who are present. The BLC also requires additional courtesy as patrons approach their work in their own ways. Disruptive behavior can result in the loss of BLC privileges, such as material use and access.

Students must have their I.D. Cards to enter the BLC and use its materials. The majority of BLC materials are signed out for two weeks. Students may renew materials for another two weeks; only two renewals per material, please. Reference books and books on the reserve shelf may be withdrawn after school for overnight use. A student may request an exception from BLC staff.

Failure to follow BLC guidelines will result in a suspension of access to the BLC and its materials during the school day for a period determined by BLC staff, as well as additional discipline as determined by administration.

A fine of ten cents will be charged for each school day that a book or other item is overdue. Materials which are seriously overdue (six weeks) will result in a detention. Students are responsible for all books and materials they withdraw or use and must pay for lost or damaged materials; the price of replacement is determined by BLC staff. Report cards will be withheld until obligations with the BLC are settled.

### **Celtic Learning Center**

The Celtic Learning Center is designed to respond to the needs of students who have documented learning disabilities as determined by a neuropsychological evaluation administered by a psychologist. Students must meet all the requirements for acceptance to Providence Catholic High School and possess work habits and behavior that demonstrate the potential to succeed in a college preparatory high school.

### **Failing Grades & Credit Recovery**

Student promotion from year to year is based on the annual completion of at least 5½ credits (5 freshman year). Students with three or more failures may be dropped from enrollment. Students with failures must make up the credits. Courses must be approved in advance and completed with a 60% or higher before the student will be readmitted for the following school year. Summer school credits and enrichment credits will be entered on the student's permanent record but will not be figured into the grade point average.

PCHS works with accredited online providers for credit recovery. Students who have failed a course may choose from one of these providers or their local public high school to re-take the course. The tuition for any courses taken online will be added to your PCHS tuition at the time of registration.

Students who attain a C- for the second semester in World Languages, Mathematics, or Science after having failed in that subject first semester, can have the failure removed, and a D- given for the first semester.



## **FEES: CLASS & AP EXAMS**

Certain courses require a class fee and will be indicated under the heading. All AP classes require an AP test fee determined by college board that is also listed under the course heading. These fees are charged to your tuition account in facts. Course fees are adjusted each school year and subject to change.

## **Grades**

Parents and students can monitor grades at any time through Blackbaud. Parents may also be informed of progress through parent-teacher conferences arranged by the parent.

## **Homework**

Homework is an integral part of the college preparatory curriculum. Teachers assign home study and written work to reinforce and amplify material taught in class. Students are expected to do assigned homework whether it is written work, material to be read, or material to study, when told to do so by the teacher. Parents should expect that homework will be the rule each day, not the exception.

## **Honor Roll**

The Honor Roll is published at the conclusion of each semester. Honor Roll includes:

First Honors      GPA of 3.51 or higher, with no grade below a C-

Second Honors      GPA of 3.50 - 3.00 with no grade below a C-

## **National Honor Society**

The National Honor Society is an organization that promotes academic excellence, extracurricular participation, exemplary character, service to the school and community, and leadership.

Membership is conferred on students by invitation and is not guaranteed by nor based solely on academic performance. The combination of leadership, service, and character produce the distinction between the National Honor Society and the honor roll. Academically eligible students (minimum 3.75 grade point average) are invited to submit an evaluation sheet concerning their leadership, service, and character. Leadership is shown through involvement in sports, theatrical productions, offices held, or events organized/ founded, etc. Service is shown through participation in PCHS and/or community groups and volunteer work. Character is attested to in the form of recommendation letters. In addition, staff members are asked to comment on visible leadership, service, and character. Based on all qualifications, each candidate is then evaluated by a staff council. A deficiency in any of the necessary qualifications shall automatically disqualify a student from membership.

## **Proficiency Exam**

Incoming freshmen who have taken the equivalent of Algebra 1, French 1 or Spanish 1 in eighth grade may request a proficiency exam. Students who have Spanish as a home language may also request a proficiency exam. Students who demonstrate mastery of course content in any of these areas will be placed in the next level with the approval of the Department Chairperson.

## **Report Cards**

Report cards will be available and posted on Blackbaud at the end of each semester.

## **Schedule Changes**

A student can drop a class and replace it with a different class within the first 5 days of the course's start date. A student cannot change to a different section of the same course. After the first 5 days of the school year, all level changes must receive approval from the classroom teacher and Department Chair. A student can drop a class and replace it with a Study Hall within the first 10 days of the course's start date.

## **Semester Final Exam Exemption (Seniors Only)**

Seniors earning 90% or higher for the semester are exempt from taking that semester's final exam.

This exemption does not apply to seniors enrolled in Advanced Placement, Dual Credit, and Brigham Young University courses. Senior students must be compliant with the PCHS attendance policy to exempt any finals. Any senior who exceeds the limit of 7 absences from any class in the semester will be required to take all semester exams. This applies to any absence except school sponsored absences, such as PCHS athletics or activities, Kairos, or food bank service visits.

## **Semester Grades**

Semester grades reflect the numerical average of all quizzes, tests, papers, and other assignments completed for that semester. All assignments included in the grade must receive a numerical equivalent. Numerical grades should be based on a system of 100 points. The relative weight of each assignment is at the teacher's discretion. Student work may be weighted differently, such as quizzes versus exams, but should be based on the decimal system. Semester grades are a combination of semester coursework grades and the semester final examination. The impact of the final exam on the semester grade shall be no greater than twenty percent.

## **Study Skills within the College Preparatory Program**

Providence Catholic High School believes all students can learn. We welcome and assist students who need additional preparation to master our college preparatory program.

Our Summer Study Skills Program is an essential part of the preparation for students who need help with basic skills. Incoming freshmen who score at or below the thirtieth percentile on the placement test are strongly encouraged to attend a three-week program which concentrates on improving study habits as well as skills in reading, literature, writing, and basic math. Summer classes feature small class sizes for more individualized attention. At the completion of this program, each student's placement is reviewed and may be adjusted accordingly.

For those students who would benefit from further study skills assistance, freshman year English Extension and Algebra Extension are offered to meet those needs. The goal of extension courses

is to bring students to a level of skill where they can successfully complete a college preparatory program.

## **Tutoring Center**

The Providence Catholic High School Tutoring Center provides academic support and tutorial services to students, while equipping them with the skills needed to be successful, independent, life-long learners. The Tutoring Center is staffed by Providence Catholic teachers. The Tutoring Center and is open to students during the school day, before school from 7:05 a.m. – 7:50 a.m., after school Monday – Thursday from 2:50 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Math and English tutors are also available during Flex periods by appointment in their classrooms.

The Tutoring Center is staffed by teachers in a variety of content areas. The Tutoring Center is available for students to drop in with questions. Services include writing revisions, test preparation, and concept review. When students drop in, they should come prepared with specific questions/topics to discuss. No appointment is needed.

## **Valedictorian/Salutatorian**

The student(s) will be declared valedictorian who, at the end of seven semesters:

1. has taken a minimum of 20 weighted courses and has never taken a study hall.
2. has the highest GPA.
3. has received all credits at PCHS.

The student(s) will be declared salutatorian who, at the end of seven semesters:

1. has taken a minimum of 20 weighted courses and has never taken a study hall.
2. has the second highest GPA.
3. has received all credits at PCHS.

## **Outside Reading Program**

Providence Catholic High School provides a college preparatory curriculum designed to prepare students for the academic demands of higher education. Through outside reading assignments, students develop important skills such as time management, independent thinking, and critical analysis. These assignments often align with recommended college reading lists and challenge students to engage with a variety of perspectives, including works by minority authors and those addressing important social, moral, and cultural issues. The goal is to foster independent thought, lifelong learning, and a deeper understanding of literature and the broader world.

The outside reading curriculum also supports the Augustinian values of Truth, Unity, and Love, integrating these principles into the students' academic growth. While some readings may present morally challenging content, these selections are not intended to endorse negative behaviors but to encourage thoughtful discussion and moral reflection. By engaging with different viewpoints, students are equipped to navigate a secular world with strong Catholic values and the ability to critically evaluate differing opinions. The ultimate aim is to prepare students for adulthood by fostering the intellectual and moral maturity necessary to face complex societal issues.

# THE “A CALL TO SERVE” (A.C.T.S.) PROGRAM

The A Call To Serve Program (A.C.T.S.) is another opportunity for our students to practice our faith. The primary focus of A.C.T.S. is to bring the message of Jesus Christ to life by providing an experience of Christian service in the everyday world. By virtue of our baptism, we are not just passive members of Christ's body; we are also called to serve. Because PCHS takes community service so seriously, the following obligations are a graduation requirement. Details for the A.C.T.S. Program can be found on the PCHS website.

**Seniors** are responsible for 25 hours of volunteer service and a conversation with the Senior A.C.T.S. Coordinator upon completion of their hours. The hours may be accomplished by service for PCHS (up to 10 hours), for their church, or for any legitimate community charity (approved in advance by the Senior A.C.T.S. Coordinator). Failure to complete these requirements by the ACTS hour deadline will result in a detention. Diplomas and transcripts will be withheld until the requirements are completed.

**Senior A.C.T.S. Coordinator:** Mr. Kevin Oliver, [koliver@providencecatholic.org](mailto:koliver@providencecatholic.org)

**Juniors** are responsible for 15 hours of volunteer service plus a reflection paper. The hours may be accomplished by service for PCHS (up to 7 hours), for their church or for any legitimate community charity (approved in advance by the Junior A.C.T.S. Coordinator). Failure to complete either requirement by the ACTS hour deadline will result in a detention and not advancing to the next grade until the requirement is completed.

**Junior A.C.T.S. Coordinator:** Mr. Titus Thompson, [tmthompson@providencecatholic.org](mailto:tmthompson@providencecatholic.org)

**Sophomores** are responsible for 10 hours of volunteer service plus a reflection paper. The hours may be accomplished by service for PCHS (up to 5 hours), for their church or for any legitimate community charity (approved in advance by the Sophomore A.C.T.S. Coordinator). Failure to complete either requirement by the ACTS hour deadline will result in a detention and not advancing to the next grade until the requirement is completed.

**Sophomore A.C.T.S. Coordinator:** Mrs. Amy Potempa, [apotempa@providencecatholic.org](mailto:apotempa@providencecatholic.org)

**Freshmen** are responsible for 10 hours of volunteer service and a reflection paper. The hours may be accomplished by service at their home, for their church, for PCHS (up to 5 hours) or for any legitimate community charity (approved in advance by the Freshman A.C.T.S. Coordinator). Failure to complete either requirement by the ACTS hour deadline will result in a detention and not advancing to the next grade until the requirement is completed.

**Freshman A.C.T.S. Coordinator:** Mr. Anthony Nuccio, [anuccio@providencecatholic.org](mailto:anuccio@providencecatholic.org)

# **COMPUTER SCIENCE & APPLICATIONS DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Mrs. Rosanne Grigoletti - [rgrigoletti@providencecatholic.org](mailto:rgrigoletti@providencecatholic.org)

## **Department Philosophy**

The Computer Science & Applications Department strives to equip students with knowledge, abilities and values that will enable them to live productively in an increasingly complex world. Through their experiences in the CSA classes, students will learn to use personal computers and devices effectively and intelligently. Through their coursework, they will strengthen creativity and problem-solving skills. CSA students will become proficient in the technology skills needed for success in their personal lives and all academic disciplines and careers.

The CSA Department offers courses in the following categories: personal productivity, digital marketing, and computer programming.

## **Dual Credit**

In total, our courses create a robust college-level curriculum. Not only do we offer AP Computer Science options, but other CSA courses are eligible for dual credit through Moraine Valley Community College. There is an additional, nominal fee. Dual credit allows the student to earn college credit while simultaneously earning high school credit here at Providence Catholic. These credits can fulfill general education and career course requirements towards a college degree, no matter what field the student chooses to study.

If the student earns a grade of C or better, he/she will earn 3 hours of college credit per course, in addition to the high school credit. This college credit is accepted by Illinois public universities as well as others across the country. For more information, please visit our department page on the PCHS website.

## **Course Offerings**

The Computer Science & Applications Department curriculum was developed using the Computer Science Teachers Association Standards.

<b>Freshman Year</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Senior Year</b>
Digital Marketing Intro to Technology Intro to Programming Robotics	AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles Digital Marketing Intro to Programming Robotics	AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles Digital Marketing Intro to Programming Robotics	AP Computer Science A AP Computer Science Principles Digital Marketing Intro to Programming Robotics

## **Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **INTRODUCTION TO TECHNOLOGY (Grade: 9) REQUIRED**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

Eligible for Dual Credit

This course will provide students with technology skills necessary for success in high school and the next level of study. Students will master skills for researching, problem-solving, and presentation. Most of the Introduction to Technology course curriculum is designed to develop the integrated productivity application skills required for the completion of personal and business projects using the Microsoft 365 Suite. Projects utilize fundamental techniques of word processing, spreadsheet and database management, and presentation graphics software, as well as operating systems and file management skills. Accompanying the technical curricula are rich learning objectives reflective of professional fields such as marketing, advertising, engineering, and graphic design. Beyond their work in Office 365 applications, students will take on challenging activities and projects in programming, coding, augmented and virtual realities and software development.

### **ROBOTICS (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Technology

**Course Fee Applicable**

In this course, students will be building robots from kits. They will be testing, wiring and programming them using components of robotics kits (nuts, bolts, batteries, and motors) and basic tools (wrenches, screwdrivers, drills). After the first build is complete, they will modify the robot for specific tasks; this iteration and redesign process continues throughout the semester. By the end of the course, students will have built and modified functioning robots that perform tasks according to detailed specifications. This is a project-based course with cross-curricular content in physical science, language arts, communication and more. Project management skills and engineering design thinking are heavily interwoven.

Students will primarily work in groups of three, rotating roles and duties so that they learn all aspects of robotics. Grades will be based on students' individual engineering notebooks as well as group work.

### **DIGITAL MARKETING (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Technology

**Course Fee Applicable**

This dynamic semester-long class is designed for students who are ready to explore digital marketing and its global impact. Digital Marketing provides students with an understanding of the fundamentals needed to build a clear, cooperative, communication strategy for business by strategically aligning the essential elements of digital products. Throughout the class, students will dive into essential topics such as social media marketing, website development, digital

content, and online advertising. Students will learn how to create and edit still images, video/animations, basic web sites, and social media content. As they do so, they will examine and evaluate the current use of multimedia with respect to marketing and advertising.

The course combines theoretical knowledge with hands-on projects, equipping students with practical skills to thrive in the digital landscape. By the end of the semester, students will have a solid foundation in digital marketing principles, empowering them to navigate and contribute to the evolving realm of online promotion. The course will be beneficial for students who want to enter a variety of fields: business, advertising, marketing, public relations, visual arts, and digital media and design. It is also a good precursor to the INCubator course, which students can take during their Senior year.

### **INTRODUCTION TO PROGRAMMING (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Technology

This course uses multiple programming languages to teach students introductory concepts common to all coding languages: algorithms, program design, data structures, conditions, looping, arrays, functions, data input/output, and methods. Students will code small-scale programs as part of preparation for the AP Computer Science course. It is a great introductory coding course in which students can dig deeper into programming while improving their analytical and systematic thinking. These valuable problem-solving skills that can be applied to other academic disciplines. No prior programming experience is necessary.

### **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Grade of B- or better in Introduction to Computer Programming or in AP Computer Science Principles

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

This college-level course will prepare students for programming at the next level. Students will use Java to learn advance coding concepts such as object-oriented design, abstract classes, arrays, array lists, methods, advanced strings, inheritance, searching & sorting, algorithm design and program testing. Students will code large-scale interactive grid games; previous AP students have developed games like Tetris, Minesweeper, Connect Four, Worm, Centipede and original games. This class is highly recommended for students interested in studying computer science, engineering and related fields at the college level.

**Exam:** The AP Computer Science A Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (Grades 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Pre-Requisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Technology and grade of C- or better in Algebra 1

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

AP Computer Science Principles is an introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Although programming is a part of this course, it is just one of the five *Big Ideas* this course covers:

- Creative Development
- Data
- Algorithms and Programming
- Computer Systems and Networks
- Impact of Computing

Students will learn to design and evaluate solutions and apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They will incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also will learn how computing innovations and computing systems, including the internet, work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

**Exam:** The AP Computer Science Principles Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Mrs. Val Stoub - [vstoub@providencecatholic.org](mailto:vstoub@providencecatholic.org)

### **Department Philosophy**

The department teaches every student the correct and effective use of language, both oral and written. The department teaches literature with an emphasis on literary terms and analysis. The English program balances the study of literature with language by incorporating composition, vocabulary, listening and speaking skills to the curriculum.

### **Course Offerings**

The English Department curriculum was developed using Common Core Standards.

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
English 1 Academic English 1 Academic Extension English 1 English 1 Honors	English 2 Academic English 2 English 2 Honors	AP English Lang. & Comp. English 3 English 3 Honors Speech Communication	AP English Lit. & Comp. English 4 English 4 Honors Speech Communication



## **Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **ENGLISH 1 ACADEMIC (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

English 1 Academic is a course that includes study skills, intensive grammar study, literary analysis, and multi-paragraph writing. Foundational skills will be emphasized in this course while scaffolding activities to move to higher-level analysis and writing. Study skills are reinforced with a focus on organization, note-taking, and annotation. Grammar concepts will be reviewed with direct instruction and reinforced through application in writing. In literature, students learn and apply literary terms to their study of novels, short stories, poetry, and drama. Students will also write multi-paragraph essays with defensible thesis statements and clear supporting evidence.

### **ENGLISH 1 ACADEMIC EXTENSION (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 0 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Placement based on HSPT scores and/or teacher recommendation

The English 1 Academic Extension Period offers support to select English 1 Academic students. Students will complete additional guided practices to complement the reading and writing skills taught in their English class. Students will use a variety of reading strategies to increase reading comprehension, especially as related to full-length novels and plays. Students will also focus on prewriting, drafting, and revision of the multi-paragraph essay, addressing grammar as needed within the context of writing. The English 1 Academic Extension Period is designed to give freshmen a strong foundation in reading and writing to prepare them for the rigors of the sophomore curriculum.

### **ENGLISH 1 (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

English 1 includes grammar study, literary analysis, and multi-paragraph writing. Grammar concepts will be reinforced through differentiated practice and application in writing. In literature, students will learn and apply literary terms to their study of novels, short stories, poetry, and drama. Strong emphasis is given to the five-paragraph essay, stressing defensible thesis statements and clear supporting evidence.

### **ENGLISH 1 HONORS (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Placement based on HSPT scores and teacher recommendation

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

English 1 Honors includes in-depth literary study and multi-paragraph writing. In literature, students will analyze novels, short stories, poetry, and drama with a focus on concepts such as the author's purpose, technique, and theme. Strong emphasis is given to the five-paragraph essay, stressing defensible thesis statements and clear supporting evidence. Selected outside readings of classical literature are also required. Students are expected to read, discuss, and interpret the readings with maturity and independence. Students in this course should be comfortable working independently and should have mastered grammar and fundamental writing skills in junior high.

### **ENGLISH 2 ACADEMIC (Grade: 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

English 2 Academic is a course that reinforces study skills and combines the study of traditional grammar and literature. In grammar, students review parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation, and usage in a differentiated manner. These skills are reinforced in multi-paragraph writing, including research development and writing through intense teacher-led differentiated instruction. Students will learn and apply MLA format to the research paper project, including the development of a thesis statement, note-taking skills, in-text citations, and a works cited page. In literature, students will apply knowledge of literary terminology and devices while reading and studying novels, short stories, non-fiction essays, drama, and poetry.

### **ENGLISH 2 (Grade: 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

In English 2, students will study grammar, composition, and literature. In grammar, students review the parts of speech, capitalization and punctuation, and usage. Techniques in composition are practiced using themes taken from literature, which include short stories, poetry, drama, and novel study. Students will complete at least one MLA research paper project focusing on research methods, thesis statement development, note-taking strategies, and correct MLA citations.

### **ENGLISH 2 HONORS (Grade: 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English 1 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or English 1 with minimum semester grades of A, or consent of the Department Chairperson

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

In English 2 Honors, students will focus on literary analysis and expository writing. Techniques in composition are practiced, often using themes taken from literature. Students will read several novels independently, in addition to the required literature study of short stories, poetry, and drama. Students will complete at least one MLA research paper project focusing on research methods, thesis statement development, note-taking strategies, and correct MLA citations.

**ENGLISH 3 (Grade: 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable; Class Textbook Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

In this course, students study a diverse selection of American authors. This is a chronological historical approach, beginning with Native American myths and legends and ending with twenty-first-century authors. Students study literary terms, trends, and genres while making connections to the time period. Essay opportunities (definition, persuasion, and comparison/contrast) are generated either from literature books or novels. Each junior will write at least one research-based paper. Grammar and writing skills will be reviewed in preparation for the ACT.

**ENGLISH 3 HONORS (Grade: 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English 2 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or English 2 with minimum semester grades of A, or consent of the Department Chairperson

**IXL Subscription Fee Applicable; Class Textbook Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

In this course, students study a diverse selection of American authors. This is a chronological historical approach, beginning with Native American myths and legends and ending with twenty-first-century authors. Literary terms, trends, and genres are discussed and analyzed. In addition, students will read several novels independently. Essay opportunities (definition, persuasion, comparison/contrast) are generated either from literature books or novels. Each junior will write at least one research-based paper. Grammar and writing skills will be reviewed in preparation for the ACT.

**ENGLISH 4 (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Class Textbook Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is a survey of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twentieth century. First, the background history of the time period is presented. The students are asked to use critical thinking to see how the literature studied reflects both the historical context in which it was written (political, social, and/or religious) and the author's life. Students also make connections between the literature and the present day. The writing curriculum continues; senior students write a cause-effect and a persuasion essay. They produce one research-based paper.

**ENGLISH 4 HONORS (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English 3 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or English 3 with minimum semester grades of A, or consent of the Department Chairperson

**Class Textbook Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is a survey of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twentieth century. First, the background history of the time period is presented. The students are asked to use critical thinking

to see how the literature studied reflects both the historical context in which it was written (political, social, and/or religious) and the author's life. Students also make connections between the literature and the present day. Students write a cause-effect and a research-based persuasion essay. In addition, they write various in-class essays and read several full-length works independently.

### **SPEECH COMMUNICATION (Grade: 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Speech Communication is a two-way process. Effective speaking and listening skills involving critical thinking will be taught. Students will be expected to master the principles involved in selecting, organizing, outlining, introducing, developing and concluding a speech. They will also learn to use clear, effective language and develop the skills of poise, confidence and self-control. These goals will be accomplished through the preparation and presentation of various speaking opportunities in the classroom.

### **AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION (Grade: 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English 2 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or consent of the Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100; **IXL Subscription:** \$12.00

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is reading intensive. Students study a diverse selection of American authors with a concentrated focus on nonfiction texts from many disciplines and historical periods. Students in AP English Language and Composition read closely and actively. Students will read widely and reflect on their reading through extensive discussion, writing, and rewriting. The works taught in the course require students to analyze, interpret, identify, and explain authors' use of rhetorical strategies, techniques, and elements of rhetoric.

AP Language and Composition is writing-intensive and research-intensive with a focus on synthesis, rhetorical analysis, and argumentation. This course enables students to read complex texts with understanding and write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. The emphasis is on content, purpose, and audience with a focus on the organization of students' writing. Students are offered additional instruction in argumentation and are taught the skills of synthesizing, summarizing, paraphrasing, quoting, and citing secondary source material. Students write in both informal and formal contexts to gain authority and learn to take risks in writing.

**Exam:** The AP English Language and Composition Exam is a required component of the class.

The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at

<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English 3 Honors or AP Language & Composition with minimum semester grades of B, consent of the Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course includes British literature from the Anglo-Saxon period to the twentieth century as well as other AP level selections. Students in AP English Literature and Composition read actively. The works taught in the course require careful, deliberate reading, and the approach to analyzing and interpreting the material involves students in learning how to make careful observations of textual detail, establish connections among their observations, and draw a series of inferences leading to an interpretive conclusion about a piece of writing's meaning and value. Knowledge of specific literary devices is also applied to literature analysis. Students use critical thinking to evaluate the literature using a variety of perspectives based on different approaches to literary criticism.

The course is writing-intensive with a focus on argumentation, analysis, and synthesis. Students write one research paper on a literary topic. Although critical analysis makes up the bulk of student writing for the course, well-constructed creative writing assignments may help students see from the inside how literature is written. Such experiences sharpen their understanding of what writers have accomplished and deepen their appreciation of literary artistry. The goal of both types of writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works and why they interpret them as they do.

**Exam:** The AP English Literature Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Mrs. Rosanne Grigoletti - [rgrigoletti@providencecatholic.org](mailto:rgrigoletti@providencecatholic.org)

### **Department Philosophy**

People are evaluated by their ability to communicate their thoughts, ideas and feelings. The Fine Arts Department teaches students the fundamentals of self-expression and creativity. It provides an avenue for the development of the aesthetic potential of the student and a means of achieving emotional satisfaction and fulfillment in an artistic experience. Sensitivity to aesthetics illuminates an individual's environment, everyday life experiences, and innermost reflection on humane living.

### **Course Offerings**

The Art Department curriculum was developed using the Illinois Learning Standards. The Band and Choir curriculum were developed using the National Music Standards (NAfME) & National Choir Standards.

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Band Cadet Band Guitar 1 Beginning Choir Music Appreciation Drawing Intro to Art Painting 2-D Design	Band Band Honors Cadet Band Guitar 1 Beginning Choir Concert Choir Music Appreciation Drawing Intro to Art Painting 2-D Design	Band Band Honors Cadet Band Guitar 1 Beginning Choir Concert Choir Honors Choir AP Music Theory Music Appreciation Drawing Intro to Art Painting Studio 2-D Design	Band Band Honors Guitar 1 Beginning Choir Concert Choir Honors Choir AP Music Theory Music Appreciation AP 2-D Design AP Drawing Drawing Intro to Art Painting Studio 2-D Design

## **Course Descriptions & Requirements: Visual Arts**

### **INTRODUCTION TO ART (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course offers a "hands-on" introduction to the visual arts for the beginning student. The course is based upon the fundamental elements of art. Basic techniques and materials in drawing, painting, color theory, and sculpture are presented. An appreciation of art is developed through the application of a variety of experiences. Artistic terminology is emphasized within the course. An array of artistic and movements in Art will be incorporated throughout the course.

### **2-D DESIGN (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Art

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course is a creative "hands-on" approach to the study of two-dimensional design. Students will experience a variety of materials and techniques while being introduced to the areas of graphic design, interior design, architectural design, typography, calligraphy, and animation.

### **DRAWING (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Art

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course introduces the student to several techniques and materials used in drawing. Perspective, still life, portraiture, and figure drawing will be incorporated. An emphasis on observation and composition will be made throughout the course. Materials to be used will include pen and ink, scratchboard, charcoal, pastel, craypa, colored pencil and graphite.

### **PAINTING (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Art

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course introduces the student to the concepts and materials of painting. A variety of painting media will be explored in realistic, abstract, and non-objective paintings. Watercolor, tempera paints and acrylic paints will be used.

### **STUDIO (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Introduction to Art and at least two additional art courses with a minimum grade of C-, or consent of instructor

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course is an advanced art class that is designed to prepare students for AP Art & Design. The major objective of this course is to create a portfolio suitable for admission into a visual arts program. Students will work in a variety of media and techniques. Observational drawing will be strongly emphasized throughout the course. A minimum of 1 semester of drawing prior to taking this course is strongly recommended. Each student is required to create a portfolio of 10-15 pieces.

### **AP ART & DESIGN (Grade: 11, 12)**

The AP Art & Design courses are designed for the highly motivated junior or senior interested in the serious study of art. To succeed in this course, the student must be willing to put in hours of work outside of the classroom. Students must prepare a portfolio and complete all requirements. In May, the portfolios are sent to be judged for Advanced Placement college credit. A summer assignment will be required.

**The instructional goals of the AP Art & Design Program can be described as follows:**

- Encourage creative investigation of formal and conceptual issues.
- Emphasize making art as an ongoing process that involves the student in informed and critical decision making.
- Help students develop technical skills and familiarize them with the functions of the visual elements.
- Encourage students to become independent thinkers who will contribute inventively and critically to their culture through the making of art.

**Portfolio in lieu of exam:** The portfolio is sent digitally to the College Board and is graded in lieu of an exam.

**There are two AP Art & Design options for junior and senior students:**

**AP ART & DESIGN: DRAWING (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Grade of B- or higher in Studio and consent of instructor

**Course Fee Applicable**

**AP Exam Fee:** \$100

**AP ART & DESIGN: TWO-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Grade of B- or higher in Studio and consent of instructor

**Course Fee Applicable**

**AP Exam Fee:** \$100

**Course Descriptions & Requirements: Performing Arts****CADET BAND (Grade: 9, 10, 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course is designed for the musician who is new to high school band. The student studies the mechanics of the instrument, basic playing techniques, performance approach, and pedagogical skills. The course expands the musician's knowledge and execution of technical skills, intonation, tone quality, and ensemble performance. All levels of band begin with the Marching Band season in late July. When the school year begins in August, the Concert Band and Marching Band seasons run concurrently through the end of October until the Marching season concludes. Pep Band is also part of the requirements for all band members. Daily rehearsals include full band and sectional rehearsals during school and after school. All band members are required to participate in all band performances as well as attend the full band camp at the end of the summer.

**BAND (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Cadet Band and consent of instructor

**Course Fee Applicable**

Band is designed for individual and group work for students who wish to pursue instrumental music throughout high school. The student studies the mechanics of the instrument, high school level playing techniques, performance approach, and pedagogical skills. The course expands the musician's knowledge and execution of technical skills, intonation, tone quality, and ensemble performance. All levels of band begin with the Marching Band season in late July. When the school year begins in August, the Concert Band and Marching Band seasons run concurrently through the end of October until the Marching season concludes. Pep Band is also part of the requirements for all band members. Daily rehearsals include full band and sectional rehearsals during school and after school. All band members are required to participate in all band performances as well as attend the full band camp at the end of the summer.



### **BAND HONORS (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in either Band or Cadet Band and consent of instructor

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course includes all requirements for Band. To be eligible for honors credit, students must fulfill certain criteria and be given express recommendation from the director to enroll in the class.

- Students must have completed a full year of Band or Cadet Band.
- Students are expected to serve as the instrumental music liaison for the program into the community. This entails performing at various community events such as holiday Masses, video recording, etc. Students can expect these types of opportunities to occur one or two times each semester.
- Students are required to prepare the Illinois Music Educators Association (ILMEA) All-District Audition material, perform the material for the director, and they also must take the ILMEA District 1 Audition at the host school in the fall. If students make it in to either All-District or All-State, they are required to participate in those prestigious festivals.
- Students are also required to participate in the IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest in the spring. The student will prepare a "Solo" work for their primary band class instrument that should be accompanied by a pianist. Students are welcomed and encouraged to prepare an "Ensemble" work as well, but a Solo for their primary band instrument is required for Honors credit.

### **GUITAR 1 (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 semester; 1/2 credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

Guitar 1 is for students at every ability level of guitar playing. Whether a student has never picked up a guitar or has been playing for years, this course is designed to teach students how to read music for guitar, follow chord progressions, improvise using the guitar, perform as part of an ensemble, and more. Students will also have an opportunity to create original music using music theory knowledge and guitar performance skills they have acquired during the course. No prior experience is needed. Each student needs to supply his/her own guitar.

### **SINGING CELTICS BEGINNING CHOIR (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course is designed for students who cannot read music, and/or have little or no experience in choir. Students will learn how to read music notation at a Novice level. Work in solfege for sight-singing and vocal tonal skills (scales and chords) will begin. Introduction of good vocal health and vocal technique standards. Students will participate in Masses, Concerts and Competitions.

In accordance with the NAFME national standards, students will gain the ability to demonstrate the following skills:

- Attention to technical accuracy and expressive qualities in prepared and improvised performances of a varied repertoire of music representing diverse cultures and styles.
- An understanding of the context of the music through prepared and improvised performances.
- Use music reading skills where appropriate, learn how the setting and formal characteristics of musical works contribute to understanding the context of the music in prepared or improvised performances; learn how interests, knowledge, and skills relate to personal choices and intent when creating, performing and responding to music.

In addition, students will:

- Develop strategies to address technical challenges in a varied repertoire of music and evaluate their success using feedback from ensemble peers and other sources to refine performances.
- Identify and support interpretations of the expressive intent and meaning of musical works, citing as evidence the treatment of the elements of music, contexts and (when appropriate) the setting of the text.
- Learn to explain the influence of experiences, analysis, and context on interest in the evaluation of music.

### **SINGING CELTICS CONCERT CHOIR (Grade 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit or 2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better in Beginning Choir or audition and Proficiency Exam

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course is designed for those students who have some experience in choir and who can read music. Students will continue their work in vocal production/technique skills; music theory, sight-singing and ear-training; and musical expression and performance skills. Through folk, popular, classical, Broadway, sacred and secular music, the student will apply these principles. All choir members are required to participate in all choir performances and Masses.

### **SINGING CELTICS HONORS CHOIR (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Grade of C- or better for both semesters of a full year of Concert Choir or audition and Proficiency Exam

**Course Fee Applicable**

Students wishing to pursue the Honors tract of the Singing Celtics Choir must have been enrolled in Concert Choir for a full year and passed the prerequisites. A more advance and serious training of Honor

students will include advanced theory assignments and sight singing. Honors Choir students must audition for ILMEA District 1 Choir in October and participate in IHSA Solo and Ensemble competition in March, and Jazzy Spaghetti in May as well as Masses and concerts in which the Singing Celtics sing.

## **MUSIC APPRECIATION (Grade 9, 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

Students will be introduced to the basic elements of music including rhythm, harmony, melody, texture and form -- with musical illustrations from various styles, genres and eras. Topics covered may include: the elements of music, music from the Middle Ages, Renaissance Styles, Baroque Styles, Classical Era, the age of Romanticism, 20th Century Techniques, Jazz, Film Music and more. This course will make connections between music and society throughout the ages. This course will also introduce students to compositional techniques (writing music) as well as technologies used to create their own music. No prerequisite or prior musical experience is necessary to enroll in this class.

## **AP MUSIC THEORY (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Ability to read music at the high school level, and consent of instructor

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

This course is designed for the student who wants to complete studies at the secondary level that would be equivalent to the Introductory Music Theory course at the college level. The student will be introduced to basic chord structure, harmonic and rhythmic analysis, aural training, and composition. The student will be exposed to several styles of Western music.

The goal of this course is to develop the student's ability to recognize, understand and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score. These goals will be achieved by addressing fundamental aural, analytical and compositional skills using listening and written exercises. This course will include the harmonization of a melody while selecting appropriate chords, composition of a musical bass line to provide two-voice counterpoint, and the realization of figured-bass notation.

The AP Exam in Music Theory tests the student's understanding of musical structure and compositional procedures through recorded and notated examples. Strong emphasis is given to listening skills, particularly those involving recognition and comprehension of melodic and rhythmic patterns, harmonic functions, small forms, and compositional techniques. Most of the musical examples are taken from standard repertoire, although some examples of contemporary, jazz, vernacular music or music beyond the Western tradition are included for testing basic concepts. The exam assumes fluency in reading musical notation and a strong grounding in music fundamentals, terminology, and analysis.

**Exam:** The AP Music Theory Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

# **MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Mrs. Jamie Walker - jawalker@providencecatholic.org

## **Department Philosophy**

The Mathematics Department provides experiences and opportunities that will enable students to realize their mathematical potential. To this end, a varied curriculum promotes the mathematical growth of the student through the knowledge of computation, logical thinking, and problem solving. The result should be a student who will develop an attitude of enjoyment, challenge, and satisfaction toward mathematics.

## **Dual Credit**

Dual Credit together, our courses create a robust college-level curriculum. Not only do we offer AP Calculus AB and BC, AP Pre-Calculus and AP Statistics courses, but Algebra 2 Honors and AP Calculus AB and BC are eligible for dual credit through Moraine Valley Community College for an additional, nominal fee. Dual credit allows the student to earn college credit while simultaneously earning high school credit here at Providence Catholic. These credits can fulfill general education and career course requirements towards your college degree, no matter what field you choose to study.

If the student earns a grade of C or better, he/she will earn 3 hours of college credit, in addition to the high school credit. This college credit is accepted by Illinois public universities as well as others across the country. For more information, please visit our department page on the PCHS website.

## **Math Department Calculator Policy**

Students enrolled in mathematics courses are required to have a Texas Instrument Nspire calculator (TI-Nspire CX II or TI-Nspire CX). Students are not allowed to play games on their calculator at any time during the school day. Using stored information for class work not specifically approved by the teacher will be considered cheating.

If a TI-Nspire calculator is to be used during quizzes or exams, the student must place the calculator in "press to test" mode. Once the students have completed the quiz/exam, students can use cables to take their calculator out of "press to test" mode with the help of a calculator not in that mode.

CAS models (TI-Nspire CX CAS or TI-Nspire CX II CAS) are not allowed for use in mathematics courses.

## **Course Offerings**

The Mathematics Department curriculum was developed using Common Core Standards.

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Algebra 1 Academic Algebra 1 Academic Extension Algebra 1 Algebra 1 Honors Algebra 2 Honors Geometry Honors	Algebra 2 Honors Geometry Geometry Honors	AP Statistics AP Precalculus Algebra 2 Algebra 2 Honors Precalculus	Advanced Topics/Trigonometry AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Precalculus AP Statistics Calculus Honors w/ Business Apps Precalculus Statistics

## **Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **ALGEBRA 1 ACADEMIC (Grade: 9)**

2 semesters; 1 credit

Placement based on HSPT scores and/or teacher recommendation

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course offers fundamental algebra with an emphasis on the structure of the number system. Basic algebraic properties are introduced and used for the following topics: solving and graphing equations, inequalities, polynomial and rational expressions, linear equations, systems of equations, relations, and functions. Students are provided with additional instruction and guided practice with an emphasis on foundational skills.

### **ALGEBRA 1 ACADEMIC EXTENSION (Grade: 9)**

2 semesters; 0 Credit

Placement based on HSPT scores and/or teacher recommendation

The Algebra Extension offers support to select Algebra 1 Academic students. Students will have the opportunity to receive additional instruction, receive additional guided practice, and work in guided study groups to complement the mathematical skills taught in their Algebra 1 class. The Algebra Extension is designed to give students the proper interventions they need to be successful in their future math class.

### **ALGEBRA 1 (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

Placement based on HSPT scores and/or teacher recommendation

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course offers fundamental algebra with an emphasis on the structure of the number system. Basic algebraic properties are introduced and used for the following topics: solving and graphing equations, inequalities, polynomial and rational expressions, linear equations, systems of equations, relations and functions.

### **ALGEBRA 1 HONORS (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Placement based on HSPT scores, or teacher recommendation, or proficiency exam

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course builds a solid foundation of algebra skills and concepts. Topics include solving equalities and inequalities, polynomials, rational expressions, linear equations, systems of equations, relations, functions and graphing of functions. Technology in the form of graphing calculators and computers is used when applicable.

### **GEOMETRY HONORS (Grade: 9, 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 Honors with minimum semester grades of B-, or Algebra 1 with minimum semester grades of A, or consent of Department Chairperson, or proficiency exam

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is an in-depth study of geometry as a useful tool. Studies include: an introduction to geometry, basic concepts of geometry and proof, congruent triangles, lines in a plane, parallel lines and related figures, lines and planes in space, polygons, similarity, Pythagorean theorem, circles, areas, surface areas and volumes, coordinate geometry, locus and constructions, inequalities and enrichment topics. Higher level thinking skills will incorporate inductive and deductive reasoning.

### **GEOMETRY (Grade: 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 1

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course introduces geometric concepts such as congruency, similarity, parallel and perpendicular lines, polygons, circles, right triangles, area, volume, and coordinate geometry. Inductive and deductive reasoning are emphasized through the use of two-column proofs.

### **ALGEBRA 2 (Grade: 10, 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 1 and Geometry

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course reviews all of the topics of Algebra 1. Other course topics include complex numbers, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, matrix algebra, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions. Basic trigonometric topics are introduced.

### **ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY (Grade: 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 and Geometry with B- or higher

Algebra 2 with Trigonometry is a college-preparatory course designed for students planning to continue into Precalculus or AP Precalculus, particularly those interested in STEM pathways. The course deepens and extends topics from Algebra 1, with a focus on trigonometric functions, identities, and applications. Students will also explore conic sections and advanced concepts in

function analysis that build a strong foundation for calculus-track courses. This course emphasizes rigorous problem-solving, critical thinking, and preparation for higher-level mathematics.

### **ALGEBRA 2 HONORS (Grade: 9, 10, 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 1 Honors and Geometry Honors previously or concurrently with minimum

semester grades of B-, or minimum grades of A in Algebra 1 and Geometry, or consent of Department

Chairperson

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course quickly reviews all of the topics of Algebra 1. Other course topics include complex numbers, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, matrix algebra, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions. An introduction to trigonometry will follow with emphasis on trigonometric functions, graphs, identities and equations.

### **PRECALCULUS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 with minimum semester grades of B-

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is designed to prepare students to study Calculus in college. Emphasis is given to all phases of trigonometry. Topics that are covered include: matrices, determinants, sequences and series, conic sections, roots of higher ordered polynomial equations and functions including curve sketching.

### **ADVANCED TOPICS/TRIGONOMETRY (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 2 and Geometry

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is designed to strengthen concepts learned in Algebra 2, as well as introduce other advanced topics. Included are the following: trigonometric functions, graphs, identities, polynomials, exponential, rational and log functions, conic sections, sequence and series, and probability and statistics.

### **STATISTICS (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 with minimum semester grades of C-

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The course provides material at a slower pace and less in-depth content than the AP course. Students are not required to sit for the AP exam, but may choose to do so with additional independent study.

Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

- Exploring Data: Observing patterns and departures from patterns
- Planning a Study: Deciding what and how to measure
- Anticipating Patterns: Producing models using probability and simulation
- Statistical Inference: Confirming models

### **CALCULUS HONORS WITH BUSINESS APPLICATIONS (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** AP Pre-Calculus with minimum semester grades of B-, or Pre-Calculus with minimum semester grades of A, or consent of Department Chairperson

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is designed for the student who desires a rigorous course in Calculus with business-focused applications without being required to take the Calculus AB Advanced Placement Examination. Topics studied are derivatives and their applications, techniques of differentiation, exponential and natural logarithmic functions and their applications, the definite integral, trigonometric functions, techniques of integration, differential equations, probability, Taylor polynomials, and infinite series.

### **AP CALCULUS AB (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** AP Pre-Calculus with minimum grade of B-, or consent of Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

AP Calculus AB is designed for the student with a strong mathematics background. This course is equivalent to a first-year college calculus and analytic geometry course which includes topics on limits, derivatives, integrals, applications of elementary differentiation and integration, logarithmic and exponential functions.

In this class:

- Students will work with functions represented in a variety of ways: graphical, numerical, analytical, or verbal. They will demonstrate understanding of the connections among these representations.
- Students will state the meaning of the derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation and will be able to use derivatives to solve a variety of problems.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the meaning of the definite integral both as a limit of Riemann sums and as the net accumulation of change and should be able to use integrals to solve a variety of problems.
- Students should understand the relationship between the derivative and the definite integral as expressed in both parts of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.
- Students will communicate mathematics and explain solutions to problems both verbally and in written sentences.
- Students will model a written description of a physical situation with a function, a differential equation, or an integral.



- Students will use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions.
- Students will determine the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement.
- Students will develop an appreciation of calculus as a coherent body of knowledge and as a human accomplishment.

**Exam:** The AP Calculus AB Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP CALCULUS BC (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** AP Pre-Calculus with a minimum grade of B+, or consent of Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

AP Calculus BC is designed for the student with a strong mathematics background. This course is a full year college course in the calculus of functions of a single variable. It includes all topics taught in Calculus AB plus additional topics including parametric, polar, and vector functions, polynomial approximations, series, and advanced integration techniques.

In this class:

- Students will work with functions represented in a variety of ways: graphical, numerical, analytical, or verbal. They will demonstrate understanding of the connections among these representations.
- Students will state the meaning of the derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation and will be able to use derivatives to solve a variety of problems.
- Students will demonstrate understanding of the meaning of the definite integral both as a limit of Riemann sums and as the net accumulation of change, and should be able to use integrals to solve a variety of problems.
- Students should understand the relationship between the derivative and the definite integral as expressed in both parts of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.
- Students will communicate mathematics and explain solutions to problems both verbally and in written sentences.
- Students will model a written description of a physical situation with a function, a differential equation, or an integral.
- Students will use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions.
- Students will determine the reasonableness of solutions, including sign, size, relative accuracy, and units of measurement.
- Students will develop an appreciation of calculus as a coherent body of knowledge and as a human accomplishment.

**Exam:** The AP Calculus BC Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **AP PRECALCULUS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 Honors with minimum semester grades of B-, or minimum semester grades of A in Algebra 2, or consent of Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

AP Precalculus is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college precalculus course. AP Precalculus provides students with an understanding of the concepts of college algebra, trigonometry, and additional topics that prepare students for further college-level mathematics courses. This course explores a variety of function types and their applications—polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, polar, parametric, vector-valued, implicitly defined, and linear transformation functions using matrices.

In this class:

- Students will expand their understanding of rational and polynomial functions, focusing on modeling and rates of change.
- Students will discuss behavior and relationships between logarithmic and exponential functions, including composing functions and finding inverses.
- Students will model scenarios with logarithmic functions and data sets with exponential functions.
- Students will explore and model periodic phenomena using trigonometric functions, inverse trigonometric functions, and trigonometric identities.
- Students will graph functions using polar coordinates, describing changes in radii and angles, and use vectors to interpret the impact of transformation matrices.
- Students will model and analyze conic sections, exploring how quantities change in parametric functions.
- Students will explore matrix operations, determinants, and use matrices to solve systems of equations through augmented matrices and matrix inverses.
- Students will learn and apply arithmetic, geometric sequences, binomial theorem, permutation, and combinations, and construct probability models.
- Students will develop skills to find the limit, derivative, and integral of a function.

**Exam:** The AP Precalculus Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **AP STATISTICS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 Honors & Geometry Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or Algebra 1, Algebra 2, & Geometry with minimum semester grades of A, or consent of Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

**Approved NCAA Core Course**

Advanced Placement Statistics is designed for students with a desire to apply their strong math skills and is equivalent to a first-year college statistics course. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

1. **Exploratory analysis of data makes use of graphical and numerical techniques to study patterns and departures from patterns.** In examining distributions of data, students should be able to detect important characteristics, such as shape, location, variability, and unusual values. From careful observations of patterns in data, students can generate conjectures about relationships among variables. The notion of how one variable may be associated with another permeates almost all of statistics, from simple comparisons of proportions through linear regression.
2. **Data must be collected according to a well-developed plan if valid information is to be obtained.** If data are to be collected to provide an answer to a question of interest, a careful plan must be developed. Both the type of analysis that is appropriate and the nature of conclusions that can be drawn from that analysis depend in a critical way on how the data was collected. Collecting data in a reasonable way, through either sampling or experimentation, is an essential step in the data analysis process.
3. **Probability is the tool used for anticipating what the distribution of data should look like under a given model.** Random phenomena are not haphazard: they display an order that emerges only in the long run and is described by a distribution. The mathematical description of variation is central to statistics. The probability required for statistical inference is not primarily axiomatic or combinatorial but is oriented toward using probability distributions to describe data.
4. **Statistical inference guides the selection of appropriate models.** Models and data interact in statistical work: models are used to draw conclusions from data, while the data are allowed to criticize and even falsify the model through inferential and diagnostic methods. Inference from data can be thought of as the process of selecting a reasonable model, including a statement in probability language, of how confident one can be about the selection.

**Exam:** The AP Statistics Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

Chair: Mr. Keith Healy - khealy@providencecatholic.org

## **Department Philosophy**

Physical Education and Health provides an avenue for students to gain an understanding and appreciation of the importance of living and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Positive health and wellness development will be achieved through teaching the values of exercise, good nutrition, proper rest and hygiene. Students will also develop important attributes such as Christian values, teamwork, sportsmanship and self-discipline through team sports, fitness and lifelong physical activities.

## **Course Offerings**

The Physical Education curriculum was developed using the Illinois State Standards.

<b>Freshman Year</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Senior Year</b>
Physical Education Health	Co-Ed Physical Education Strength Training	Co-Ed Physical Education Sports Medicine Sports Officiating Strength Training	Co-Ed Physical Education Sports Medicine Sports Officiating Strength Training

## **Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Grade: 9)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

#### **Course Fee Applicable**

This course provides the student with the fundamental skills of various team and individual sports. The course offers knowledge of rules and scoring in those sports. Freshman physical education is separated into girls PE courses and boys PE courses.

### **HEALTH (Grade: 9)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

This course covers material on the mental, social, and physical aspects of health, with a focus on exercise and nutrition. Students will learn CPR. From a Catholic perspective, the student will also be presented with extensive material on alcohol, tobacco, drugs and communicable diseases.

The **VALUING VALUES PROGRAM** is an additional comprehensive sexuality component of the course. It expands on the content of basic sexual education in the context of values, relationships, and decision making in the Catholic tradition.

**CO-ED PHYSICAL EDUCATION (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit and/or 1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education

This course provides the student with advanced skills and strategies of various team and individual sports and activities. Fundamental skills and rules are also reviewed in each unit. This course may be taken for duplicate credit.

**SPORTS OFFICIATING (Grade 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit and/or 1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education

Students will learn the skills necessary to become a certified, IHSA official. Each semester will focus on sports available that season with fall semester being volleyball, flag football, basketball and soccer. Spring semester would include baseball/softball, wrestling, track and field, and cross country. The course will utilize IHSA rule books and develop assertiveness, self-confidence, and conflict resolution skills. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for the officiating certification in order to be eligible for officiating employment at community park districts, feeder schools, clubs, and with the IHSA. This course may be taken for duplicate credit if wanting to gain certification in additional sports.

**SPORTS MEDICINE (Grade: 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Minimum grade of B- in last science course

This course is appropriate for those students interested in Athletic Training, Physician's Assistant, Paramedic, Emergency Medical Technician, or another medical or paramedical field. Topics covered will include but not limited to anatomy, physiology, mechanisms or injury, evaluation, and rehabilitation of the athletic population. This is an elective (½ credit) physical education course that does not meet Providence Catholic High School's graduation requirement.

**COURSE REQUIREMENT:** One requirement of this course is to assist the Athletic Trainer with one practice a week and two home interscholastic athletic contests during the semester in which the course is taken. Athletes are advised against taking this course during the semester when their sport is in season.

**STRENGTH TRAINING (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Health & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Physical Education

This course provides students with the basic knowledge in the area of strength training, conditioning, and general fitness. The students will also understand how to navigate around the weight room, along with the use of proper warm-up/cool down, and conditioning for personal fitness. They will establish short- and – long-term goals which will promote lifelong healthy lifestyle.

# SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Chair: Mr. Michael Stenoish - mstenoish@providencecatholic.org

## Department Philosophy

The Science Department instills in each student an appreciation for science as a process to gain empirical truth about our universe. We build fundamental knowledge of foundational concepts concerning natural phenomena, while examining their cause and effect through discovery and questioning. Through collection of evidence in an discovery-based approach, students will gain scientific literacy through the integration of the scientific process of inquiry and valid suitable technology.

## Course Offerings

The Science Department curriculum was developed using the Next Generation Science Standards.

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
Biology Honors Laboratory Physical Science	CAD with 2-D Drafting 3-D Design & Modeling Anatomy & Physiology Biology Biology Honors Chemistry Chemistry Honors Engine Design & Operation Laboratory Physical Science	CAD with 2-D Drafting 3-D Design & Modeling AP Biology AP Chemistry Anatomy & Physiology Anatomy & Physiology Honors Chemistry Chemistry Honors Engine Design & Operation Engineering Concepts Physics Physics Honors	CAD with 2-D Drafting 3-D Design & Modeling AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics Anatomy & Physiology Anatomy & Physiology Honors Chemistry Chemistry Honors Engine Design & Operation Engineering Concepts Physics Physics Honors

## Course Descriptions & Requirements

### **LABORATORY PHYSICAL SCIENCE (Grade: 9, 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Laboratory Physical Science is a year-long laboratory exploration course designed to introduce students to scientific processes through development of mastery in foundational skills and content from the fields of Physics and Chemistry. Content will be delivered through guided inquiry, group discussion, and direct instruction to develop the students' ability to develop, evaluate and revise scientific claims.

**BIOLOGY HONORS (Grade: 9, 10)**

2 semesters; 1 credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Placement based on HSPT scores or a minimum of an A- in Laboratory Physical Science

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Biology Honors is an activity-driven, hands-on course aligned to NGSS standards and designed to prepare students for AP/College Level Biology. The Honors Biology curriculum is driven by story lining, a student-centered learning method that increases students' ownership over the course and their personal growth, that integrates the concepts of science within story lined units. This course is cyclical in nature, offers real-world phenomena, and revisits overarching concepts in different contexts throughout the entirety of the school year. Students will have multiple opportunities to transfer their critical thinking skills to new situations presented to them and become lifelong scientific learners.

**BIOLOGY (Grade: 10)**

2 semesters; 1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Laboratory Physical Science

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Biology is a standard driven and laboratory-based course aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards. This course employs story lining and modeling curriculum, which promotes students to interact with a phenomenon or solve biological problems throughout the course. Scientific practices and an inquiry-based methodology engage students in the study of life, including topics such as cellular structures and processes, ecosystem sciences and interactions, heredity, energy flow, cell division, foundational biochemistry, evolution and natural selection, and biodiversity. Biology will emphasize critical thinking, data interpretation and analysis, and writing skills through working both cooperatively and independently during classroom projects and labs.

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 semesters; 1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Biology or Biology Honors

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Anatomy and Physiology is a course that will enable students to develop an understanding of the relationships between the structures and functions of the human body. The curriculum provides a basis to develop a strong conceptual foundation of the main body systems, how they work together to provide homeostasis, and how these systems function in the healthy and diseased state. Students will integrate this knowledge through hands-on, inquiry-based activities and laboratory investigations.

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY HONORS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** A- in Biology AND Chemistry (Honors or Regular)

**Course Fee Applicable**

Honors Anatomy is an advanced high school course diving deep into the human body's structure (anatomy) and function (physiology). This course is designed for students planning on studying medical or healthcare pathways. Laboratory experience is provided and includes the study of each of the systems. Dissection is used as a scientific method to investigate anatomical structures. Students will be exposed to various fields of medicine through guest speakers, case studies and authentic experiences.

**CHEMISTRY (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Laboratory Physical Science or Biology or Biology Honors

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Chemistry is a year-long laboratory course designed to engage the students in foundational concepts in chemistry and to prepare them for advanced study in science. The skills and content explored include: thermodynamics, the periodic table and periodic trends, inorganic nomenclature, writing and balancing equations, bonding, stoichiometric relationships and their applications, and acids and bases. Content will be delivered through guided inquiry, group discussion and direct instruction.

**CHEMISTRY HONORS (Grades: 10, 11, 12)**

2 semesters; 1 credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Biology Honors with a minimum grade average of B-, or Biology with a minimum grade average of A-

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Honors Chemistry is a college preparatory class that covers the introductory topics of Chemistry at a more advanced level and requires proficiency in reading and math. It is recommended for students considering a career in science, healthcare, or engineering, and would also benefit students curious about science or environmental issues. This class will provide the skills needed for understanding science through analysis, critical thinking, and problem solving. Weekly lab activities to learn proper lab techniques and reinforce chemistry concepts through hands-on activities will be provided. Students will learn through guided inquiry, models, lab, lecture, cooperative learning, data collecting technology and computer simulations. This class will prepare students for the study of AP Chemistry. Topics studied include the elements, compounds,



nomenclature, the periodic table, writing, classifying and balancing chemical reactions, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, atomic structure and periodicity, gas laws and acids/bases.

### **CAD with 2-D DRAFTING HONORS (Grade 10, 11, 12)**

Fall semester; ½ credit; Weighted

**Course Fee Applicable**

This course is designed to introduce high school students to the fundamental concepts and skills required for creating precise and detailed two-dimensional technical drawings and designs. In today's technological landscape, CAD plays a crucial role in various industries including architecture, engineering, manufacturing, and graphic design. This course provides students with a strong foundation in 2-D CAD software and techniques, preparing them for future studies and potential careers in design-related fields. ***This course is an elective Science course and does not count towards the Laboratory Science Graduation requirement.***

### **3-D DESIGN AND MODELING HONORS (Grade 10, 11, 12)**

Spring semester; ½ credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of CAD with 2-D Drafting Honors

**Course Fee Applicable**

Introduction to 3D- Computer-Aided Design (CAD) is designed to introduce high school students to three-dimensional digital modeling and design. This course builds on the design skills introduced in 2-D design to develop interest in applications such as engineering, architecture, product design, and animation. 3-D Design and Modeling provides students essential skills and knowledge to create complex 3-D models, fostering creativity and problem-solving abilities essential for future studies and careers in design and engineering. ***This course is an elective Science course and does not count towards the Laboratory Science Graduation requirement.***

### **ENGINE DESIGN & OPERATION (Grade 10, 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

Engine Design and Operation offers a comprehensive introduction to engine mechanics, blending historical and theoretical knowledge with practical hands-on skills. The areas of study cover the full spectrum of engine systems, from the historical development of machines to modern innovations in fuel production and emissions control. Students will explore the theory behind engine operation, gain familiarity with crucial components like carburetors, ignition systems, and crankshafts, and disassemble both small and full size automobile engines within this course. ***This course is an elective Science course and does not count towards the Laboratory Science Graduation requirement.***

### **ENGINEERING CONCEPTS HONORS (Grade 11, 12)**

2 semesters; 1 credit; Weighted

**Course Fee Applicable**

### ***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Engineering Concepts is an introductory high school course designed to spark students' interest in the field of engineering and provide them with a solid foundation in the fundamental principles of engineering. This course will explore various engineering disciplines, problem-solving techniques, and hands-on projects to encourage students to think critically, creatively, and collaboratively. Throughout the course, students will gain a deeper understanding of the role of engineering in shaping our world and addressing complex global challenges. Additionally, this course will provide students with an initial understanding of the Engineering Process and various disciplines within the Engineering workplace. ***This course is an elective Science course and does not count towards the Laboratory Science Graduation requirement.***

### **PHYSICS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 semesters; 1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 with Trigonometry with a minimum grade of B- OR completion of Geometry Honors in 10th grade

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course provides the student with an understanding of the basic concepts of physics in areas such as kinematics, dynamics, energy, electrostatics, as well as an introduction to electrodynamics. The laboratory experiences are designed to be foundational inquiries to discover these basic concepts to be expanded upon through scientific discourse.

### **PHYSICS HONORS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 semesters; 1 credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Algebra 2 with Trigonometry with a minimum grade of A- OR Honors Geometry with a grade of B- in 10th grade

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course provides a rigorous and in-depth inquiry into the basic concepts in physics. The laboratory experiences are designed to be foundational inquiries to discover these basic concepts to be expounded upon through scientific discourse. This course provides a solid foundation in physics for those students entering college in any area of science including a strong foundation to be built upon in AP Physics C: Mechanics and AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism

### **AP BIOLOGY (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry/Honors Chemistry or Physics/Honors Physics with a minimum grade average of A-

**Course Fee Applicable; AP Exam Fee: \$100**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is equivalent to a first year, college-level Biology Course. The concepts included are:

1. The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.
2. Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce, and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.
3. Living systems store, retrieve, transmit, and respond to information essential to life process.
4. Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

Emphasis is on Scientific Inquiry. Students are required to take the Biology Advanced Placement Examination.

**Exam:** The AP Biology Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP CHEMISTRY (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Chemistry or Chemistry Honors with minimum grade of A-

**Course Fee Applicable; AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

AP Chemistry is a second-year chemistry course that will cover more advanced topics than those covered in the first-year chemistry course. The course is designed to enrich a student's knowledge of chemistry and should be considered by students desiring to major in science in college or considering a career in the medical field. The importance of the theoretical aspects of chemistry has brought about an increased emphasis on aspects of the content of general chemistry courses. Topics such as the structure of matter, molecular and ionic structure, bonding and intermolecular forces (IMF), acids and bases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, and thermodynamics are presented in this course. Lab experience will be included.

**Exam:** The AP Chemistry Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP PHYSICS C (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 semesters; 1 credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Physics/Honors Physics and AP Precalculus with minimum grades of A-

**Course Fee Applicable; AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is the introductory course of a college sequence that serves as the foundation for students who wish to major in physics or engineering. It is taken either after or at the same time as AP Calculus BC course. Methods learned in calculus are used when creating principles of physics and applying those principles. There is a strong emphasis on solving challenging problems relating to physics with a large focus on calculus. The course will be broken up into two semesters,

the first being the mechanics and the second being electricity and magnetism. This course will be treated very similarly to the college level course with strong emphasis on high level lab work. Students will be taking an AP exam for each semester for a total of two AP exams.

**AP Physics C: Mechanics** provides instructions in each of the following content areas: one dimensional motion, planar Motion, Newton's Laws, work/energy/power, impulse/momentum, rotation, angular momentum, gravitation, and simple harmonic motion.

**AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism** provides instructions in each of the following content areas: charge distribution, electric potential, capacitance, circuits, magnetic fields, induction, AC circuits, Maxwell's equations.

**Exams:** Two separate AP Physics Exams, one for each course, Mechanics and Electricity & Magnetism, are a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **SOCIAL SCIENCE & BUSINESS DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Mr. Joshua Ditzler - [jditzler@providencecatholic.org](mailto:jditzler@providencecatholic.org)

### **Department Philosophy**

#### **Social Science Philosophy**

The Social Sciences teach a process of analytical thinking, a comparison of past events with current situations, and an investigation into human behavior. Social Science classes teach students to make decisions based on factual data and conceptual analysis. The department develops in students an appreciation for and an understanding of the major themes, events, and schools of thought within the context of each of the Social Science courses.

#### **Business Philosophy**

Through business courses, students are instructed in developing skills consistent with the outside business world and develop skills necessary for future careers.

### **Course Offerings**

The Social Science & Business Department curriculum was developed using the Illinois State Standards.

Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
AP Business with Personal Finance AP European History AP US History Intro to Business US History	AP Business with Personal Finance AP European History AP Human Geography/ Regional World Studies AP US Government/	AP Business with Personal Finance AP European History AP Microeconomics AP Psychology

Western Civilization	American Government Economics INCubatoredu Intro to Business Macroeconomics Western Civilization	Economics INCubatoredu Intro to Business Macroeconomics Psychology Western Civilization
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## **Social Science Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **U.S. HISTORY (Grade: 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course develops an understanding and appreciation of the major themes and events effecting the development of the United States. A chronological approach covers North American colonization to the present with special emphasis on the development of the American Government and the impact of major political, military and economic events. The course incorporates various projects and activities that require library research, group work, presentations, the use of primary sources and debates in order to develop student skills in these areas. The course will guide students to an understanding of American History and the major events that have impacted it.

### **WESTERN CIVILIZATION (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course is designed to acquaint students with the general concepts and events important to the development of Western European history and its unique civilization. Special emphasis is placed on intellectual history, early democratic ideas, the Renaissance, the foundations of modern industrialization and technology, and the "isms" (nationalism, imperialism, etc.). The effects of the Western European political, economic, and military ideas on the rest of the world are also explored. Skill development such as note-taking, outlining, memorization, analysis and synthesis are explored.

### **AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (Grade: 11)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** U.S. History previously or concurrently

This course will familiarize students with the fundamentals and mechanics of American government, American political systems and institutions, and federal and state constitutions. Students will examine their rights and responsibilities as American citizens through the lens of

contemporary public issues. American Government examines law (with emphasis on the US Constitution), and how law guides our government and affects our everyday life. It examines the Presidency, Congress, the Judiciary, criminal law, court case studies, foreign policy, National Defense, state and local government, and meets the ISBE requirements for Civics and service learning.

### **REGIONAL WORLD STUDIES (Grade 11)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

Regional World Studies is an interdisciplinary class that focuses on specific geographical, national, or cultural regions of the world, analyzing their unique histories, cultures, politics, and economies. The course will use geographical, historical, and social science perspectives to understand a region's development and its interactions with other parts of the world.

### **PSYCHOLOGY (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

The Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental process of human beings. Students will be exposed to psychological facts and principles associated with each of the major sub fields of Psychology. They will also learn about ethics and methods psychologists use in their practice. The course incorporates small and large group discussions, group work and presentations to develop students' knowledge of the material.

### **AP U.S. HISTORY (Grade: 10)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or English with minimum semester grades of A

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

The AP U.S. History course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the topics and challenges in U.S. history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students should learn to assess historical materials—their relevance to a given interpretive problem, reliability, and importance—and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. An AP U.S. History course should thus develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format.

This course amplifies all topics covered in the standard U.S. History class, but at a far more accelerated rate comparable to that of a college course. There is increased emphasis on writing, reading, and research skills. Special attention is also given to the demands of the A.P. Exam, work

on database questions and multiple-choice items. The course goes from colonial times to the Reagan administration.

**Exam:** The AP U.S. History Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP U.S. GOVERNMENT & POLITICS (Grade: 11)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** All Social Sciences courses minimum semester grade of B, and all English Honors with a minimum semester grade of B or all English courses with minimum semester grade of A., or approval of Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

AP U.S. Government & Politics emphasizes an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. By interpreting United States politics and analyzing specific examples and issues, the course examines the institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute American politics. The major content areas include the constitutional foundations of American Government; political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups and mass media; institutions of the national government: the executive, legislative and judicial branches; public policy; civil rights and civil liberties.

**Exam:** The AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (Grade: 11)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** All Social Sciences courses minimum semester grade of B, and all English Honors with a minimum semester grade of B or all English courses with minimum semester grade of A., or approval of Department Chairperson.

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

This course introduces students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research and applications. The curriculum reflects the goals of the National Geography Standards.

**Exam:** The AP Human Geography Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP EUROPEAN HISTORY (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** All Social Sciences courses minimum semester grade of B, and all English Honors with a minimum semester grade of B or all English courses with minimum semester grade of A, or approval of Department Chairperson.

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of AP European History are to develop:

- An understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history.
- An ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation.
- An ability to express historical understanding in writing.

This course touches all the themes covered in the standard Western Civilization class but at a far more accelerated rate, a rate comparable to that of a college course. There is increased emphasis on writing and research skills, as well as more complex and extensive reading related to history and philosophy. A greater emphasis is placed on social economic and intellectual history in this course.

**Exam:** The AP European History Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **AP PSYCHOLOGY (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** All previous AP Social Science classes with a minimum grade of B, or US History & Government with a minimum grade of A, or Consent of Department Chairperson

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

The Advanced Placement Psychology course is designed for those students who wish to complete studies in the secondary school that would be equivalent to an introductory Psychology course at the college level. The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the scientific study of behavior and mental processes of human beings. Students will be exposed to psychological facts and principles associated with each of the major sub fields of Psychology. They will build essential skills with the scientific practices and also data interpretation.



**Exam:** The AP Psychology Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **Business Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **AP BUSINESS WITH PERSONAL FINANCE (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** English Honors minimum semester grade of B, Prep English minimum semester grade of A

AP Business with Personal Finance is an introductory, college-level business and personal finance course. Students explore the business disciplines of entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, accounting and management through real-world business application, case studies and project-based learning. In addition, students learn and apply all the National Standards for Personal Financial Education created by the council for Economic Education and the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy. This course fulfills the economics requirement.

### **INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS (Grade 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course provides students with an opportunity to learn about the different aspects of the business world and introduces major areas of college study. Students will explore such topics as: entrepreneurship, basic marketing and accounting principles, human resources, management, and finance. Students will participate in various business world simulations including a stock simulator, business plan development, and creating a marketing campaign to promote a business plan.

### **ECONOMICS (Grade: 11, 12)**

1 Semester ½ Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Students study the interaction of consumers and government in the American economic systems. Consumer activities, such as career choices, personal money management, and buying habits are studied in conjunction with their influence on our economy. Governmental influence is emphasized in the students' body of basic economic principles, such as supply and demand, business organization, and competition in this market.

## **MACROECONOMICS (Grade: 11, 12)**

1 Semester; ½ Credit

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Students learn the workings of the American economic system through a study of four distinct topics:

- Supply & Demand
- Bank, Money & The Federal Reserve
- International Trade & Economic Systems
- Problem Solving Various Economic Issues

## **INCubatoredu (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This honors-level, innovative class offers students and authentic collaborative entrepreneurship experience. Students have the opportunity to create and fully develop their own product or service. Entrepreneurs and business experts serve as volunteer coaches and mentors who guide the student teams through the Lean processes along with foundational business topics such as marketing and finance.

## **AP MICROECONOMICS (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Economics or Macroeconomics with a minimum semester grade of A

**AP Test Fee:** \$100

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This year long course is equivalent to a one-semester college introductory course in Microeconomics. The purpose of an AP course in microeconomics is to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic systems. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

**Exam:** The AP Microeconomics Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Kevin Oliver – [koliver@providencecatholic.org](mailto:koliver@providencecatholic.org)

### **Department Philosophy**

The Theology Department promotes the spiritual, intellectual, and emotional maturity of its students. Our theology curriculum strives to integrate growth in all three areas.

The Theology Department believes in the value of each person as a unique expression of God's love, created in the image and likeness of God (Gn 1:26). The human person is on a journey of self-discovery and, according to St. Augustine, the "search for self" coincides with the search for God. This search is not conducted in isolation. An individual encounters fellow seekers who form a community of faith.

Within a community of faith, students will develop an understanding of and an appreciation for Holy Scripture and the history and tradition of Catholic teaching. With this understanding, students will critically reflect on their life, society, and religion to discover and live out their personal call from God.

## **Course Offerings**

Freshman Year	Sophomore Year	Junior Year	Senior Year
A.C.T.S. Program Foundations 1 Foundations 2	A.C.T.S. Program Old Testament New Testament	A.C.T.S. Program Christian Morality Catholic Social Teaching	A.C.T.S. Program Church & Culture Augustine & the Restless Heart Senior Seminar

## **Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **CHRISTIAN MORALITY (Grade: 11)**

Fall Semester; ½ Credit

This course gives the students practical assistance and experience in making intelligent, logical and compassionate moral decisions. It focuses on specific aspects, such as the basis of morality, developing moral convictions, the problem of moral dilemmas, formation of conscience and Catholic Christian moral principles.

### **CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING (Grade: 11)**

Spring Semester; ½ Credit

Justice is at the core of the gospel message. The church challenges us to a hope that envisions justice and peace in the world. The faith of Christian men and women has always been energized by this hope and informed by the belief that all of us are created in the image and likeness of God, possessed of an unsurpassable dignity because of that, and entitled, therefore, to be treated with the full dignity which that requires. Students will learn these basic principles as they are expressed in scripture and papal teaching and apply them to a variety of modern issues in a spirit of

compassion, forgiveness, freedom, openness, and courage, reflecting and changing their own societally influenced attitudes in the process.

### **FOUNDATIONS OF CATHOLICISM I (Grade: 9)**

Fall Semester; ½ Credit

This first half of the Foundations of Catholicism course seeks to deepen the students understanding of the way God reveals Himself through history, scripture, Jesus, and the Church, especially through the lens of Tradition. This will be done through Church documents as well as other pertinent documents/resources. The students will have the opportunity to explore their own understanding of God. They will also be presented with an introduction to contemporary scriptural scholarship which will provide them with insights into the Old and New Testaments. Students will be offered the context to help them recognize Jesus as someone they can relate to and be challenged by. Their own lives will also be used to engage them with the subject area as above as well as Christian Living.

Along with the above components, students will be engaged in study regarding Theology of the Body, and the life of St. Augustine. This first semester is a time for them to learn how to think theologically as well as begin to master the art of theological reflective writing.

### **FOUNDATIONS OF CATHOLICISM II (Grade: 9)**

Spring Semester; ½ Credit

Building upon Foundations I, Foundations II moves the students to a greater understanding of the Liturgy and Sacraments, not just in their symbols and rituals, but also in how they are encounters with God and a way to embody and express each individual student's relationship with God as Trinity. Students will also explore aspects of spirituality and other prayer forms that are part of the Church's life and history. They will deepen their theological thinking and skills in theological reflective writing.

Students will also explore aspects of spirituality and other prayer forms that are part of the Church's life and history. They will deepen their theological thinking and skills in theological reflective writing.

### **OLD TESTAMENT (Grade: 10)**

Fall Semester; ½ Credit

This course guides the students to a better understanding of the Old Testament. The Old Testament is related to students' social, moral, sacramental, and spiritual growth. The course also examines the topics and themes of the creation story, sin and temptation, morality, God's will, vocation, Exodus, the Ten Commandments, the Kingdom of God, and the prophets. Students will practice engaging with the Scriptures using the hermeneutic method of Paul Ricoeur.

### **NEW TESTAMENT (Grade: 10)**

Spring Semester; ½ Credit

This course guides students in a study of the content and development of the New Testament, in the message of the Gospels, the revelation of Jesus, and the experience of the early Christian community. Students will learn the historical background of the New Testament and how to use it as a primary source. Through reflection, students are encouraged to find the meaning of Jesus in their lives. Students will continue to practice engaging with the Scriptures through hermeneutics, writing exegesis, and formulating homilies, reflections and/or articles based on their reading.

### **AUGUSTINE AND THE RESTLESS HEART (Grade: 12 Elective)**

Fall Semester; ½ Credit

May elect to take this class first semester senior year.

This course explores the life and times of St. Augustine, his spirituality, his thought, and his ministry. Students will dialogue with insights from St. Augustine as a way to reflect upon their own existential questions, and they will also engage critically with issues and questions that emerge from other disciplines and world events.

### **CHURCH AND CULTURE (Grade: 12 Elective)**

Fall Semester; ½ Credit

May elect to take this class first semester of your senior year.

This elective course will explore from a thematic perspective and various dimensions of Church Tradition (people, prayer, polity, and culture). The course will help students to understand how the Tradition of the Church is both alive and relevant in the world today through an analysis of various aspects of what it means to be Catholic Christian. Major topics for this course will include interreligious dialogue and ecumenism, the relationship between the Church and the State, and the challenge of the Gospel in response to working for human and civil rights.

### **SENIOR SEMINAR: THEOLOGY IN PRACTICE (Grade: 12)**

Spring Semester; ½ Credit

This is your second semester Theology class senior year.

For their last semester at Providence Catholic High School, seniors participate *in the Senior Seminar: Theology in Practice*. This class is a review and application of what the students have learned in previous semesters as an exercise in practicing Augustinian theology: "Faith seeking understanding." Part of this class is the development of a capstone project, where they put into practice what they have learned about theology, theological methods, and especially how to integrate what they have learned in a theological construct that is rooted in their own lives and interests. Although the capstone project is foundational, there are conversations regarding how faith intersects with peoples' lives in the world, as well as guided discussion and lectures which will delve further into concepts like mystery, virtue, common good, etc.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT**

**Chair:** Ms. Jackie Gutierrez - [jgutierrez@providencecatholic.org](mailto:jgutierrez@providencecatholic.org)

## **Department Philosophy**

The World Language Department believes that the study of foreign language enriches one's life. In keeping with the Christian values of tolerance and acceptance, it strives to instill an understanding, an appreciation, and a respect for the language and culture of other peoples. The department encourages the development of the unique potential of each student, as well as the ability to interact with the multi-cultural communities of the greater world.

## **Course Offerings**

The World Languages Department curriculum was developed using the World-Readiness Standards.

<b>Freshman Year</b>	<b>Sophomore Year</b>	<b>Junior Year</b>	<b>Senior Year</b>
French 1 French 2 Honors Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 2 Honors Spanish for Heritage Learners	French 1 French 2 French 2 Honors French 3 French 3 Honors Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 2 Honors Spanish 3 Spanish 3 Honors Spanish for Heritage Learners	French 1 French 2 French 2 Honors French 3 French 3 Honors French 4 French 4 Honors Spanish 1 Spanish 2 Spanish 2 Honors Spanish 3 Spanish 3 Honors Spanish 4 Spanish 4 Honors Spanish for Heritage Learners	AP French AP Spanish French 2 French 2 Honors French 3 French 3 Honors French 4 French 4 Honors Spanish 2 Spanish 2 Honors Spanish 3 Spanish 3 Honors Spanish 4 Spanish 4 Honors Spanish for Heritage Learners

## **Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy**

Spanish and French students in their senior year are eligible to receive the Illinois State Seal of Biliteracy or the Illinois State Commendation of Biliteracy. Students are highly encouraged to take this opportunity to demonstrate their bilingual skills. There are two paths to qualify for either the State Seal or the Commendation:

- 1) Students in their senior year take Spanish or French AP exams and must score a 4 (Seal of Biliteracy) or a 3 (Commendation of Biliteracy) for the award.

- 2) Students in their senior year take the STAMP4S proficiency exam administered by Providence during the second semester. Students assume the cost of the exam and will take the exam outside of school hours. Students must score Intermediate High (Seal of Biliteracy) or Intermediate Low (Commendation of Biliteracy) for the award.

Recipients of the Seal or Commendation will receive a stamp on their high school diploma, as well as recognition on their transcripts.

## **Course Descriptions & Requirements**

### **FRENCH 1 (Grade: 9, 10, 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Students communicate information related to their daily lives and activities. Students will be able to communicate using simple sentences in the present, past, and future tenses. Students become familiar with the cultures of the French-speaking world through readings, films, and projects. Technology will be used throughout the course for practice in listening and speaking. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **FRENCH 2 (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of French 1 or proficiency exam

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Building on skills acquired in Level 1, French 2 students continue to communicate about their lives as well as to communicate their basic needs as if in the foreign culture. Longer and more complex sentences incorporating a variety of tenses will be used by the teacher and the students. Cultural information related to the French-speaking world is integrated throughout the course using the textbook, films, projects, and presentations. An online, interactive textbook platform allows students to always have with them all the materials used in the classroom for further review and practice at home.

### **FRENCH 2 HONORS (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** French 1 with semester grades of A, or placement through proficiency exam.

**Course Fee Applicable**

Building on skills acquired in Level 1, French 2 students continue to communicate about their lives as well as to communicate their basic needs as if in the foreign culture. Longer and more complex sentences incorporating a variety of tenses will be used by the teacher and the students. Cultural

information related to the French-speaking world is integrated throughout the course using the textbook, films, projects, and presentations. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **FRENCH 3 (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** French 2 with minimum semester grades of B-, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course presents a thorough review of grammar concepts introduced in the first and second years of French, as well as continuing to more advanced grammatical structures. Students learn, think critically, and continue to express themselves on a variety of topics in the French language. Students study the geography and culture of the French-speaking world. Students will read and respond to authentic texts in French to further develop their reading, writing, and speaking skills. Technology will be used throughout the course to practice listening and speaking skills. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **FRENCH 3 HONORS (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** French 2 with minimum semester grades of A, or French 2 Honors with minimum semester grades of B

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

French 3 Honors is designed to engage students in increasingly advanced skill development through authentic materials. Students learn, think critically, and express themselves about a variety of topics in the French language. Students study geography of the French-speaking world, contemporary literature and culture in the target language. Grammar from levels 1 and 2 is reviewed and refined. The class is conducted primarily in French so that students may maximize listening and speaking skills. Technology will be used throughout the course to practice listening and speaking skills. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **FRENCH 4 (Grade: 11,12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** French 3 with minimum semester grades of B-, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course focuses on a review and continuing refinement of grammar concepts introduced in the first three years of French. Students continue to learn, think critically, and continue to express themselves on a variety of topics in the French language. Students study the geography of the French-speaking world, contemporary literature, and culture in the target language. Students



read and analyze a French novel during the second semester. Technology will be used throughout the course to practice listening and speaking skills. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **FRENCH 4 HONORS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** French 3 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

French 4 Honors is designed to further engage students in increasingly advanced skill development through authentic materials. Students learn, think critically, and express themselves about a variety of topics in the French language. Students study geography of the French-speaking world, contemporary literature, and culture in the target language. Grammar from levels 1 & 2 is reviewed and refined and advanced grammar topics are introduced. The class is conducted primarily in French so that students may maximize listening and speaking skills. Students read and analyze a French novel during the second semester. Technology will be used throughout the course to practice listening and speaking skills. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** French 4 Honors with minimum semester grades of A, or Department Approval

**AP Test Fee:** \$100; **Course Fee Applicable**

The AP French Language and Culture is a comprehensive French course equivalent to an intermediate level college course in French. Students cultivate their understanding of French language and culture by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real-life situations as they explore concepts related to family and community, personal and public identity, beauty and aesthetics, science and technology, contemporary life, and global challenges. The focus of the course is to perfect student communication in French while preparing the student to take the Advanced Placement French Language and Culture Exam at the end of the year.

**Exam:** The AP French Language and Culture Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

### **SPANISH 1 (Grade: 9, 10, 11)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Spanish 1 is designed to introduce students to the basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary and grammar are presented through oral and written drills, dialogues, and skits. In addition, students are introduced to Hispanic culture through readings, songs, films, and research projects. By the end of the first year, the students should be able to express and understand basic Spanish and should be able to communicate simply but effectively in the target language as well as demonstrate an understanding of the Hispanic world. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH 2 (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Spanish 1, or proficiency exam

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Spanish 2 is a review and continuation of Spanish 1 grammar and vocabulary but with a higher degree of implementation. Sentence structure at this level uses the present tense and the past tense. Hispanic history, customs, folk art, and outstanding personalities are studied through readings, videos, and research projects. By the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Spanish students should be able to communicate with greater fluency and accuracy. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH 2 HONORS (Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 1 with minimum semester grades of A, or proficiency exam, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Spanish 2 Honors is a review and continuation of Spanish 1 grammar and vocabulary but with a higher degree of implementation. Sentence structure at this level uses the present tense and the past tense. Hispanic history, customs, folk art, and outstanding personalities are studied through readings, videos, and research projects. This course also requires the reading of authentic texts and compositional writing. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH FOR HERITAGE LEARNERS (Grade 9, 10, 11, 12)**

2-year Program; 2 credits; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Proficiency exam

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

Spanish for Heritage Learners is offered to students who are from families with Spanish as a home language but need to further develop their language proficiency. Although students possess pre-

existing oral communication skills, they will continue to develop how to listen, read, write, and speak in academic and cultural contexts. They engage with the Spanish language outside of their existing language and cultural competencies. Students explore local and international history and the wide-ranging aspects of the Hispanic/Latino identity through novels and current events. This course is an Honors level course. A proficiency placement exam is required.

### **SPANISH 3 (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 2 with minimum semester grades of B-, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course presents a thorough review of grammar concepts introduced in the first and second years of Spanish, and students will be introduced to several new verb tenses. Students are expected to study brief, authentic texts in-class. Students will fulfill several independent and in-class paragraph writing assignments. Learners will continue to develop conversational skills of listening and speaking. Also, this course will present a comparative study of American culture and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH 3 HONORS (Grade: 10, 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 2 with minimum semester grades of A, or Spanish 2 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course consists of a review of grammar concepts introduced in the first and second years of Spanish and introduces new and advance verb tenses. Students will practice intense, independent composition writing skills. The course also requires the reading and study of authentic texts both in-class and independently. Spanish 3 Honors also focuses on the further development of conversational skills of listening and speaking. Additionally, the course includes a comparative study of American culture and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH 4 (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 3 with minimum semester grades of B-, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course focuses upon through review and application of grammar concepts introduced in the first three years of Spanish. The course includes in-class reading and study of brief, authentic texts with a focus on reading comprehension. Students complete independent and in-class paragraph

writing requirements. The course provides further development and assessment of conversational skills including speaking and listening. Additionally, the course includes a comparative study of American cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **SPANISH 4 HONORS (Grade: 11, 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 3 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or Spanish 3 with minimum semester grades of A, or 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Spanish for Heritage Learners with minimum semester grades of B, or Department Approval

**Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

This course consists of reviewing and mastering grammar concepts introduced in the first three years of Spanish. Spanish 4 Honors is an introduction to advanced grammatical structures not studied in other Spanish course offerings. Students are required to complete in-class and independent reading and study of authentic texts moving beyond reading comprehension by focusing on symbolism, historical pertinence and theme. This course focuses on the development of independent, advanced composition writing skills. The course provides further development and assessment of conversational skills including speaking and listening. Spanish 4 Honors also offers a comparative study of American culture and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. An online, interactive textbook allows students to continue to practice their listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills outside of the classroom.

### **AP SPANISH LANGUAGE (Grade: 12)**

2 Semesters; 1 Credit; Weighted

**Prerequisite:** Spanish 4 Honors with minimum semester grades of B, or 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Spanish for Heritage Learners with minimum semester grades of A, or Department Approval

**AP Test Fee: \$100; Course Fee Applicable**

***Approved NCAA Core Course***

The AP Spanish Language course should help prepare students to demonstrate a high level of Spanish proficiency across three communicative modes (Interpersonal [interactive communication], Interpretive [receptive communication], and Presentation [productive communication]), and the five goal areas outlined in the *Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century* (Lawrence, Kan: Allen Press, 1999) (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities). The course is meant to be comparable to third year (fifth or sixth semester) college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in the target language at an advanced level.

AP Spanish Language is a comprehensive Spanish course designed to fit the needs and abilities of advanced students. The Spanish language is taught at a pace similar to most intermediate level

university courses with emphasis placed on the following items: conversational skills in grammar, literature, history, and Latin culture. While the overall goal of the course is to further develop the students' Spanish skills, considerable time is spent in preparing the student for the Advanced Placement Exam.

**Exam:** The AP Spanish Language Exam is a required component of the class. The current exam description can be found on the College Board website at <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course>.

## **BRIGHAM YOUNG DISTANCE LEARNING**



Providence Catholic High School is proud to offer the online Distance Learning Program in partnership with Brigham Young University's Independent Study Program. This program provides both high school and college level courses through an online delivery system that engages students using multimedia, video, animation, and interactive labs. These offerings are limited to junior and senior students who have a GPA of 3.5 or higher at the time of student registration in February. All BYU courses count towards elective credit.

The high school elective courses provide enrichment to our academically gifted upper classmen who want to study topics such as astronomy, business law, or writing poetry. The college level courses allow the academically ambitious upper-class student to receive concurrent credit for both high school and college. Classes such as Nursing and Medical Terminology, Essentials of Human Nutrition, Introductory Sociology, or Introduction to International Politics will peak the interest of PCHS juniors and seniors, while providing them with between 2-4 semester credit hours which are easily transferred to most higher educational institutions across the nation.

The concurrent college courses will be weighted, while the elective high school courses will not be weighted. It should be noted that the college GPA earned for these courses may be included in the student's overall college GPA as these credits transfer to the student's university. There are many high school and college courses offered by the Brigham Young University Distance Learning Program. Students are encouraged to visit the program website at [is.byu.edu](http://is.byu.edu). Student requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

All Distance Learning Courses are scheduled as part of the student's regular academic day. The course will be monitored and facilitated by a Providence Catholic faculty member who will act as a liaison between PCHS and Brigham Young University. Questions regarding this program should be directed to Providence Catholic High School's Principal.

There is an additional cost for BYU classes and textbooks. Tuition for BYU classes is announced in June and will be added to your Providence Catholic tuition account.

Students must provide PCHS with a copy of their BYU University transcript at the end of each semester. A copy will be maintained as part of the student's official high school record. The

transfer of BYU course credits is accepted by other universities and colleges on a case by case basis; there is no guarantee that credit will transfer. The acceptance of the BYU credits may require the submission of the BYU course syllabus with the BYU transcript.