



**Catholic Central High School**

**2026 - 2027**

**Curriculum Guide**

# **Mission Statement**

Catholic Central High School is an inclusive community rooted in the Catholic faith that prepares servant leaders for a Christ-centered life.

## **Dominican Pillars**

Prayer  
Study  
Service  
Community

Every effort has been made to prepare the most correct and clearly expressed information for your course planning purposes. However, should there be a discrepancy between the information included in this Curriculum Guide and CCHS policy and standards, CCHS reserves the right to notify CCHS parents and students of the correction to this Curriculum Guide while upholding established policies and standards.

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# **Departmental Course Offerings**

# English Department

## **Program Goal:**

The study of literature and language provides students the opportunity to expand literacy, critical thinking, and communication skills necessary for college-level study, for understanding and communicating with the world beyond academics, and for life-long learning. Further, exposure to various cultural perspectives of the past and present expressed in novels, stories, poetry, drama, and non-fiction are essential to self-awareness and an appreciation of one's place in, and responsibility to, the world. In broadening student perspectives and guiding their growth in writing, reading, speaking, and listening, the English program's goal is to graduate prepared, competent, and compassionate young adults who confidently and faithfully face the challenges of continued study and of the rich complexity of human interaction.

## **English Department Offerings:**

- English I: Literature and Composition
- Honors English I: Literature and Composition
- English II: Literature and Composition
- Honors English II: Literature and Composition
- English III: Language and Composition
- A.P. Language and Composition
- English IV: Classical and Contemporary Literature and Composition
- A.P. Literature and Composition
- Composition of Argumentation
- Creative Writing
- Drama
- Journalism
- Mythology
- Public Speaking
- Yearbook

## **English I: Literature & Composition or English I: Honors Literature and Composition**

1 credit required (placed in 1 of 2 options)

Prerequisite: None

Open to grade: 9

**Literature & Composition:** This is the first course in an integrated study of literature and language focused on preparing students for the challenges of college. Through self-directed reading selections and whole class texts, students will learn to apply literary elements in analysis, connect themes, and better understand the world around them. Students will develop writing skills by composing in various forms, learning the stylistic conventions of each mode, and by refining grammar and vocabulary skills. Through a combination of individual and group work, students will gain independence in their ability to read and comprehend challenging texts, to document and communicate their findings, and to critically analyze works of various cultures from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching.

**Honors Literature & Composition:** This course is the first in a vertically-teamed approach geared toward advanced placement credit and college English; it shares the goals of Literature and Composition, but requires a higher level of critical analysis and reading and writing fluency at the freshman level.

**English II: Literature and Composition or English II: Honors Literature and Composition**

1 credit required (placed in 1 of 2 options)

Prerequisite: English I or Honors English I: Literature and Composition

Open to grade: 10

**Literature and Composition:** This survey course is designed to further develop essential language arts and critical thinking skills in the analysis of a variety of literary genres. The course will be guided by thematic units that study the core underlying concepts and ideas that shape identity. Students will work to improve critical reading skills and to respond to literature in direct discussion and formal and informal writing in a variety of modes (free writing, journals, creative work, non-fiction writing, narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and analytical essays) with an emphasis on the process of writing. Vocabulary and grammar instruction will be tailored to specific reading and writing tasks; students will learn and practice these skills within the context of their reading. Students will practice research and documentation skills and a variety of notetaking and study skills. In addition to coursework, students will enhance and practice time management, group participation, verbal communication, public speaking, and listening skills within the daily routine of the classroom. Through a combination of individual and group work, students will gain independence in their ability to read and comprehend challenging texts, to document and communicate their findings, and to critically analyze works of various cultures from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching.

**Honors Literature and Composition:** This course is the second in a vertically teamed approach geared toward advanced placement credit and college English; it shares the goals of Literature and Composition but requires greater independence as well as a higher level of critical analysis and reading and writing fluency at the sophomore level. *Approval of previous English teacher required.*

**English III: Language and Composition or Advanced Placement Language and Composition**

1 credit required (placed in 1 of 2 options)

Prerequisite: English II or Honors English II: Literature and Composition

Open to grade: 11

**Language and Composition:** This is the third course in an integrated study of literature and language focused on preparing students for the challenges of college. Through a close study of fictional and non-fiction texts, students will build linguistic, rhetorical, and critical thinking skills as they hone their own style and voice in writing. This course has a significant research component, extends literacy skills to other media (i.e., visual, auditory), and is geared toward

mixing modes and techniques of writing for persuasive effect. Through a combination of individual and group work, students will gain independence in their ability to read and comprehend challenging texts, to document and communicate their findings, to critically analyze works of various cultures from the perspective of Catholic Social Teaching, and to form opinions after seeking out and then synthesizing others' ideas with their own thoughts, experiences and values.

**Advanced Placement Language and Composition:** The AP English Language and Composition course is the third in a vertically teamed approach geared toward college advanced placement credit. This course focuses on the development of evidence-based argumentative writing and the rhetorical analysis of nonfiction texts from a range of disciplines and historical periods. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite source material to support their arguments and develop confidence in making their own rhetorical choices in speech and writing. *Approval of previous English teacher required. In addition, students are required to take the Advanced Placement Language and Composition exam in May.*

**English IV: Classical and Contemporary Literature and Composition or Advanced Placement Literature and Composition**

1 credit required (placed in 1 of 2 options)

Prerequisite: English III: Language and Composition or AP Language and Composition

Open to grade: 12

**Classical and Contemporary Literature and Composition:** This is the fourth course in an integrated study of literature and composition focused on preparing students for the challenges of college. Through a survey of key works in Western literature, including works from the Renaissance through the 20<sup>th</sup> century, students will learn to closely analyze literature of various cultures and eras, to participate in the timeless conversations about our roles and relationships in the world, and to understand how perspectives change in response to the historical context of the period. Students will develop writing skills by composing in various forms, developing the stylistic conventions of each, learning how to mix modes where appropriate, and refining grammar and vocabulary skills. Through a combination of individual and group work, students will gain independence in their ability to read and comprehend challenging texts, to document and communicate their findings and to critically analyze works of various cultural perspectives from the standpoint of Catholic Social Teaching.

**Advanced Placement Literature and Composition:** The AP English Language and Composition course is the fourth in a vertically teamed approach geared toward college advanced placement credit. With its repeating rotation of short fiction, poetry, and long fiction, the course is designed to meet the comprehensive requirements established by the College Board for depth and breadth of reading and close analysis of representative works of literary merit from a variety of genres and cultures. The course requires greater independence, a higher level of critical analysis, and greater reading and writing fluency at the senior level. *Approval of previous English teacher required. In addition, students are required to take the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition exam in May.*

### **Creative Writing**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course will examine different forms of creative expression in writing and expose students to various author's styles and methods. Students will be encouraged to explore and experiment with language to develop their own writing style.

### **Drama**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed to introduce students to various elements of theater, both on stage and behind the scenes. The course focuses heavily on acting and scriptwriting, as well as directing and entry-level backstage design. Students will have the opportunity to expand their knowledge and appreciation of theater and learn varieties and structures of drama and methods of evaluating plays and movies. Students will participate in both scripting and performing dramatic scenes and monologues.

### **Journalism**

1 credit elective (credit may be repeated)

Prerequisite: Application and approval of the instructor required.

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** In this course, students work together to organize and produce up to eight electronic and one paper issues of the school newspaper, the *Blue and White*. Throughout the year, staff members learn and practice journalistic skills involving research, interviewing, writing, editing, page design and layout, and photography. In addition, students are required to sell advertising. This course can be taken for credit during the freshman, sophomore, junior, AND senior years, with opportunities for leadership positions, awards, and specialized roles (such as business management, computer- assisted page design, and photography). Academic success on the newspaper staff requires a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility, as well as a commitment to excellence in terms of deadline completion and attention to detail. An application will be required in January.

### **Mythology**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This is a one-semester course in which students will explore the ideas of myth, folklore, and science fiction as they are expressed in modern culture. Using classic text as a foundation, students analyze modern-day works that utilize similar themes and ideas in a multimedia study of novels, short stories, films, poems, and graphic novels.

### **Oral Communications (Public Speaking)**

1/2 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This one-semester class will include coursework in public speaking and in non-verbal, interpersonal, group and one-to-group communication. Students will learn to become more confident and effective communicators in a variety of speaking situations. Listening skills and leadership qualities will also be emphasized. Course content will focus on contemporary social and political issues and current events. Students will address these issues within a variety of speeches.

### **Yearbook**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Submission of an essay/application and permission of yearbook advisor required

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course offers students the opportunity for involvement in every facet of yearbook production, including writing, photography, editing, layout-design, and advertising, as they work together to produce CC's annual publication, *Spires*. Academic success on the yearbook staff requires a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility, as well as a commitment to excellence in terms of deadline completion and attention to detail. Students are also required to sell advertising. This course can be taken for credit during the freshman, sophomore, junior, AND senior years, with opportunities for leadership positions. An application will be required in January.

### **Composition of Argumentation (Debate)**

1/2 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students will learn the fundamentals of argumentation and policy debate, developing critical thinking, research, and public speaking skills. Working in pairs, students will craft affirmative and negative cases on contemporary political issues of their choosing, learning to analyze evidence, construct persuasive arguments, and respond to opposing viewpoints. Through structured debates, practice rounds, and feedback, students

will gain confidence in advocacy and develop a deeper understanding of complex policy issues, preparing them for competition or informed civic engagement.

## **Fine Arts Department**

## **Program Goal:**

All students will experience the understanding, the appreciation, and the creation of the Arts in a Catholic Christian setting for lifelong appreciation. Art provides knowledge about the world and ways of experiencing it that contribute to a global understanding different from that gained through verbal or written language.

Students will develop skills through:

- Expressing oneself creatively in various media in the visual and performing arts
- Communicating with others through the language of the arts
- Respecting the rights of others' artistic expression
- Critically evaluating the artistic works of self and others
- Comprehending the arts in a historical and cultural context
- Cultivating creative solutions to problems and opportunities
- Learning to be a discerning artist while manifesting an open mind to the arts in everyday life

## **Fine Arts Department Offerings**

### **Visual Arts**

- Art 1: Art Foundations
- Art 2: Media Foundations
- Digital Media (Desktop Publishing)
- Digital Media (HTML/CSS)
- Painting & Drawing
- Sculpture/Ceramics
- Honors Art (alternating years)
- Studio Art (alternating years)

### **Performing Arts**

- Capella Choir
- History of Pop/Rock Music
- Marching Band/Symphonic Band
- Men's Choir
- Women's Chorale

## **VISUAL ARTS:**

### **Art 1: Art Foundations**

½ credit elective

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This is a foundation course designed to introduce students to a high school art program. Aspiring artists will become familiar with the elements and principles of art and design as they explore a variety of techniques for creating art. In the first nine weeks of this semester-long course, the major focus is on the elements of art: line, shape, form, color, value, texture, and space and how these elements are put together into a composition. The principles of design: emphasis, balance, movement, rhythm, proportion, contrast, and pattern are the foundation of the second nine weeks. Various drawing techniques will be introduced and incorporated in projects. Art vocabulary, art history and art criticism will help reinforce the basic concepts. ***This course is a prerequisite for all other art courses.***

### **Art 2: Media Foundations**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: Art 1: Art Foundations

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students continue their artistic development and expound on curriculum and skills taught in Art 1. In addition, students will be exposed to the mediums of painting, ceramics, sculpture, and mixed media. Students will create art with all mediums, develop a vocabulary for each, and further develop their sense of the principles and elements of art.

### **Digital Media (Desktop Publishing)**

½ credit elective

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Catholic Central offers a Desktop Publishing Course that provides students with the concepts, terminology, techniques, and application of software to create visually appealing documents for print and digital media. The course emphasizes design principles, page layout, and the integration of text and graphics to produce professional publications.

Upon completion of course content, students will be able to:

- Apply fundamental design principles, including balance, contrast, alignment, and color theory, to create effective layouts.
- Utilize typography skills, such as choosing appropriate typefaces, font sizes, and spacing, to enhance readability and visual appeal.
- Master industry-standard software (e.g., Adobe InDesign, Photoshop, Illustrator, Adobe Express) to create and format publications.

- Integrate graphics and images by using digital cameras, scanners, and image-editing software to enhance documents.
- Plan, design, and create a variety of business and promotional documents, such as newsletters, flyers, brochures, business cards, magazines, and reports.
- Develop critical thinking, decision-making, and creativity skills in the design and evaluation process

This course is designed for those seeking careers in graphic design, advertising, marketing, and publishing, enabling them to create high-quality communication materials.

### **Digital Media (HTML/CSS)**

½ credit elective

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Catholic Central offers a Web Design Course that prepares students to create visually appealing and user-friendly websites by covering topics such as user interface (UI) and user experience (UX) design, as well as technical skills such as HTML, CSS and Adobe Dreamweaver software.

Upon completion of course content, students will master the following content and objectives:

- Design Principles: Learn fundamentals of design like color theory, typography, and layout to create visually appealing and cohesive designs.
- Technical Skills: Gain proficiency in core web technologies like HTML and CSS, and potentially JavaScript, to build and structure web pages.
- Design Software: Master tools used for wireframing, prototyping, and graphic creation, such as Dreamweaver.
- Responsive and Accessible Design: Learn to create websites that adapt to different screen sizes (responsive) and are usable by a wide range of people (accessible).

This course is designed for aspiring web designers and developers, bloggers and hobbyists looking to create their own websites, and those interested in careers in marketing.

## **Painting & Drawing**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: Art 1: Foundations and Art 2: Media Foundations

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students will explore and develop their drawing skills using an array of media: graphite pencil, charcoal, pastels, and conte crayon. Students will focus on the nine main themes in art, which include but are not limited to, architecture, conceptual, figure, and more. A wide variety of paints will be used such as watercolor, gouache, and acrylics. Surfaces may include canvas, illustration board, masonite, canvas board, and watercolor paper.

## **Sculpture/Ceramics**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: Art 1: Foundations & Art 2: Media Foundations

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course concentrates on three dimensional materials and concepts. Students will explore different forms and techniques of sculpture and clay to create their own functional and non-functional works. Subtractive and additive methods will be created with many different mediums for sculpture.

## **Honors Art** (*Will alternate years with Studio Art*)

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: A or higher in Art 2: Media Foundations, A or higher in Sculpture and Ceramics or Painting and Drawing, and teacher recommendation

Open to grades: 11 and 12

**Course Description:** This is an advanced course designed to further the individual art skills of students. Students will gain experience and learn a higher level of techniques and rigor in 2D and 3D mediums. These media and techniques will build upon the basic principles and elements of art on a more conceptual level. Art vocabulary, art history and art criticism will help reinforce more complex and conceptual concepts.

## **Studio Art** (*Will alternate years with Honors Art*)

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: B+ or higher in Art 2: Media Foundation, B+ or higher in Sculpture and Ceramics or Painting and Drawing, and teacher recommendation

Open to grades: 11 and 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art and wish to develop mastery in the concept, composition, and execution of their ideas. Students will submit portfolios for evaluation at the end of the school year. In building the portfolio, students experience a variety of concepts, techniques and

approaches designed to help them demonstrate their abilities as well as their versatility with techniques, problem solving, and ideation.

## **PERFORMING ARTS:**

### **Capella Choir**

1 credit elective; credit may be repeated

Prerequisite: At least one year of prior study and audition required

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Capella Choir is the select choral ensemble of CCHS. With its very demanding performance schedule, Capella is designed for outstanding choral students to sing madrigal, *a capella*, and vocal jazz literature. There is a limited enrollment to this ensemble based upon proper balance of voices. Students must be capable of advanced music reading skills, sight reading and interpreting difficult literature.

### **History of Pop/Rock Music**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This semester-long elective is open to any student. This class will focus on the history of pop and rock music (1950's -present) with a significant emphasis on listening. Discussion will involve how performers, people and events shaped culture and how it continues to evolve. Analysis of music and impact on culture through presentations will be required for successful completion of the course.

### **Marching Band/Symphonic Band**

1 credit elective; credit may be repeated

Prerequisite: None

Audition or Director permission required

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is open to any student who has actively studied a band instrument and has approval from the Director. Through practice and performance of music literature, this class gives students a chance to learn, strengthen and experience music. Students will have competition and concert performances throughout the year. Focus will be on ensemble skills, music theory and personal music development. Students are enrolled for the full year as this is a year-long class. NOTE: Two years of playing an instrument in the marching band fulfills Physical Education requirements.

\*\*Marching Band requires all members to attend Band Camp for a week in July or August prior to the start of school and 1-2 evening rehearsals per week in the fall.

### **Men's Choir**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students will learn the basic vocal and choral techniques necessary to participate in higher level ensembles. Breathing, vocal techniques, basic music theory and sight reading will be emphasized on a daily basis. Students will perform selections at various concerts throughout the year. Students enrolling in Men's Choir should come with a good attitude toward choral music and a willingness to learn vocal and musical techniques.

### **Women's Chorale**

1 credit elective; credit may be repeated

Prerequisite: None

Open to women in grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Women's Chorale is a large choral ensemble at the high school level. Basic vocal and choral techniques will be employed daily. Students will continue to explore music theory and sight-reading as a way of understanding the musical language. A wide variety of choral literature will be studied and performed. A desire to learn and perform music to the best of their ability should motivate students to enroll in this class.

# **Mathematics Department**

## **Program Goal:**

The study of mathematics provides the student with a foundation of logic, reasoning and calculation skills and an experience in current technology which will enable the student to succeed in his/her chosen career, whether it is a mathematical field. Furthermore, mathematics provides challenges and methods of operating which serve to increase one's problem solving capabilities and critical thinking skills. Students will understand basic computations, develop accuracy in mathematical computations, attack problems logically, and acquire sufficient knowledge of mathematical skills to fulfill needs of future work. Through the study of mathematics, the students will foster virtues of wisdom, knowledge and honesty that will go with them to any of the myriad of vocational opportunities to which God calls them.

### **NOTE:**

Some classes require that the student have access to a graphing calculator. CCHS prefers TI84.

### **Math Department Offerings:**

- Algebra I
- Algebra I AA
- Geometry AA
- Geometry
- Honors Geometry
- Algebra II
- Algebra II / Trigonometry
- Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Pre-Calculus
- Honors Pre-Calculus
- Calculus
- AP Calculus
- Statistics
- AP Statistics
- Financial Literacy
- Into to Personal Finance

## **Algebra I**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Placement based on standardized test scores, math grades, and teacher evaluation.  
Open to grade 9

**Course Description:** This course will include the manipulation of variables, expressions, and radicals. It will cover solving equations and inequalities, algebraically and graphically. In addition to these topics, an introduction to basic statistics and probability will be included. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Algebra I AA**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Placement based on standardized test scores and CC teacher placement

Corequisite: Required Math Lab

Open to grade 9

**Course Description:** Algebra I AA is intended for students who are approaching grade level performance in mathematics. Students will be placed in this course by Catholic Central faculty based on need. Algebra I AA will be scheduled for two different carriers in a students' schedule (one of which is Math Lab). This will allow students to have math every day to ensure frequent practice and growth. This course will include the manipulation of variables, expressions, and radicals. It will cover solving equations and inequalities, algebraically and graphically. Students will explore linear, quadratic, and exponential relationships. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Geometry AA**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Algebra 1 AA, standardized test scores, and CC teacher placement

Open to grades 10

**Course Description:** Students will be placed in this course by Catholic Central faculty based on their previous academic performance in Algebra I and test scores. This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of geometry. Students will explore the properties and relationships of geometric figures in both two and three dimensions. Topics include points, lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and the use of the Pythagorean theorem. Students will also study transformations, congruence, similarity, and the basics of trigonometry. Emphasis is placed on reasoning and continuing to improve the foundational skills learned in Algebra. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Geometry**

1 credit

9<sup>th</sup> grade prerequisite: Must have completed Algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and qualifying standardized test results.

10<sup>th</sup> grade prerequisite: Algebra 1, Algebra 1 AA

Open to grades 9, 10

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of geometry. Students will explore the properties and relationships of geometric figures in both two and three dimensions. Topics include points, lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and the use of the Pythagorean theorem. Students will also study transformations, congruence, similarity, and the basics of trigonometry. Finally, students will encounter an introduction to probability and statistics. Emphasis is placed on developing logical reasoning and problem-solving skills through the use of real-world applications. By the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of geometric principles and their applications in various fields such as architecture, engineering, and design. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Honors Geometry**

1 credit

9<sup>th</sup> grade prerequisite: Must have completed Algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and qualified standardized test results.

10<sup>th</sup> grade prerequisite: Based on test scores in Algebra I and departmental recommendation.

Open to grades 9, 10

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of geometry. Students will explore the properties and relationships of geometric figures in both two and three dimensions. Topics include points, lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, and the use of the Pythagorean theorem. Students will also study transformations, congruence, similarity, and the basics of trigonometry. Students will also explore probability and statistics. Emphasis is placed on developing logical reasoning and problem-solving skills through the use of real-world applications. In Honors Geometry, students will be required to construct elegant proofs about each theorem or relationship they are using. Students are required to explain their reasoning and construct viable arguments. By the end of the course, students will have a comprehensive understanding of geometric principles and their applications in various fields such as architecture, engineering, and design. **A TI83 or TI84 calculator is required.**

## Algebra II

1 credit

Prerequisite: Geometry, Geometry AA, and departmental recommendation.

Open to grades 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed to emphasize and reinforce fundamental algebraic skills. The course will extend and/or advance discussion of linear, quadratic, exponential functions, and systems of equations/inequalities using appropriate technology, activities, and applications. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## Algebra II/Trigonometry

1 credit

9th grade Prerequisite: Must have completed Algebra and Geometry in middle school and qualified standardized test results.

10th, 11th, and 12th grade Prerequisite: Geometry and departmental recommendation

Open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course will extend and/or advance discussion of linear, quadratic, exponential functions, and systems of equations/inequalities using appropriate technology, activities, and applications. Also included will be graphing, modeling and applications of advanced functions. Some trigonometric topics will be covered. Skills learned will prepare a student for success in higher level math courses. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

1 credit

9th grade Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra and Geometry in middle school and qualifying standardized test results.

10th and 11th grade Prerequisite: Geometry with an A, Honors Geometry with a B or better and departmental recommendation.

Open to grades 9, 10, 11

**Course Description:** This course will cover all the material of Algebra II/Trigonometry. A greater emphasis will be placed on graphing, modeling, and application of advanced functions as well as trigonometric topics. The pace of the class and student expectations will increase to prepare the student to continue with honors math classes. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Intro to Personal Finance**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades 9 and 10

**Course Description:** This class will look at the value of money, the importance of understanding how money works, why it is important to look at your financial future now, and how decisions you make today can impact your future. We will look at spending habits of a high school teenager, create a budget to live from and figure out what is important for the student to spend money on. This course will cover topics that include budgeting, money management, checking and saving accounts, saving, and paying for college, and bargain shopping. This course will also cover some basics of investing, debt, and credit.

## **Financial Literacy**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades 11 and 12

**Course Description:** This class will look at several topics that will prepare the students for their financial future during their college years, working years, and retirement years. The students will gain an understanding of how the stock market works and different investment opportunities. Topics that will be covered are taxes, insurance, budgeting, investing and retirement accounts, saving and checking accounts and credit scores. This course will also explore the history of the credit system, what debt does to our financial future, how we had money in the different types of relationships that are developed over time, and our Christian values of giving. **A TI83 or TI84 calculator is required.**

## **Statistics**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II, Algebra II/Trigonometry, and departmental recommendation

Corequisite: Pre-Calculus, Calculus

Open to grade 12

**Course Description:** This course covers basic descriptive and inferential statistics, including techniques for collecting, analyzing, and reporting conclusions and making inferences from the data. **A TI83 or TI84 calculator is required.**

## **Pre-Calculus**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II/Trigonometry or Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry and departmental recommendation.

Corequisite: AP Statistics

Open to grades 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course will reinforce topics of Algebra II/Trig while extending and enhancing them beyond their development in Algebra II/Trig., probability & statistics, limits, polar coordinates, and matrices are also included. The skills learned will prepare students to be successful in Calculus. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Honors Pre-Calculus**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry with a B or better and departmental recommendation.

Corequisite: AP Statistics

Open to grades 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Designed for high-achieving students, this class is a more rigorous treatment of the topics found in Honors Algebra II/Trig. Limits, vectors, parametrics, polar coordinates, matrices and an introduction to derivatives will be included. The skills learned will prepare students for success in AP Calculus. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **Calculus**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus and departmental recommendation

Open to grades 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is a thorough study of the two branches of calculus: derivatives and integrals. **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **AP Calculus**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus with a B or better and departmental recommendation.

Corequisite: AP Statistics

Open to grades 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course contains in-depth coverage of all topics required for the Advanced Placement Calculus AB exam. Fundamentals of calculus are thoroughly covered through a geometrical, analytical, and mathematical approach. **Students are required to take the AP Calculus AB exam.** **A TI83 or TI84 graphing calculator is required.**

## **AP Statistics**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus and departmental recommendation.

Corequisite: Calculus, AP Calculus

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course thoroughly covers descriptive and inferential statistics required for the AP exam, including techniques for collecting, analyzing, and reporting conclusions and making inferences from the data. **Students are required to take the AP Statistics exam. A TI83 or TI84 calculator is required. Class size cannot exceed 29.**

**MATH DEPARTMENT**  
**RECOMMENDED COURSE OF STUDY**  
 (Exceptions will be addressed on an individual basis)

	<u>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>	<u>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</u>
<b><u>Students who have NOT successfully completed Algebra I</u></b>				
<b>Path One:</b>	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II/Trig	Pre-Calculus or Statistics
<b>Path Two:</b>	Algebra I	Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra II/Trig	Honors Pre-Calculus or Statistics
<b><u>Students who HAVE successfully completed Algebra I</u></b>				
<b>Path One:</b>	Geometry	Algebra II/Trig	Pre-Calculus	Calculus, Statistics or AP Statistics
<b>Path Two:</b>	Honors Geometry	Honors Algebra II/Trig	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus or AP Statistics
<b><u>Students who HAVE successfully completed Algebra I/Geometry</u></b>				
<b>Path One:</b>	Algebra II/Trig	Pre-Calculus	Calculus	AP Statistics
<b>Path Two:</b>	Honors Algebra II/Trig	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus	AP Statistics

# **Physical Education Department**

## **Program Goal:**

Through a wellness program integrating mind, body, and spirit, students will develop and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and behaviors required for healthy active living. Students are encouraged to complete Physical Education requirement(s) during Freshman or Sophomore year.

## **Physical Education Department Offerings:**

- Health
- Fitness for Life
- Weight Training

### **Health**

½ credit required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grades: 9, 10

**Course Description:** Health will give students an opportunity to gain an appreciation and understanding of the importance of making healthy lifestyle choices. Students will be encouraged to take an interest in their own health status, to appreciate themselves as unique individuals, to feel connected to family and community, to feel empowered to make and carry out health promoting decisions, and to set goals and make plans to achieve successful and satisfying lives.

### **Fitness for Life**

½ credit; credit may be repeated

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grades: 9-12

**Course Description:** This course will teach students how to engage in a healthy lifestyle for the rest of their lives. By focusing on real world challenges to remaining fit, students will learn and engage in the most important components of health. Students will learn about nutrition, resistance training, endurance training, and other modalities of exercise that will help them to live healthier lifestyles.

## **Weight Training**

½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed to increase speed, power, and strength to improve athletic performance. All students that desire to challenge and improve themselves physically are invited to participate in this course, regardless of sport participation. No prior weight training experience is required; however, students will be required to hold themselves to a high standard of effort, execution, and improvement to succeed in this course. Athletes are encouraged to select this course as their Physical Education offering of choice. Courses may be repeated.

**\*Students are only permitted to take one P.E. course per semester\***

# **Science Department**

## **Program Goal:**

Guided by the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, students will develop an understanding of what science is, what science can and cannot do, and how science contributes to the culture of our society. Through a minds-on experiential approach, students will become familiar with modes of scientific inquiry, rules of evidence, methods of formulating questions, and strategies for proposing explanations. Students are expected to think and act like scientists in all course offerings. Students will practice applying both moral and ethical principles when evaluating advances in technology, the role of science in society, and personal decision-making.

## **Science Department Offerings:**

- Integrated Science
- Biology
- Honors Biology
- AP Biology
- Anatomy/Physiology
- Chemistry
- Honors Chemistry
- AP Chemistry
- Physics
- AP Physics I
- Pre-Engineering

### **Note:**

To meet CC graduation requirements, a student is required to take (1) Biology, (2) Chemistry and (3) Integrated Science or Physics. Students may elect to take additional science credits (i.e. Anatomy, Pre-Engineering Advanced Placement courses). Students not taking an Integrated Science course must take a Biology course, a Chemistry course, and a Physics course.

All CC science courses meet college requirements for lab-based curricula. All graduation requirements must be met prior to or concurrently to take science elective courses.

Many of our science courses use a standards-based mastery learning approach with final grades being converted to our standard 10 point scale.

## **Integrated Science: STEAM Learning**

1 credit

Prerequisite: None

Open to grade: 9

**Course Description:** This course develops students' scientific inquiry and problem solving. As students work both individually and collaboratively on physics and earth science topics that include forces, motion, wave behavior, the formation and advanced dynamics of earth systems, and our role as stewards of creation. This course will emphasize observation, reasoning, and data processing. Students will also engage in designing and testing models, developing computational models based on existing data, and researching a variety of technological advancements. Through oral and written discourse, students will often be required to communicate and/or defend scientific ideas and engineering design decisions to an audience of their peers.

## **Biology**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Completion of Integrated Science; departmental approval required

Open to grade: 10

**Course Description:** This course covers cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and diversity of living organisms, and ecology. This course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will be expected to engage in scientific questioning and collect and analyze data. Students will explore biological science as a process.

## **Honors Biology**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Concurrent with Geometry or higher; departmental approval required

Open to grades: 9, 10

**Course Description:** This course is designed for the college-bound student who plans on further scientific study. This course covers cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, and ecological interactions within the biosphere. This course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will demonstrate an understanding of these concepts by using various representations and models to communicate scientific phenomena and solve scientific problems. Students will be expected to use mathematics appropriately, engage in scientific questioning to extend thinking or to guide investigations, plan and implement data collection strategies, perform data analysis, evaluate evidence, and connect and relate their knowledge across various

biological scales and concepts. This course covers the same content as Biology, differing only in emphasis, pace, performance expectations, and level of student responsibility. Honors Biology students are expected to spend at least 25 minutes each day outside of class studying.

### **AP Biology**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Honors Biology or Biology and Honors Chemistry or Chemistry; departmental approval required

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students in AP Biology will attain college-level competence and understanding in dealing with biological problems. AP Biology is structured around the following big ideas: how the process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life, how biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks, how living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes and how biological systems interact. Students will demonstrate an enduring understanding of these concepts by using various representations and models to communicate scientific phenomena and solve scientific problems. Students will be expected to use mathematics appropriately, engage in scientific questioning to extend thinking or to guide investigations, plan and implement data collection strategies, perform data analysis, evaluate evidence, and connect and relate their knowledge across various biological scales and concepts. This course is designed to cover all the learning objectives in the AP Biology Curriculum Framework. *AP students are expected to spend at least 5 hours per week in unsupervised study. **AP Students are required to take the AP Exam.***

### **Anatomy/Physiology**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Biology or Honors Biology and Chemistry or Honors Chemistry; departmental approval required

Open to grades: 11, 12 \*priority given to seniors

**Course Description:** This course presents the anatomy and physiology (functions) of the human body. It is presented through units covering the skeletal, muscular, nervous, respiratory, circulatory, digestive, integumentary, endocrine, excretory, and reproductive systems. Anatomy lessons incorporate research-based learning, requiring students to gather, analyze, and interpret scientific information. The knowledge gained in this course supports students' understanding of how their bodies function and benefits those pursuing health-related careers. *An anatomical dissection is an integral and required part of this course.*

## **Chemistry**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Completion of Biology; math placement considered

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course will allow students to develop a basic knowledge and understanding of the concepts of new world chemistry. Students will engage in laboratory activities designed to explore and enhance chemical concepts. This is a college prep course intended for the non-science major. Topics covered are chemical formulas and equations, atomic theory, periodic law, chemical bonding, molecular structure, phases of matter, mole concept, stoichiometry, and behavior of gases.

## **Honors Chemistry**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Honors Biology or Biology; departmental approval required

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed for the college-bound student who plans on further scientific study. It will provide the student with a fundamental background in chemistry, enhanced by laboratory activities. Topics covered are chemical formulas and equations, atomic theory, periodic law, chemical bonding, molecular structure, phases of matter, mole concept, stoichiometry, behavior of gases, and acid base theory. This course covers the same content as Chemistry as well as additional standards and applications, differing in emphasis, pace, performance expectations, and level of student responsibility.

## **AP Chemistry**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Biology or Honors Biology, Chemistry or Honors Chemistry; and Math at minimum concurrent with Algebra II/Trigonometry (Pre-Calculus preferred); departmental approval required

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students in AP Chemistry will attain college-level competence and understanding in dealing with chemical problems. AP Chemistry is intended to expose students to sophisticated chemical principles and concepts and fundamental laboratory techniques. The central objective of the course is for students to connect the macroscopic scale (the scale at which they observe phenomena) to the nanoscale (the scale at which atoms and molecules interact). Students will demonstrate that they can make these connections symbolically, graphically, and mathematically throughout the year. Students will be expected to synthesize and apply their knowledge, rather than memorize a mountain of facts. This course is designed to cover all the learning objectives in the AP Chemistry Curriculum Framework. **AP Students are required to take the AP Chemistry Exam.**

## **Physics**

1 credit

Prerequisites: Chemistry and concurrent with Algebra II/Trigonometry or higher; departmental approval required

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course allows students to develop an understanding of physics in the world and the universe around them through the lens of mechanics. Students will use their mathematical skills to problem-solve and analyze data gathered in laboratory situations. Topics of study include kinematics, dynamics, momentum, and conservation of energy. As time permits, electricity and magnetism, and modern physics theories will be explored.

## **AP Physics**

1 credit

Prerequisite: Concurrent Algebra II/Trigonometry or higher; departmental approval required

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** A year-long course designed to be the equivalent of a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics. This course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum), work, energy, power, and simple harmonic motion, and fluids. **AP Students are required to take the AP Physics Exam.**

## **Pre-Engineering**

1 credit (cannot replace a science graduation requirement)

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to engineering and will provide students with an overall view of the main principles of engineering. It includes an introduction to engineering design process and design tools through team projects that require creativity, collaboration, and engineering analysis. Reading, lectures, and discussions also examine the use of technology in society and engineering ethics. 3-D printing and various tools are introduced and used to help the student achieve an authentic experience in their first exposure to the field of engineering.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**  
**RECOMMENDED COURSE OF STUDY**  
 (Exceptions will be addressed on an individual basis)

<b><u>9<sup>th</sup> Grade</u></b>	<b><u>10<sup>th</sup> Grade</u></b>	<b><u>11<sup>th</sup> Grade</u></b>	<b><u>12<sup>th</sup> Grade</u></b>
<b><u>Students who have NOT successfully completed Algebra</u></b>			
Integrated Science	Biology  Honors Biology	Chemistry  Honors Chemistry  Anatomy	Science Elective  Anatomy  Physics  AP Biology  AP Chemistry  AP Physics
<b><u>Students who HAVE successfully completed Algebra I</u></b>			
Honors Biology	Chemistry or Honors Chemistry	Physics  AP Physics  AP Biology  AP Chemistry  Anatomy	Science Elective  AP Biology  AP Chemistry  Anatomy  Physics  AP Physics

**Note:**

\*Students may be allowed to take multiple science classes concurrently at departmental discretion.

\*Placements into AP Sciences are completed by the Catholic Central Science Department.

# **Social Studies Department**

## **Program Goal:**

Students will exercise the rights and responsibilities of their Catholic faith and of participatory citizenship by:

- Possessing a comprehensive knowledge base in social studies encompassing historical, geographic, civic, economic, psychological, and sociological perspectives.
- Demonstrating the skills needed to acquire, organize, and use information and to be an ethical decision-maker in an ever-changing world.
- Utilizing their faith to acknowledge and respect the value of others and society through democratic and religious perspectives.
- Accepting the responsibility to see, care for and act on issues in the community, nation and the world. Incorporating the seven principles of Catholic social teaching into each course.

## **Social Studies Department Offerings:**

- World Geography A/B
- World History
- AP World History
- US History
- AP US History
- Economics
- AP Macroeconomics
- Government
- AP US and Comparative Government
- Psychology
- AP Psychology
- Shoah (The Holocaust)

*\*Students who wish to pursue an AP track or are considering 4 years of Social Studies are strongly encouraged to begin their coursework in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.*

## **World Geography A/B**

½ credit/1 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** World Geography is a comprehensive study of the physical, political, economic, historical, and cultural make-up of the various regions of the globe. Students will gain a greater understanding of the differences among people, the interdependent relationships among nations, and insight into global issues. Skills in reading a variety of maps, satellite imagery, and statistical data are developed and practiced. While this class is open to 9 – 12 grades, it is *strongly encouraged that underclassmen take this course as a foundation to their history and government courses.*

## **World History**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10

**Course Description:** This course is a general survey of historical events beginning with the origin of man and continuing through modern civilization. Topics include Prehistoric Man, Ancient & Classical Civilizations of the East and West, the Middle Ages, Renaissance/Reformation, Scientific Revolution, Age of Exploration, and the Emergence of World Powers. Religion, art, culture, and patterns of thought will be discussed. This class is highly recommended as a foundation for studies in other disciplines as well as the social studies curriculum.

## **AP World History**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: 85% overall standardized test score, Honors English, or superior performance in English course work; recommendation of English/Social Studies teacher.

Open to grades: 9, 10

**Course Description:** Advanced Placement World History is a challenging full year course that is structured around the investigation of selected themes woven into key concepts covering distinct chronological periods. AP World History is equivalent to an introductory college survey course. The course has a three-fold purpose. First it is designed to develop skills of analysis and thinking to prepare students for success in the twenty-first century. Second, it is designed to prepare students for successful placement into higher-level history courses. Finally, it is the intent of this class to make learning world history an enjoyable experience.

**Students are required to take the AP World History exam in May.**

## **US History**

1 credit required

Prerequisite: (recommended)World History, AP World History or World Geography

Open to grades: 10, 11

**Course Description:** This is a year-long course in basic American History, surveying systematically the events that led to the development of the United States. To this end, we will begin with a review of events from Christopher Columbus to the Civil War. Emphasis will then shift to the post-Reconstruction Era. The political, economic, and social aspects of American life will be considered.

## **AP US History**

1 credit elective; fulfills grade 11 U.S. History requirement

Prerequisite: H-English Department recommendation required Standardized test scores considered.

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This is an accelerated and enriched program for highly motivated students who would like to pursue the study of American History in depth. It will be the equivalent of a full-year college history course. The students will receive a thorough treatment of the facts as well as their significance: context, causes, and results. Emphasis will be placed on reading primary historical material analytically and critically, the weighing of historical evidence and interpretations, and the arriving at conclusions based on fact rather than prejudice. Students will develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions based on an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in essay format. **Students are required to take the AP U.S. History exam in May.**

## **Economics**

½ credit required

Prerequisite: None

Open to grade 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course studies basic economic theory from a micro and macro perspective. The course will emphasize the relevance that economic theory has to students' everyday lives.

## **AP Macroeconomics**

½ credit: Fulfills Grade 12 Economics Requirement

Prerequisite: Honors/AP English concurrent/previous; AP US History/Math standardized test scores.

Department Recommendation Required

Open to grade: 11, 12

**Course Description:** AP Macroeconomics will be an accelerated and in-depth study of economic concepts including scarce resources, resource allocation, opportunity cost and comparative advantage. This course will study indicators and other measurement tools of

economic performance and the effects of monetary and fiscal policy on economic conditions. The course will examine macroeconomic conditions using national income and price determinants to show the interaction of supply and demand. **Students are required to take the AP Macroeconomics Exam in May.**

### **Government**

½ credit required

Prerequisite: US History

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is a study of the foundation of the American governmental system. It is intended to provide the student with a basic understanding of the organization and functions of government and the rights and responsibilities of participatory citizens. The legislative, executive, and judicial branches of federal, state, and local governments are studied.

### **AP US and Comparative Government**

1 credit - fulfills grade 12 Government course requirement

Prerequisite: Honors/AP English concurrent/previous experience & AP U.S. History Instructor approval required

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** This year-long course integrates AP U.S. Government and Politics with AP Comparative Government and Politics, providing students with a comprehensive understanding of political systems, institutions, and policies both in the United States and globally. Through comparative analysis, students will explore the foundations of democracy, authoritarianism, political ideologies, and governance structures in key countries, developing critical thinking skills and a deeper appreciation of global political dynamics. Students have the option to take only the AP US Government Exam or the AP US Government Exam AND the AP Comparative Government Exam.

### **Psychology**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed to survey the basic principles underlying the science of human behavior, with emphasis on heredity and environment and the various factors which affect the emotional, social, and mental development of the person. It examines the different types of modern psychology, the history of psychology and how it became a social science; and then considers psychology's enduring influence upon modern American culture. Additionally, it considers how psychologists seek to explain and to treat disorders such as anxiety, depression, substance abuse, stress, and eating disorders. This course only

counts for general elective credit and cannot be taken toward specified Social Studies requirements.

### **AP Psychology**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Honors English Department recommendation required

Open to grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** This is an accelerated and enriched program for self-directed and intrinsically motivated students who would like to examine the major core concepts and theories of psychology. It will be the equivalent of a college Psychology course. Students should learn the basic skills of psychological research, apply psychological concepts to their own lives, develop critical thinking skills and build their reading, writing, and discussion skills.

**Students are required to take the AP Psychology exam in May.**

### **Shoah (The Holocaust)**

1/2 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to help students understand the circumstances that led to the Holocaust, the major events during the Holocaust, and the ramifications of genocide on the past and present.

# **TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS & INNOVATION**

## **Program Goal:**

To develop the life skills necessary to meet the technological and ethical challenges of living and working with technology:

- Organize and evaluate information.
- Design and produce multimedia projects, desktop publishing documents and programs. Communicate (legally and ethically) in our global society.

## **Technology Department Offerings:**

- AP Computer Science Principles
- Computer Science Discoveries
- Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology)
- Coding (Python)
- Entrepreneurship
- Student Technology Innovation and Integration: Catholic Central Help Desk

### **AP Computer Science Principles**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** The AP Computer Science Principles course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. In this course, students will develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course is unique in its focus on fostering student creativity. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. They will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world. **Students are required to take the AP Computer Science Principles Exam in May.**

## **Coding (Python)**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: CS Discoveries (A or B) or AP Computer Science Principles

Open to grade: 11 and 12

**Course Description:** This one semester course builds upon a student's foundation of basic programming including logical thinking and problem-solving skills using conditional structures, functions, looping and variables. Using Python as the programming language, students will enhance their skills by creating, altering, and extending data structures through a variety of projects. A highly visual, dynamic, and interactive course, it is designed for a high level of engagement for all students.

## **Computer Science Discoveries**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Computer Science Discoveries is an introduction to problem-solving, coding, and the design process. The course takes a wide lens on computer science by covering topics such as programming, physical computing, HTML/CSS, and data. The course inspires students as they build their own websites, apps, games, and physical computing devices. This course prepares students to take AP Computer Science Principles in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade but is not a prerequisite.

## **Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology)**

½ credit

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Cybersecurity is a topic of growing importance as companies and individuals take precautions to protect themselves from the growing threat of cyber-attacks. This course prepares students with skills to be responsible citizens in a digital future. Using a mix of web-based and physical activities, students will learn foundational cybersecurity topics including networking fundamentals, software security, system administration and the basics of cryptography and programming, all through the CodeHS web-based platform. This is not a coding intensive course, but students will learn basic SQL and JavaScript, and will utilize basic HTML and JavaScript within specific contexts while being provided with support within those contexts. The Fundamentals of Cybersecurity course is designed for beginner to intermediate computer science students with at least some knowledge and interest in computer science.

## **Entrepreneurship**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades 11, 12

**Course Description:** Students will use their entrepreneurship skills and mindset to evolve an innovative solution to a problem into a validated business opportunity. By taking a lean startup approach in researching and testing their ideas, students will find a solution to the problem that they have researched. The students will develop a business plan for this problem and present their business model in a shark tank project.

## **Student Technology Innovation and Integration: Catholic Central Help Desk**

½ credit elective

Prerequisite: Application process

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** The Student Technology Innovation and Integration course is a hands-on, blended (on-line and in person) course in which students learn the foundations of information technology integration in an organization. Students will be introduced to, practice, and will be assessed on the development of both technical and soft skills while being required to work through daily help-desk problem solving scenarios. In addition to solving problems for students, parents, and teachers, students will be required to initiate, complete, and maintain several running projects that address problems or solutions in educational technology integration. The course also provides students with the opportunity to pursue an independent learning pathway in an IT or Technology Integration related context and develop a project which positively impacts their community. Students will be able to collaborate with outside businesses and organizations as they develop and implement their projects. To be successful in the course, students should have a prior understanding of Apple OS, Microsoft Window OS, and iPad iOS. There is an application process for this course.

# **Theology Department**

## **Program Goal:**

Each Student will:

- Acquire a deeper knowledge of the Catholic faith and its relevance throughout their lives.
- Develop a greater love of God and an awareness of the dignity of all people and creation.
- Serve others in response to Christ's call for justice.
- Become people of conscience motivated by the Holy Spirit.
- Share sacramental experiences through liturgy, prayer, and faith sharing.

## **Theology Department Offerings**

- Theology IA: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (Introduction to Scripture)
- Theology IB: Who is Jesus Christ (Christology)
- Theology IIA: The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)
- Theology IIB: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church (Ecclesiology)
- Theology IIIA: Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ
- Theology IIIB: Life in Jesus Christ (Christian Morality)
- Theology IVA: Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society (Social Justice)
- Theology IVB: History of the Catholic Church
- Science, Faith, and Reason (Elective)

**\*Course descriptions in line with the USCCB Framework concepts**

## **Christian Service Program**

We as Christians are called to live out the Gospel message by serving the needs of others. In order to develop sensitivity to this call of Jesus, the students at Catholic Central High School are required to get involved in our Christian Service Program during each of their four years. Students will perform and log 5 service hours per quarter into Mobile Serve (Class of 2027 and below)

***NOTES: National Honor Society applications in junior or senior year will be evaluated based, in part, on these recommendations for service involvement. Time of service runs June 1 through May 31.***

### **Theology IA: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (Introduction to Scripture)**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 9

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to give students a general overview and appreciation of the ways in which God is revealed in Sacred Scripture. By studying the many books and genres of the Bible, students will come to appreciate the meaning of inspiration and Catholic Bible interpretation that enlivens the faith of people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with its major sections and the books included in each section. Emphasis in this class will be on the Old Testament, preparing students for the coming of Jesus, which will be covered in the reading of the Gospels.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

### **Theology IB: Who Is Jesus Christ? (Christology)**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 9

**Course Description:** This class will allow students to dive into the essential Christian question: Who is Jesus Christ? To develop an answer to that question students will learn about the Trinity, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Students will delve into the life and teachings of Christ found in Sacred Scripture and the nature of Christ as True God and True Man developed in the centuries after Christ. Students will learn about how Jesus is the fullness of Revelation. Lastly, students will gain insight into the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, and her role in the story of Salvation.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

### **Theology IIA: The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 10

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in

and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

### **Theology IIB: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church (Ecclesiology)**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 10

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to help students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the Living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church, but about the sacred nature of the Church as Christ's ongoing presence in the world, guided by the Holy Spirit.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

### **Theology IIIA: Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 11

**Course Description:** The intention of this course is to build a foundational understanding of the sacraments as a privileged and sacred place of encounter with Christ through the life and ministry of the Church. Through a focus on grace, Sacred Scripture, celebration, and our reception of the sacraments, each of the units we will reflect on Christ's life as expressed and given through the sacraments for the sake of our salvation and for becoming who God calls us to be. This course will explore and explain the origins of the sacraments in the Old Testament, the life of Christ, the history and ministry of the Church and the effects Sacraments have in a Roman Catholic's life. Furthermore, in growing in understanding the place of the sacraments, this course will continually highlight the interconnectedness of Christ, His Church, and our lives as participants in the Church.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

### **Theology IIIB: Life in Jesus Christ (Christian Morality)**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 11

**Course Description:** The dignity of human people is initially rooted in our creation by God in His image and likeness. In Christ, God reveals how we human beings are to live our lives. This course helps students understand that Jesus calls them to live in a certain way. This course presents the dynamics of adult life as viewed by the Christian person in the modern world. It examines the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples, and it provides a foundation for Christian morality as it examines philosophy, conscience, and sources of morality. In the teachings of Scripture, Jesus and the Church provide the basis for a moral decision-making process which students are challenged to use with real-life moral issues presented. The focus of the course is on becoming a person of character based on Right Reason and Divine Revelation, then taking those teachings and Christian moral principles in the lived experience of the individual and the community through the study of various moral issues.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

### **Theology IVA: Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society (Social Justice)**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 12

**Course Description:** The purpose of this course is to acquaint the student with the Church's social teachings and traditions dealing with justice issues. We will critically analyze papal encyclicals, episcopal teachings, scripture and tradition while dealing with contemporary issues of social sin. Students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

## **Theology IVB: History of the Catholic Church**

½ credit-Required

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grade: 12

**Course Description:** This course seeks to show how the mystery of Christ has been revealed in the Church throughout time and across cultures. Specifically, it seeks to show how the mystery of Christ has unfolded through the themes of doctrine, discipleship, worship, and controversies. Spanning two millennia, each of these themes will be examined in six units covering Early Christianity, the Patristic Era, the Medieval Era, the Reformation Era, the Modern Era, and U.S. Catholicism.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

## **Science, Faith, and Reason**

½ credit Elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades 11 and 12; grade 10 with Departmental approval

**Course Description:** This course surveys evidence from science that supports Christian beliefs, keeping the two disciplines in dialogue with one another. Topics discussed will be, although not limited to, proof of the existence of God, meaning of life, congruence of Scripture and science, evolution vs. creation, metaphysics of creation, and evidence of a soul. This will be done by looking at works of the great scientists, Church Fathers, and classic philosophers. These and other discussions are necessary to equip students for dialogue with our culture.

*\*As part of their commitment to community and service, students are required to complete five volunteer hours per quarter.*

# **World Language Department**

## **Program Goal:**

In the World Language program, all students will learn to:

- communicate in the target language,
- recognize, appreciate, and respect the cultures, customs, and traditions of the peoples and regions of the target language and how they relate to the students' own language and culture,
- understand the structure of the target language and how grammatical structure vary from language to language,
- explore and understand the value and benefits of studying other languages and cultures

\*Communicate means the ability to share information with the least possible loss of meaning through reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Students may fulfill the World Language requirement by:

- Completing two years of one World Language at Catholic Central.
- Fulfilling one credit by completing a CCHS-approved formal career and technical education program (for example, KCTC) and one year of a World Language at Catholic Central.
- Fulfilling one credit by completing a year of Visual or Performing Arts beyond the 1 credit required and one year of a World Language at Catholic Central.
- Testing into the second year of study in a World Language and completing a full year of World Language instruction at Catholic Central.

## **World Language Department Offering**

- **Chinese** – Levels I, II, III and Honors Chinese IV
- **Spanish** – Levels I, II, III, IV (Honors), Literacy for Proficient Speakers, AP Spanish

## **Seal of Biliteracy Option**

The [Michigan Seal of Biliteracy](#) has been created to recognize high school graduates who exhibit language proficiency in English and at least one additional world language. The Seal may be awarded to any student receiving a high school diploma, a high school certificate of completion or a high school equivalency certificate and who has demonstrated Intermediate High proficiency on [acceptable world language assessments](#). The Seal has been created to encourage students to study world languages and embrace their native and heritage languages. The Seal will provide employers with a way to identify individuals with strong language and biliteracy skills. The Seal may serve as an additional tool for colleges and universities to recognize applicants' language abilities for admission and placement.

**The Michigan Seal of Biliteracy requires students to meet the following criteria:**

- Meet graduation requirements
- Demonstrate Intermediate High proficiency on [acceptable world language assessments](#)

## **Chinese Course Descriptions**

### **Chinese I**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is designed to practice basic skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Chinese and to introduce Chinese culture. The primary goal is to acquire the basic skills of using Chinese for communication. Thus, class time will be mainly used for speaking activities and storytelling. During this course, Mandarin Pinyin Romanization will be used for speaking and reading. Cultural activities will include practicing calligraphy, celebrating Chinese New Year, making Chinese handicrafts, and making traditional Chinese cuisine. Team projects include creating a family tree, making store ads/coupons, building a miniature house, ordering food at a Chinese restaurant in Chinese and more.

### **Chinese II**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese I or equivalent, Course instructor's recommendation is required.

Students should demonstrate novice high proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Pinyin.

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Chinese II is a continuation of Chinese I. Students will learn more complex (but commonly used) sentence structures, expand their vocabulary through storytelling, and become more comfortable with speaking and listening in Chinese. The class will continue its exploration of contemporary Chinese culture and its influence on the rest of the world. Cultural activities will include practicing calligraphy, celebrating Chinese New Year, making Chinese handicrafts, and making traditional Chinese cuisine. Team projects include researching the Chinese public transportation system, making a class schedule in Chinese, researching Chinese schools, exploring China's weather and geography, creating family life stories, and more.

### **Chinese III**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese II or equivalent. Course instructor's recommendation is required. Students should demonstrate intermediate low proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Pinyin, and novice low in recognizing and writing Chinese characters.

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** Chinese III is a continuation of Chinese II. Students will learn more complex (but commonly used) sentence structures, expand their vocabulary through storytelling, learn more common Chinese characters by writing with a traditional Chinese brush, and become more comfortable with speaking and listening in Chinese at an Intermediate low level. The class will continue its exploration of contemporary Chinese culture and its influence on the rest of the world. Class expectation: more advanced speaking and composition skills. Team projects include having a job interview in Chinese, traveling to China, renting an apartment in China, seeing a doctor in China and more.

### **Chinese IV (Honors)**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Mandarin Chinese III or equivalent. Course instructor's recommendation is required. Students should demonstrate intermediate mid proficiency in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Pinyin, novice mid-level in recognizing and writing Chinese characters.

Open to Grades: 11, 12

**Course Description:** Honors Chinese IV is a continuation of Chinese III. Students will learn more complex sentence structures, expand their vocabulary through storytelling, learn more common Chinese characters by writing with a Chinese traditional brush, and become comfortable and fluent with speaking and listening in Chinese at an intermediate mid-level. The class will continue its exploration of contemporary Chinese culture and its influence on the rest of the world. Class expectation: more advanced speaking/composition skills. Team projects include introducing Chinese housing, holidays, eight cooking styles throughout China, Chinese traditional clothing, wellbeing living, environmental issues in China and more.

## Spanish Course Descriptions

### Spanish I

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is an introduction to Spanish language and culture. Basic listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills are developed through storytelling, games, discussions about our lives, music, short films, current events, and reading and listening to stories as well as various cultural craft activities. Active participation and engagement are required. By the end of the course, the proficiency goal is for students to listen, read and write at the Novice Mid-Level. Speaking is not assessed at this beginning level. An appropriately leveled novel will be incorporated into the learning as well. Some of the topics include the Running of the Bulls, various genres of Hispanic/Latin music, the Day of the Dead, Three Kings Day, Cinco de Mayo, Bullfighting, Hispanic/Latin food, occupations, legends, sports, Human towers of Tarragona, an island that speaks through whistling, and much more!

### Spanish II

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Spanish I or demonstration of *Novice Mid* on the placement test

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is a continuation of Spanish I. Listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills are developed through storytelling, games, discussions about our lives, music, short films, current events, and reading and listening to stories as well as various cultural craft activities. Active participation and engagement are required. By the end of the course, the proficiency goal is for students to listen, read and write at the Novice High Level. An appropriately leveled novel will be incorporated into the learning as well. Culture is taught in Spanish, in a way that is comprehensible for students so that they get language and culture at the same time. Students will compare people, products, and practices in various cultures. Some of the topics are sports, basic dating customs, gauchos (cowboys) of Argentina, camping, immigration in various countries, a library that travels via donkey, camping, Costa Rica, the solar system and more.

### **Spanish III**

1 credit elective

Prerequisites: 85% or higher in Spanish II or demonstration of *Novice High* on the placement test

Open to grades: 9,10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is for students who are ready to progress to the Intermediate Low Level. Listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills are developed through storytelling, games, discussions about our lives, music, short films, current events, and reading and listening to stories as well as various cultural craft activities. Active participation and engagement are required. By the end of the course, the proficiency goal is for students to listen, read and write at the Intermediate Low Level. The past tense is introduced and assessed in this course as well as a more explicit focus on grammar. An appropriately leveled novel will be incorporated into the learning as well. Culture is taught in Spanish, in a way that is comprehensible for students so that they get language and culture at the same time. Students will compare people, products and practices in various cultures. Some of the topics are childhood fairytales, a crazy zoo, the Incas and an enchanted lake legend, crime scene investigation and more!

### **Spanish IV (Honors)**

1 credit elective

Prerequisites: 85% or higher in Spanish III or demonstration of *Intermediate Low* on the placement test

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course description:** This course is a blended course for students who are ready to progress to the Intermediate Mid-Level. The course will be differentiated to meet the needs of students. Listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills are developed through storytelling, games, discussions about our lives, music, short films, current events, and reading and listening to stories as well as various cultural craft activities. Active participation and engagement are required. By the end of the course, the proficiency goal is for students to listen, read and write at the Intermediate Mid-level. The past tense is reinforced and assessed in this course as well as a more explicit focus on grammar. An appropriately leveled novel will be incorporated into the learning as well. Culture is taught in Spanish, in a way that is comprehensible for students so that they get language and culture at the same time. Students will compare people, products and practices in various cultures.

### **Literacy for Proficient Speakers of Spanish**

1 credit elective

Prerequisites: Instructor recommendation after demonstration of proficiency in speaking and listening

Open to grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**Course description:** This course is for students who speak and listen in Spanish at an Intermediate or higher level. Students in these classes will focus on reading skills such as

selecting, comprehending, analyzing, and using information for a variety of purposes. Writing skills are also practiced. Students will encounter a variety of Spanish regional and social dialects; distinguish between formal and informal language registers, and their appropriate domains; read with comprehension and enjoyment; write extensively on materials and topics presented orally or within their experience; become familiar with the educational and career opportunities of Spanish-English bilingualism.

### **AP Spanish**

1 credit elective

Prerequisites: Instructor recommendation; Intermediate Mid/High proficiency; 85% or higher in previous course

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course description:** AP Spanish Language and Culture is equivalent to an intermediate level college course in Spanish. Students cultivate their understanding of Spanish language and culture by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real-life situations as they explore concepts related to family and communities, personal and public identities, beauty and aesthetics, science and technology, contemporary life, and global challenges.

**Students are required to take the [AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam](#) in May.**

# **AP Capstone**

## **About the AP Capstone Program**

AP Capstone is an innovative diploma program designed by the College Board that equips students with independent research, critical thinking, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills. AP Capstone is built on the foundation of two AP courses: AP Seminar and AP Research and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study experienced in other AP courses. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate. AP Seminar may also be taken as a stand-alone option.

The AP Capstone program gives students the chance to develop college-level academic skills and dig deep into subjects they love. It also gives students the chance to distinguish themselves to colleges.

## **AP Seminar**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: Administrative approval

Open to grades 10, 11 and 12

Note: Successful completion of AP Seminar is required for AP Research placement

This year-long foundational course engages students in cross-curricular conversations that investigate real-world issues from multiple and divergent perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. Using an inquiry framework, students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Students, in collaboration with teachers, have the flexibility to choose appropriate themes that allow for deep exploration based on student interests, local and/or civic issues, global or

international topics, and concepts from other AP courses. **Students are required to produce a team project and presentation, an individual research-based essay and presentation, and take the AP Seminar exam in May.**

### **AP Research**

1 credit elective

Prerequisite: AP Seminar

Open to grade 11, 12

AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research based investigation to address a research question. In the AP Research course, students further their skills acquired in the AP Seminar course by understanding research methodology; employing ethical research practices; and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information as they address a research question. Students explore their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of the development of their scholarly work in a portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of approximately 4000-5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense. Students must have successfully completed the AP Seminar course. **Students are required to take part in the AP Research Assessment.**

# **STUDY & ACADEMIC SUPPORT COURSES**

## **Academic Strategies**

1/4 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to grade 9

**Course Description:** This year-long course develops strategic approaches and skills necessary to be a successful student: study skills, learning style awareness, organization, learning strategies, time management, mindfulness, and self-advocacy. In addition, the course will prepare students for various types of tests and test-taking situations encountered during a student's high school career. This course also provides career exploration, connecting it to academic planning and career readiness competencies that students will learn to strategically address in high school. This class will blend in adequate study time in which students can practice and apply skills to current courses.

## **Learning Lab**

1/4 credit elective

Prerequisite: None

Open to Grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** The focus of a Learning Lab is to help students build academic behaviors and routines to help them achieve their goals. While the primary purpose of Learning Lab is to provide time and space conducive to students completing academic work, this will also be a structured support environment that includes mini lessons about time management, organization, planning, and study skills. The Counseling Department will also occasionally use this time to deliver college and career lessons or opportunities, standardized test information, and other content. When needed, students will have individual meetings with the Learning Coach and/or school counselors regarding grades, strategies for support, and completing coursework as needed.

## **Master Skills 2**

1/4 credit elective

Prerequisite: Student Support Services Recommendation

Open to grade 9-12

**Course Description:** This course develops strategic approaches and skills necessary to be a successful student: study skills, learning style awareness, organization, learning strategies, time management, mindfulness, and self-advocacy. In addition, the course will prepare students for various types of tests and test-taking situations encountered during a student's high school career. This course also provides career exploration, connecting it to academic planning and career readiness competencies that students will learn to strategically address in high school. Students can practice and apply skills to current courses. Master Skills 2 is a

Tier 2 intervention for students needing the support of a case manager and smaller than average class sizes.

### **Master Skills 3**

1/4 credit elective

Prerequisite: Student Support Services Recommendation

Open to grade 9-12

**Course Description:** This course develops strategic approaches and skills necessary to be a successful student: study skills, learning style awareness, organization, learning strategies, time management, mindfulness, and self-advocacy. In addition, the course will prepare students for various types of tests and test-taking situations encountered during a student's high school career. This course also provides career exploration, connecting it to academic planning and career readiness competencies that students will learn to strategically address in high school. Students can practice and apply skills to current courses. Master Skills 3 is a Tier 3 intervention for students needing the support of a case manager, smaller than average class sizes and opportunities for one-on-one support.

### **Peer Connections**

1/2 credit elective

Prerequisite: None - Application process will be completed through Student Support Services

Open to grades: 10, 11, 12

**Course Description:** This course is for students interested in working with peers with diverse educational needs in a supportive classroom environment. Students accepted into this course will be partnered with a student in an inclusive classroom after receiving training in peer mentoring. Training and reflection will be an ongoing part of the course. Students will learn how to support, advocate for, and connect to students with varied abilities within the assigned classes by helping with organization, communication, independence, socialization, and the academics of the class. This course can be taken for multiple semesters with the option to mentor different students each term.

## 2026/2027 CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

\* = Semester Course/ ^= NCAA Approved Course

	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
<b>ENGLISH</b>				
	English I^	English II^	English III^	English IV
	Honors English I^	Honors English II^	AP Eng Lang & Comp.^	AP Eng Lit & Comp.^
	*Creative Writing^	*Creative Writing^	*Creative Writing^	*Creative Writing^
	*Drama	*Drama	*Drama	*Drama
	*Mythology^	*Mythology^	*Mythology^	*Mythology^
	* Oral Communications^	* Oral Communications^	* Oral Communications^	* Oral Communications^
	*Composition of Argumentation^	*Composition of Argumentation^	*Composition of Argumentation^	*Composition of Argumentation^
		Yearbook	Yearbook	Yearbook
		Journalism	Journalism	Journalism
<b>FINE ARTS</b>				
<b>Visual Arts</b>	*Art I- Art Foundations	*Art I- Art Foundations	*Art I- Art Foundations	*Art I- Art Foundations
	*Art 2-Media Foundations	*Art 2-Media Foundations	*Art 2-Media Foundations	*Art 2-Media Foundations
		*Digital Media (Desktop Publishing)	*Digital Media (Desktop Publishing)	*Digital Media (Desktop Publishing)
		*Digital Media (HTML/CSS)	*Digital Media (HTML/CSS)	*Digital Media (HTML/CSS)
		*Painting & Drawing	*Painting & Drawing	*Painting & Drawing
		*Sculpture & Ceramics	*Sculpture & Ceramics	*Sculpture & Ceramics
			Honors Art	Honors Art
<b>Performing Arts</b>				
	Men's Choir	Men's Choir	Men's Choir	Men's Choir
	Women's Chorale	Women's Chorale	Women's Chorale	Women's Chorale
	Marching/Symphonic Band	Marching/Symphonic Band	Marching/Symphonic Band	Marching/Symphonic Band
	*History of Pop/Rock	*History of Pop/Rock	*History of Pop/Rock	*History of Pop/Rock
		Capella Choir	Capella Choir	Capella Choir

<b>MATH</b>				
	Algebra I^	Algebra I^	Geometry^	Algebra II^
	Geometry^	Geometry^	Algebra II^	Pre-Calculus^
	Honors Geometry^	Honors Geometry^	Algebra II/Trig.^	Honors Pre-Calculus^
	Algebra II/Trig.^	Algebra II/Trig.^	Honors Algebra II/Trig.^	Calculus^
	Honors Algebra II/Trig.^	Honors Algebra II/Trig.^	Pre-Calculus^	AP Calculus^
	*Intro to Personal Finance	Pre-Calculus^	Honors Pre-Calculus^	Statistics^
		Honors Pre-Calculus^	Calculus^	AP Statistics^
		*Intro to Personal Finance	AP Calculus^	*Financial Literacy
			*Financial Literacy	
<b>PHYSICAL EDUCATION</b>				
	*Health	*Health	*Fitness for Life	*Fitness for Life
	*Fitness for Life	*Fitness for Life	*Weight Training	*Weight Training
	*Weight Training	*Weight Training		
<b>NON-CATHOLIC CENTRAL COURSES</b>				
			KCTC	KCTC
			College Dual Enrollment	College Dual Enrollment

## 2025/2026 CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

\* = Semester Course/ ^= NCAA Approved Course

	9TH GRADE	10TH GRADE	11TH GRADE	12TH GRADE
<b>SCIENCE</b>				
	Integrated Science^	Biology^	AP Biology^	AP Biology^
	Honors Biology^	Honors Biology^	Anatomy/Physiology^	Anatomy/Physiology^
		Chemistry^	Chemistry^	Chemistry^
		Honors Chemistry^	Honors Chemistry^	Honors Chemistry^
		Pre-Engineering	AP Chemistry^	AP Chemistry^
			Physics^	Physics^
			AP Physics 1^	AP Physics 1^
			Pre-Engineering	Pre-Engineering
<b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>				
	World Geography^	World Geography^	World Geography^	World Geography^
	World History^	World History^	US History^	AP US History^
	AP World History^	AP World History^	AP US History^	*AP Macroeconomics^
		US History^	*Economics^	*Economics^
		AP US History^	*Government^	*Government^
			AP US & Comparative Government	AP US & Comparative Government
			*Psychology^	*Psychology^
			AP Psychology^	AP Psychology^
		*Shoah (The Holocaust)^	*Shoah (The Holocaust)^	*Shoah (The Holocaust)^
<b>TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS &amp; INNOVATION</b>				
	*CS Discoveries	AP Comp. Science Princ.^	AP Comp. Science Princ.^	AP Comp. Science Princ.^
	*Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology)	*CS Discoveries	*CS Discoveries	*CS Discoveries
		*Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology)	*Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology)	*Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology)
		*CC Help Desk	*Coding A (Python)	*Coding A (Python)
			*Entrepreneurship	*Entrepreneurship

			*CC Help Desk	*CC Help Desk
<b>THEOLOGY</b>				
	Theology IA	Theology IIA	Theology IIIA	Theology IVA
	Theology IB	Theology IIB	Theology IIIB	Theology IVB
		*Science Faith & Reason	*Science Faith & Reason	*Science Faith & Reason
<b>WORLD LANGUAGE</b>				
	Chinese I^	Chinese I^	Chinese I^	Chinese I^
	Chinese II^	Chinese II^	Chinese II^	Chinese II^
	Chinese III^	Chinese III^	Chinese III^	Chinese III^
	Spanish I^	Spanish I^	Chinese IV(Honors)^	Chinese IV(Honors)^
	Spanish II^	Spanish II^	Spanish I^	Spanish I^
	Spanish III^	Spanish III^	Spanish II^	Spanish II^
	Spanish IV^	Spanish IV (Honors)^	Spanish III^	Spanish III^
	LPS of Spanish^	LPS of Spanish^	Spanish IV (Honors)^	Spanish IV (Honors)^
		AP Spanish^	LPS of Spanish^	LPS of Spanish^
			AP Spanish^	AP Spanish^
<b>STUDY &amp; ACADEMIC SUPPORT COURSES</b>				
	*Academic Strategies	*Learning Lab	*Learning Lab	*Learning Lab
	*Master Skills 2	*Master Skills 2	*Master Skills 2	*Master Skills 2
	*Master Skills 3	*Master Skills 3	*Master Skills 3	*Master Skills 3
	*Learning Lab (only if enrolled w/ Ac. Strat.)		*Peer Connections	*Peer Connections
<b>AP CAPSTONE</b>				
		AP Seminar^	AP Seminar^	AP Seminar^
			AP Research^	AP Research^

## CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT COMPARISON CHART

1 credit = 2 semesters = 1 year

1/2 credit = 1 semester = 1/2 year

SUBJECT	CATHOLIC CENTRAL	RECOMMENDED COLLEGE	NCAA CORE REQUIREMENTS
<b>English</b>	4 credits	4 credits	4 years
<b>Theology</b>	4 credits	Not Required	Not Required
<b>Math</b>	4 credits	4 credits including Alg. II	3 years (check with Counseling for qualifying courses)
<b>Science</b>	3 credits	4 credits	2 years of natural/physical science (1 year of lab if offered)
<b>Social Science</b>	3 credits	3 credits	2 years
<b>Physical Education</b>	1/2 credit (2 years of Band/Color Guard or Sideline Cheer may be substituted)	Not Required	Not Required
<b>Health</b>	1/2 credit	Not Required	Not Required
<b>Electives</b>	2 credits	5-7 credits	4 years (Any of the following: English, Math, Science, Social Science, World Language or Comparative Religion/Philosophy)
<b>World Language</b>	2 credits (see "note" on pg 44)	2-4 credits	Not Required
<b>Visual Performing and Applied Arts</b>	1 credit	Not Required	Not Required
			<b>Note:</b> Also required, 1 additional year of English, Math or Natural/Physical Science.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>24 credits</b>	<b>22-26 credits</b>	<b>16 Core-Course Requirements</b>

\*Any student applying to Division 1 NCAA should see their counselor for up-to-date current course options

# **General Information**

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

In compliance with the requirements set by the Cognia accreditation process and those of the Catholic Central School Board, Catholic Central High School requires the following credits for graduation. One credit is one full year of successful work in a course or subject.

### **Requirements for a Catholic Central High School Diploma**

Minimum of 24 Credits

Religion	4 credits
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
World Language*	2 credits
Health/Phys Ed**	1 credit
Visual, Performing & Applied Arts***	1 credit
Personal Finance/Financial Literacy****	½ credit
Electives	2 credits

With Administrative approval, alternatives and exceptions may be considered to Catholic Central High School curricular policies in order to meet students' documented academic needs.

### **Students may fulfill the World Language requirement by...**

- Completing two years of one World Language at Catholic Central.
- Fulfilling one credit by completing a CCHS-approved formal career and technical education program (for example, KCTC) and one year of a World Language at Catholic Central.
- Fulfilling one credit by completing a year of Visual or Performing Arts beyond the 1 credit required and one year of a World Language at Catholic Central.
- Testing into the second year of study in a World Language and completing a full year of World Language instruction at Catholic Central.

\*\*Students may waive one semester of the Physical Education requirement by successfully completing a CCHS athletic program, participating in Marching/Symphonic Band , Color Guard or Sideline Cheer for two years, or by successfully completing 90 hours of athletic instruction/practice/competition of a pre-approved non-school program related to physical education/athletics/recreation under the supervision of a teacher/coach/personal trainer in an eighteen-week period of time. The Counseling Department will counsel registrants regarding this policy. (Health is required and should be completed prior to Senior year.)

\*\*\*Visual, Performing & Applied Arts may include, but may not be limited to, credits earned in the Technology and Fine Arts Departments, or through successful completion of classes such

as Public Speaking Communication, Yearbook and Journalism. Online courses, with the approval of the administration may also be considered for this requirement and may also be used to fulfill a requirement in another discipline.

\*\*\*\***Effective starting with the class of 2029** students must take ½ credit of personal finance which can be fulfilled with the following courses; Introduction to Personal Finance or Financial Literacy.

**College Board Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma**

Students who earn a 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research, and who also earn a 3 or higher in any four additional AP courses, will be awarded an Advanced Placement Capstone Diploma granted by the College Board.

## **GRADING PROCESS**

### **Grade Explanation:**

- A grade of “A” indicates mastery of the subject, as well as maturity of action and response.
- A grade of “B” indicates fulfillment of all requirements, as well as a quality of work which is considerably above average.
- A grade of “C” indicates achievement of average quality.
- A grade of “D” indicates the lowest passing mark; the quality of work shows little achievement beyond the minimum requirement.
- A grade of “E” indicates failure to complete the minimum essentials required. To obtain credit in a required course, and thus meet graduation requirements, the student must repeat the course.

### **10 Point Grading Scale**

<i>Grade Minimum</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>GPA</i>
A+	97-100	4.0
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.4
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.4
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7
D+	67-69	1.4
D	63-66	1.0
D-	60-62	.70
E	0-59	0.0

\*Courses using a standards-based mastery learning approach to grading will have final grades converted to the standard 10 Point Grading Scale.

**Report cards** are compiled four times a year and are posted on Infinite Campus.

- A. Quarter grades are not posted to the permanent record. They are intended to inform students and parents about student progress. Quarter grades represent 40% or 50% of the semester grade.
- B. First semester grades consist of the grade for both first and second quarter and the grade from a comprehensive final exam which counts for 20%. Only the final semester grade is recorded on the student's permanent transcript and used to calculate the cumulative grade. Second semester grades consist of the grade for the third and

fourth quarter and the student's exam grade. Only the final semester grades are posted on the transcript. The cumulative GPA is then recalculated after each semester.

**Incompletes** - A student who receives an Incomplete in a class is responsible for working with the teacher to determine what is missing. Generally, an incomplete grade must be made up within ONE week of the end of the marking period. Extensions may be given with the approval of the teacher and administration. When students are missing grades due to excused absences, the teacher will set a reasonable date by which all make-up work must be completed. If a student does not make up the work by the assigned date, the teacher is to record a zero for all work not completed.

**Academic Progress** – Academic progress is reflected in grades that are updated weekly and posted each quarter and semester. Students and parents are encouraged to review academic progress regularly.

**Suspension** - A student is suspended from participation in school for a serious or continuous breach of school rules. The administration may suspend students if their conduct or influence is considered unsatisfactory. Parents will be informed of the reason(s) for and the length of the suspension. Students are responsible for all classroom material covered during the suspension. Students are not permitted to attend Catholic Central events during the suspension period.

**Bonus Points** – Honors and AP courses receive a .018 add-on per ½ credit hour in computing the GPA (see chart of courses on page 79).

## **ACADEMIC CREDIT**

**A transcript** is the record of grades and is sent to colleges and institutions when applying for admission. An official transcript is one delivered, by request of the student and/or parent, to a college or institution with the school seal. An unofficial transcript is one delivered by request to the student and/or parent.

**AP Courses** – If enrolled in an AP course, students must take the AP exam for the course. This is a requirement of enrollment in the AP course. Families who may require financial assistance regarding the cost of the AP exam should contact the Counseling Office.

**Early College** – A student who wishes to take early college courses for which the school does not offer an equivalent course must provide the reason for the request and give a brief description of the classes to be taken. This request must be discussed with the student's counselor before a student submits his/her course requests for the upcoming year. The request will be reviewed by a committee consisting of the counselor, Department Head, and administration. The committee will grant or deny the request (see Dual Enrollment page 68). Grades for these courses are not computed in the student's cumulative GPA.

**Independent Study** –When a student is enrolled on a regular basis at Catholic Central High School:

- A. Prior approval from Administration is required to earn credit for an independent study. A maximum of one course (.5 credit) per semester is allowed, and a student may earn up to a total of four (4) credits for independent study.
- B. Credit will be granted for independent study courses not supervised by a Catholic Central High School faculty member only if the independent study is conducted by a recognized and Catholic Central-approved high school program. All costs for this independent study course, including on-line courses, will be assumed by the family.
- C. Students enrolled in the AP Capstone Program at Catholic Central may take part in research opportunities and/or internships for independent study credit after receiving prior approval from administration.

**Credit Recovery** - Students who fail a course are responsible to meet with their counselor and enroll in approved courses for required credit recovery. Summer school information is available in the Counseling Office. There are additional tuition costs for credit recovery and full payment is required at the time of registration. The credit recovery program only allows the student to remediate failed course content and earn a passing credit. No grade will be issued nor will points be added to the student's cumulative GPA. Credit recovery courses are pass/fail credit only.

A course that is repeated at Catholic Central, because of a failure and receives a passing grade when retaken, will appear on the permanent record. The passing grade will replace the original failing grade in determining the GPA. If a course is repeated outside Catholic Central,

the course and credit will be listed on the transcript. The credit will count toward the total required for graduation, but the grade in the repeated course will not replace the original failure, and the grade will not be computed in the cumulative grade point average.

### **Replacement Credit**

- A. To receive replacement credit, the course must be retaken within one year.
- B. To receive replacement by retaking a course, permission must be granted by the administration prior to the beginning of the semester. Generally, such permission will be given if the original grade was C+ or lower or if an educational need is apparent.
- C. When a replacement credit is given, the grade of the record will be the replacement grade.
- D. Exception: Transfer student academic status will be determined upon enrollment at CCHS.
- E. A student who takes outside courses without approval or takes classes outside CCHS simply for enrichment can have final grades recorded on the permanent transcript but will not be given CCHS credit.

### **Grading Irregularities**

Alternative cases of granting credit/no credit are at the discretion of the school administration. With counseling and administration approval, students with academic challenges may be given credit/no credit grades at Catholic Central High School. Students with extended absences due to medical circumstances should discuss alternative credit options with their school counselor.

## **CURRICULUM INFORMATION/ENROLLMENT**

Full time enrollment at Catholic Central High School is expected to earn the Michigan Merit diploma.

Four credits of **Theology class** at Catholic Central High School is required of all students. Exceptions made for transfer credits.

### **Schedule changes**

are made only through a formal procedure denoting departmental, parental, counselor, and administrative permission. Some electives may place considerable demands on students. It is imperative that students and parents familiarize themselves with the demands of course selections before course registration. Class changes can cause serious disruptions to the order of the school. Teacher hiring and assignment decisions are made on the basis of course selections in the spring. Changes, therefore, will only be made for very serious reasons. If a schedule is not complete, required subjects are not included, or if a class was assigned that wasn't selected by the student, a request should be made to correct the situation. Students must remain in currently assigned classes until they receive written add/drop notification.

### **Dual Enrollment**

Public Act 160 (1996) and Public Act 258 (2000) that created the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act, directs school districts including nonpublic schools to assist students enrolling in postsecondary coursework paid for by the State of Michigan. The following are some of the eligibility guidelines:

- Students in grades 9 through 12 may take up to ten postsecondary courses.
- Students can qualify for dual enrollment by taking one of the following assessments and earning a minimum qualifying score: PSAT, ACT or SAT
- 388.155 Rule 5 (2) The acts do not prohibit a district from supporting any pupil regardless of eligibility under these acts. A district may elect to support college level courses or career preparation courses for any pupil if it is in the best interest of the pupil.
- Students must be enrolled in both the eligible school (public or private) and eligible postsecondary institution during the local school's regular academic year and must be enrolled in at least one high school class.
- The college courses cannot be a hobby, craft, or recreation course, or in the subject areas of physical education, theology, divinity, or religious education.
- College courses can only be taken for postsecondary credit.
- College courses cannot be a course already offered at Catholic Central High School or a course that meets CCHS graduation requirements.

- The State of Michigan will pay an amount equal to the prorated percentage of the statewide pupil-weighted average foundation allowance, based on the proportion of the school year that the eligible student attends the eligible postsecondary institution. Eligible charges include tuition and mandatory course fees, material fees, and registration fees required by an eligible institution for enrollment in the course. *Eligible charges do not include transportation or parking costs or activity fees.* The Catholic Central High School student is responsible for any expense not otherwise met by the state funding.
- Credits earned from outside Catholic Central High School to be applied to a CCHS diploma are carefully considered in light of our mission and purpose and are limited. A student who wishes to take a college-level non-AP course for which the school does not offer an equivalent course is required to seek the approval of parents, Department Head, Counselor and Administration. Any courses required for graduation must be taken at Catholic Central. Courses will be approved only if they are not offered in our curriculum, or an exception is made due to a scheduling conflict. Students requesting dual enrollment must have earned a 3.0 grade point average with the exception of courses completed at KCTC. Under current legislation, The Michigan Department of Treasury may pay all or a portion of the tuition for a post-secondary course. Credit received will be post-secondary unless the course is considered a non-essential elective course. Fees incurred for outside coursework are the responsibility of the student; CCHS tuition will not be discounted unless an exception is made by the Business Office.
- Students who drop the college course after the official drop date or dropped by the college as a result of poor attendance or fail the course will be responsible for all costs associated with the course. State of Michigan funding will not cover the tuition of the course in the aforementioned circumstances.

## **Withdrawal from School**

**Students who withdraw from Catholic Central must formally notify the Admissions/Enrollment Department.** Notification may be made by email, phone call, or an in-person meeting.

Before a transcript or any academic records can be released, the student must have **no outstanding obligations**, including:

- All textbooks, school materials, and classroom items returned
- All iPad equipment returned and in acceptable condition
- Any other school-owned materials cleared
- All tuition and fees must be paid in full
- In addition, a **Withdrawal Form** must be completed, signed by the parent/guardian, and submitted to the Admissions & Enrollment Department to finalize the process.

## **Pathway to CC STEAM Designation**

The STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics) designated curriculum has been developed to support students interested in exploring careers in related fields. Students who wish to participate in this program will supplement their college preparatory coursework with STEAM-designated classes and experiences. In order to support the ongoing relationship the church has with science and technology, students will also participate in experiences that explore faith and reason. Students may opt into the program beginning freshman year. Upon successful completion, they will receive a designation on their transcript and recognition during senior year.

### **Requirements for CC STEAM Designation**

#### **Program requirements:**

- 4 credits of Science
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or above
- One credit in an approved Computer Technology class (See below.)
- Two credits in Visual Performing Applied Arts (VPA - See below.)
- Successful completion of at least one Advanced Placement Math, Science, or Computer Technology class
- Completion of 30 clock hours of approved STEAM experiences by April 1 of senior year, 8 of which must relate to Faith and Reason topics (See examples below.)
- Digital portfolio of experiences (Compilation of Google Forms)
- Reflection of STEAM experiences (2-3 paragraph paper or 2-3 minute video) after completion of their 30 hours.

\* Alternate programs and courses may be substituted with prior administrative approval. Examples include online STEM related classes, private music lessons, and Van Andel Journal Club etc. )

## STEAM Classes

Mathematics	Science	Computer Technology	VPA
Algebra or Honors Algebra	Integrated Science	AP Computer Science Principles	Art 1 & 2 - Foundations (each ½)
Geometry or Honors Geometry	Biology or Honors Biology	CS Discoveries A (½)	*Digital Media (HTML/CSS) & Digital Media (Desktop Publishing) (each ½)
Algebra II	Chemistry or Honors Chemistry	CS Discoveries B (½)	Painting & Drawing (½)
Alg II/Trig or Honors Alg II/Trig.	Physics	*Coding A (Python) (½)	Sculpture & Ceramics (½)
Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Physics	Cybersecurity (Intro to Digital Technology) (½)	Honors Art 1 & 2 (each ½) or
Calculus	Anatomy & Physiology	Pre-Engineering	Choir - Men's, Women's and Capella
AP Calculus	AP Biology	Approved KCTC classes	Band -Marching/Symphonic and Percussion
Statistics	AP Chemistry		Pre-Engineering
AP Statistics	Pre- Engineering		Drama (½)
			Plays/Theater (½)
			Yearbook
			History of Pop/Rock (½)
			Public Speaking (½)

\*Pre-Algebra still counts for 2026 and 2027 graduates\*

## **Student Learning Objectives**

The Student will be able to...

- Articulate the path to pursuing a particular STEAM career
- Network with adults in a STEAM field
- Demonstrate skills/habits of mind that are specific to a particular STEAM field
- Develop and present the impact of his/her experience to the CC community
- Articulate and defend the relationship between faith and reason

## **STEAM Experiences**

- Focus Time career talks (½-1 hour)
- Site visits to local companies (software, recycling center, medical centers, engineering labs, etc.)
- Summer class/internships (such as at a university or research lab)
- Volunteer at the zoo, nature center, museum
- Mavin Career Reviews (20 sessions = 1 hour)
- Focus Time Related Sessions (speakers, book study, etc.)
- Robotics (completion of an entire season)
- e-Sports (completion of an entire season)
- Dominican Republic Mission Trip (depends on placement and approval)

## **Faith and Reason Experiences:**

- [Magis Center Blog Posts/Videos](#) (1 blog review = 20 min)
- Focus Time Faith and Reason themed talks (½-1 hour)
- Faith and Reason book study
- Science, Faith & Reason class (at CCHS) (½ credit meets the 8 hour Faith and Reason requirement)
- Faith and Science talks (such as ones held at Parishes, Aquinas and Calvin)

## **A GUIDE FOR THE COLLEGE-BOUND STUDENT ATHLETE**

To practice and play as a freshman at an NCAA Division I or Division II or an NAIA college or university, student-athletes need to meet specific criteria with credits and GPA to be eligible. Division III student-athletes need to meet the admissions requirements set out by the individual university.

Students should let their coach, counselor, and the athletic director know they are interested in playing college sports and register with the NCAA Eligibility Center and/or NAIA Eligibility Center.

- [www.eligibilitycenter.org](http://www.eligibilitycenter.org) (NCAA)
- [PlayNAIA.org](http://PlayNAIA.org) (NAIA)

Students must earn a minimum of a 2.0 GPA (NAIA), 2.2 GPA (D II - NCAA) or 2.3 GPA (DI - NCAA) to be eligible to play college sports, and be sure to register for and successfully complete NCAA approved courses while here at Catholic Central. Students must successfully complete a core curriculum of at least 16 academic courses for NCAA - DI and DII.

**In Division I, student-athletes must earn a minimum of a 2.3 GPA in NCAA-approved courses, and earn 16 NCAA-approved core course credits in English, Math, Science, Social Science (ie. Social Studies). [Division I Fact Sheet](#)**

**In Division II, student-athletes must earn a minimum of a 2.2 GPA in NCAA-approved courses, and earn 16 NCAA-approved core-course credits. [Division II Fact Sheet](#)**

**In NAIA, student-athletes instantly qualify for eligibility upon high school graduation by earning a 2.3 GPA or by meeting two of the three following criteria:**

- **A cumulative GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale**
- **Class rank within the top 50% of their graduating class**
- **ACT score of 18 or SAT score of 970 (Critical Reading and Math combined)**

### **IMPORTANT POINTS**

- **These requirements will not apply to NCAA Division III institutions, where eligibility for financial aid, practice and competition will continue to be governed by institutional, conference and other NCAA regulations.**
- **This legislation establishes a minimum standard for athletic eligibility. It is not a guide to a student's admission to the institution. Under NCAA legislation, a student's admission is governed by the regularly published entrance requirements of each college.**

## CATHOLIC CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

### NCAA Approved Core Courses

<b><u>English</u></b>	<b><u>Mathematics Cont.</u></b>	<b><u>World Language</u></b>
English I	Statistics	Chinese I, II, III
Honors English I	AP Statistics	Honors Chinese IV
English II		Spanish I, II, III
Honors English II	<b><u>Science</u></b>	Spanish IV (Honors)
English III	Integrated Science	LPS of Spanish
AP English Lang & Comp.	Biology	
English IV	Honors Biology	
AP English Lit and Comp	AP Biology	
Composition of Argumentation <sub>(Debate)</sub>	Anatomy/Physiology	
Creative Writing	Chemistry	
Mythology	Honors Chemistry	
Oral Communications <sub>(Public Speaking)</sub>	AP Chemistry	
AP Research	Physics	
AP Seminar	AP Physics	
<b><u>Mathematics</u></b>	<b><u>Social Science</u></b>	
Algebra I	World Geography	
Geometry	World History	
Honors Geometry	AP World History	
Algebra II	US History	
Algebra II/Trig	AP US History	
Honors Algebra II/Trig	Economics	
Pre-Calculus	AP Macroeconomics	
Honors Pre-Calculus	Government	
Calculus	AP US and Comparative Government	
AP Calculus	Psychology	
AP Statistics	AP Psychology	
AP Computer Science Principles	Shoah (The Holocaust)	

## **KENT CAREER/TECHNICAL CENTER (KCTC)**

The Kent Career/Technical Center (KCTC) is an educational service of the Kent Intermediate School District. The center provides students with quality training in over 30 career and technical programs which include core technical training, academic integration, and alignment with post-secondary education. Upon completion of their training, students are assisted by counselors and work-based learning coordinators in finding employment and in exploring further educational opportunities.

Juniors and Seniors may enroll in a program offered at Kent Career/Technical Center. CC Students may attend **the first session** (6:55 a.m.-9:30 a.m.) and return to school in time for the class carrier that follows C-1 or C-8; they must provide their own transportation. Most KCTC courses for students are designed as one-year programs.

Prospective students are strongly encouraged to visit KCTC during their 1st semester and attend a session in their program of interest before making an enrollment decision in March. Arrangements for these visits are made through the Counseling Office at Catholic Central.

*For more information visit us at [www.thetechcenter.org](http://www.thetechcenter.org)*

## **HONORS ENROLLMENT CRITERIA**

Grand Rapids Catholic Secondary Schools offer Advanced, Honors, and AP level courses that provide an exceptional academic challenge for those students who desire it and whose classroom performance and/or ability indicates that such placement would be appropriate. When making the determination of placement into an Advanced, Honors, or AP level course, the following factors are given consideration:

- Student's desire to enroll in the course.
- Student's previous academic performance (in general and in the specific/related content areas)
- Student's ability as determined by a recent standardized instrument.
- Student's academic achievement as measured by a recent standardized instrument.
- Current and/or previous teacher's evaluation (including 7th/8th grade teacher evaluation)
- Parental input and support
- Number of spaces available per session of a course
- Current placement procedures by department

## **AP ENROLLMENT CRITERIA**

The Advanced Placement Program (College Board) is a cooperative, educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. It allows high school students to undertake college level academic learning in AP courses and gives them the opportunity to show that they have mastered the advanced material by taking AP exams. Students can receive credit for high school and/or from thousands of colleges and universities that participate in the Advanced Placement Program. Catholic Central High School offers 14 advanced placement courses.

Advanced placement courses make substantial academic demands on students. Most are full-year classes. Students are required to do considerable outside reading and other assignments to demonstrate the analytical skills and writing abilities expected of first-year students in a strong college program. This experience helps students develop the intellectual skills and self-discipline they will need in college.

In May, those students who are enrolled in an AP course must take the Advanced Placement Examination. The multiple-choice portions of the exams are scored by computer, and the free response sections are scored by college and school consultants at the AP Reading in June. Grade reports are sent to students, schools, and colleges in July.

### **Requirements for Taking Advanced Placement Courses**

Students should refer to the Catholic Central High School Curriculum Guide Department Course Listings for the requirements needed to be placed in an Honors or Advanced Placement Course.

### **AP Tests**

All students who are enrolled in Advanced Placement classes are required to take the AP test in those subject areas. There is a fee for each test and each student is responsible for payment of the fee before they can take the AP tests. The tests take place during the month of May. Test results are mailed by the College Board to students and schools in mid-July.

Families who may require financial assistance regarding the cost of the AP exam should contact the Counseling office.

## **HONORS/AP CURRICULUM**

The following are departmental honors programs available to the Catholic Central student. The ninth-grade segment is an advanced course of study used as a prerequisite to enter each of the honors programs. Only those students meeting the school's requirements will be allowed to take the advanced courses. Only those students satisfying the requirements of the honors program will be considered for the next level in each department. The progression of courses at the honors level is indicated for each department. These progressions are for freshmen students entering the school. *No student will be allowed to enter the advanced or honors program unless teacher recommendations, school transcripts, and/or standardized test scores are available.* See the next page for courses offered.

	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>DEPARTMENT</b>				
<b>AP Capstone</b>		AP Seminar	AP Seminar	AP Seminar
			AP Research	AP Research
<b>English</b>	Honors English I	Honors English II	AP English Language	AP English Literature
<b>Fine Arts</b>		Honors Art 1	Honors Art 1	Honors Art 1
		Honors Art 2	Honors Art 2	Honors Art 2
<b>Mathematics</b>	Honors Geometry	Honors Geometry	Honors Alg II/Trig	Honors Pre-Calculus
	Honors Alg II/Trig	Honors Alg II/Trig	Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus
		Honors Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus	AP Statistics
<b>Science</b>	Honors Biology	Honors Biology	AP Physics 1	AP Physics 1
		Honors Chemistry	Honors Chemistry	Honors Chemistry
			AP Chemistry	AP Chemistry
			AP Biology	AP Biology
<b>Social Studies</b>	AP World History	AP World History	AP US and Comparative Government	AP US and Comparative Government
		AP U.S. History	AP Psychology	AP Psychology
				AP Macroeconomics
				AP U.S. History
<b>Technology</b>		AP Computer Science Principles	AP Computer Science Principles	AP Computer Science Principles
<b>World Language</b>			Honors Chinese IV	Honors Chinese IV
			Spanish IV (Honors)	Spanish IV (Honors)
			AP Spanish	AP Spanish