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Introduction

This Course Description Guide will assist you in planning your course of study for the coming year. It includes course descriptions as well as other information to help you choose courses for next year.

It is important for you to familiarize yourself with the information in this book. You should understand the sequence of courses you need to take to fulfill graduation requirements. You will also want to read the course descriptions, especially those for the elective courses.

The timeline for course scheduling is useful in letting you know how much time you have to narrow down your choices for next year. During these next weeks, be sure to discuss your course options with your parents, teachers, and advisor, as well as with students who may already be taking the courses in which you think you are interested.

The course recommendation and request process is overseen by the Dean of Academics, the department chairs and the advisors. You first meet with your classroom teachers to complete a Course Recommendation Form and then with your advisor to plan out your schedule for next year. With their guidance, you will complete a Course Request Form, which will be approved by your parents, and will then be used to schedule your classes.

While you may not get all of your first choice electives, the class schedule at Saint Cecilia Academy is built specifically around the students’ course requests. Core courses are given top priority in the scheduling process. Honors and AP courses are equally important. Not all electives published in this curriculum guide will necessarily run in the 2014-2015 academic year. Ultimately the electives selected will depend upon student interest. However, we do attempt to maximize the chance that every student will have exactly the schedule that she requests.

Timeline for Course Scheduling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>Course Recommendation Day – (Special Schedule: all classes meet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>During class, each teacher reviews department curriculum and elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>options with students and signs Course Recommendation Form for each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Course Request Day – (Activity Period: advisory meets)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students report to advisory during activity period. Each student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>meets with her advisor to review Course Recommendation Form, discuss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>appropriate course selections and fill out Course Request Form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 5</td>
<td>Course Request Forms signed by parents are due (return to advisor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb – March</td>
<td>Review of Course Request Forms by Guidance Office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 7-8, 14-15</td>
<td>Incoming Freshman Placement Tests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 26</td>
<td>Incoming Freshmen course request process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11</td>
<td>Schedules are mailed to students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduation Requirements

There are two levels to graduation requirements at Saint Cecilia Academy: 1) requirements that are specific to the each department, 2) the total number of credits required for graduation. Credits that are not required by a specific department are fulfilled by elective courses.

Required credits by department:

- Religion: 4 credits (modified for transfer students)
- English: 4 credits
- Mathematics: 4 credits
- Science: 3 credits
- Social Science: 3 credits
- World Language: 3 credits
- Fine Arts: 1 credit (2 credits starting with class of 2018)
- Physical Education: 1 credit
- Computer Technology: 0.5 credit

Electives: remainder of credits to reach total necessary for graduation

Total credits required for graduation: 28 total credits

All students are required to take at least 7 classes each semester. Students with four Advanced Placement classes are eligible to take two study halls.

Classes At Aquinas College

Seniors at Saint Cecilia Academy may enroll in courses at Aquinas College with the permission of the Dean of Academics in consultation with the faculty. A course may be taken during the school day if it does not conflict with required SCA courses, or may be taken at night.

Each 3-credit course at Aquinas College will count towards 1 credit for graduation at SCA. Aquinas College courses will not be included in the Saint Cecilia Academy GPA calculation. In most cases, a course taken during the school day will require 2 study halls in order to allow for the time needed to attend class at Aquinas College.

When the course schedule for Aquinas is published for each semester, the guidance office will have a list of courses available to SCA students. In general, these will be courses that do not replace or duplicate offerings at SCA, but those that truly expand the options for Saint Cecilia students.

Courses usually available for St. Cecilia seniors include:
- General Psychology
- Microbiology* - must have completed AP Biology
- Introduction to Sociology

Dual Enrollment with Aquinas College

Aquinas College is offering St. Cecilia Academy AP Biology students the opportunity to earn credit at Aquinas College for the AP Biology course. Students can be dual enrolled at St. Cecilia Academy and Aquinas College. The AP Biology class will be taught at St. Cecilia Academy by a St. Cecilia Academy faculty member who is also an adjunct instructor at Aquinas College. The St. Cecilia Academy AP Biology teacher will be supervising all assignments and grades. The student who is dual-enrolled must also take a second semester exam in addition to the AP Exam in May.

Aquinas College gives a discount of 50% from the regular tuition for the dual enrollment program. A grant is also available from Tennessee Student Assistance Program. The grant is $100 per hour up to 3 hours with a maximum award of $300.

In addition to receiving 2 high school credits at St. Cecilia Academy, students in the dual enrollment program will receive 3 Aquinas College credits for the lecture section of the course and 1 Aquinas College credit for the laboratory section of the course per semester.
**Online Courses**

St. Cecilia Academy participates as a Charter Affiliate member of the Online School for Girls. Through this program, St. Cecilia seniors who qualify academically are able to take one online select class for graduation credit. These courses are marked with an *asterisk as they are listed throughout this guide in their respective departments. Students taking these courses must have permission from the respective department as well as the Dean of Academics. Students taking an online course through this program must have a study hall.
The religion curriculum forms the backbone for the moral and personal development of each Saint Cecilia student. Required as a part of the course of studies for each of the four years, the curriculum leads the students through an exploration of foundational beliefs about God and the Church, the development of moral principles from these beliefs, and understanding how the faith is lived in a personal way.

**Required Courses:**
- Christ & Scripture
- Redemption & the Sacraments
- Encountering Christ in the Church
- Moral & Spiritual Theology

**Elective Courses:**
- Philosophical Questions *(offered 2014-15)*
- Faith & Culture Seminar *(offered 2015-16)*

**REL 103 & 104**  
Christ & Scripture  
Grade 9  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course introduces students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh and Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Students examine divine revelation and Jesus as the ultimate revelation of God to humanity. Through study of Scripture and Tradition, the students are led to encounter Jesus and develop a relationship with Him. Particular emphasis is placed on the Gospels and discovering God’s plan for each person’s life. Jesus calls us to new life in Him, and thus students will also receive an introduction to morality.

**REL 203 & 204**  
Redemption & the Sacraments  
Grade 10  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Through the study of redemption, students will learn that for all eternity God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through Christ’s saving work on the cross. Students will trace salvation history beginning with creation, culminating in the Paschal Mystery, and continuing today through the sacraments of the Church.

**REL 303 & 304**  
Encountering Christ in the Church  
Grade 11  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The Church’s 2000 years of history is studied, with an emphasis on helping students better understand the nature of the Church, as well as their own membership in the Body of Christ and their call to be witnesses in the Church today. Recognizing the call to communion with Christ as the path to true human fulfillment, students are led to a deeper appreciation of the gift of the Church, particularly as that place of encounter with the living Christ.

**REL 401 & 402**  
Moral & Spiritual Theology  
Grade 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The goal of this year is to prepare students for living out their faith as adults. Principles of morality are applied to the questions posed in modern life. Special emphasis is given to the pursuit of holiness in one’s state in life. The dignity and vocation of women is studied, and John Paul II’s theology of the body is used as a foundation for understanding the holiness of marriage and family life. Social teachings of the Church are explored within the context of the documents of the Second Vatican Council. Church teachings combined with an honest understanding of self are used to encourage on-going personal growth in virtue.
REL 311
Faith & Culture Seminar  (offered 2015-16)
Grades 11, 12  Sem 1 or 2  0.5 credit

This course is designed for highly motivated students who desire to explore the riches of faith through engagement with culture. Through exposure to classical texts, art, music, and film, students will be challenged to deepen their understanding of the spiritual life and to share their insights in the mutually enriching forum of a seminar.

   Prerequisites: Permission of the 
department based on recommendation 
from religion and English teachers

REL 411
Philosophical Questions  (offered 2014-15)
Grades 11, 12  Sem 1 or 2  0.5 credit

This course provides an introduction to the perennial questions about the world and the human person that have presented themselves to the human mind down through the ages. Students explore the answers to these questions, as they have been proposed and formulated by the most significant efforts of human reason, through exposure to the principle primary sources of both Western and Eastern philosophical thought. Authors read will include Epictetus, Plato, Aristotle, Confucius, Buddha, Boethius, Aquinas, Ockham, Descartes, Hume, Kant, Edith Stein, and Gertrude Anscombe. Students will have the opportunity to discuss these texts in an effort to appreciate the profundity of the mysteries that existence presents to the examining mind and gain an insight into our reason’s own powers and limits in understanding the world that stands before us. The course also explores the relationship of religion and divine revelation to philosophical inquiry. Students will be assessed principally through their ability to engage with the authors through written essay questions and oral examination; thus, they should be prepared for active learning and applied comprehension.

   Prerequisites: Permission of the 
department based on recommendation 
from Religion teachers.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REQUIRED</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christ &amp; Scripture</td>
<td>Redemption &amp; the Sacraments</td>
<td>Encountering Christ in the Church</td>
<td>Moral &amp; Spiritual Theology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELECTIVES</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Faith &amp; Culture Seminar (semester)</td>
<td>Faith &amp; Culture Seminar (semester)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophical Questions (semester)</td>
<td>Philosophical Questions (semester)</td>
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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

The English curriculum is designed to provide the tools for students to become independent and effective readers and writers. From grammar, spelling, and vocabulary, to composition, literary criticism, and research techniques, students are led through a course of studies that has proven its success in the excellence of their advanced academic work.

Summer reading and independent reading during the school year are required in all four years of English. Summer reading lists are provided at the end of the academic year. Students are required to read all books on this list, which are grade-appropriate, and are issued with study guides and report forms for each book. Students choose their independent reading from an approved list. The number of books may vary with level and course.

**Required Courses:**
- English Language & Composition
- OR English Literature & Composition
- American Literature
- OR American Literature Honors
- English Rhetoric & Composition
- OR AP English Language & Composition
- British Literature
- OR AP English Literature & Composition

**Elective Courses:**
- Journalism
- Yearbook 1 and 2

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**ENG 101 & 102**  
**English Language & Composition**  
Grade 9  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This foundational course teaches students the knowledge of conventional grammar, usage, and mechanics as well as fundamental principles of effective sentences. Paragraph development is a central focus, with special emphasis on the 12-sentence paragraph; students are also introduced to four, and six paragraph essay formats. Over the course of the year, students read and write about poems, short stories, dramatic plays, and novels. Writing assignments include personal narratives, literary analyses, and at least one three- to five-page research paper in which students are taught library research skills and MLA documentation.

**ENG 151 & 152**  
**English Literature & Composition**  
Grade 9  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course begins with a review of grammar, usage, and mechanics. The 12 sentence paragraph and five paragraph essay are introduced through writing about classic literature of diverse genres, including drama, poetry, short story, novel, and non-fiction. Writing assignments emphasize analysis of literary themes and techniques. Basic library research and MLA documentation are also taught.

*Prerequisites: Department permission based on academic record and demonstrated writing skills.*

**ENG 201 & 202**  
**American Literature**  
Grade 10  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course begins by reviewing the basics of grammar, usage, and mechanics. Students also practice skills necessary for succeeding on the PSAT. But the heart of this course features the history and development of American Literature from its earliest foundation through the 21st century. Students continue work with the five paragraph essay with an emphasis on thesis development and paragraph unity as a means of producing more sophisticated student writing. Students write about a variety of literary genres and also write about how American culture has influenced American literature. Sophomore students also write a research paper.

**ENG 251 & 252**  
**American Literature Honors**  
Grade 10  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This second-year honors class follows the same general course of study as American Literature, but includes more extensive and intensive study of the material. Honors students are required to read additional literature and to analyze literature at a more sophisticated level. Writing expectations are higher both qualitatively and quantitatively.

*Prerequisites: Department permission based on academic record and PSAT scores*
Rhetoric and Composition is a course devoted to teaching students the craft of writing. To increase their understanding of rhetoric and its significance, students read, analyze, and write about the form, content, rhetorical strategies, and effects of prose written in a variety of time periods, disciplines, contexts, and genres, including essays, letters, speeches, images, short stories, novels, non-fiction books, poems, and dramatic plays. Students are expected to analyze and understand writing strategies in the essays they read and to effectively employ those same strategies in their own compositions. Over the course of the two semesters, students write analytical, argumentative, reflective, persuasive and narrative essays; they give at least one speech and write at least one five- to seven-page researched argument. Students review the principles of correct grammar, usage, and mechanics, and practice skills necessary for succeeding on the PSAT.

**ENG 503 & 504**
**AP English Language and Composition**
Grade 11 Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

AP Language and Composition follows the same general course of study as Rhetoric and Composition. With a heavy emphasis on nonfiction writing, student will be provided with opportunities both in class and out of class to develop their reading, writing, and speaking skills through a number of strategies and activities. Students will be exposed to a wide range of print and visual materials, from essays and articles to photographs, paintings and cartoons. Extensive practice in analyzing rhetoric will be followed by teacher and peer evaluations. By the conclusion of the course, students will be proficient in analyzing how a writer uses rhetorical strategies to achieve a specific effect and capable of using those same techniques in their own writing.

**Prerequisites:** Department permission based on academic record and PSAT scores.

This course begins with an intensive review of grammar, usage, and mechanics. Senior English is a survey of British Literature from *Beowulf* to the 21st century. Students read and write about poetry, prose, drama, and fiction. Using Strunk and White's *Elements of Style* as both textbook and model, students strive to develop a personal writing style that puts a premium on conciseness, clarity, and coherence. Particular attention is paid to sentence construction and revision strategies that combat wordiness and incoherence. Students also read Dante's *Inferno* in conjunction with selections from Milton's *Paradise Lost* as a means of exploring the epic tradition in literature.

**ENG 501 & 502**
**AP English Literature and Composition**
Grade 12 Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

AP English Literature and Composition follows the same general course of study as British Literature. AP students complete extra reading and writing assignments to prepare them for the AP exam, which all AP students must take in the spring. This course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students can deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing is an integral part of this course, with an emphasis on writing about literature. Assignments include mostly critical analysis, but also well-constructed creative writing. The goal of both types of writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works.

**Prerequisites:** Permission of the department based on previous academic record including PSAT scores.
### ENG 331 & 332
#### Yearbook 1
Grade 11, 12
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

Students are introduced to writing copy and designing layouts for the St. Cecilia Academy yearbook, *The Cecilian*. Students incorporate writing skills developed in the core curriculum of the English department and learn design techniques assisted by computer technology. Students work independently as well as in teams on the various sections of the yearbook.

*Prerequisites: Sophomore English and department permission.*

### ENG 321 & 322
#### Journalism
Grade 11, 12
Sem 1 and/or 2
0.5 credit or 1 credit

The journalism course stresses journalism writing and design. Students learn about writing for newspapers and magazines by reading, analyzing, and discussing articles from the print media. Regular writing assignments must meet copy deadlines. Hands-on experience in designing, editing, and writing is gained by producing school publications. Students taking a second semester of Journalism will get additional practice researching, writing, and slanting stories for publication.

*Prerequisites: Sophomore English and department permission*

### ENG 431 & 432
#### Yearbook 2
Grade 12
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

Students who have completed Yearbook 1 may enroll a second year to further develop their skills at writing copy and designing layouts for *The Cecilian*. Because of their previous experience, students in Yearbook 2 are expected to take a leadership role in the work on the yearbook. Yearbook 2 students may be considered for the job of editors.

*Prerequisites: Junior English, Yearbook 1 and department permission.*
**English Course Sequence**

**Grade 9**
- English Language & Composition
- OR
- English Literature & Composition

**Grade 10**
- American Literature
- OR
- American Literature Honors

**Grade 11**
- English Rhetoric & Composition
- OR
- AP English Language & Composition

**Grade 12**
- British Literature
- OR
- AP English Literature & Composition

**REQUIREDS**

**ELECTIVES**

- Journalism (semester or year)
- OR
- Yearbook 1 (year)
- OR
- Yearbook 2 (year)

- OR
- Journalism (semester or year)
- OR
- Yearbook 1 (year)
The Mathematics Department at St. Cecilia Academy is dedicated to developing in every student a solid foundation in basic facts and skills and the confidence needed to be successful in mathematics. These skills are then extended to advanced topics, encouraging deep understanding of mathematical concepts. All Saint Cecilia students take a full four-year course of mathematics in preparation for their college studies in a wide variety of fields. The curriculum is flexible; a variety of courses is offered to accommodate the needs of all students, including those who are highly accelerated. Preparation for the math portions of the college entrance exams (PSAT, SAT, and ACT) are incorporated in a grade-appropriate level throughout the curriculum. A TI graphing calculator is required for all math courses.

**Required Courses:**
- Algebra I OR Algebra I Honors (may be waived based on placement exam, but does not count as a graduation credit)
- Geometry OR Geometry Honors
- Algebra II OR Algebra II Honors
- College Algebra/Trigonometry OR Pre-Calculus OR Pre-Calculus Honors

**Online School for Girls:**
- AP Statistics 1 credit
- Multivariable Calculus ½ credit
- Differential Equations ½ credit

**Elective Courses:**
- College Algebra (1 semester)
- Trigonometry (1 semester)
- Pre-Calculus
- Pre-Calculus Honors
- Introduction to Calculus (1 semester)
- Statistics (1 semester)
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics

**MAT 101 & 102**
**Algebra I**
Grade 9  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The foundation course in a college preparatory mathematics sequence, Algebra I stresses both the structure of algebra and the development of problem-solving skills. Students gain competence in working with real numbers to solve problems. The concept of a function is introduced. Students learn how to use a graphing calculator as a powerful tool. Topics include algebraic language, operations with signed numbers, inequalities, exponents and radicals, polynomials, factoring, functions and graphs, quadratic equations, and rational expressions.

**MAT 151 & 152**
**Algebra I Honors**
Grade 9  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Topics taught in the regular Algebra I course are covered in depth at a more accelerated pace. More advanced work is also done in factoring, word problems, linear and quadratic equations and their graphs.

Prerequisites: Permission of the department based on Algebra I placement exam and previous academic record including standardized test scores

**MAT 201 & 202**
**Geometry**
Grade 10  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course in elementary Euclidean geometry emphasizes and integrates logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. Students define, develop and prove the various properties of geometric figures. A detailed and analytical understanding of the ideas of shape and space are developed. Students study flow charts, probability, two-column deductive proofs, logic problems, and transformations, as well as triangle trigonometry, construction, solid geometry, the Pythagorean Theorem and coordinate geometry. Students’ algebra skills are maintained and developed through application to geometric problems.

Prerequisites: Algebra I or Algebra I Honors

**MAT 251 & 252**
**Geometry Honors**
Grade 9, 10  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The honors section of geometry covers the same topics as the regular geometry course, but pursues these in greater depth. Concepts are developed more rigorously and emphasis is placed on logic and application, developing a solid conceptual foundation for the higher level mathematic courses of Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus.

Prerequisites: Algebra I or Algebra I Honors and PSAT math score of 40 or higher, or permission of the department based on St. Cecilia Academy math placement exam and previous academic record, including standardized test scores
**MAT 301 & 302**  
**Algebra II**  
Grade 10, 11  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This second year of algebra extends the major topics of Algebra I (real numbers, polynomials, linear functions) to include complex numbers, quadratic and higher order polynomials, and expressions with rational exponents. Students develop an understanding of abstract ideas, such as the nature of functions. New classes of functions, including exponential and logarithmic, are included in the students’ problem-solving experiences. Trigonometric concepts are introduced. Technology skills are extended as students expand graphing calculator skills.

*Prerequisites: Geometry or Geometry Honors*

**MAT 351 & 352**  
**Algebra II Honors**  
Grade 10, 11  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Algebra II Honors moves quickly through the preliminary topics of Algebra II in order to provide more time on advanced topics such as trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions and advanced word problems. Students in Algebra II Honors are being prepared to meet the requirements for admission to the AP Calculus course.

*Prerequisites: Geometry or Geometry Honors (or concurrent enrollment in Geometry Honors) and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math score of 45 or higher*

**MAT 401**  
**College Algebra**  
Grade 12  
Sem 1  
0.5 credit

Following two years of formal study of algebra, this course expands understanding of mathematical concepts and the correlation of concepts in numerical, algebraic, and graphical forms. Polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions are studied in greater depth. Students explore a variety of real life applications. Further work with graphing calculators supports the concepts presented.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**MAT 402**  
**Trigonometry**  
Grade 12  
Sem 2  
0.5 credit

This course integrates the study of algebra and geometry to expand understanding of trigonometric concepts. Trigonometric topics include right triangle trigonometry, the unit circle, graphic trigonometric functions, basic identities, solving trigonometric equations, and applications of trigonometry.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**MAT 411 & 412**  
**Pre-Calculus**  
Grade 11, 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

After a firm foundation in algebra and geometry, this course introduces the branch of mathematics known as analysis, which is the formal study of functions. Students compare behavior of each major class of functions, from polynomials to trigonometric, analyzing domain, range, and end behavior, leading to the study of limits. Technology is used to explore the representations of each of these classes of functions in all of their forms, numerical, algebraic, and graphical.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II or Algebra II Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**MAT 451 & 452**  
**Pre-Calculus Honors**  
Grade 11, 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The honors section of Pre-Calculus covers the same topics as MAT 411 & 412, but pursues these in greater depth. The emphasis in the honors section is on problem solving and developing a solid conceptual foundation in preparation for the higher level mathematic courses of AP Calculus. This course ends with an introduction to the concepts of derivative and antiderivative.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II or Algebra II Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math score of 50 or higher*
**MAT 421**
**Introduction to Calculus**
Grade 12  
Sem 1  
0.5 credit

This course introduces students to topics developed in entrance level courses in many college mathematics programs. The concepts of limits, continuity, derivatives, and integrals are explored from a conceptual level using polynomial and rational functions.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus Honors*

**MAT 422**
**Statistics**
Grade 11, 12  
Sem 2  
0.5 credit

Statistics is a collection of methods for planning experiments, obtaining data, and then organizing and analyzing the information to draw conclusions. This one semester course is appropriate for students interested in pursuing majors drawing from a wide variety of disciplines. The course introduces students to statistics topics such as data collection, sample variation, basic probability, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, analysis of variance, contingency tables, correlation, and regression. The statistical capabilities of the graphing calculator and other computer programs will be used.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II or Algebra II Honors*

**MAT 501 & 502**
**AP Calculus AB**
Grade 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

A culminating course in the study of mathematics in high school, this course develops the three fundamental concepts of calculus in detail: limits, derivatives, and integrals. It meets all the topical requirements for students to be successful on the AP Calculus exam. Emphasis is placed on conceptual understand as well as proficiency in problem solving.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math score of 55 or higher*

**MAT 521 & 522**
**AP Calculus BC**
Grade 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The BC section of AP Calculus covers the topics of MAT 501 & 502 in greater depth. Additional topics covered in the BC section include parametric and polar functions, differential equations, improper integrals, and infinite series.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores.*

**MAT 521 & 522**
**AP Statistics**
Grade 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1.0 credit

This course is intended to help students develop strategies for collecting, organizing, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Much of this knowledge will come through experiential activities that challenge students to design, administer, and tabulate results from surveys and experiments. The course uses graphing calculators as well as statistical software to enhance the students’ ability to visualize and solve statistical problems. Although the course is taught through an online format, students participate in small cooperative learning groups to explore solutions and share ideas. Students will complete most work independently, but they will have opportunity for conferencing with the instructor on a regular basis.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores.*

**MAT 531**
**Multivariable Calculus**
Grade 12  
Sem 1  
0.5 credit

This course will cover some topics that are not part of the AP Calculus BC curriculum, such as calculating volumes by using shells, surfaces of revolution, and centers of mass among others. It will also explore topics that are studied in a typical college-level third semester calculus course. These include vectors, differentiation in several variables, optimization in several variables, multiple integration, and line and surface integrals.

*Prerequisites: AP Calculus and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores.*

**MAT 532**
**Differential Equations**
Grade 12  
Sem 2  
0.5 credit

This course will provide an introduction to differential equations. Topics will include: solving first-order and simple higher-order equations with applications to various scientific fields (physics, chemistry, biology, etc.); solving linear differential equations and their applications; and Laplace transform methods.

*Prerequisites: AP Calculus and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores.*
# Mathematics Course Sequence

## Grade 9
- **REQUIRED**
  - Algebra I
  - OR
  - placement into Algebra I Honors
  - OR
  - placement into Geometry Honors

## Grade 10
- **REQUIRED**
  - Geometry
  - OR
  - Geometry Honors
  - OR
  - Algebra II
  - OR
  - advance into or double with Algebra II Honors

## Grade 11
- **REQUIRED**
  - Algebra II
  - OR
  - Algebra II Honors
  - OR
  - Precalculus
  - OR
  - Precalculus Honors

## Grade 12
- **REQUIRED**
  - College Algebra (semester)
  - OR
  - Trigonometry (semester)
  - OR
  - Precalculus
  - OR
  - Precalculus Honors
  - OR
  - Intro to Calculus (semester)
  - OR
  - Statistics (semester)
  - OR
  - AP Calculus AB
  - OR
  - AP Calculus BC

- **ELECTIVES**
  - Electives offered through On Line School for Girls (Grade 12)
  - AP Statistics (year)
  - Multivariable Calculus (semester)
  - Differential Equations (semester)
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

At Saint Cecilia Academy, every student is required to complete a full year in each of the three major high school sciences: physics, chemistry, and biology. This is done by a careful sequencing of the science curriculum with close integration to the mathematics curriculum. All students are expected to fulfill these required courses by the end of their junior year, maximizing the number of students eligible and prepared for enrollment in the AP science courses.

**Required Courses:**
- Physics OR Physics Honors
- Chemistry OR Chemistry Honors
- Biology OR Biology Honors OR AP Biology

**Elective Courses:**
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Environmental Science
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics
- Scientific Research

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**SCI 101 & 102**
**Physics**
Grade 9
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

Physics introduces the student to the skills necessary for the study of science. This is accomplished through an inquiry, activity-oriented, and conceptually-based program that includes the necessary physical laws and science concepts. Topics include the scientific method, measurement, Newton's laws of motion, vector mathematics, energy, light and sound waves, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. Students become adept at carrying out laboratory experiments while maintaining a proper record of lab work and presenting their findings in written form. An emphasis is placed on graphing data and interpretation of this data, with correlation to math concepts presented in Algebra I.

**SCI 151 & 152**
**Physics Honors**
Grade 9
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

The general topics covered in this course are identical to physics. However, the mathematical operations necessary for this course material require that the student has a firm foundation in Algebra I before starting this course. Students in honors physics will be required to read a higher-level textbook and to be more independent in the laboratory, using higher level analytical and evaluative skills. The course is designed with a depth and pace appropriate for students considering AP Physics as a later science elective.

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**SCI 201 & 202**
**Chemistry**
Grade 10
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of chemistry for the college-bound student. The topics include: measurement, classification of matter, chemical nomenclature, the mole concept, atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical bonding, states of matter, the gas laws, solution chemistry, acids and bases, oxidation and reduction reactions and nuclear chemistry. Students learn to write chemical formulas and reactions, with an emphasis on organic molecules in preparation for the study of biology. Appropriate lab experiences are incorporated, stressing the discovery of relationships and further development of formal scientific writing.

*Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I and enrollment in Geometry*

**SCI 251 & 252**
**Chemistry Honors**
Grade 10
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

Students in Honors Chemistry will study the same topics as in Chemistry, plus some additional material. Overall, it is a more rigorous and mathematical introduction to the subject of chemistry. The depth and pace of this course demand successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry. Students will be required to read a higher level textbook and apply higher analytical and evaluative skills. Laboratory work and application problems at the honors level require more intuitive reasoning on the part of the students.

*Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I and Geometry. Student should be enrolled in Algebra II*
In Biology, students are introduced to the basic life processes that unify living organisms. The fields of cell biology, classification, plant and animal physiology, genetics, evolution, and ecology are included in the course. The relationship between science and faith is established, with a particular focus on the necessity for moral considerations in the life sciences. Personal and societal applications of biology are considered. Laboratory skills are further developed, and outside readings, including library research, are required.

**Prerequisites:** Chemistry

In Honors Biology, students study the basic life processes that unify living organisms. Topics include: biochemistry and metabolism, genetics, cell biology, evolution, multicellular life and ecology. Concepts are illustrated through the study of selected human body systems and homeostasis. The relationship between science and faith is established, with a particular focus on the necessity for moral considerations in the life sciences. Personal and societal applications of biology are considered. Laboratory skills are further developed, requiring the ability to plan, analyze, and execute experiments. Self-motivation and personal responsibility are essential qualities of the honors level student.

**Prerequisites:** Chemistry and permission of the department

This course studies human anatomy and physiology. It begins with a review of cells, progresses to a study of tissues and membranes, and ends with an exploration of the structure and function of the human body. A continuous theme throughout the course is "structure determines function." The first semester of this course includes a study of the integumentary, muscular, skeletal, nervous and endocrine systems. The second semester includes a study of the pulmonary, cardiac, digestive, urinary and reproductive systems. Each semester can be taken as an individual semester course. Both semesters of this course include various required lab dissections. In addition, a foundational knowledge of biochemistry, cell structure and function and the basics of physiology from biology are presumed.

**Prerequisites:** Biology
Environmental Science provides students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems - both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science embraces a wide variety of topics including the scientific process, the study of energy as the basis of ecological systems, human interactions with interconnected life processes, social and cultural aspects of environmental problems, and the need to develop sustainable systems. Students explore environmental science concepts through an inquiry-based approach which includes a variety of laboratory experiences.  

**Prerequisites:** Chemistry and Biology

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The Advanced Placement Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course taken during the first year of college. Students attain a depth of understanding of the fundamentals of chemistry and competence in dealing with chemical problems. It is a rigorous course that is qualitatively different from the high school chemistry sequence in topics covered, mathematical applications and laboratory work requirements. Quantitative differences appear in number of topics treated, depth and detail of topics, the use of advanced mathematical concepts and the time required by students outside of class for successful work in the course. It is important to note that the nature and variety of experiments done in the laboratory require a high level of analytical and evaluative skills. Course topics include: Structures of matter: atomic, chemical bonding and nuclear chemistry; states of matter: gases, liquids, solids, solutions; reactions: types, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics, thermodynamics; and descriptive chemistry: chemical reactivity, relationships, and organic chemistry. The laboratory component follows the design of the Advanced Placement Chemistry syllabus as outlined by the College Board. This class will meet for two periods each day of the class cycle. The Advanced Placement examination is required and is administered in May.  

**Prerequisite:** Permission of the department based on a high level of performance in previous science courses, standardized test scores, evidence of a strong work ethic and PSAT math score ≥ 58.

The Advanced Placement Physics course is designed to be the equivalent of the general physics course taken during the first year of college. The syllabus of this course is appropriate preparation for the College Board Subject Test in physics. Strong skills in mathematics are essential for students in this course. Topics include a study of classical mechanics, electricity, magnetism, wave motion, light, relativity, and atomic and nuclear physics. An extensive laboratory component is an integral part of the curriculum as it follows the design of the Advanced Placement Physics syllabus as outlined by the College Board. This class will meet for two periods each day of the class cycle. The Advanced Placement examination is required and is administered in May.  

**Prerequisite:** Permission of the department based on a high level of performance in previous science courses, standardized test scores, evidence of a strong work ethic and PSAT math score ≥ 60.

This course is meant for the serious science student who wants to pursue an independent scientific research project. The student is responsible for designing and conducting a research project that is based on the proper use of the scientific method. Appropriate statistical methods should be incorporated. The teacher is available as a mentor but will not direct student work. The student must design a project that is suitable for completion within one or two semesters that she is enrolled in the course. At the completion of the project, the student will write a scientific paper and be asked to present her work in oral and written form to a group of faculty members.  

**Prerequisites:** Permission of the department and concurrent or previous enrollment in one of the AP science courses.
Science Course Sequence

**Grade 9**

**REQUIRED**
- Physics
  - OR
  - Physics Honors

**ELECTIVES**

- Anatomy & Physiology (semester 1 and/or 2)
- Environmental Science (semester 1 and/or 2)
- Scientific Research (semester)
- AP Chemistry (year)
- AP Physics (year)

**Grade 10**

**REQUIRED**
- Chemistry
  - OR
  - Chemistry Honors

**ELECTIVES**

- AP Chemistry (year)
- AP Physics (year)
- AP Biology (year)

**Grade 11**

**REQUIRED**
- Biology
  - OR
  - Biology Honors
  - OR
  - AP Biology

**Grade 12**

- Anatomy & Physiology (semester 1 and/or 2)
- Environmental Science (semester 1 and/or 2)
- Scientific Research (semester)
- AP Chemistry (year)
- AP Physics (year)
- AP Biology (year)
History is the antecedent to understanding the social, political, economic, religious, artistic, and intellectual structures and systems not only of the past, but also of the present. The understanding of our accumulated experience enables us to construct a better society. The social sciences shows us how to take all the pieces of the puzzle and put them together to understand the whole. It is through the study of social sciences that we develop an understanding of the interrelationships of these parts and the interconnectedness of humanity in order to develop a true vision of our society. Saint Cecilia Academy is committed to exposing students to the exciting world of the past through a rigorous and rich study of all areas of history. Our social sciences courses will develop the students’ ability to reason and write, to discern opinion from fact, and to appreciate difference.

### Required Courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World History</td>
<td>9, 10</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European History OR AP U.S. History</td>
<td>10, 11</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The course explores the history of western civilization from the world’s earliest ancient civilizations through the end of the 15th century in Europe. Students master basic geography skills and come to understand the impact of geography on human history. Students not only gain competency in their knowledge of western civilization but also analyze the significance of events and persons in shaping the cultural, political, and technological development of western society. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on building skills in reading comprehension, analytical writing, and studying.

### Elective Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian Studies (2015-2016)</td>
<td>10, 11</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Current Global Issues (2014-15)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AP Psychology</td>
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<td>AP Art History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Government</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The AP courses in the history department are taken in place of the regular required courses by highly motivated, serious students who will be prepared to take the AP exam in the specific subject area. In AP European History, the course content is the same as in European History, but introduces a broader exploration of topics, central to the understanding of the development of modern political and cultural history. As this is a college-level course, students are required to study and work independently, in order to cover the large amount of material necessary to be adequately prepared for the AP exam in May.

**Prerequisites:** World History and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores

### Required Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP U.S. History OR AP Art History</td>
<td>11, 12</td>
<td>1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A year-long, chronological approach to the exploration, settlement, and development of the United States is presented. Within this framework, students examine several major, interconnected themes in U.S. history such as the development of the republic, civil rights and liberties, economic development, geography and environment, cultural diversity, conflict and cooperation, the role of the U.S. in world affairs, and the American individual. A political, economic, and social interpretation of U.S. history is emphasized.

**Prerequisites:** European History
Highly motivated, serious students who will be prepared to take the AP exam in U.S. history may take this course in place of the regular U.S. History course. It is taught as a college-level survey course in U.S. history. In addition to studying major themes in U.S. history, students will develop the ability to think critically, articulate themes, and write succinctly. Historians and historiography are studied to acquaint students with differing interpretations of past events. In small group settings, discussion is encouraged to stimulate analysis of material and the ability to present ideas clearly to others.

Prerequisites: World History, European History or AP European History and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores

This course examines current world events from geographical, political, economic, social, and cultural perspectives. Class discussion, independent reading, and course readings will examine major global issues and trends. Special emphasis is given to geo-political interaction, human-environment relationships, and socio-economic development. Possible topics to include: global warming, international oil crisis, economic recession, terrorism, and genocide. The course makes use of prominent journals and periodicals, as well as a textbook.

Prerequisites: World History and concurrent enrollment in (or completion of) European History.

Asian Studies is a class that introduces students to the history, cultures and societies of Asia, principally China, Japan, and India. Studying Asia and gaining experience in the Asian world are important to understanding the global flows of people, cultures, technology, and business in today’s world. Beginning with a survey of the traditions of art, literature, religion and society, students will progress from the ancient to the modern era gaining a familiarity with the expanding influence of the Asian global community.

Prerequisites: World History and concurrent enrollment in (or completion of) European History.

Students are introduced to the ideals and institutions on which the U.S. government is founded. This survey class examines the fundamental principles and basic structure of our government while exploring the elements of the U.S. Constitution. A basis for understanding how other nations are governed is established through examination of other political and economic systems. Class discussions are encouraged to aid students in using critical judgment and in assessing the dynamics of U.S. government.

Prerequisites or Corequisite: U.S. History

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students will also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in Biology, and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores

This course offers a chronological survey of Western art from the dawn of civilization to the present time, including the most modern trends and ideas in the ever changing world of art. The first semester introduces the topic of art history, and covers art through the northern renaissance. The second semester includes the Italian renaissance through the present. The seven basic course objectives follow the objectives for the AP Art History course defined by the College Board with an emphasis on the Western tradition.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of the teacher based on previous work in art, English, and history courses.
# Social Science Course Sequence

**Grade 9**  
- **REQUIRED**  
  - World History  
  (may be deferred until grade 10)  
  OR  
  - AP European History  
  (may be deferred until grade 11)  

**Grade 10**  
- **REQUIRED**  
  - European History  
  (may be deferred until grade 11)  
  OR  
  - AP U.S. History  
  (may be deferred until grade 12)  

**Grade 11**  
- **REQUIRED**  
  - U.S. History  
  (may be deferred until grade 12)  

**Grade 12**  
- **REQUIRED**  
  - AP U.S. History  
  (may be deferred until grade 12)  

**ELECTIVES**  
- Asian Studies  
  (semester)  
- AP Art History  
  (year)  
- Current Global Issues  
  (Semester)  
- Government  
  (semester)  
- AP Psychology  
  (year)  
- AP Art History  
  (year)  
- Current Global Issues  
  (Semester)
WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

The goal of the World Language program is for each student to develop proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking in a modern (French or Spanish) or classical (Latin) language. The students have an opportunity to take four years of language at the high school level, even if they have placed out of the level 1 course in their chosen language, based on their experience in their pre-high school coursework. AP courses are given in modern languages to eligible students.

Required Courses: The World Language requirement is 3 credits, taken in high school, in the same language; or, 2 credits in the same modern language and 2 credits in Latin. Level one of each language may be waived based on placement exam, but does not count as a graduation credit.

Courses are selected from:
- French 1, 2, 3, French Pre-AP, French Culture & Conversation, and AP French Language and Culture.
- Spanish 1, 2, 3, Spanish Pre-AP, Spanish Culture & Conversation, and AP Spanish Language and Culture.
- Latin 1, 2, 3 (Prose), and 4 (Poetry - Vergil).

The expected outcomes in the World Language courses are similar based on the course level. There are five areas of language acquisition, with the following expectations in levels 1-3:

1. Listening: To understand the language as it is spoken by a native speaker at a normal conversational rate with the vocabulary and grammatical structures appropriate to the level of instruction.

2. Speaking: To communicate with reasonable fluency in real-life situations at a level commensurate with the vocabulary and structure appropriate to level of instruction.

3. Reading: To read materials appropriate to the level of instruction, both silently and aloud, with understanding.

4. Writing: To write clearly and correctly within the limits imposed by the vocabulary and grammatical structures at the level of instruction.

5. Culture: To gain familiarity and appreciation of the culture of the linguistic community, and learn differences and similarities in world views, customs, beliefs, and social conventions of the linguistic community.

The Pre-AP language courses are for students who really enjoy their study of the world language, have demonstrated a strong academic performance in their previous language classes as well as a serious work ethic. The difficulty level of the AP exam is such that it is important for students to have intensive preparation the year prior to taking the AP level course.

The AP courses may be taken by students who are juniors or seniors, after having completed 3 or 4 levels of their language courses. They are intended for highly motivated students and are comparable in content and difficulty to a language course at the third-year college level.

The Culture and Conversation language courses are intended for students who want to continue in their chosen language beyond the required three years, but may not want to pursue this at the AP level, or have already completed the AP year.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>French</th>
<th>Spanish</th>
<th>Latin</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAN 101 &amp; 102</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 111 &amp; 112</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 131 &amp; 132</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>French 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spanish 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Latin 1</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>1 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAN 201 &amp; 202</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 211 &amp; 212</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 231 &amp; 232</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>French 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spanish 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Latin 2</strong></td>
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<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAN 301 &amp; 302</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 311 &amp; 312</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 331 &amp; 332</strong></td>
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<td><strong>French 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spanish 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Latin 3</strong></td>
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<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAN 351 &amp; 352</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 361 &amp; 362</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 431 &amp; 432</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>French Pre-AP</strong></td>
<td><strong>Pre-AP Spanish</strong></td>
<td><strong>Latin 4</strong></td>
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<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAN 401 &amp; 402</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 411 &amp; 412</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>French Culture &amp; Conversation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Spanish Culture &amp; Conversation</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>1 credit</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LAN 501 &amp; 502</strong></td>
<td><strong>LAN 511 &amp; 512</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AP French Language and Culture</strong></td>
<td><strong>AP Spanish Language and Culture</strong></td>
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<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
<td>Sem 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<td>1 credit</td>
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# World Language Course Sequence

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REQUIRED</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French 1</td>
<td>French 2</td>
<td>French 3 or Pre-AP</td>
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<tr>
<td>OR</td>
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<td>OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin 1</td>
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<td>Latin 3</td>
<td>Latin 4</td>
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<td>OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spanish 1</td>
<td>Spanish 2</td>
<td>Spanish 3 or Pre-AP</td>
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<td>OR</td>
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<tr>
<td>placement into level 2 language course</td>
<td>placement into level 3 language course</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ELECTIVES</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Culture &amp; Conversation</td>
<td>Spanish Culture &amp; Conversation</td>
<td>Latin 4</td>
<td>AP French Language and Culture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish Culture &amp; Conversation</td>
<td>Latin 4</td>
<td>AP Spanish Language and Culture</td>
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</table>
FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

The Fine Arts have been fundamental in the curriculum of Saint Cecilia Academy since its first days, the school having been named for the patron saint of music. The drama, visual arts, dance, choral and instrumental programs have consistently drawn local and national recognition for their outstanding quality. All Saint Cecilia students are introduced to the fine arts in a multidisciplinary course during their freshman year and continue with at least one other course in a specialty area of the fine arts.

**Required Courses:**
- VAP (Visual & Performing Arts) – 0.5 credit in Fine Arts
  
  An additional 0.5 credit from an elective in Fine Arts

**Elective Courses:**
- Intermediate Art A & B
- Advanced Visual Arts
- Master Visual Arts
- Digital & 35MM Photography

**FIA 101 & PED 102**

VAP (Visual and Performing Arts)
Grade 9
Sem 1 & 2
0.5 credit for Fine Arts
0.5 credit for P.E.

Required of all freshmen, VAP introduces students to the basics of dance, drama, and the visual arts. These separate components are covered in classes in a rotating schedule, but there are also projects that cross the various disciplines. VAP allows each Saint Cecilia student the opportunity to experience being an artist, including the aspects of production, history, aesthetics, and criticism.

**FIA 211**

Intermediate Visual Arts A
Grade 10, 11, 12
Sem 1
0.5 credit

This course is a sequential study of the history of art, beginning with the basics of understanding art, to a study of the Italian Renaissance. Students are introduced to the relationship between the artist and his time, important vocabulary, and the defining characteristics and styles of the different periods. Students produce artwork using a wide range of media and techniques in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, clay, and fiber art forms. Programs are used to develop an understanding of the impact of commercial design. Through critiques, analytical skills are developed and sharpened.

**FIA 212**

Intermediate Visual Arts B
Grade 10, 11, 12
Sem 2
0.5 credit

This course is a sequential study of the history of art from the art of Venice to the Modern Art movements. Students are introduced to the relationship between the artist and his time, important vocabulary, and the defining characteristics and styles of the different periods. Students produce artwork using a wide range of media and techniques in drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, clay, and fiber art forms. Programs are used in developing an understanding of the impact of commercial design. Through critiques, analytical skills are developed and sharpened.

**Prerequisites:** Intermediate Visual Arts A

**FIA 311 & 312**

Advanced Visual Arts
Grades 11, 12
Sem 1 & 2

Advanced Visual Art is for juniors or seniors who have competed two years of studio art with the interest to develop stronger work in the visual arts. This course develops a wide variety of technical skills in drawing, painting, printmaking and sculpture. Students rely on previously developed skills and work in-depth to develop a theme in their art. This course is designed to foster student growth for those who do not desire to continue in AP Studio Art. Students do not develop work for the Advanced Placement Breadth section. All successful works of art are documented and saved to a flash drive.

**Prerequisites:** Intermediate Visual Art A & B
**FIA 315 & 316**  
**Portfolio Studio Arts**  
Grade 11  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit  

This course gives the highly motivated student the opportunity to focus on individual work and create a portfolio of high quality. The majority of these projects will be used in the BREADTH section (12 Works) of the AP Studio Art portfolio. Students develop more advanced techniques in drawing, painting and mixed media. Students will be introduced to the use of Photoshop to edit their art images and learn how to photograph their artwork. Students are expected to complete work on time by organizing their projects wisely. This course is designed for students wishing to continue to AP Studio Art. Students are required to submit at least one work of art to the regional Scholastic Art Exhibit at Cheekwood Art Museum.  

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B and recommendation of department based on past performance in visual art classes*

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**FIA 411**  
**Digital Photography**  
Grade 11, 12  
Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit  

Digital Photography is an exploration of digital photography, digital image editing and photographic techniques. During the semester, students will work toward the following goals: 1. Gaining an understanding of digital photography, processes and concepts. 2. Learning to create interesting and strong compositions using the camera as media. 3. Applying these new understandings toward creating original, strong, interesting digital images. 4. Expanding their knowledge and vocabulary as it relates to both contemporary and traditional photography. 5. Discovering their limits and striving to create beyond them. Students will discover tips for taking exceptional photographs, while learning strategies to manipulate their photos in Adobe Photoshop Elements. At the end of this course students will gain a deeper understanding of contemporary digital art, as well as photography, by creating a portfolio of their digitally created artwork. Students must have a working digital camera for this course.  

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B*

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**FIA 412**  
**35MM Photography**  
Grade 11, 12  
Sem 2  
0.5 credit  

Students will learn the history of photography and learn how to shoot and develop black and white film. Basic methods of printing from black and white negatives are presented, and students will learn to strengthen those images with composition, framing, and good exposure. The class will cover camera controls and learn correct techniques for shooting black and white images. Students must have a working 35 mm film camera with manual capabilities to take this course.  

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B*

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**FIA 413 & 414**  
**Master Visual Arts**  
Grade 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit  

Master Visual Arts gives the highly creative student the opportunity to focus on individual art projects and to continue work on a strong portfolio based on a theme or thesis. This portfolio is graded on technical skill, creativity, and use of time management. The student is self-directed with a collaborative dialog with the studio art teacher and student. Rubrics are written for each project to evaluate the work. Students are required to submit at least two works of art to the Regional Scholastic Art Exhibit at Cheekwood Art Museum.  

*Prerequisite: Advanced Visual Arts or Portfolio Studio Art*

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**FIA 511 & 512**  
**AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio**  
Grade 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit  

Following the AP course description, the student must define a special area of interest (concentration) at the beginning of the year and produce a body of work that reveals experimentation and careful examination of that area of interest. The student assembles her work in a portfolio to be graded by the AP College Board. Students submit 12 works of art based on the Principals & Elements of Art. At the end of the year, the student presents a display of her work in a juried student art exhibit.  

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B and permission of the department. Student must have a study hall to enroll in this class.*
FIA 513 & 514
AP Studio Art: 2D
Grade 12 Sem 1 & 2 1 credit

The portfolio produced for this AP course is intended to address a very broad interpretation of two-dimensional design issues. Students are asked to demonstrate proficiency in two-dimensional design using a variety of art forms in preparation of their portfolios. The student assembles her work in a portfolio to be graded by the AP College Board. Students submit 12 works of art based on the Principals & Elements of Art. At the end of the year, the student presents a display of her work in a juried student art exhibit.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A, B, Portfolio Studio Arts and permission of the department. Student must have a study hall.

Design Portfolio
Grade 12 Sem 1 & 2 1 credit

The portfolio produced for this AP course is intended to address a very broad interpretation of two-dimensional design issues. Students are asked to demonstrate proficiency in two-dimensional design using a variety of art forms in preparation of their portfolios. The student assembles her work in a portfolio to be graded by the AP College Board. Students submit 12 works of art based on the Principals & Elements of Art. At the end of the year, the student presents a display of her work in a juried student art exhibit.

Prerequisites: AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio and permission of the department. Student must have a study hall.

FIA 515 & 516 (SSC 531-532)
AP Art History
Grade 10, 11, 12 Sem 1 & 2 1 credit

This course offers a chronological survey of Western art from the dawn of civilization to the present time, including the most modern trends and ideas in the ever changing world of art. The first semester introduces the topic of art history, and covers art through the northern renaissance. The second semester includes the Italian renaissance through the present. The seven basic course objectives follow the objectives for the AP Art History course defined by the College Board with an emphasis on the Western tradition.

Prerequisites: Recommendation of the teacher based on previous work in art, English, and history courses.

FIA 221
Intermediate Speech/Drama A
Grade 10, 11, 12 Sem 1 or 2 0.5 credit

The speech/drama courses offer the student the opportunity to further develop her acting skills while acquiring knowledge of play production and direction. Critiquing individual and ensemble performances and studying the history of theater give perspective and depth to the student’s understanding of drama. Improvisation activities will also be an integral factor in acting development. Participation in the SCA play production and/or forensic team is required. (15 hours per quarter)

Prerequisites: VAP

FIA 222
Intermediate Speech/Drama B
Grade 10, 11, 12 Sem 1 or 2 0.5 credit

Intermediate Speech/Drama B continues with the work of Intermediate Speech/Drama A.

Prerequisites: Intermediate Speech/Drama A

FIA 321
Advanced Speech/Drama A
Grade 11, 12 Sem 1 or 2 0.5 credit

Advanced Speech/Drama builds on the knowledge and skills developed in Intermediate Speech/Drama. Added emphasis is placed on learning the technical aspects of theater, including set design, costume design, lighting design, etc. Additional hours are required in participation in the SCA play production and/or forensic team activities. (20 hours per quarter)

Prerequisites: Intermediate Speech/Drama B

FIA 322
Advanced Speech/Drama B
Grade 11, 12 Sem 1 or 2 0.5 credit

Advanced Speech/Drama B continues with the work of Advanced Speech/Drama A.

Prerequisites: Advanced Speech/Drama B

FIA 421
Masters Speech/Drama A
Grade 12 Sem 1 or 2 0.5 credit

At the masters level, the drama student continues to perfect acting, directorial, and critiquing skills. She serves as a mentor to other theater students. In the first semester, the student designs a make-up plot for a Broadway play or musical, and executes the plot using fellow classmates. She is also responsible for mastering more challenging monologues. In the second semester, she
prepares a theater project to be presented to the class, prepares advanced monologues and duet scenes, and is required to participate in the SCA play production and/or forensic team. (25 hours per quarter)

Prerequisites: Advanced Speech/Drama B

FIA 422
Masters Speech/Drama B
Grade 12
Sem 1 or 2
0.5 credit

Masters Speech/Drama B continues with the work of Masters Speech/Drama A.

Prerequisites: Masters Speech/Drama A

FIA 131 & 132
Introduction to Choral Music
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

Introduction to Choral Music is the first year course in the Saint Cecilia choral program. In chorus, each student is encouraged to develop her voice to its fullest potential. Fundamentals for developing excellent choral singing are presented, including correct breathing techniques, good diction, accurate intonation, balance and blend, and proper phrasing and dynamics. Choral literature performed includes rounds, unison songs, and two- and three-part music, representing a variety of styles form all periods of music. Basic fundamental of music theory, sight singing, and ear training exercises are incorporated daily to develop total musicianship. Grading in the course is based on attendance at all scheduled performances as well as in-class assessments.

FIA 231 & 232, 331 & 332, 431 & 432
Advanced Chorus
Grade 10, 11, 12
Sem 1 & 2
0.5 credit per semester

Successful completion of Introduction to Choral Music 1 & 2 and the audition/interview are required for enrollment in Advanced Chorus. This course continues to offer instruction on methods and techniques for developing one’s voice. This encompasses understanding good vocal health, applying correct breathing habits to improve one’s vocal flexibility and tone quality, using good diction, achieving excellent blend and balance within the ensemble, and utilizing proper phrasing and dynamics. A variety of musical styles from unison to four-part music representing all the music periods will be studied and performed. This course may be repeated each year.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Choral Music 1 & 2 and/or permission of the instructor based on an interview and audition

FIA 531 & 532
AP Music Theory
Grade 10, 11, 12
Sem 1 & 2
1 credit

An AP Music Theory course is designed to be the equivalent of a first-year college course in music theory. This course develops the student’s ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a music score. The course includes learning activities designed to develop aural, sight-singing, written, compositional, and analytical skills. It assumes the student’s ability to read and write musical notation, and an acquisition of basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument.

Prerequisites: Permission of the department which is based on the ability of the student to read and write musical notation, and a demonstration of knowledge of basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument, accomplished through an interview with the instructor.

Chamber music has been defined as music for small ensembles in which instrumentalists perform one to a part, generally without a conductor. At one time, chamber music was restricted to Western classical music for small ensembles, such as the string quartet. Today, however, chamber music comprises many different musical styles and genres and various combinations of instrumentalists, including collaborations between pianists, string players and wind instrumentalists. Chamber music demands that each individual engage in a close musical dialogue with the other performers. Their collective musical instinct, experience, knowledge and talent guide the process of interpreting, rehearsing, and performing. In this semester course, students work on their chosen instrument in small ensembles of 2 to 5 students for instruction and rehearsal, with the aim of performing in concerts. Attendance at all performances and rehearsals is mandatory.

Prerequisites: Students with demonstrable levels of proficiency may enroll in this course with the advance permission of the instructor. Preferably, students should be engaged in private lessons on their instrument while enrolled in this course.

FIA 161 & 162, 261 & 262, 361 & 362, 461 & 462
Chamber Ensemble
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Sem 1 & 2
0.5 credit per semester
**FIA 241 & 242 (PED 241 & 242)**  
**Intermediate Dance A & B**  
Grade 10, 11, 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
0.5 credit per semester

This course begins with a study of classical ballet technique, reinforcing the students' previous knowledge of the genre and strengthening their ability to execute the technique properly. Students will then transition to a study of contemporary ballet, focusing on the initiation of movement from the core, the use of levels in composition, and the ability to use dance as a medium of expression. The second semester focuses on the contemporary genres of jazz and tap, and concludes with a study of composition. Students conclude the year by choreographing an original work to demonstrate their understanding of the art form.

*Prerequisites: VAP*

**FIA 243 & 244 (PED 243 & 244)**  
**Intermediate Tap A & B**  
Grade 10, 11, 12  
Sem 1 & 2  
0.5 credit per semester

This class includes instruction on the introductory through advanced levels of tap dancing. Students learn different techniques and styles of tap dance and how to choreograph dance numbers using these techniques and styles.

*Prerequisites: VAP*
# Fine Arts Course Sequence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
<th>Grade 12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REQUIRED</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>VAP (Visual &amp; Performing Arts)</td>
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<td>an additional 0.5 credit in Fine Arts is required and may be fulfilled with any Fine Arts elective</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ELECTIVES</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Choral Music (year)</td>
<td>Advanced Chorus (year)</td>
<td>Advanced Chorus (year)</td>
<td>Advanced Chorus (year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chamber Ensemble (semester or year)</td>
<td>Chamber Ensemble</td>
<td>Chamber Ensemble</td>
<td>Chamber Ensemble</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Speech &amp; Drama A &amp; B (semester each)</td>
<td>Advanced Speech &amp; Drama A &amp; B (semester each)</td>
<td>Masters Speech &amp; Drama A &amp; B (semester each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Visual Arts A &amp; B (semester each)</td>
<td>Advanced Visual Arts (year)</td>
<td>Master Studio Art (year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Dance A &amp; B (semester or year)</td>
<td>Portfolio Studio Art (year)</td>
<td>AP Studio Art: Drawing (year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Intermediate Tap A &amp; B (semester or year)</td>
<td>Digital Photography (semester)</td>
<td>AP Studio Art: 2D Design (year)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AP Art History (year)</td>
<td>35 MM Photography (semester)</td>
<td>Digital Photography (semester)</td>
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<tr>
<td>AP Music Theory (year)</td>
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<td>35 MM Photography (semester)</td>
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Fine Arts electives may be taken at any time in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, provided that they are taken in sequence and prerequisites are fulfilled.
COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

All students coming to Saint Cecilia have experience with computer technology. The computer courses provided in our Computer Technology department develop previously acquired skills and introduce students to applications best suited to their current high school and future college needs.

**Required Courses:**

- Academic Applications

**Elective Courses:**

- Layout & Design

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**COM 101**

**Academic Applications**

- Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
- Sem 1 or 2
- 0.5 credit

Academic Applications introduces students to computing by learning how to "log in" to the School's network, use the Internet to find information, and work efficiently on the keyboard. In addition, the class discusses the ethical use of computers at school as well as in the real world. The class provides an overview of computer applications including a brief introduction to Microsoft Windows, MS Word, MS Excel, and MS PowerPoint. This requirement may be waived by adequate performance on the computer technology exam starting with the class of 2017.

**COM 201**

**Layout & Design**

- Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
- Sem 1 or 2
- 0.5 credit

In this course, students will learn to use MS Publisher to create and edit publications, design and publish newsletters and brochures, personalize and customize publications with information sets, create business forms and tables as well as business cards and greeting cards, and create an interactive website. Students may take this in lieu of the Academic Applications course with permission from the Technology Coordinator and/or Academic Dean.

*Prerequisites: Academic Applications*
PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Physical education is a requirement at Saint Cecilia Academy as part of the formation of the human person. This development includes attention to the physical body, in a healthy way that acknowledges the necessity of activities that promote fitness. The more traditional physical education courses are provided along with the dance courses of the Fine Arts department for options in fulfilling the department requirement.

Required Courses:

VAP (Visual & Performing Arts) .05 credit in P.E.
Wellness .05 credit in P.E. (starting with the Class of 2017)

For Classes 2015-2016:
An additional .05 credit from an elective in P.E. OR
one season of participation at a varsity level or an approved SCA team sport.
Participation must be verified by the coach.

FIA 101 & PED 102
VAP (Visual and Performing Arts)
Grade Sem 1 & 2
0.5 credit for Fine Arts
0.5 credit for P.E.

Required of all freshmen, VAP introduces students to the basics of dance, drama, and the visual arts. These separate components are covered in classes in a rotating schedule, but there are also projects that cross the various disciplines. VAP allows each Saint Cecilia student the opportunity to experience being an artist, including the aspects of production, history, aesthetics, and criticism.

PED 201 & 202
Wellness
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12 Sem 1 or 2
0.5 credit

This course is designed to enhance the student’s overall level of wellness and physical fitness. Students will be introduced to concepts of exercise physiology, health, and the skills of lifetime fitness. An emphasis will be on activities that improve or maintain the core concepts of a healthy lifestyle, endurance and strength, flexibility, and body composition.

PED 212
Weight Training & Conditioning
Grade 10, 11, 12 Sem 2
0.5 credit

This course emphasizes self-improvement and will enhance the student’s knowledge of physiology, endurance, and strength development. Weight Training & Conditioning is great for students active in a team sport who would like to further improve their performance, or for someone who would like to develop a knowledge of weights and conditioning. This class will include weight-training, conditioning, plyometrics, flexibility drills, and more.

Prerequisites: Wellness

PED 241 & 242 (FIA 241 & 242)
Intermediate Dance A & B
Grade 10, 11, 12 Sem 1 & 2
0.5 credit per semester

This course begins with a study of classical ballet technique, reinforcing the students’ previous knowledge of the genre and strengthening their ability to execute the technique properly. Students will then transition to a study of contemporary ballet, focusing on the initiation of movement from the core, the use of levels in composition, and the ability to use dance as a medium of expression. The second semester focuses on the contemporary genres of jazz and tap, and concludes with a study of composition. Students conclude the year by choreographing an original work to demonstrate their understanding of the art form.

Prerequisites: VAP

PED 243 & 244 (FIA 243 & 244)
Intermediate Tap A & B
Grade 10, 11, 12 Sem 1 & 2
0.5 credit per semester

This class includes instruction on the introductory through advanced levels of tap dancing. Students learn different techniques and styles of tap dance and how to choreograph dance numbers using these techniques and styles.

Prerequisites: VAP
# AP Courses Available by Grade Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade 9</th>
<th>Grade 10</th>
<th>Grade 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 Year Course Planning Course</strong></td>
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<td>AP Art History</td>
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<td><strong>AP Studio Art: Drawing</strong></td>
<td><strong>AP Studio Art: 2D Drawing</strong></td>
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<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Sem.</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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7 Classes per Semester