

# COURSE OF STUDIES

## SAINT PETER'S PREPARATORY SCHOOL JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY OVERVIEW OF ACADEMICS 2019-2020

Saint Peter's Prep, a Jesuit high school founded in 1872, offers a well-balanced college preparatory course of studies to meet the needs and interests of its students, in line with our mission statement:

*Saint Peter's Prep is a Catholic, Jesuit college preparatory school which seeks to form young men of competence, conscience and compassion. Both enriched and challenged by its diversity, Prep is a community of learners seeking to find God in all things. The academic, athletic, co-curricular, spiritual, and service programs aim to foster in students an understanding of the world and the courage to advance the common good.*

### REQUIRED COURSES

Each year, all students must take the equivalent of six full-year, one-credit courses in the academic subjects (six year-long one-credit [1.0 credit] courses or a combination of year-long one-credit courses and semester-long half-credit [.5 credit] or quarter-credit [.25 credit] courses to equal six credits). To graduate, every student must take 4 years of religious studies, 4 years of English, 1-2 years of Latin, 2 years of the same modern language (3 years recommended), 3 years of history, 3 years of mathematics (4 years recommended), and 2 years of science (one year physical science and one year life science) (3-4 years recommended). He also must take 2 semesters of health and 4 semesters of physical education. In addition, students must complete required studies in art, music, and group guidance and fulfill the Christian Service requirement.

### COURSE SELECTIONS

In freshman year, all students pursue virtually the same course of studies. Honors sections are offered in English, Latin, science, and mathematics for freshmen based on the results of the spring placement tests. At the spring Freshman Parents' Orientation meeting, Prep advises parents of incoming freshmen of their son's course of studies.

Beginning in the sophomore year, course selections become more varied. Students will find they have more elective choices each year. Honors and/or Advanced Placement courses will be available in English, Mathematics, Science, History, Latin, and Modern Languages to students who meet placement requirements; therefore, each student must read this document carefully and consult his guidance counselor to plan a course of studies that is right for him.

<b>Grade 9</b> Introduction to Religion English I Mathematics Science (Physical Science or Chem Honors) History (World Civ.) Latin I Art and Music Health and Physical Ed. Group Guidance	<b>Grade 10</b> New Testament English II Mathematics Science Modern Language Elective(s) Christian Service Health and Physical Ed. Group Guidance	<b>Grade 11</b> Christian Ethics English III Mathematics History Modern Language Elective(s) Christian Service Physical Ed. Group Guidance	<b>Grade 12</b> Senior Religion courses English IV History Electives Physical Ed. Group Guidance
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***There is no one best course of studies.*** Our goal is to see each student take a combination of courses that provides the best education for him, given his interests and talents. We seek to help each student create a course of studies that will challenge him but not overwhelm him. The college counselors at Saint Peter's Prep offer the following insights based on their experience with the college admission process:

- (1) College admissions officers base their decisions on many aspects of the candidate's application, including (a) all of the courses the student has taken in high school and his semester grades in each course; (b) his standardized test scores (SAT, ACT); (c) his personal statement (college essay); (d) his involvement in co-curriculars, outside activities, work, service, etc., and (e) letters of recommendation.
- (2) For students who meet the qualifications, it is preferable to take Honors or Advanced Placement courses even though the grade in the advanced course may suffer slightly. Competitive colleges value a challenging course of study.
- (3) No matter what a student's future academic goals may be, there is no substitute for good study habits and well-developed reading and writing skills. These skills are acquired by hard work and dedication to one's studies.
- (4) Every student should prepare wisely for his future and remember that his guidance counselor, his teachers, and members of the administration are available to help him as he considers his options.

Students must keep in mind that some courses are limited in enrollment; some may be canceled if registration is low; and some requests may be impossible to schedule. If there is a problem with scheduling, a student will be contacted by the vice principal to resolve the difficulty.

#### **REGARDING HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES**

Saint Peter's Prep offers Honors and Advanced Placement ("AP") courses to challenge and engage its students. Honors and AP courses require more work than is required in college preparatory courses. Teachers expect students in Honors and AP courses to be able to learn independently and be committed to meeting the challenges these courses will present. Students must be aware of the additional requirements and responsibilities demanded of these courses and plan how best to use their time and energies.

Honors and/or AP sections are offered in English, classical and modern languages, history, mathematics, and science. In freshman year, the departments place students in honors sections based on the student's performance on the spring placement test. After freshman year, placement in honors courses depends on a student's previous academic performance at Prep. To gain entry into an Honors or AP class, a student must

- (a) meet the specified grade requirements,
- (b) show evidence of strong motivation and willingness to do the additional work that will be required, and
- (c) have the recommendation of his current teacher in that subject and the approval of the department that offers the course and the administration.

As a general rule, no one will be considered for an honors or AP course if he is failing any academic course. Procedures for requesting courses at any level are communicated early in the second semester of the academic year.

Students are advised that once they accept placement in an Honors or AP class, their schedules generally ***will not be changed***. Requests for transfer from an Honors or AP class are granted infrequently and only for good cause. A student will not be transferred from Honors or AP class solely because he finds the work too difficult.

Students who take AP courses are required to take the AP Examinations given each May at Prep. Exams are used by colleges and universities to establish proficiency in a subject, determine advanced standing, and/or award college credit. Policies vary, so it is important that students identify how their prospective college or university will evaluate their scores. The cost for taking an AP Examination was \$94.00 per exam for the 2018-2019 school year, and students will be charged for all AP courses. Finances should not prevent a student from being in AP classes. Students for whom finances are a problem should see the vice principal to make arrangements for enrolling in AP classes.

#### **REGARDING REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF STUDENT REQUESTS**

Guidance counselors will review the course requests of each of their students. **Prep limits the number of honors courses and the number of full-credit subjects a student may take in a given year.** The vice principal's approval is needed before any

student may take more than four Honors and/or more than six full-credit courses. No student may take more than four Advanced Placement courses during a given school year.

#### **REGARDING CHANGES IN SELECTIONS**

Once a student's courses for the following school year have been approved by his counselor and the vice principal, the student may request a change without penalty until May 30, provided a parental note is submitted detailing the reasons for the change. After this date, any change requires written parental approval, payment of a \$50.00 course change fee, and the vice principal's approval. The course change fee increases to \$75.00 after August 31. If a course change is initiated by the school, the student will not be charged a course change fee.

**COURSES ARE DESCRIBED BELOW, BY DEPARTMENT. ALL COURSES are 1.0 CREDIT, UNLESS NOTED.**

### **RELIGION DEPARTMENT**

*In response to the ultimate aim of Jesuit secondary education and the deepest needs of the students whom we serve, the Religion Department accompanies a student as he develops his knowledge of and relationship with God. Religion Department faculty members encourage a student's sense of wonder as he experiences God and God's world. The religion curriculum gives a student opportunities and resources to reflect on his life and education in light of his encounters with Jesus Christ and the Church. Finally, religion classes prepare a student for the study of religion at the college level.*

#### **1000 INTRODUCTION TO RELIGION: IGNATIAN HERITAGE, HEBREW SCRIPTURE AND CATHOLIC FOUNDATIONS**

During freshman year, students will read closely the life of Ignatius of Loyola, the origins and growth of the Society of Jesus, and the goals of Ignatian education. Instructors will then introduce students to the study of the Old Testament (Pentateuch, Historical Books, and Prophets).

#### **2000 THE NEW TESTAMENT**

During the second year at Saint Peter's Prep, students will have the opportunity through New Testament studies to encounter Jesus. Through historical, social, literary, theological, and Christological studies of the Gospels and Letters, students will focus on Jesus of Nazareth and the Christ of faith. Instructors also introduce students to Jesus' vision of and mission in service to the Kingdom of God as the foundation for Christian moral decision-making and social justice.

#### **3100 CHRISTIAN ETHICS: MORAL DECISION-MAKING AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

At Saint Peter's Prep, Jesus is the model for human life. The Christian's relationship with God is authentically expressed in a person's deep human concern for others, especially the poor. During the third year of studies, students reflect on personal moral decision-making grounded in Christian virtues. Students also learn how to look at social systems and structures on a global as well as national scale in light of the Gospel and Catholic social teachings.

#### **SENIOR SEMINARS IN RELIGION**

During senior year, students may choose from a wide selection of year-long seminars in religion.

#### **4144 FINDING GOD IN ALL FILMS**

This course will examine the elements of film in light of common Christian and Ignatian themes incorporating imagination and creative writing. Iconic and Modern films will be examined as we consider how the issues and allegories revealed in film intersect with daily life and reflect on them through a variety of religious and philosophical ideas, including "The Graduate at Graduation," the Examen, the Spiritual Exercises, documents of Vatican II (particularly, *Gaudium et Spes*, which deals with being a Christian in the modern world), existentialism, and the work of Soren Kierkegaard.

*The World Religions and Global Bioethics courses are co-disciplinary courses offered by our Religion Department and our History and Social Sciences Department.*

#### **4146 WORLD RELIGIONS**

The World Religions senior elective is a full-year course of studies, divided into two units: Western religions in the first semester with a focus on the modern state of Israel; Eastern religions in the second semester, with a focus on India and China in the 20th century. The study of world religions is a non-doctrinal comparative study, and begins with a look at the first amendment's establishment clause. Harvard's Pluralism Project as well as the Religious Literacy Project informs this college preparatory course in which students focus their concerns on the systematic comparison of the doctrines and practices of the world's religions in light of enlightened modernity and the secular world.

#### **4155 GLOBAL BIOETHICS & HUMAN RIGHTS**

In this course, students will examine how globalization influences our perception of the world. Content will highlight interdisciplinary, intercultural, and interreligious issues that affect how we make moral and ethical decisions. Topics of study will include but not be limited to: human rights; cultural responses to beginning and end-of-life issues; environmental disasters; healthcare justice; and technology such as reproductive technologies, extreme bionics, and genetic engineering (human & non-human organisms). Students will develop a global, moral language, articulating through reflective writing how personal spirituality impacts social analysis and ethical decision making, communicating in the form of dialogue, debate, and oral presentations designed to create awareness of pertinent issues.

#### **4157 ART AND SPIRITUALITY**

In this course for seniors, students will become immersed in the interconnected world of art and spirituality in the quest for the image of the Divine and the self. Students will learn skills to analyze and critique religious art, dialogue across diverse religious traditions, and process their experiences and beliefs in light of various art traditions, Ignatian values, and the Grad-at-Grad qualities. Topics of study will include but not be limited to Christological and Marian iconography, art for justice, architecture of sacred spaces, and art of controversy, from the nonrepresentational to fashion in the modern context. Students will be exposed to famous as well as lesser known artists' journal entries and autobiographies, St. John Paul II's *Letter to Artists*, contemplative art practices, and various art commentaries.

### **CHRISTIAN SERVICE**

Christian Service is a graduation requirement at Saint Peter's Prep; it must be completed by freshman, sophomore, and junior students. Christian Service is an essential part of our curriculum, helping to fulfill our aim, that is, to educate students who are competent, moral, and engaged in work that promotes justice for all people.

Freshmen must complete their Christian Service work by taking part in events organized for their homeroom. These programs are organized and administered by the school, on dates to be determined at the start of the school year. In addition to their service work, students are expected to take part in reflection seminars and written journal assignments.

Sophomore Christian Service will be satisfied through the school's overnight sophomore retreat, which incorporates faith-based reflections and direct service to the marginalized. Dates and information for this mandatory sophomore program will be available prior to the start of the next school year.

Juniors complete 60 hours of service between the end of sophomore year and the first semester of junior year. Their service may be completed either through participation in an immersion trip over the summer or through 60 hours of direct service at an approved non-profit agency. Work with the poor and disadvantaged is the primary criterion for approved service. Reflection on the service, a required part of the course, is achieved through individual and group sharing and written and take-home assignments. In connection with this service, all students are enrolled in a Christian Service seminar in the second semester of sophomore year (Course 7989) and first semester of junior year (7990).

#### **7989 CHRISTIAN SERVICE SOPHOMORE REQUIREMENT (.25 credit)**

Through this seminar, sophomores will prepare for their upcoming Christian Service.

#### **7990 CHRISTIAN SERVICE JUNIOR REQUIREMENT (.25 credit)**

Juniors will reflect on their experience of service and begin to incorporate the experience into their everyday lives.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

*Every student must take four years of English. A student may choose to take additional English classes offered by the department.*

### **1010 ENGLISH 1: FOUNDATIONAL WRITING**

This methodical, practice-oriented writing course takes freshmen through the entire writing process: from reading and note-taking through proofreading, editing, and revising. Classroom lessons include explanations of mechanics, punctuation, diction, style, and support. All writing assignments are derived from literature and focus on textual analysis. The readings may include *Oedipus the King*, *The Kite Runner*, *The Lord of the Flies* as well as selected short stories and poetry. Students will also read and discuss one Shakespeare play: *Julius Caesar*, *Romeo and Juliet*, or *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

### **1015 ENGLISH 1 HONORS: LITERARY GENRES Requirement: Departmental approval.**

English 1 Honors is designed to expose the student to the basic literary genres: the short story, the novel, drama, and poetry. Students will analyze and interpret various literary works and be able to move beyond a mere textual playback of the literature to make observations that apply to today's society and their own lives. The writing and vocabulary will enable the student to express his ideas about the literature and other relevant topics.

### **1020 ENGLISH 2**

This course endeavors to continue the emphasis on process writing by examining significant and representative texts from primarily American and British poetry and prose. Through a selection of poetry and major works such as *Beowulf*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Catcher in the Rye*, *Fences*, and *Heart of Darkness* this course investigates themes of discovery within the self and the community.

### **1025 ENGLISH 2 HONORS Requirements: Minimum grade of A in English 1 or B+ in English 1 Honors and departmental approval.**

This course incorporates all the objectives and focuses of English 2 and adds more challenging texts, writing assignments, and student expectations.

### **1030 ENGLISH 3**

This course is a required course that surveys a variety of literary genres. The student is exposed to classic works of literature from both the British tradition as well as American, while also reading the works of contemporary authors from diverse backgrounds. The student will analyze literary pieces with respect to theme, form, and style. Students will be expected to relate texts to moral, historical, religious, philosophical, social, and cultural viewpoints through writing during the course of study. The writing program is coordinated with the literature in this course in that all writing assignments will deal with material covered in class. Students will produce a culminating research paper during their course of study for English 3.

### **1035 ENGLISH 3 HONORS Requirements: Minimum grade of A in English 2 or B+ in English 2 Honors and departmental approval.**

This course incorporates all the objectives and focuses of English 3 and adds more challenging texts, writing assignments, and student expectations.

### **1037 AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION Requirements: Juniors with minimum grade of A+ in English 2 or A in English 2 Honors and departmental approval.**

AP English Language and Composition is an advanced course in reading, linguistics, and writing. Unlike most Language Arts courses, non-fictional readings provide the basis for the majority of the assignments in this class. Students test their proficiency with critical reading, linguistic analysis, expository argument, and compositional synthesis. The students also complete the school-required research paper. In May, all students sit for the AP English Language and Composition test.

### **1940 AP ENGLISH LITERATURE Requirements: Seniors with very strong performance in AP English Language or English 3 Honors; recommendation of the instructor; departmental approval.**

This course emphasizes the development of skills in critical reading of imaginative and discursive literature, and in writing about literature and related ideas. It enables students to learn at a rate commensurate to their abilities; to deal with material that intellectually mature students find engaging; to refine reading and writing skills important for success in college; and to cultivate habits of reading, writing, and thinking that characterize life-long learning and enjoyment. Students will study representative British, American, and European works of recognized literary merit, worthy of scrutiny because of their richness of thought and language that challenges the reader. Writing assignments will focus on the critical analysis of literature.

## **ENGLISH 4 and ENGLISH 4 HONORS ELECTIVE COURSES (1 credit each)**

Seniors taking courses at the **English 4** and **English 4 Honors** level will satisfy the senior English requirement by taking one full-year English elective from the list that appears below. English 4 and English 4 Honors focus on the analysis of both poetic and prosaic literary texts. Students will construct sophisticated interpretations of a variety of literature, both full-length texts and selected works. The writing that the student exhibits will more closely resemble that of a college freshman than that of a high school student. **English 4 Honors requires a minimum grade of A in English 3 or English 3 Honors, or a B+ in AP English Language, and departmental approval.** Students enrolled in the electives at the English 4 Honors level will write an additional paper each marking period.

### **1045 ENGLISH 4 – AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE**

#### **1145 ENGLISH 4 HONORS – AFRICAN-AMERICAN LITERATURE**

This course will give students an overview of the major and minor texts within the African-American literary traditions. Students will be asked to extract the many different themes offered by these texts. The course also will explore the vast history of the people of African descent living in America. There will be a heavy focus on reading, writing, and in-class discussion over the course of our journey through these literary traditions. The writings of authors such as Langston Hughes, Paul Beatty, Toni Morrison, James Baldwin, Ralph Ellison, Frederick Douglass, Derek Walcott, and Jamaica Kincaid will be included. Slavery and its afterlives, urban life, and racial identity are some of the important concepts upon which this course will focus.

### **1063 ENGLISH 4 – DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE**

#### **1163 ENGLISH 4 HONORS – DYSTOPIAN LITERATURE**

What does a Godless world look like? In 1516, Thomas More wrote *Utopia*, a vision of an ideal and harmonious future society. Since then, many fiction writers have put forth their own visions for the future, yet many of these works have gone in the opposite direction, portraying a future marked by totalitarian government, oppressive technology, extreme economic inequality, and a complete rejection of spirituality. Beginning in the nineteenth century and continuing to the present, this course will examine major novels and short stories of the dystopian genre. In addition to traditional literary analysis, the course will explore historical backgrounds to the novels, especially the totalitarian regimes of the twentieth century which provided the impetus for many of the major works. Through examination of the blasted landscapes, dehumanized societies, and technological nightmare worlds of the dystopian genre, our primary goal is to come to an understanding of the importance of spirituality and what it truly means to be human.

### **1064 ENGLISH 4 – SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY LITERATURE**

#### **1164 ENGLISH 4 HONORS - SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY LITERATURE**

The appeal of both science fiction and fantasy in popular culture is undeniable. This course will introduce students to (or perhaps broaden their scope with) the histories and impacts of both literary genres. The course will begin by exposing students to the science fiction genre. We will discuss the history of science fiction through explorations of its potential themes and ideas, including the relationship between humanity and science as technology continues to dominate current culture. Moreover, we will routinely define the vocabulary that is singular to science fiction while looking to the genre's significance on the overall literary landscape and the effect that it has had on readership throughout the past few centuries. The course will then transition into the history and background of fantasy literature. The students will, through instruction, assignments, and Socratic discussions, practice critical reading and writing skills while developing an understanding of (and maybe even an appreciation for) the similarities between the two genres as well as what makes fantasy literature unique. Students will read a vast array of texts, including short stories and novels, which feature such authors as Clarke, Crichton, Tolkien, Lewis and Rowling. The course will conclude with glimpses into both genres as they appear in contemporary culture.

### **1061 ENGLISH 4 - LITERATURE OF NEW YORK CITY**

#### **1161 ENGLISH 4 HONORS – LITERATURE OF NEW YORK CITY**

The literature from New York City is as disparate, beautiful, punishing, dreamlike, sleepless and incandescent as the town itself. In this class, students will explore fiction that re-lives and reveals the complex experiences of a city outgrowing itself by the day. The literature will push discussions of race, identity, personal and collective histories, and the points of view of a variety of narrative voices. The stories involved will allow for a greater understanding of the history of Manhattan, the development of neighborhoods, and the growth of an urban identity that is unequalled in the world. The writing program is coordinated with the literature in this course in the sense that all writing assignments will relate to material covered in class.

### **1068 ENGLISH 4 - LITERATURE: THE PURSUIT OF PURPOSE**

#### **1168 ENGLISH 4 HONORS – LITERATURE: THE PURSUIT OF PURPOSE**

This non-fiction course will offer students a chance for reflective and critical thinking and writing in response to texts that examine lives of great purpose and inspiration. Students will not only extract themes from meaningful literary works, but will also draw connections to the world around them in the hopes of beginning to identify their own sense of purpose in life. This



course will provide students a sense of what they came to find at Saint Peter's Prep: a concrete understanding of who they are as men of conscience, competence, and compassion. Major texts may include *Man's Search for Meaning*, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, *A Walk in the Woods*, and *The Last Lecture*.

**NOTE:** *The following courses do not fulfill the required four years of English. Nevertheless, students interested in graphic novels or journalism are encouraged to take one or more of these electives. Creative Writing courses are offered through the Fine Arts Department.*

**1966 EXPLORING SOCIAL ISSUES THROUGH GRAPHIC NOVELS (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

Students will read and analyze social issues, such as racism, the role of women, representation of LGBT figures, social inequality, environmentalism, and drug use, as presented in comic books. The course will emphasize the critical analysis of relevant social topics and explore comic books as an information medium.

## **CREATIVE WRITING COURSES**

**NOTE:** *All Creative Writing Courses are offered co-departmentally through the English and the Fine Arts Departments.*

**1968 CREATIVE WRITING 1: FORMS OF EXPRESSION (Semester course) Sophomores, juniors and seniors. Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of writing such as poetry, play- and screenwriting, graphic short fiction (comics), short story, and memoir, as well as multimedia writing. Students will study the techniques used by successful writers, learn from them, and incorporate these techniques in their own efforts. Peer review is an integral component of this course. This class is the prerequisite for all other creative writing courses offered at Saint Peter's Prep.

**1970 SHORT STORY WRITING (Semester course) Requirement: Creative Writing 1 and Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of short story writing--whether literary, sci fi, mystery, or another genre. It is for those who want to examine the basic skills and techniques used by established authors, and to learn from them. Students will begin by writing short exercises on the basic elements of the short story, such as plot, setting, character, theme, and viewpoint, and then go on to write their own stories. Students will also research and submit work to professional journals. Everyone has a story to tell. This course will help each student tell his.

**1972 (SLAM) POETRY SEMINAR (Semester course) Requirement: Creative Writing 1 and Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is for students who have gone through the introductory creative writing course and are interested in studying poetry and slam poetry more closely. Students will focus on both writing and performance of traditional and slam poetry and look closely at works by award-winning traditional and slam poets, and possibly attending readings and youth poetry slams in the area. In addition to learning traditional poetic devices, students will look at new and different forms of poetic writing and expression.

**1974 SCREENWRITING AND PLAYWRITING (Semester course) Requirement: Creative Writing 1 and Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is for students who have gone through the introductory creative writing course and are interested in studying screenwriting and playwriting more closely. Students will compose short scripts, focusing on story and dialogue development, as well as discussing the production of plays and movies, casting choices, and other development issues. Some acting and presentation will be involved.

**1975 JOURNALISM FOR PRINT MEDIA (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

Journalism for Digital and Print Media, designed as a writing workshop, is a semester course that will give students practical knowledge and hands-on experience with writing news, feature, entertainment, sports, and other articles. Students will learn to conduct surveys, develop interviewing skills, and edit for publication. Students in the class will be encouraged to submit their work to the school newspaper and/or yearbook as well as other publications. The course will be taught as a writing workshop, with the instructor using writing samples as models and having students write and critique each other's work. Students will read the *New York Times*, the *Atlantic*, and various online publications of their choice..

**1976 JOURNALISM FOR DIGITAL MEDIA (Semester course) (.5 credit) Requirement: Journalism for Print Media.**

An extension of Journalism for Print Media, this course builds off the work of the first semester, leading students in an investigative news project. The work of the course involves the creation and maintenance of a website as well as a professional presence on social media. Students will conduct video-recorded interviews, learn to request public records, and perform research while looking into a topic of their choice. Students will also take on editing and reporting roles as part of a team to create a podcast and will learn to read and create photojournalism and infographics.

**1990 ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING: PORTFOLIO PREPARATION (First semester course or full year option, .5 credit or 1.0 credit. ) Requirement: Completion of Creative Writing 1 and one additional creative writing course; permission of department chair and approved proposal prior to enrollment.**

Portfolio Preparation is offered to students who have taken two or more Creative Writing courses. The focus of this course is the development of the students' interests, using various storytelling styles of their choice, resulting in a unique portfolio that is self-directed and submission work to area Creative Writing programs, contests, and/or magazines.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

## **CLASSICAL LANGUAGES**

*All students are required to study classical Latin for one year; Ignatian and Sheehan Scholars will take a second year of Latin. All students showing proficiency and a desire to pursue Latin studies may continue their studies. The Latin program approaches the language through analysis of grammar, linguistics, and Roman culture and civilization in general. The grammatical deconstruction of Latin and the inevitable gains in knowledge of English grammar are vital to the program, as is the ability to translate and comprehend texts accurately. For those students demonstrating mastery of and interest in Latin, Ancient Greek is offered as an honors-level elective for seniors. The Greek course is designed to develop reading skills and cultural literacy.*

**2010 LATIN 1: LANGUAGE AND CIVILIZATION**

Latin 1 is an introduction to the Latin language and Roman civilization. Students study basic Latin grammar, with emphases on the recognition of forms (morphology), the deconstruction and analysis of grammatical functions, the acquisition of Latin vocabulary and its influence on English, and the development of reading comprehension through translation and plot analysis. Students will learn about the culture, history, and mythology of the Romans through the readings (translations). Students who exhibit strong proficiency in this course may be recommended for Latin 2 in the sophomore year.

**2015 LATIN 1 HONORS Requirement: Departmental approval, based on the student's scores on the freshman placement test and/or substantial prior study of Latin in middle school.**

Latin 1 Honors is an intensive introduction to the Latin language that presupposes a solid linguistic foundation and/or substantial study of Latin prior to a student's enrollment. As with the Latin 1 course, the study of Latin grammar, morphology, the deconstruction and analysis of grammatical functions, vocabulary and derivatives, and the development of reading comprehension through translation and plot analysis forms the core of the course. However, the honors course moves at a faster pace than the non-honors course, and more material is covered by year's end.

**2020 LATIN 2**

Latin 2 continues the work started in Latin 1, though with more complex grammatical concepts being introduced. The goal is for students to complete the study of the essential morphology and syntax that will enable them to translate lengthier and more challenging texts by year's end, such as adapted texts from Roman history and mythology. The demands of the course are similar to Latin 1, with English derivatives from Latin and a more in-depth examination of Roman cultural life addressed as time permits.

**2025 LATIN 2 HONORS Requirements: Minimum grade of A in Latin 1 or B in Latin 1 Honors, teacher recommendation, and departmental approval.**

Latin 2 Honors continues the pacing and depth set in Latin 1 Honors, where the language is examined in greater detail. Students deal with more sophisticated grammar and more challenging readings, including slightly adapted excerpts from ancient authors such as Cicero, Livy, and others. Moreover, Latin's influence on English and the Romance Languages is discussed at great length in order to improve a student's linguistic skills in general. A major goal by year's end is for students to complete the study of all the essential grammatical concepts, which will enable them to deconstruct, translate, and



make critical comments on lengthier passages. Historical context and Roman culture will be examined as needed through the lenses of Roman religion, mythology, warfare, family life, art and architecture, etc.

**2032 LATIN 3 Requirements: Minimum grade of A in Latin 2 and departmental approval.**

Latin 3 is a course for the student who has great interest in continuing his study of Latin, yet does not necessarily seek the rigor of an honors-level course. The essential grammatical concepts remaining from Latin 2 are covered, and adapted readings from mythology and authors such as Cicero, Caesar, and Livy are examined. The pace of the course is similar to that of Latin 2. If time permits, some aspects of Roman culture will be discussed. The primary goal is to enable students to hone their translation skills to a higher level of confidence.

**2030 LATIN 3 HONORS Requirements: Minimum grade of B+ in Latin 2 Honors and departmental approval.**

Latin 3 Honors completes any remaining grammatical concepts from Latin 2. At the beginning of the course, students cover/review advanced grammar and begin reading adapted prose selections on mythological stories as well as lengthier unadapted passages by ancient authors such as Cicero, Pliny, Petronius and Livy. In the final marking period, Roman poetry is examined, with an introduction to figures of speech and the unique style of Latin poetry. In addition to reading/translating the Latin selections, students will examine Roman culture and history on an extensive level, as it pertains to current readings. The goal is for students not only to translate the texts, but also to make original critiques and interpretations of the content. Thus, more creativity and logical inference are required.

**2045 AP LATIN: CAESAR AND VERGIL Requirements: Minimum grade of B+ in Latin 3 Honors and departmental approval.**

AP Latin is dedicated to the study of Caesar's *DE BELLO GALLICO* and Vergil's *AENEID*. Significant portions of both works are studied in Latin, while much is read in translation. The focus of the course is on developing an appreciation of these two authors, their different genres and styles, their goals, and the literary, political and artistic significance of their writings. Students must do secondary readings on the politics and art of the Late Republic and the Augustan Age and the conventions of epic poetry in the ancient world in preparation for the AP Latin exam at year's end.

## MODERN LANGUAGES

*The Modern Language Department's objective is for a student to reach proficiency at the end of his two years of studying the language. Classroom instruction is communicative with a focus on project-based assessments.*

*Students are required to take two consecutive years of a foreign language beginning in sophomore year. Although a third year is not a requirement, the department strongly recommends that students consider studying a modern language in senior year. High-achievers are also encouraged to consider the simultaneous study of two languages. Students may choose to study French, German, Italian, or Spanish. Questions regarding language requirements or expectations should be directed to any of the language teachers.*

*The department takes pride in the global and academic opportunities that are offered to students. Our language teachers are also responsible in the coordination of exchange programs, cultural clubs, and events. All languages participate in the national examination contest as well as membership in their respective honor society.*

*Placement tests in all languages are given to rising sophomores and to transfer students who have had prior study or exposure to the language.*

*Multiple levels of Mandarin are offered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors as an elective course. Mandarin may not be used to satisfy the two-year modern language requirement.*

### LEVEL 1

3020 FRENCH 1  
3120 GERMAN 1  
3220 ITALIAN 1

## **3320 SPANISH 1**

The students at this level begin to communicate by means of the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, combined with examining the manners and customs of the culture being studied. The students are encouraged to think in the foreign language by means of visual stimuli and word associations.

### **3325 ADVANCED SPANISH HONORS Requirement: placement test score; departmental approval.**

This course is designed for students who have acquired background knowledge of the language in any of the following ways: (1) the student has had daily exposure to the language in the home, either at present or at a previous time; (2) the student has lived and/or studied for a considerable period of time in a Spanish-speaking country; (3) the student has participated in an intensive (daily lessons for two or more years) middle school program that has given him an advanced knowledge of Spanish beyond an elementary stage. The aim of this course is to improve the student's fluency in speaking and writing Spanish through oral recitation and the basic stylistic techniques of composition, and through a thorough review of grammar. Students who successfully complete this course with a strong performance will take AP Spanish Language in the following year.

## **LEVEL 2**

### **3030 FRENCH 2**

### **3130 GERMAN 2**

### **3230 ITALIAN 2**

### **3330 SPANISH 2**

**Requirement: Satisfactory completion of Level 1 language or score on the departmental language placement test; departmental approval.**

These courses are a continuation of Level I, with increased emphasis on the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The skills are honed with the aid of various readings: poems, short stories, and other appropriate texts. Culture and geography of the nation and its neighbors are also stressed.

### **3335 SPANISH 2 HONORS Requirement: B+ in previous course. Recommendation of Spanish 1 teacher or score on the placement test; departmental approval.**

This course covers the curriculum of Spanish 2 but at an honors level. Students are expected to develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills more deeply and at a faster pace. This course is part of a sequence that will culminate in Spanish 3 Honors or AP Spanish Language.

### **3340 SPANISH 3 Requirement: Successful completion of Spanish 2 and departmental approval.**

This course is designed to help students maintain and improve the skills developed in prior Spanish study through more complex analysis of the language and through readings in the history, literature, and current events of Spain and Spanish-speaking countries.

### **3332 AP SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE Requirements: B+ or higher in Advanced Spanish Honors or A or higher in Spanish 2 Honors, and departmental approval.**

The AP Spanish Language course parallels the skill development of a college Spanish course in advanced composition and conversation. The course, therefore, focuses on the mastery of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, and the mastery of content of various texts.

## **LEVEL 3 HONORS**

### **3040 FRENCH 3 HONORS**

### **3141 GERMAN 3 HONORS**

### **3240 ITALIAN 3 HONORS**

### **3342 SPANISH 3 HONORS**

**Requirements: Grade of B+ and above in Level 2 and departmental approval.**

The skills from the previous two years of study are maintained and improved. Analysis of the language grows in complexity. Familiarity with the contemporary societies is broadened by reading in the areas of history, literature, contemporary social and political structures and everyday life.

**3341 AP SPANISH LITERATURE Requirements: Successful completion of AP Spanish Language and departmental approval.**

This course prepares students to understand lectures in Spanish; to participate actively in literary discussions in Spanish; to perform a close reading of modern Hispanic literary texts of all genres; and to analyze both orally and in writing the form and content of literary works using appropriate terminology. The course is the equivalent of a college-level "Introduction to Hispanic Literature" course, covering selected works of Spanish and Spanish-American literature.

**3055 AP FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE Requirements: Minimum A+ average in French Level 2 and approval of the department. Student must enroll concurrently in ADVANCED INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE STUDY.**

The AP French Language course prepares students for active communication (understanding and being understood by others) in French. It is designed to help students develop the ability to understand spoken French in various contexts; acquire a broad French vocabulary that allows them to read newspapers, magazines, literary texts and other non-technical writings; and be able to express themselves coherently, resourcefully, and with reasonable fluency and accuracy in both written and spoken French. The course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts and develops their awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

**3157 AP GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE Requirements: Minimum A+ average in German Level 2 and approval of the department. Student must enroll concurrently in ADVANCED INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE STUDY.**

The AP German Language course emphasizes the use of the language for active communication. It is designed to develop strong command of vocabulary and structure; understanding of spoken German in various conversational situations; the ability to read newspaper and magazine articles, contemporary fiction and non-technical writings without the use of a dictionary; and fluency and accuracy in expressing ideas orally and in writing. Students in AP German Language and Culture will explore culture in contemporary and historical contexts and develop their awareness and appreciation of cultural products, practices and perspectives.

**3247 AP ITALIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE Requirements: Minimum A+ average in Italian Level 2 and approval of the department. Student must enroll concurrently in ADVANCED INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE STUDY.**

The AP Italian Language and Culture course is designed to strengthen students' knowledge of language structures in context and use them to convey meaning. Students will expand the student's reading, writing, listening and speaking skills with a cultural frame of reference reflective of the richness of Italian language and culture. This course will prepare students to demonstrate their level of Italian proficiency across the three communicative modes: interpersonal, interpretative and presentational. AP Italian Language and Culture students will explore culture in contemporary and historical contexts and develop their awareness and appreciation of cultures, practices and perspectives.

**3410 ADVANCED INDEPENDENT LANGUAGE STUDY: AP TUTORIAL PROGRAM (.25 credit per semester) Requirements: Minimum A+ average in Level 2 of French, German or Italian and departmental approval. Student must be enrolled currently in AP French, German, or Italian Language and Culture.** This advanced independent study is designed for students who have demonstrated exceptionally strong performance in the first two years of the language, have enrolled in a third year (honors level) of the language, and wish to invest their time, interest and passion in the language in order to prepare well for the AP examination in the language studied.

**3622 MANDARIN I Requirement: Sophomores, juniors and seniors. Language elective**  
Mandarin Chinese is the official language of China and the language of instruction in Chinese schools. This course will give students an introduction to the history and development of the Chinese language's writing system, pronunciation and tones, the creation of characters, parts of speech, and basic grammar points.

**3623 MANDARIN 2 Requirement: Completion of Manarin 1 or placement test. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Language elective. Approval of the department.**

In this course, students will continue their study of Mandarin in preparation for studying Mandarin at the college level. The main mode of instruction includes having students listen to podcasts from [chinesepod.com](http://chinesepod.com) on a wide range of topics, organized by the instructor into thematic content with quarterly communicative goals.

#### **3624 MANDARIN 3**

**Requirement: Completion of Manarin 2 or placement test. Open to**

**sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Language elective. Approval of the department.**

In this course, students will continue their study of Mandarin in preparation for studying Mandarin at the college level. The main mode of instruction includes having students listen to podcasts from [chinesepod.com](http://chinesepod.com) on a wide range of topics, organized by the instructor into thematic content with quarterly communicative goals.

## **HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT**

*Saint Peter's Prep requires three years of history. All freshmen take the World Civilizations course. High-achieving sophomores with a strong interest in history may request permission to take AP World History or AP Government and Politics. For students taking a second year of Latin, they may request AP World History or AP Government and Politics as a seventh full-credit course. All students must take two years of United States History. All other history electives are semester-long courses that can be chosen to complete a student's course of study at Prep.*

#### **4010 WORLD CIVILIZATIONS**

World Civilizations is a year-long survey of the history of civilization with a particular focus on the broad patterns and processes that have shaped the human experience. Attention will be paid to the effects of geography and cultural interaction as well as the development of government, social structures, and cultural institutions. As the foundational history course at Saint Peter's Prep, students will be expected to develop important study and historical-thinking skills, including those of historiography, communication, organization, critical reading and writing, and, through library-based instruction in the use of print and digital resources, research.

#### **4020 INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF AFRICA (Semester course) (.5 credit) Sophomore elective**

This semester course will trace important historical developments in Sub-Saharan Africa. The first half of the course will explore states and "stateless" societies, culture, society, and economy in the pre-modern era, stratification of traditions, long-distance trade, the coming of Islam, and the evolution of the Atlantic trade system and its social, political, and other consequences. The second half of the course will consider how Africa lost its continental, regional, and local autonomy in the era of European imperialism. Finally, the course will analyze components of European hegemony, Christian Evangelization, comparative colonial strategies and structures, nationalism, decolonization and independence and disengagement from neo-colonial patterns and colonial legacy.

#### **4022 INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF LATIN AMERICA (Semester course) (.5 credit) Sophomore elective**

This semester course will introduce students to Latin American history from the pre-Columbian period to the 18th century, emphasizing native cultures, the conquest of the New World, the creation of colonial societies in the Americas, race, gender, and class relationships, the functioning of the imperial system, the formation of peasant communities, and the wars of independence. The second half of the course will offer students a survey of the 19th and 20th centuries of Latin America; topics covered may include the formation of nation-states, the role of the military, the challenges of development and modernization, the Catholic Church and liberation theology, social and political movements for reform or revolution, slavery, race relations, the social history of workers and peasants, and inter-American relations.

#### **4025 AP WORLD HISTORY Sophomore course requiring departmental approval, with selection based on very strong freshman grades, especially in English and World Civilizations, and demonstrated work ethic.**

In this year-long course, students will develop their analytical abilities and critical thinking skills as they explore several themes of world history, including interactions between humans and the environment; the development and interaction of cultures; state-building, expansion and conflict; the creation, expansion and interaction of economic systems; and the development and transformation of social structures.

#### **4027 STUDYING HISTORY THROUGH PRIMARY SOURCES**

**Sophomore, junior, or senior elective**

This full-year course will be segmented into two semester objectives. Each semester will focus on a different theme, or era, of history using only primary source documents, recordings, artifacts, or other original sources of evidence. One marking period per semester the theme will be driven primarily by the teacher using various sources, students will learn how to research, analyze, and report their conclusions. The second marking period in the semester will be based on independent study in which students will select from a broader range of topics and will conduct their own research, analysis, and conclusions. The course will conclude with a formal presentation of student research in each semester.

**4030 UNITED STATES HISTORY 1**

This is a chronological study that traces the history of the United States from the pre-Columbian period to the end of the 19th Century. The course examines political, economic, cultural, ideological and social developments. In addition, stress is placed on continued development of historical thinking and writing skills.

**4035 AP UNITED STATES HISTORY 1 Requirements: Minimum grade of A in previous history class (B+ in AP World History); good reading, writing, and analytical skills, as shown by strong overall grades (B+ or higher), departmental approval.**

This year-long course is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems and materials in United States history. Chronologically, the course runs from the pre-Columbian period to the beginning of World War I. Attention is given to political, social, economic, cultural, intellectual and diplomatic developments. Students learn to assess historical materials and to weigh the evidence and interpretations. In addition to the text, particular emphasis is placed on the reading and evaluation of historical essays and monographs, and on working with primary sources, including documentary material, maps, graphs and pictorial evidence. Students also concentrate on the development of well-written analytical essays and research papers.

**4040 UNITED STATES HISTORY 2**

Chronologically, this year-long course covers the period from the beginning of the 20th Century to the beginning of the 21st Century. Stress is placed on foreign policy and domestic, political, and economic developments. Attention is paid to social and cultural affairs as well. Continued development of historical thinking and writing skills is emphasized.

**4045 AP UNITED STATES HISTORY 2 Requirements: Grade of B+ or higher in AP United States History 1 and departmental approval.**

This course is designed to give students the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the study of United States history. Chronologically, this course covers the period from the beginning of World War I to the present. Attention is given to political, social, economic, cultural, intellectual and diplomatic developments. Students learn to assess historical materials and to weigh evidence and interpretations. In addition to the text, particular emphasis is placed on reading and evaluating historical essays and monographs, and on working with primary sources, including documentary material, maps, graphs and pictorial evidence. Students also concentrate on the development of well-written analytical essays and research papers. Students are prepared to take the AP United States History Exam in May.

**4560 AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS Requirements: Strong grades in English and History; demonstrated work ethic.**

This course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Throughout the school year, students will explore various topics related to political science in the United States using general concepts and specific examples. Themes will include political ideology and foundations, contemporary and historical political culture including political beliefs and behavior; formal and informal political institutions; policy making and the effect of public policy in the United States on social, economic, cultural and racial and gender groups. This course will also cover the development and impact of civil rights and liberties on the citizens of the United States.

**SENIOR SEMESTER ELECTIVES****4482 UNITED STATES LAW (.5 credit)**

This course explores the areas that comprise the foundation of American Jurisprudence, including Constitutional Law and Fundamental Rights, Evidence, Criminal Law and Procedure, Contracts, Real Property, Torts and Civil Procedure. Focus will be on the history of seminal case law, with an eye toward applying it to facts taken from current events and actual cases in order to understand how the law is applied in our society under the judicial system. This process will challenge the student to question whether the law has been applied in a manner promoting the common good and social justice. To help develop analytical and writing skills, the student will research and write a memo, brief, or motion and participate in class debates.

**4487 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY GLOBAL ISSUES (.5 credit)**

Students will survey global political, economic, social, and cultural issues and their historical roots. In an increasingly interdependent post-20th-century world, students as future citizens and leaders will gain valuable skills for seeing complex problems fully. The class will read and study current analysis from a variety of perspectives and practice critical thinking.

## JUNIOR/SENIOR SEMESTER ELECTIVES

### **7446     MACROECONOMICS (.5 credit)**

This course provides a basic foundation in the field of macroeconomics by focusing on the American economic system. This course provides an overview of macroeconomics, with examples, activities, and projects highlighting the ecct, market structures and cycles, monetary policies and taxes, and unemployment and inflation. Emphasis is placed upon the student's ability to analyze economic information critically and decide how rational thinking influences the economic behavior of nations.

### **7447     MICROECONOMICS (.5 credit) (This course does not require macroeconomics as a prerequisite.)**

This second semester course provides a basic foundation in the field of microeconomics by focusing on the economic behavior of individuals. This course provides an overview of microeconomics, with examples, activities, and projects highlighting the economic thinking and incentives present at the household level. Topics covered include supply and demand, market structures and cycles, the labor market, rational consumer choices, and personal finance. Emphasis is placed upon the student's ability to analyze economic information critically and decide how rational thinking influences the economic behavior of individuals.

## SENIOR FULL-YEAR ELECTIVES

### **4488     THE DECADE THAT CHANGED AMERICA: THE 1960s**

This course examines the political, cultural, and intellectual history, and economic trends of America from 1946 to the early 1970s. The course will focus primarily on the 1960s and will include post-WWII era history as a prelude, and conclude with the lasting effects of the events. Topics will include the rise of conservative culture after WWII that leads to the counterculture movement of the 1960s; the Civil Rights Movement and its effects on societal changes during the 1960s; cultural changes in the 1960s in music, literature, television, movies, and other sources of art and entertainment; the social, political, and cultural effects of protest.

*The World Religions and Global Bioethics courses are co-disciplinary courses offered by our Religion Department and our History and Social Sciences Department.*

### **4146     WORLD RELIGIONS**

The World Religions senior elective is a full-year course of studies, divided into two units: Western religions in the first semester with a focus on the modern state of Israel; Eastern religions in the second semester, with a focus on India and China in the 20th century. The study of world religions is a non-doctrinal comparative study, and begins with a look at the first amendment's establishment clause. Harvard's Pluralism Project as well as the Religious Literacy Project informs this college preparatory course in which students focus their concerns on the systematic comparison of the doctrines and practices of the world's religions in light of enlightened modernity and the secular world.

### **4155     GLOBAL BIOETHICS & HUMAN RIGHTS**

In this course, students will examine how globalization influences our perception of the world. Content will highlight interdisciplinary, intercultural, and interreligious issues that affect how we make moral and ethical decisions. Topics of study will include but not be limited to: human rights; cultural responses to beginning and end-of-life issues; environmental disasters; healthcare justice; and technology such as reproductive technologies, extreme bionics, and genetic engineering (human & nonhuman organisms). Students will develop a global, moral language, articulating through reflective writing how personal spirituality impacts social analysis and ethical decision making, communicating in the form of dialogue, debate, and oral presentations designed to create awareness of pertinent issues.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

*All students study mathematics during their first three years at Prep. A fourth year of math is strongly recommended. The math curriculum presents students with the opportunity to take some form of Calculus by the end of senior year. Students will engage in discussion with their math teachers, guidance counselor and the college counseling office about the appropriate senior year*



mathematics course. Freshmen are placed in first-year math courses based on their performance on the freshman Math Placement Test, administered in the spring prior to freshman year.

**5010 ALGEBRA 1**

**Requirement: Departmental Placement Test**

The following topics are treated: properties of real numbers, equations, polynomials, factoring, systems of linear equations, inequalities, rational and irrational numbers, the quadratic formula, and problem solving. Algebra 1 is a contemporary course in which problem solving and thinking are introduced and integrated into the entire curriculum. Applications are presented, reasoning skills are developed, and critical thinking skills are introduced. This course is the beginning of a math sequence that typically will culminate in Precalculus or Introductory Calculus.

**5016 ACCELERATED ALGEBRA**

**Requirement: Departmental Placement Test**

All the topics in Algebra 1 are covered in the first semester instead of over two semesters. Students then switch to Algebra 2 topics normally taught in the junior year. These additional topics include Systems of Equation, Systems of Inequalities, Rational and Exponential Expressions, Solving Radical Equations, Absolute Equalities and Inequalities, Solving Quadratics by additional methods such as completing the square, Imaginary Numbers, and all forms of Factoring. It is expected that students will have successfully had Algebra 1 and understand not just the fundamentals, but some of the underlying principles. This course is the beginning of a math sequence that typically will culminate in Introductory Calculus.

**5018 ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY HONORS Requirement: Departmental Placement Test**

This course is the first course in Prep's honors program in math studies. Students who successfully complete this course will progress to Honors Geometry, Precalculus Honors (covering Trigonometry), and then to AP Calculus. The topics covered in this class include all topics from high school Algebra, including Equations and Inequalities, Functions, Systems of Equations and Inequalities, Matrices, Quadratic Functions, Polynomials, Radicals, Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, Rational Equations and Functions, Sequences, and Series. This course is structured to introduce the student to the critical thinking skills necessary for the higher level math courses, as it is the start of a sequence of courses that typically will culminate in either AP Calculus or Calculus Honors.

**5020 GEOMETRY**

**Requirement: Departmental approval.**

Geometry involves the mastery of definitions, postulates and formal proofs, as well as learning the geometric principles needed in problem solving. There is a strong emphasis on linear equations involving geometric concepts. Geometric concepts would include points, lines and planes, angles, triangles, polygons, and three-dimensional solids. The course reviews standardized testing problems. The course is designed to support students' fundamental math skills.

**5023 ACCELERATED GEOMETRY**

**Requirement: B in Accelerated Algebra or A+ in Algebra 1 and departmental approval.**

This is the second course in the four-year math sequence. Topics for study include principles of geometric construction, properties of triangles, introduction to proofs, properties of polygons and circles, postulates and theorems, congruence, similarity, area, volume, right triangle trigonometry. Algebraic topics such as quadratics, rational expressions, exponents, and other high level expressions all will be used frequently in geometric modeling in this course. There is a strong emphasis on Algebra, reinforcing previous skills for future courses and standardized testing.

**5025 GEOMETRY AND TRIGONOMETRY HONORS WITH ADVANCED PROOF Requirements: Grade of A in Intermediate Algebra Honors or departmental recommendation with summer bridge course and an A+ in Accelerated Algebra.**

This is the second course in a typical honors math progression. Students will be challenged to develop mathematical communication skills. This will be done through investigating objects in Euclidean Geometry and an introduction to logic structures. This will support significant practice in proof writing. The second semester will be dedicated to a study in Trigonometry which will include exercises in verifying trigonometric identities and solving trigonometric equations.

**5029 APPLIED STATISTICS AND PROBABILITY (.5 credit)**

**Requirements: Sophomores and Juniors; B or higher in previous math courses.**

This one-semester math elective will offer students an introduction to such topics as the modeling and analysis of data distributions, the selection and interpretation of everyday samples and polls, different types of probabilities (conditional, binomial), regression models, and inference involving hypothesis tests. This course will incorporate everyday examples and real-life applications. Instruction will involve a mix of lecture, group work, and investigative projects and activities. Students will leave the course prepared for future statistics-based courses such as AP Statistics and college-level introductory statistics courses.

**5030 ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY**

**Requirement: Departmental approval.**

This is the third course in the typical four-year math sequence. It is a comprehensive study of second-level algebra and an introduction to trigonometry. Students will use graphing calculators. This course extends the student's ability to handle polynomials, polynomial equations, and inequalities in one or more variables; linear quadratic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions; rational algebraic expressions; and the complex number system. It also continues to develop the student's ability to think critically about these issues and how they extend to real life situations. The course is designed to support students' fundamental math skills.

**5036 ACCELERATED ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY Requirements: Minimum grade of B in Accelerated Geometry or A+ in Geometry.**

This is the third course in the four-year math sequence, which typically leads to Introductory Calculus or, with a very strong performance, to Calculus Honors. It is a comprehensive study of second-level algebra and trigonometry. This course extends the student's ability to identify, evaluate, and analyze functions of the following types: linear, quadratic, polynomials, and inequalities in one or more variables; exponential, rational, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. It continues to develop the student's ability to think critically and apply concepts to real life application. It incorporates technology, such as a graphing calculator.

**5037 PRECALCULUS HONORS Requirements: Minimum grades of A in both Intermediate Algebra Honors and Geometry Honors) and departmental approval.**

This course will be the typical third course in a sequence of mathematics that began in freshman year with Intermediate Algebra Honors. Students taking this course will be expected to enroll in either AP Calculus or Calculus Honors in their senior year. Topics covered will include analysis and transformations of all algebraic and transcendental functions including polynomials, rationals, logarithmic and exponential functions, trigonometric functions and inverse trigonometric functions. The exploration of these functions will also include a technological component through the use of a graphing calculator. Additional topics include analytical trigonometry, vectors, polar coordinates, and sequences and series.

**5045 FINITE MATHEMATICS Requirement: Departmental approval.**

This full-year course for seniors covers the math topics required of an incoming college freshman who may choose a non-math or non-science major. Topics will include probability, statistics, linear programming, logic, advanced algebra, and set theory.

**5740 PRECALCULUS Requirement: Departmental approval.**

PreCalculus is designed to prepare students for Calculus. This course is an in-depth study of the concept of functions. Several functions classes including linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions are studied. Within each function class, characteristics of the function are emphasized, including the basic form and graph, equations and inequalities associated with the functions, and applications. Both algebraic and graphical techniques will be used throughout the course.

**5810 INTRODUCTORY CALCULUS Requirement: B+ in Accelerated Algebra 2 and Trigonometry.** Introductory Calculus reviews algebra concepts and extends those into an investigation of the two major calculus topics: differentiation and integration. The course takes a step-by-step approach to the topics covered. The content is conveyed through business, economics, life sciences, and social science applications.

**5840 CALCULUS HONORS Requirements: A+ in Accelerated Algebra 2 & Trigonometry, A in Precalculus, or B in Precalculus Honors.**

This course is designed to further prepare a student for college level calculus. Topics will include limits, differentiation and integration of algebraic, logarithmic, exponential, trigonometric, and inverse trigonometric functions from a non-theoretical point of view. The business and economic applications to be emphasized include break-even point analysis cost benefit-models, supply and demand curves, marginal costs and profit functions, growth and decay models, optimization techniques, average cost, and elementary differential equations.

**5845 AP CALCULUS (AB) Requirements: Minimum grades of A+ in previous math courses (A in previous math honors courses) and departmental approval.**

Advanced Placement Calculus is designed as a college-level Calculus I course. It will include the concept of limits, differentiation and integration of both algebraic and transcendental functions from a theoretical to non-theoretical point of view. Applications will include related rates, sketching curves, velocity and accelerations, maxima and minima, Rolle's and the Mean Value and Theorems, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, areas under the curve, and solids of revolution along with their applications.

**5846 AP CALCULUS (BC) Requirement: Invitation of the department.**

The AP Calculus BC course covers the same differential and integral calculus topics that are included in the AP Calculus AB course, plus additional topics in differential and integral calculus, and polynomial approximations and series. This is material that

would be included in a two-semester calculus sequence at the college level. Because graphing calculator use is an integral part of the course, the exam contains questions that require students to use a graphing calculator.

**5847 AP STATISTICS Requirement: For seniors, minimum grade of A in previous math courses, strong overall grades, and departmental approval. For juniors, minimum grade of A in Geometry Honors with strong overall grades, good writing and reasoning skills, and departmental approval.**

This college-level course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Important components of the course include the use of technology, projects, cooperative group problem-solving, and technical writing. Such elements are used as part of the concept-oriented instruction and assessment integral to this course.

## COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES

*The Computer Science curriculum emphasizes learning to use various technologies to extend a student's ability to solve problems, manage data, and study intricate systems.*

**7032 CS: PROGRAMMING (Semester course) Requirements: Minimum of B in math courses and departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This introductory-level course will introduce students to multiple languages and focus on logic and problem solving. It will begin with a study of the fundamentals of programming (math ops, conditional, iteration, and strings) and will continue with expanded operations (one- and two-dimensional arrays), graphics, and beginning use of objects.

**7042 CS: PROGRAMMING II (Semester course) Requirements: Programming I or approval of department. Minimum of B in Programming I and math courses; departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This mid-level course will explore higher level concepts focussing on object oriented programming. The core of this class will include advanced data structures and examine the use of advanced logic, problem solving, classes, inheritance and emphasizing code re-use. Programming Language to be determined.

**7045 CS: ADVANCED PROGRAMMING HONORS Requirements: Juniors and seniors, with minimum grade of B+ in math courses and departmental approval. (1 credit)**

This full-year course provides a rigorous involvement with object-oriented C++ programming language including key concepts in software design and systems programming. Emphasis is placed on programming methods, algorithms, data types, and structures.

**7038 NETWORKING (.5 credit) Requirement: Minimum grade of B in math courses and departmental approval. Assumption: Students will have a functional knowledge of computer software and operating systems, and an interest in higher level aspects of computers and networking.**

In this course, students will learn the fundamentals of computer networking, computer hardware, and troubleshooting. We will focus on configuration and security of both wired and wireless networks. By the completion of the course a student should be able to build a functioning network by configuring computers (both PC and Mac) and cut and crimp his own cables.

**7039 CS: ROBOTICS (Semester course) Juniors and Seniors. Requirements: Successful completion of a Computer Science course. Grades of B+ or higher in math and science courses and departmental approval (.5 credit)**

In this course, students will learn about three-dimensional kinetic design and robotics. Students will program basic robot behaviors using motors and rotation, sound, light, touch, and ultrasonic sensors.

**7049 CS: ROBOTICS II (Semester course) Juniors and Seniors. Requirements: B or higher in Robotics. B+ or higher in math courses. Departmental approval (.5 credit)**

Robotics 2 will take a more in depth look at the concepts necessary to utilize input sensors to control behavior. There will be greater exploration into the advanced theories of robotics and the benefits of robots and robotic technology.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

*The science curriculum at Prep is designed to allow students to interact with science as a discipline and to experience empirical inquiry as a method of investigation. Science courses focus on the scientific process, enabling students to discover and interpret scientific knowledge, develop positive attitudes and interests about science, and recognize that what they learn can be applied to decisions they will make in a world influenced by science and technology. To prepare students for this world, Prep has adopted the inquiry method of teaching science. This method fosters an environment of hands-on learning that invites students to explain what is being observed in a scientific manner. The science department believes in a practical approach to science education and works to have students appreciate science as a skill.*

*Prep requires two years of laboratory science as a minimum graduation requirement: (1) life science and (1) physical science. The science department strongly recommends at least three years of laboratory science, namely physics, chemistry, and biology. Many colleges require three or more lab sciences, or particular lab sciences. Each student is encouraged to consult with his science teachers, his guidance counselor, and the college placement office to determine his best course of study in the sciences. Please note that departmental approval is separate from meeting a letter grade requirement; no student will be accepted into an honors or AP level science course without approval of the department.*

*Note that a student does not have to progress to higher tiers and may take any courses in the tier for which he meets the requirements. Below are the titles of the courses and their life or physical science designation.*

<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>Physical Sciences</i>
<i>Biology</i> <i>Biology Honors</i> <i>AP Biology</i> <i>AP Environmental Science</i> <i>Forensic Science</i> <i>Anatomy &amp; Physiology</i> <i>Advanced Biology II</i>	<i>Physical Science</i> <i>Chemistry</i> <i>Chemistry Honors</i> <i>Advanced Chemistry II</i> <i>AP Chemistry</i> <i>Physics I</i> <i>Physics I Honors</i> <i>AP Physics I</i>

### FRESHMAN YEAR

#### 6014 PHYSICAL SCIENCE

The course includes concepts such as: scientific measurement, structure of atoms, states of matter, periodic table principles, kinematics, dynamics, conservation of mass, matter and energy, and introduction to thermodynamics. Emphasis will be placed on understanding physical and mathematical concepts, which will provide a foundation for students as they continue their science and mathematics courses. Students will develop their conceptual and analytical skills through hands-on activities and experiments.

#### 6035 CHEMISTRY HONORS

*Only students placed into Intermediate Algebra Honors have the required math background for Chemistry Honors in the freshman year.*

Chemistry Honors covers the concepts found in the standard chemistry course, but is paced faster so that additional topics can be introduced. The course also places greater emphasis on the quantitative and mathematical aspects of chemistry. Students with strong mathematical, problem solving, conceptual, and analytical skills do well in chemistry. The honors course requires students to apply more critical thinking skills and require students to work more independently.

### TIER "A" COURSES

*The courses designated as Tier "A" require the student to complete their freshman year course. A short description of the skills necessary for student success have been included below.*

#### 6030 CHEMISTRY

This course is an inquiry-oriented exploration of the major topics in chemistry. The practical use of chemistry in the real world is emphasized. Concepts studied include atoms, molecules, acids, bases, compounds and chemical kinetics. The course is group-oriented and hands-on whenever possible. Appropriate technology for data-gathering and simulation is employed. Problem

solving appropriate to a college preparatory course is also included. This course is the mandatory second-year course in lab science. Students with strong mathematical, problem solving, conceptual, and analytical skills do well in chemistry.

#### **6035 CHEMISTRY HONORS**

***Minimum grade of A in current science course (B+ if honors, B if AP). Departmental approval.***

Chemistry Honors covers the concepts found in the standard chemistry course, but is paced faster so that additional topics can be introduced. The course also places greater emphasis on the quantitative and mathematical aspects of chemistry. Students with strong mathematical, problem solving, conceptual, and analytical skills do well in chemistry. The honors course requires students to apply more critical thinking skills and require students to work more independently.

#### **6041 BIOLOGY**

Biology is the study of the processes of living organisms and their interaction with each other and the environment. Areas of study include organization, continuity, development and ecology. The emphasis is on studying the science of life as it affects the human person and everyday activities. Teaching is inquiry-based, primarily using small groups. Case studies, online and computer activities also are included. While significant amounts of content will be covered, integration of knowledge is the key skill in the course. Students who have strong memorization, reading comprehension, writing ability, and analytical skills do well in biology.

#### **6045 BIOLOGY HONORS**

***Minimum grade of A in current science course (B+ if honors, B if AP). Departmental approval.***

Biology Honors covers the concepts found in the standard course, but is paced so that additional topics can be introduced. Also, topics are covered in greater detail than in the standard course, and there is greater emphasis on biochemistry. Students who have strong memorization, reading comprehension, writing ability, and analytical skills do well in biology. The honors course requires students to apply more critical thinking skills and require students to work more independently.

#### **6027 AP BIOLOGY**

***Minimum grade of A+ in current science course (B+ if honors, B if AP). Departmental approval.***

The AP Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. Using evolutionary thinking as a unifying concept, the course covers the following major themes: scientific inquiry, the chemical basis of life, metabolism of cells, genetic continuity, homeostasis in animals and plants, a survey of the five kingdoms, and an overview of how populations evolve and are part of ecosystems. The students will build on their knowledge of biology from their first course by applying scientific methodologies to gain conceptual mastery. Laboratory sessions are devoted to each of the main areas listed. This course requires students to have strong mathematical, analytical, and logical reasoning skills. An AP student is expected to be able to retain information well, work independently, and be willing to commit to the time to be successful in the course (which is recommended to be 2-3 hours of additional independent work each cycle).

#### **6037 AP CHEMISTRY**

***Minimum grade of A+ in chemistry (B+ if honors). Departmental approval.***

AP Chemistry represents a second year of study in chemistry. It probes, in depth, the traditional areas covered in a college freshman-level chemistry course. Laboratory experiences (investigative preparation, performance and reporting) will be an important part of the course. Problem solving, mathematical and conceptual, will be stressed. This course is an excellent preparation for anyone interested in pursuing science in college. This course requires students to have strong mathematical, analytical, and logical reasoning skills. An AP student is expected to be able to retain information well, work independently, and be willing to commit to the time to be successful in the course (which is recommended to be 2-3 hours of additional independent work each cycle).

#### **6049 AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

***Minimum grade of A+ in current science course (B+ if honors, B if AP). Departmental approval.***

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies 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 and/or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study, but with unifying constructions that cut across the many topics included in its study. This course requires students to have strong mathematical, analytical, and logical reasoning skills. An AP student is expected to be able to retain information well, work independently, and be willing to commit to the time to be successful in the course (which is recommended to be 2-3 hours of additional independent work each cycle).

### **TIER “B” COURSES**

*The courses designated as Tier “B” require the student to complete at least one course in Tier “A.” A short description of the skills necessary for student success have been included below.*

#### **6036      ADVANCED CHEMISTRY II**

***Completion of chemistry or chemistry honors. Departmental approval.***

Advanced Chemistry II is a year-long lab course for students who wish to continue their study of this science. The topics covered include molecular structure, intermolecular forces, thermochemistry, electrochemistry, kinetics, equilibrium, solution chemistry, acids and bases, nuclear chemistry, and organic chemistry. The focus will be on the application of obtained knowledge through hands-on based lab experiments and drawing connections between themes. Upon completion of the course, students should feel prepared to take the SAT II subject test in Chemistry. Students with strong mathematical, problem solving, conceptual, and analytical skills do well in chemistry.

#### **6042      ADVANCED BIOLOGY II**

***Completion of biology or biology honors. Departmental approval.***

This is a year-long lab course for students who wish to continue their study of this science in a rigorous and lab intensive environment. Topics to be covered include DNA & genetics, evolution, animal form and function through dissections, human physiology, and statistical analysis, with particular emphasis on the connections between them. At the conclusion of the course, students will be required to conduct a project of their own design, following all the steps of proper scientific research. Students who have strong memorization, reading comprehension, writing ability, and analytical skills do well in biology.

#### **6050      FORENSIC SCIENCE**

***Completion of chemistry and biology; may take one concurrently.***

This course is designed to challenge students with topics such as fingerprinting, DNA analysis, blood typing and spattering, trajectories, comparative anatomy, chemical analysis of drugs, poisons, and trace evidence, and the dynamics of Physics. Students will learn about the careers that involve Forensic Science and will be given the tools to interpret data and the techniques for chemical and biological analysis of evidence. Students who have strong reading comprehension and the ability to defend/support an argument in written/verbal formats will do well in Forensic Science.

#### **6053      PHYSICS I**

***Recommended B+ in Accelerated Geometry; concurrently taking Accelerated Algebra 2 or above.***

This course prepares students for introductory college-level **physics courses** such as those regularly required for degrees in engineering, science or some pre-med fields. Topics include problem-solving methods, graphical analysis, vectors, kinematics, dynamics, circular motion, and energy. Students will be working through lab activities in order to develop concepts and derive equations together using inquiry-based methods instead of lecture. This is an intensive algebra- and trigonometry-based course so students interested should have strong analytical and mathematical skills (especially in geometry).

#### **6055      PHYSICS I HONORS**

***Minimum grade of A in current science course (B+ if honors, B if AP). Departmental approval.***

***Recommended B+ in Accelerated Geometry; concurrently taking Accelerated Algebra 2 or above.***

This course prepares students for introductory college-level **physics courses** such as those regularly required for degrees in engineering, science or some pre-med fields. Topics include problem-solving methods, graphical analysis, vectors, kinematics, dynamics, circular motion, energy, electrostatics, and introduction to electrodynamics. Students in Physics Honors will need to be able to work independently since the Honors course will cover more material and move at a faster pace. In addition, students will be working through lab activities in order to develop concepts and derive equations together using inquiry-based methods instead of lecture. This is an intensive algebra- and trigonometry-based course so students interested should have strong analytical and mathematical skills (especially in geometry).

#### **6648      ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY**

***Strong grades in previous science courses. Departmental approval.***

This course is the exploration of the human body through two integrated sciences: anatomy and physiology. Students study and investigate all the major systems and structures of the human body, as well as the physical and chemical processes that occur within and between them. Students will investigate the systems through various dissections and comparative anatomy. Students who have strong reading comprehension, memorization skills, and the ability to work independently will do well in Anatomy and Physiology.

#### **6057      AP PHYSICS I**

***Minimum grade of A+ in current science course (B+ if honors, B if AP). Departmental approval.***

***Recommended A in Accelerated Geometry (B+ if honors level); concurrently taking Accelerated Algebra 2 or above.***

This course is equivalent to the first semester of a typical introductory, algebra-based college Physics course. The goal of the course is for students to gain a deep understanding of physics principles by developing the ability to reason about physical phenomena using science skills such as explaining causal relationships, applying and justifying the use of mathematical routines,



designing experiments, analyzing data, and making connections across multiple topics within the course. The course will include topics such as Kinematics, Dynamics, Motion, Energy, Electrostatics, Circuits, and Sound and Light. This course requires students to have strong mathematical, analytical, and logical reasoning skills. An AP student is expected to be able to retain information well, work independently, and be willing to commit to the time to be successful in the course (which is recommended to be 2-3 hours of additional independent work each cycle).

## FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT

*Saint Peter's Prep wants its students to appreciate the arts and provides opportunities for students to develop their artistic talents. All freshmen take Introduction to Art and Introduction to Music. All other offerings of the department are electives. Students with special talents or interest in these areas are strongly encouraged to enroll in these courses.*

### **7720 INTRODUCTION TO ART (.25 credit)**

This course promotes visual literacy, inspires interest in visual art, and introduces the students to studio arts production. Students will learn art language, concepts, and processes through coordination with their World Civilizations course. This interdisciplinary approach reinforces the lessons presented in both courses, while allowing students to see relevant connections. Each art section focuses on an element of art, an area of the world studied in the freshman history course, and a particular studio process.

### **7710 INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC (.25 credit)**

This course is divided into two units. During the first marking period, students are presented with an introduction and review of basic music elements, including rhythm, melody, harmony, timbre and dynamics. Contemporary music is used as a reference for the study and understanding of these elements. In the second marking period, students begin to explore various aspects of music as it has developed from the Medieval world through the Renaissance, Baroque, and Classical periods in Europe. These periods are studied by analyzing their basic musical elements and exploring the music's historical context.

## MUSIC COURSES

### **7480 BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC LESSONS (.25 credit)**

This course is available to all students wishing to learn brass, woodwind, percussion or guitar as an instrument. A limited number of school loaner instruments are available on a first come, first served basis. In most cases, students have to provide their own instruments. Students who successfully complete the course may join the school concert band or other ensembles.

### **7482 JAZZ BAND (.25 credit)**

This course is available to students by audition only. The class meets two times per cycle after school, emphasizing improvisation and small ensemble performances. Many styles, including swing, modal and fusion jazz, are part of this ensemble's repertoire. The group performs at many school functions and in the annual school concerts. Students' technical abilities are met with demanding music and, therefore, practice beyond rehearsals is necessary.

### **7479 MUSIC THEORY (.5 credit)**

This course is designed to help a student develop a better understanding of music comprehension as a second language, a key component for growing into an advanced music student. Topics will include: music theory--basic to advanced; music listening and ear training; composition analysis; major and minor scales; key signatures; time signatures; intervals. The course will also look into the use of music technology and how the use of programs such as Sibelius will help in the composition process.

### **7489 SONGWRITING (.5 credit) Requirement: 7479 Music Theory**

This course replaces Songwriting and Arranging on the Computer I and II. Presented in workshop format, the Songwriting course aims to hone the student's ability to craft a song using techniques that are widely employed by professional songwriters for specific music genres. Students will be introduced to a methodical process for songwriting, explore a variety of musical genres, analyze songwriting techniques, and draft one complete song of their chosen genre.

### **7499 SOUND DESIGN 1: ELECTRONIC MUSIC (.5 credit)**

Students in this semester class will discover the history of electronic music and create original works that will be formatted to play on commonly used devices and uploaded to the internet. A review of the development of electronic music technology from Theremin to Moog and exposure to such artists as Kraftwerk to Skrillex will provide inspiration for student projects.

**7498 SOUND DESIGN II: ELECTRONIC MUSIC (.5 credit)**

In this advanced level of Sound Design, students will be introduced to finer parameters of working with oscillators, signal processors and effects such as limiters and compressors. Students will be creating original rhythms using non-standard time signatures and basic music theory principles specifically related to harmonic transposition and chord substitution. Voice leading will be covered along with specific compositional forms that will be used to complete additional projects for the semester.

**7500 CONCERT BAND (.5 credit)**

Concert band is open to all intermediate and advanced brass, woodwind and percussion players. Students who wish to enroll in this class need to have taken lessons for at least one year and be able to play a chromatic scale in the full range of their instrument. Rehearsals are three times a week, and after school one day each week. Performances include the annual Christmas and spring concerts, football games, an annual music festival competition and several other performances in the metropolitan area.

**7501 CONCERT BAND II (.5 credit) Requirement: Successful completion of one year of 7500 – Concert Band.**

Concert Band II will further develop foundational technique on a student's instrument and direct him towards greater music theory understanding. It will focus on the development of increased range and mastering complex rhythms. Students will be working towards knowledge of all major and minor scales, arpeggios, and techniques appropriate to each instrument. In addition to the usual large ensemble work, exposure to chamber ensemble experience will be an added aspect of the course during the second semester.

**7511 CONCERT BAND III (.5 credit) Requirement: Successful completion of one year of 7051, Concert Band II.**

Concert Band III will focus on the development of musicianship and small ensemble/chamber music experience. Students will also be focusing on etudes to begin mastering advanced techniques particular to their instrument and will perform in a chamber music setting during the second semester. Demonstrated mastery of minor scales and mixed meter will be expected.

**7502 CHORUS (.5 credit)**

The chorus class is designed for Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors who are interesting in the Vocal Arts. In this course the students will learn how their voice is used properly by understanding technique, basic music theory, and allowing both of those aspects to play a role in learning a variety of repertoire. Musical styles range from pop, folk, and theatrical music to more difficult classical and religious music. Each student in this class is expected to participate in the Annual Winter and Spring Concerts as well as each Mass that is held during the year. This course meets three times during a cycle.

**7503 VOCAL AND CHORAL TECHNIQUE AND THEORY (.5 credit)**

**Requirement: Sophomores, Juniors, or Seniors who have completed one year of Chorus.**

The chorus class is designed for Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors who are interesting in the Vocal Arts and have already taken the Chorus Class. This is a continuation of the Freshmen in Chorus. In this course the students will learn how their voice is used properly by understanding technique, basic and advanced music theory, and allowing both of those aspects to play a role in learning a variety of repertoire. Musical styles range from pop, folk, and theatrical music to more difficult classical and religious music. Each student in this class is expected to participate in each school sponsored performances as well as various community performances and festivals. This course meets three times during a cycle.

**7513 ADVANCED VOCAL AND CHORAL TECHNIQUE AND THEORY (.5 credit)**

**Requirement: Juniors or Seniors who have completed 7502 Chorus and 7503 Vocal and Choral Technique and Theory; approval of department.**

The chorus class is designed for Juniors and Seniors who are interesting in the Vocal Arts at a higher level. This is a continuation of the Freshmen and Sophomore experience in Chorus. In this course the students will learn how their voice is used properly by

understanding technique, basic and advanced music theory, and allowing both of those aspects to play a role in learning a variety of repertoire. Musical styles range from pop, folk, and theatrical music to more difficult classical and religious music. In addition to performances held at Prep, preparation for auditions (AllState, Region I, National Choruses, etc ) will be a key role in the continuation of learning. Each student in this class is expected to participate in each school sponsored performances as well as various community performances and festivals. This course meets three times a cycle.

## **VISUAL ART COURSES**

### **7717 SOPHOMORE ART: BEGINNING PROCESSES (.25 credit)**

This semester course will focus on how a particular period in time provided a context for an artistic movement (from the Renaissance to Modern Art). This sophomore studio course will include drawing and exposure to a variety of art materials and processes.

### **7722 SOPHOMORE ART: PRINCIPLES OF ARCHITECTURE (.25 credit)**

This semester course will give sophomores an introduction to the history, philosophy, theory and practice of architecture and prepare them to create an architectural piece.

### **7723 STUDIO ART: DRAWING AND COMPOSITION (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

Drawing and Composition centers on art production and skill-building in the areas of basic drawing and composition. Students will focus on the fundamentals of visual art and develop critical and analytical thinking skills through regular critiques. The course also offers an emphasis on drawing materials and methods. Students may enroll in this class in their junior or senior years.

### **7727 STUDIO ART: DESIGN & COMPOSITION 2 (Semester course) (.5 credit) Requirement: Drawing and Composition or Design and Color.**

This course builds upon skills learned in Drawing and Composition or Design and Color 1. Students will use the properties of design along with the art elements to create art pieces that combine graphics, text and illustration.

### **7728 STUDIO ART: DESIGN AND COLOR (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

Design and Color stresses art production and skill-building in the areas of 2-D design and color theory. Students will design repeat patterns and logos, and will use the computer as a design tool. Each assignment will significantly involve the use of color, materials such as colored pencils, watercolor, and gouache. Students may enroll in this class in their junior or senior years.

### **7729 STUDIO ART: PAINTING (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

In this class, students create paintings with various water-based media as they explore color theory, art history and personal expression. Students will also learn how to prepare painting surfaces, such as watercolor paper and canvas.

### **7746 ARCHITECTURE (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

The aim of this course is to lay a foundation for a general understanding of Architecture. Through fundamental principles spanning the education, the profession, the art, the science, and the current spirit of Architecture, the student will encounter a broad survey of vocabularies and conceptual processes. Students will create an architecturally considered art piece and learn basic Auto CAD and SketchUp.

### **7735 ADVANCED ART CONCEPTS (Honors Level): PORTFOLIO PREPARATION (First semester course or full-year option, .5 credit or 1.0 credit. ) Requirement: Completion of two studio art courses; permission of department chair and approved proposal prior to enrollment.**

Portfolio Preparation is offered to students who have taken two or more Studio Art courses. The focus of this course is the development of the students' interests, using various media of their choice, resulting in a unique portfolio that is self-directed. Students also create their own websites. The year culminates in a student exhibition.

### **7736 STUDIO ART: SCULPTURE 1 (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

In this course, students build a basic vocabulary and understanding of three-dimensional forms, which have height, depth and width. Light and shadow will be considered and emphasized as they relate to mass and volume. Students will explore some of the great sculptors in the history of art. A variety of materials and processes will be explored. Students may enroll in this class in their junior or senior years.

### **7747 STUDIO ART: SCULPTURE 2 (Semester course) (.5 credit) Requirement: Studio Art: Sculpture 1**

In this course students will continue their exploration and development of their understanding of the fundamentals of sculpture. Students will create work and use materials based on their two proposed project ideas. Through this course students will grow in their ability to express ideas visually and 3-dimensionally. Students may enroll in this class in their junior or senior years.

**7742 VIDEO PRODUCTION (Semester course) (.25 credit per semester; re-enrollment as space permits)**

This course is designed to provide knowledge and understanding of digital film production and help students learn the craft of production through hands-on execution of the various roles associated with video production. Students will practice by producing short digital pieces and working on projects to be highlighted on outlets such as the PrepTV YouTube channel. Students will further develop their skills through writing and directing their own pieces by semester's end. Students also will become accustomed to web-based programs and use them to "tell a story" by nontraditional means.

**7743 THEATRE AND ACTING 1 (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

This course will introduce students to the basics of theatre and theatre performance through skills associated with improvisation and the process of reading, understanding, and staging monologues and duo scenes from published literary works. Students will be exposed to the history, culture, and style of theatre from the classical to the modern times. Students will develop creative and innovative processes as they work to improve their communication skills and their ability to understand character, motivation, story structure, and storytelling.

**7744 THEATRE AND ACTING 2 (Semester Course) (.5 credit) Requirement: Completion of Theatre and Acting 1 and approval of department. Offered only in Semester 2.**

Students will build on the storytelling, staging, design, and acting lessons from Theatre and Acting 1 by spending more time working on staging their own monologue and scene each quarter. Students will also work with period-specific texts (i.e., Ancient Greek, Shakespearean, Romantic, 20th Century) and renowned authors, instead of working with basic teen texts. Students will spend more time reading well-known plays and seeing productions as a model for their own production work. Students will explore other theatre history, including Shakespearean theatre and 19th century theatre (the transition from Wilde parlor comedies to the realistic dramas of Ibsen and Chekhov). Topics in Theatre and Acting 2 and 3 are taught in a two-year cycle taking students through the periods of Ancient Greece/Rome, Shakespeare, Realist, and Modern/Absurdist.

**7748 THEATRE AND ACTING 3 (Semester Course) (.5 credit) Requirement: Completion of Theatre and Acting 2 in the previous academic year and approval of department. Offered only in Semester 2.**

This course further hones the skills that students have built in the level 2 course: storytelling, staging, design, and acting lessons. Topics in Theatre and Acting 2 and 3 are taught in a two-year cycle taking students through the periods of Ancient Greece/Rome, Shakespeare, Realist, and Modern/Absurdist.

## **ADVANCED STUDY IN FINE ARTS**

**7739 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN THE ARTS (.5 credit) Requirement: Departmental and administrative approval.**

This semester course will be offered to senior level **visual or performing arts students** who demonstrate the ability to work independently on a proposed personal project. Prerequisites are the completion of several art or music courses and approval from the Chair of the Fine Arts Department and Administration.

## **CREATIVE WRITING COURSES**

***NOTE:** All Creative Writing Courses are offered co-departmentally through the English and Fine Arts Departments.*

**1968 CREATIVE WRITING 1: FORMS OF EXPRESSION (Semester course) Sophomores, juniors and seniors. Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of writing such as poetry, play- and screenwriting, graphic short fiction (comics), short story, and memoir, as well as multimedia writing. Students will study the techniques used by successful writers, learn from them, and incorporate these techniques in their own efforts. Peer review is an integral component of this course. This class is the prerequisite for all other creative writing courses offered at Saint Peter's Prep.

**1970 CREATIVE WRITING: THE SHORT STORY (Semester course) Requirement: Creative Writing 1 and Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of short story writing--whether literary, sci fi, mystery, or another genre. It is for those who want to examine the basic skills and techniques used by established authors, and to learn from them. Students will begin by writing short exercises on the basic elements of the short story, such as plot, setting, character, theme, and viewpoint, and then go on to write their own stories. Students will also research and submit work to professional journals. Everyone has a story to tell. This course will help each student tell his.

**1972 CREATIVE WRITING: (SLAM) POETRY SEMINAR (Semester course) Requirement: Creative Writing 1 and Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is for students who have gone through the introductory creative writing course and are interested in studying poetry and slam poetry more closely. Students will focus on both writing and performance of traditional and slam poetry and look closely at works by award-winning traditional and slam poets, and possibly attending readings and youth poetry slams in the area. In addition to learning traditional poetic devices, students will look at new and different forms of poetic writing and expression.

**1974 SCREENWRITING AND PLAYWRITING (Semester course) Requirement: Creative Writing 1 and Departmental approval. (.5 credit)**

This course is for students who have gone through the introductory creative writing course and are interested in studying screenwriting and playwriting more closely. Students will compose short scripts, focusing on story and dialogue development, as well as discussing the production of plays and movies, casting choices, and other development issues. Some acting and presentation will be involved.

**1975 JOURNALISM FOR PRINT MEDIA (Semester course) (.5 credit)**

Journalism for Digital and Print Media, designed as a writing workshop, is a semester course that will give students practical knowledge and hands-on experience with writing news, feature, entertainment, sports, and other articles. Students will learn to conduct surveys, develop interviewing skills, and edit for publication. Students in the class will be encouraged to submit their work to the school newspaper and/or yearbook as well as other publications. The course will be taught as a writing workshop, with the instructor using writing samples as models and having students write and critique each other's work. Students will read the *New York Times*, the *Atlantic*, and various online publications of their choice..

**1976 JOURNALISM FOR DIGITAL MEDIA (Semester course) (.5 credit) Requirement: Journalism for Print Media.**

An extension of Journalism for Print Media, this course builds off the work of the first semester, leading students in an investigative news project. The work of the course involves the creation and maintenance of a website as well as a professional presence on social media. Students will conduct video-recorded interviews, learn to request public records, and perform research while looking into a topic of their choice. Students will also take on editing and reporting roles as part of a team to create a podcast and will learn to read and create photojournalism and infographics.

**1990 ADVANCED CREATIVE WRITING: PORTFOLIO PREPARATION (First semester course or full year option, .5 credit or 1.0 credit. ) Requirement: Completion of Creative Writing 1 and one additional creative writing course; permission of department chair and approved proposal prior to enrollment.**

Portfolio Preparation is offered to students who have taken two or more Creative Writing courses. The focus of this course is the development of the students' interests, using various storytelling styles of their choice, resulting in a unique portfolio that is self-directed and submission work to area Creative Writing programs, contests, and/or magazines.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

*All Prep students complete Health I and Health II and four semester-long courses in Physical Education.*

**8010/8020/ 8030 PHYSICAL EDUCATION (.25 credit)**

Physical Education is a semester-long course required of students in all four years. It is designed to challenge students both physically and mentally through various types of activities. Students will be given direct instruction and proper technique for all activities, including football, basketball, handball, whiffle ball, fitness testing, and weight training. Physical Education classes take place in the gymnasium, the weight room, and outdoors on the turf field.

**7810 HEALTH I (.25 credit)** Health I is a semester-long course for freshmen that focuses on healthy nutritional and fitness practices as well as potential life-saving First Aid, CPR, and AED training. Students will be engaged in classroom lessons as well as hands-on activities and collaborative group work.

**7820 HEALTH II (.25 credit)**

Health II is a semester-long course for sophomores that centers on social and emotional health management. Additional content includes drug use and abuse education focusing on alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana. The course also includes the study of infectious and lifestyle diseases. Students will be engaged in classroom lessons as well as collaborative group work.

## **GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

*To complement the individual guidance needs of its students, Prep provides group guidance for its students. The group guidance program is designed to assist the student during his adolescence to become more self-reflective, more responsible for his decisions, and more aware of the personal, academic and career choices open to him during the coming years.*

**8900 FRESHMAN GROUP GUIDANCE**

This year-long course is designed to acquaint freshmen to life at Prep; to assist in their personal development by discussing issues such as self-esteem, smoking and substance abuse; and finally to facilitate the transition to high school by reviewing study skills and methods of test preparation.

**8901 SOPHOMORE GROUP GUIDANCE**

In Sophomore Guidance, students and counselors will build on the themes developed in freshman year, explore the academic and personal challenges of sophomore year, and become acquainted with the college and career planning tools in the Naviance program.

**8902 JUNIOR GROUP GUIDANCE**

During the first semester, the counselors work with students to heighten their awareness of their increased levels of responsibility for their academic, personal and social lives. In the second semester, juniors explore options and decision-making processes concerning college choices and career decisions.

**8903 SENIOR GROUP GUIDANCE**

In Senior Group Guidance, students and counselors will continue to explore available options concerning college and career choices. Students will complete the college application process, investigate college financing options, and explore some of the choices and challenges that await them as they transition to a new stage in life.