

# Our Lady of Mercy High School

A Ministry of the Sisters of Mercy



## 2011 – 2012

# Course Selection Handbook



# Academic Handbook

## Credit Requirements

Students in grades 7, 8, 9 and 10 are required to take 7.5 credits each year. Students in grades 11 and 12 are required to take 7 credits each year. Seniors taking three Advanced Placement courses have the option of taking 6 credits.

## 7-8 Middle School Requirements

Theology	2 credits	Science	2 credits
English	2 credits	Foreign Language	2 credits
Social Studies	2 credits	Physical Education	1 credit
Mathematics	2 credits	Music	1 credit
Middle School Electives	2 credits	Art	.5 credit
		Health	.5 credit

## 9-12 High School Graduation Requirements

Theology	4 credits	Foreign Language	3 credits
English	4 credits	Physical Education	2 credits
Social Studies	4 credits	Art, Music or Theater	1 credit
Mathematics	4 credits	Health	.5 credit
Science	3 credits		

## Elective Credits

Additional units of credit in any courses listed in this catalogue may be used to obtain the required 29 high school credits.

## Diplomas

- NYS Regents Diploma  
Students must pass five Regents exams: Comprehensive English, Global History, US History, Integrated Algebra, and Living Environment.
- NYS Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation  
Students must pass nine Regents exams: Comprehensive English, Global History, US History, Integrated Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2 & Trigonometry, Physical Science (Earth Science, Chemistry or Physics), Living Environment, and LOTE (Language other than English).

Honors may be added to each diploma if the student achieves 90% or above on all Regents Examinations required for the diploma.

Mercy students must take three years of foreign language, and pass the LOTE Regents exam. For a student with a documented learning disability, the foreign language requirement may be replaced with three credits of Fine Art.

## Advanced Placement Courses

Students enrolled in AP courses must take the AP Exam and pay the exam fee.

## **Course Selection Process**

Students receive the new Course Selection Handbook in February. Parents and students are encouraged to thoroughly review this book, and contact the School Counselor with any questions. The Course Selection Form, prepared by the Counselor, is due back by late February with both student and parent signatures. Course selection and preliminary scheduling are completed in early spring. Changes cannot be made after that time unless mandated by second semester student performance.

Prerequisite grades are determined by mid-year academic performance.

Insufficient enrollment may result in the cancellation of a course.

**Prerequisites are listed for courses at the Honors and Advanced Placement level. Students who wish to take these courses must earn the prerequisite grades and/or have the recommendation of the current year's teacher. Recommendations are gathered by the counseling staff at the beginning of second semester.**

## **Academic Honors**

All credit courses are considered for these lists:

Honor Roll – A weighted average of 85% or higher, and no grade below 65%

Scholarship Roll – A weighted average of 93% or higher, and no grade below 80%

## **Summer Courses**

If a student fails a required course, she must repeat and pass the course in summer school.

If a student fails a required Regents course / exam, she must repeat the course in summer school and retake and pass the Regents exam in August.

If a student attends summer school in order to raise a grade earned during the school year, the grade earned during the school year is worth 50% of the final grade, and the summer school grade is worth 50%.

# ART

## 0180 ART 8

Art 8 is a semester course in which students develop an awareness of and appreciation for the world of art. Students are exposed to artists, styles and formal elements of art. They become acquainted with art terminology and develop methods of self-expression through activities in a variety of media and techniques.

## 0110 STUDIO IN ART (9)

Studio in Art offers students an opportunity to learn the elements of art (color, value, etc.) and the principles of design (balance, unity, etc.) through a variety of media and techniques. Students also examine various movements and trends in the history of art. They learn to respond critically to a variety of works in the arts and to analyze their own work. This is a foundation course and is a prerequisite for most additional art classes. It includes units in drawing, painting, ceramics and printmaking. This course fulfills the Fine Arts requirement for graduation.

## 0120 DRAWING AND PAINTING (10-12)

Drawing and Painting is a full year course that offers students a concentration in a variety of media and techniques. The focus on good design includes units in still life, landscape, abstraction, perspective, drawing from life, and portraits. Students are encouraged to develop individual subject matter and interpretation, strengthening and broadening their approach as they practice and learn drawing and painting concepts and skills. Weekly sketchbook assignments are an integral part of this course.

**Prerequisite: Studio in Art – 85%**

## 0122 ADVANCED DESIGN (11-12)

Advanced Design is a full year course for students who have successfully completed Drawing and Painting. Classroom and sketchbook assignments give students an opportunity to further explore design, experiment with mediums, and increase their unique skills in visual and critical expression. Students who need portfolios will be assisted with the process.

**Prerequisite:**

**Drawing & Painting – 85%**

## 0123 CERAMICS (11-12)

Ceramics is a full year course designed for the student who is interested in working with clay. The forming and finishing of ceramic objects is the main focus of this course. The student learns how to plan and visualize a complete 3-D object. Students study the history of ceramics as well as contemporary styles.

**Prerequisite: Studio in Art – 85%**

## 0124 AP STUDIO ART 3D

This program offers the student an outlet for self expression in the three dimensional media of ceramics. It includes both aesthetic and technical experiences so the students will be able to understand, appreciate and express themselves in 3D. The processes may include additive, subtractive, and assemblage. The finished work will show quality, have evidence of independent thinking and successful engagement with risk taking. Critique and a sustained workload will be included for this college level course. Students will produce a portfolio that includes 20 quality, concentration and breadth pieces necessary for the AP credit.

**Prerequisite: Ceramics**

**0127 ADVANCED CERAMICS (12)**  
Advanced Ceramics is a full year course for the student who wants to work intensely in clay. Particular focus is given to the student's area of interest – advanced wheel throwing or hand building.  
**Prerequisite: Ceramics – 85%**

**0125 THROWING 1 (10 – 12)**  
Throwing 1 is a semester course offered to students who want to learn about pottery. Throwing offers students an opportunity to learn the potter's wheel as a tool to create functional and non-functional pottery. Extra time is required outside of class.  
**Prerequisite: None**

**0126 THROWING 2 (11 – 12)**  
This semester elective is a continuation of Throwing 1. Students develop expertise and integrate their basic skills with more advanced ideas. Personal expression and experimentation are encouraged. Extra time is required outside of class.  
**Prerequisite: Throwing 1**

**0135 CONTEMPORARY CRAFTS (11–12)**  
Contemporary Crafts is a semester course offered for those who want to learn the necessary skills and techniques to create objects by hand. Students are introduced to crafts from many cultures and traditions. Emphasis is placed on developing an appreciation for crafts and aesthetics through self-expression.  
**Prerequisite: None**

**0136 INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY & DIGITAL IMAGING (10-12)**  
This semester course covers the fundamental concepts of traditional and digital photography. Students learn how cameras work and gain an understanding of light, color and exposure. They study the historical evolution of photography, and are introduced to digital imaging, photo enhancement, retouching and creative techniques using Photoshop. Students are encouraged to have their own digital camera for this course.  
**Prerequisite: None**

**1101 ARCHITECTURAL SEMINAR (10-12)**  
This non-graded seminar meets once per cycle and explores different aspects of the field of architecture. Practical hands-on learning about floor plans, elevations, plot and landscape plans and perspective drawing will take place. Field trips and guest speakers will be incorporated as part of this seminar.

# BUSINESS / TECHNOLOGY

## 0279 COMPUTER 7

This course offers students an overview of the Windows operating system, three key software Microsoft 2007 applications (Word, Excel, and PowerPoint), personal keyboarding enhancement, and discussions regarding internet navigation and search engines as well as research techniques and information ethics. Many of these topics are framed within the fascinating (introductory level) field of business.

## 0223 ADVANCED MICROSOFT APPLICATIONS (10 – 12)

\*(CIS 121, 4 college credits)

This *semester* course offers the students the opportunity to acquire the critical software skills necessary to be successful at the college level. Students do not often have the luxury of spending time becoming proficient in software (not facebook, but rather Excel). This course offers significant time in our lab to build our students' comfort level so they may master any collegiate software requirement without hesitation. Students will build upon their current knowledge to become *highly proficient* in Microsoft Office Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint.

## 0225 PERSONAL FINANCE (10 – 12)

\*(EC0 103, 4 college credits)

This *semester* course targets the essential information and skills required for life-long financial literacy. Class discussions, personal research, and guest speakers will provide students with a clear understanding to enable them to make positive financial choices and achieve financial freedom! We will focus on creating a financial plan to realize goals as well as learn how to build positive credit, manage debt, assess financial instruments and investments (stocks and bonds), and grow to understand the financial industry.

## 0224 PRINCIPLES OF BUSINESS (10-12)

This *semester* course will provide an introduction to business and connect our students to the changing world around us. Students will be introduced to ethical, financial, managerial, strategic, and creative aspects of business via research, discussion, team projects, guest speakers and field trips. We plan to explore a variety of topics, including ethics and social responsibility (complete an *OLM Passport to Understanding Project*), the roles of management and leadership, business law, finance, business terminology and social media. In addition, students will review contemporary readings, such as *The Tipping Point* and *Freakonomics*.

## 0221 ACCOUNTING 101 (11, 12)

\*(ACC 101, 4 college credits)

This full year course introduces the language of business used in all careers and includes the basic principles of financial accounting with an emphasis on the valuation of business assets, measurement of net income, and double-entry techniques for recording transactions. The course requires the student to purchase two Journals (\$50.00) and fulfills the requirement for a fourth year of Math (for seniors).

## 0240 ENTREPRENEURIAL STUDIES (11, 12) \*(BUS 110, 3 college credits)

An introduction to business wrapped within the entrepreneurial spirit. We begin by defining and explaining the nature of small business opportunities, legal forms of ownership, franchising, starting a new venture, sources of financing, developing marketing strategies and human resource management. Students will also learn the key components of a business marketing plan, review case studies, listen to guest speakers, and present a culminating marketing (team) project to selected community entrepreneurs.

**0241 BUSINESS ANALYTICS (12)**

This course builds on the *Entrepreneurial Studies* course foundation as it expands students' academic and analytic understanding of business practice.

Partnering with the Rochester Institute of Technology *E. Philip Saunders College of Business*, as well as working with additional community experts, participating in field trips and class discussion, student teams will research, create, and present a viable, new product, 30-page business plan. This plan may be presented at the DECA State competition in March. Additional topics include: business decision-making, management, corporate finance, business ethics and the impact of the global economy.

**Prerequisite:**

**Must be in top 5% of OLM Business Studies**

**Accounting 101 enrollment strongly suggested and teacher recommendations (Two weeks of summer work)**

**\*COLLEGE CREDIT OPTION**

Students who choose the dual credit option pay a fee directly to Monroe Community College (fee in 2010 was \$178). Upon successful completion of the course, the student earns college credit transferable to most American colleges and universities.

# ENGLISH

## 0370 ENGLISH 7

This course integrates the study of literature, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. It places emphasis on genre through the study of oral tradition, poetry, historical fiction, science fiction and fantasy. It assists students in sharpening their critical thinking and writing skills, focusing on the topic sentence and paragraph development. Through a middle school book club, students are exposed to new works of literature which enhance their independent reading.

## 0380 ENGLISH 8

This course integrates the study of literature and grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. Literature is thematically arranged around the concept of developing compassion for the outsider through such works as *Flowers for Algernon*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Giver*, and several short stories and non-fiction pieces. Emphasis is placed on sentence revision, grammar enrichment, and development of the three to five paragraph essay. Through a middle school book club, students are exposed to new works of literature which enhance their independent reading.

## 0310 ENGLISH WORLD LITERATURE 1 9R

This course focuses on four major content areas: reading, writing, listening and speaking. The literature genres include the novel, the Greek epic, Shakespearean drama, the modern short story, and poetry. The reading curriculum focuses on comprehension and analytical skills, while the writing curriculum emphasizes logical organization and proper citation in both paragraphs and essays. Writing skills, including creative writing, are enhanced through a study of basic grammar, Greek and Latin roots, and vocabulary in context. The students learn the steps of the research process that culminates in a 3 – 5 page research paper.

## 0311 ENGLISH WORLD LITERATURE 1 9H

This course is designed for the student whose aptitude for language arts enables her to work independently as a critical thinker. The content of the literature curriculum is similar to the course described for World Literature 1R. A research paper and other critical and creative writing assignments are integrated with the study of literature and non-fiction.

**Prerequisite: Mercy Eng. 8 – 92%  
And/or teacher recommendation  
Entrance Exam – 90% ile**

## 0320 ENGLISH WORLD LITERATURE 2 10R

The study of the elements of literature based upon the reading and discussion of short stories, poetry, plays and novels forms the foundation for literary analysis and writing assignments. Students practice the research skills necessary to write a paper based on contemporary literature. Additional components of the curriculum include speaking, listening, vocabulary, study and practice.

## 0321 ENGLISH WORLD LITERATURE 2 10H

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed English 9H. Study includes works from the following literary traditions: Asiatic, African, North and South American, and European. Literature is studied in its historical, political, and cultural contexts. Students practice techniques of literary criticism and research. Class discussion, literary essays, creative writing, and language arts practice are all included in the curriculum.

**Prerequisite: English 9H – 90%;  
English 9R – 92% and/or  
teacher recommendation**

**0330 ENGLISH AMERICAN LITERATURE 11R**

Students survey the diversity of the American experience and culture as it is reflected in literature. Students study literature from historical, regional, and thematic perspectives. Written assignments include argumentation, persuasion, literary criticism, creative writing, and research. Students prepare for the Comprehensive English Regents exam in June through the study and practice of vocabulary, grammar, listening, and reading comprehension skills.

**0331 ENGLISH AMERICAN LITERATURE 11H**

Students survey major works of American literature from its Native and European roots to contemporary times. Students practice critical analysis using both information and literature in preparation for taking the NYS Regents in January. Independent critical thinking is fostered through discussion and oral presentation. Students demonstrate achievement through essays, tests, quizzes, portfolios, and a major literary research paper.

**Prerequisite: English 10H – 90%;  
English 10R – 92% and/or  
teacher recommendation**

**0340 ENGLISH 12 – CRITICAL APPROACHES TO LITERATURE**

In this course students experience the two types of courses offered in language arts at the college level: the historical survey course and the topical elective. First semester offers a survey of British Literature with emphasis on poetry, Shakespearean drama, and the English novel. Second semester explores recurring themes in literature written by modern women writers, with primary attention paid to the short story and contemporary novel. Throughout the year, students study a variety of critical approaches used to analyze literature, and produce a major literary research paper and five-paragraph essays representing these approaches. Students' final exemplary portfolios are completed as part of the graduation requirement.

**0350 AP ENGLISH LITERATURE**

AP English is a full year course for seniors seeking a college-level literature seminar. Students study works from the early seventeenth century to the present and refine specific skills such as the close reading and explication of a text, preparing that text for discussion, and responding to literature. Students receive extensive practice in writing the forty-minute essay in preparation for the AP exam in May. After the AP exam students complete a creative research project and finalize their exemplary graduation portfolios.

**Prerequisite: English 11H – 90%;  
English 11R – 92% and/or  
teacher recommendation**

**0334 WRITERS' WORKSHOP (11 – 12)**

In this one semester elective, students learn about techniques used by published writers and experiment with devices and methods to hone their own writing skills. They write in a variety of genres, including creative essays, memoir, short talks, news stories, short fiction, and several types of poems. The course is ideal for practicing and perfecting the college application essay, as well as creating pieces for submission to *Mercedes* and other outside publications and contests. Emphasis is on process writing, especially the revision component of the process. Students work in small writing groups to encourage, critique, and share with one another.

**0336 SPEECH (11 – 12)**

In this semester elective students learn the proper techniques of public speaking, write and present original speeches, conduct classroom discussions, and read poetry and prose selections aloud with dramatic emphasis. Types of speeches include introduction, demonstration of a process, information, and persuasion, as well as more informal presentations such as anecdotes, current events, and extemporaneous topics. Students also gain experience in preparing questions and conducting interviews.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE

## 0472 LATIN 7

This course is for the 7<sup>th</sup> grade student with little or no previous experience with the Latin language, culture, or Roman history. It is designed to promote skills in vocabulary building, as well as knowledge of grammar and translation. Students are given an introduction to the history, geography, culture and social activities, foods and mythology of the Roman Empire. Students can continue on to Latin 8 in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## 0482 LATIN 8

This 8<sup>th</sup> grade course is a continuation of Latin 7. At the completion of the two years of study, and with the recommendation of the teacher, students are prepared to enter Latin 2 at the high school level. Vocabulary, grammar and verb conjugation are stressed. Roman history and culture are also explored.

## 0414 LATIN 1 (9 – 12)

In this course, high school students are introduced to the basics of the Latin language and Roman civilization. Language structure, grammar and vocabulary are stressed. Students are also exposed to Roman history, culture, mythology and geography.

## 0424 LATIN 2

This course is a continuation of Latin 1. Intermediate Latin grammar, translation skills and composition are stressed. Students also study Roman history and social structure, and Latin literature.

**Prerequisite: Credit for Latin 7/8 or Latin 1**

## 0434 LATIN 3

This course strengthens the skills learned in levels 1 and 2. Grammar, Vocabulary, Culture and Mythology will be studied. Students will also be introduced to reading authentic Roman authors.

**Prerequisite: Credit for Latin 2**

## 0445 LATIN 4/AP

This course is designed to meet the needs of the students by furthering the studies of ancient Latin authors and Roman culture. Depending upon student interest, the course will either concentrate on certain Latin authors or will follow the curriculum and guidelines listed by the College Board for Advanced Placement Latin Vergil.

**Prerequisite: 85% or higher in Latin III or permission by instructor**

## 0470 FRENCH 7

Students are introduced to French through the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Vocabulary and grammar topics are based on everyday, useful French. Students learn about the Francophone world with an emphasis on the culture and geography of France.

## 0480 FRENCH 8

Reviews and builds upon the core language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. There is an increased emphasis on grammar and verb usage. Students develop a greater awareness and appreciation of the Francophone world through cultural activities and media. Upon successful completion of French 8, students advance to high school level French 2.

## 0410 FRENCH 1 (9-12)

High school students are introduced to French through the development of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. At this level, emphasis is placed on the acquisition of listening and speaking skills as well as language structure and vocabulary. Students learn about France, French speaking countries and French people through a study of French culture.

**0420 FRENCH 2**

The communication skills introduced at the first level are reinforced, with more emphasis on reading and writing. Correct grammatical application in oral and written expression is expected. Vocabulary and cultural understandings are reinforced through simple literary selections, video, and current French items.

**Prerequisite: Credit for French 7/8 or French 1**

**0430 FRENCH 3**

At French level 3, the skills acquired in levels 1 and 2 are reinforced and expanded. Emphasis is on listening skills, everyday topical conversation, reading comprehension across a wide variety of subjects, and short composition. Along with greater use of French in the classroom, students increase their knowledge and appreciation of the Francophone world through the use of media, film, music and Internet. This course prepares students for the NYS Regents exam in June as well as level 4 Honors program.

**0440 FRENCH 4 H**

French 4 Honors offers students a unique opportunity to explore French culture, literature, cinema, music and grammar at an advanced level. The course includes a thorough review of advanced grammar, readings from poets and authors, and practice in reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. The course provides an excellent background for the AP French Language course.

**Prerequisite: French 3 – 85%**

**0450 AP FRENCH LANGUAGE**

This course concentrates on an advanced ability to communicate in French. It offers oral practice, reading and a discussion of contemporary literature and articles, frequent written assignments, as well as a comprehensive review of grammar. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

**Prerequisite: French 4H – 85%**

**0471 SPANISH 7**

This course is designed for the 7<sup>th</sup> grader with little or no previous experience with the Spanish language and culture. The student is introduced to Spanish through the development of listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Vocabulary, grammar and verb conjugation are stressed. Spanish and Hispanic culture are explored through cultural activities, geography, and technology.

**0481 SPANISH 8**

This 8<sup>th</sup> grade course is a continuation of Spanish 7. At the completion of the two year study, and with the recommendation of the teacher, the student will be prepared to enter Spanish 2 at the high school level. Vocabulary, grammar and verb conjugation continue to be stressed. Spanish and Hispanic culture are explored through cultural activities, geography, and technology.

**0412 SPANISH 1 (9-12)**

High school students are introduced to Spanish through the development of the four basic language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. At this level emphasis is placed on the development of listening and speaking skills, as well as language structure and vocabulary. Students learn about Latin America, Spain and the Spanish people through a study of Spanish culture.

**0422 SPANISH 2**

The skills introduced at the first level are reinforced, with special emphasis on reading, writing, conversation, and grammatical structures. Vocabulary building and cultural understanding are developed through simple literary selections, films, art work and the use of the Internet. Spanish is used as much as possible in the classroom.

**Prerequisite: Credit for Spanish 7/8 or Spanish 1**

**0432 SPANISH 3**

At the third level, the skills introduced and strengthened in levels one and two are reviewed with more emphasis on reading, conversation, and simple composition. Knowledge of grammatical structures is expanded. Spanish is the medium of communication as much as possible in the classroom. This course prepares the student for the NYS Regents Exam in June.

**Prerequisite: Credit for Spanish 2**

**0442 SPANISH 4 H**

Spanish 4 Honors is a select and challenging course offered to those students who have excelled in the study of Spanish. The course concentrates on reading, listening skills, spoken and written language. Students read, write and discuss, in Spanish, aspects of culture, excerpts from the literature and history of various Spanish speaking countries.

**Prerequisite: Spanish 3 – 85%**

**0452 AP SPANISH LANGUAGE**

AP Spanish Language concentrates on an advanced ability to communicate in Spanish. It offers oral practice, reading and discussion of contemporary literature and articles, frequent written assignments as well as a comprehensive review of grammar. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

**Prerequisite: Spanish 4H – 85%**

# MATHEMATICS

*For these Math courses, a TI-30xIIS scientific calculator is required.*

## **0570 MATH 7**

This course covers a development of the rational and irrational number systems with applications in areas such as pre-algebra, geometry, graphing, probability, statistics, and measurement. Logical reasoning and problem-solving are emphasized.

## **0580 MATH 8**

This course focuses on refining mathematical skills introduced in Math 7. It is designed to develop student mastery of the real number system, and provides further development of concepts in algebra, geometry, graphing, probability, statistics, and measurement. Trigonometry is introduced. Practical applications and problem-solving are emphasized.

## **0571 MATH 7/8**

This course is for the accelerated 7<sup>th</sup> grader, and combines the curriculum for two years. Students who successfully complete this course with an average of at least 85% go on to Algebra 1 in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Prerequisite:**

**Entrance Exam 90% ile**

*For all Math courses that follow, students are required to have a TI83+ or TI84+ graphing calculator.*

## **0515 ALGEBRA 1 Honors (8)**

Accelerated 8<sup>th</sup> grade students study the systematic development of the language of mathematics. Topics covered are properties of the number systems, linear functions, inequalities, operations of real numbers and polynomials, exponents, radicals and quadratics. Also included in this course is an introduction to probability and statistics. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Geometry 1. The final exam is the NYS Integrated Algebra 1 Regents Examination.

**Prerequisite: Math 7/8 - 85%; or  
Math 7 - 95% and/or the  
Math Placement Exam**

## **0516 ALGEBRA 1 (9)**

Students study the systematic development of the language of mathematics. Topics covered are properties of the number systems, linear functions, inequalities, operations of real numbers and polynomials, exponents, radicals and quadratics. Also included in this course is an introduction to probability and statistics. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Geometry 1. The final exam is the NYS Integrated Algebra 1 Regents Examination.

**0524 GEOMETRY (10)**

This course connects the topics in geometry taught in Algebra 1, and introduces locus, circles, and Euclidean proofs. The ability to produce a formal proof is developed. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Algebra 2 & Trigonometry. The final exam for this course is the NYS Geometry Regents Examination.

**Prerequisite: Algebra H - 85%; or Algebra 1 - 80%**

**0525 GEOMETRY HONORS (9/10)**

This course extends the topics of geometry taught in Algebra 1, and introduces locus, circles, and Euclidean proofs with a high degree of rigor. The ability to produce a formal proof is developed. Successful completion of this course prepares students for Algebra 2 & Trigonometry Honors. The final exam for this course is the NYS Geometry Regents Examination.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1 Honors – 85% or higher; or Algebra 1 – 95 % and 90% on the NYS Integrated Algebra 1 Regents Exam**

**0531 MATH 3 (11)**

The emphasis of this course is to examine and reinforce the basic topics of intermediate algebra and trigonometry. Topics explored prepare the students for the rigors of Regents Algebra 2 & Trigonometry.

**Prerequisite: Credit for Geometry**

**0532 ALGEBRA 2 & TRIGONOMETRY (10, 11, 12)**

This rigorous course is a continuation of the Regents curriculum, and includes an in-depth study of algebra and trigonometry. Topics included are: Functions, Polynomials, Radicals, Logarithms, Exponentials, Complex number system, Probability, Statistics, Sequences, and Series. The final exam is the NYS Algebra 2 & Trigonometry Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite: Passed the Algebra 1 and Geometry Regents Exams plus: Algebra 1 - 80% and Regents Geometry - 80%; or Math 3 - 85%**

**0530 ALGEBRA 2 & TRIGONOMETRY HONORS (10/11)**

This course is for students who have a thorough understanding of basic algebra and are ready for extra challenges. This course is a continuation of the NYS Math Regents curriculum and includes an in-depth study of Algebra and Trigonometry. Topics include the Real & Complex number systems, Functions, Quadratics, Conics, Exponentials, Logarithms, Circle and Analytical Trigonometry, Statistics and Probability. The final exam for this course is the NYS Algebra 2 & Trigonometry Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite: Geometry H - 85%; or Geometry – 95% plus 90 % on both Algebra 1 and Geometry Regents Exams.**

**0555 PRE-COLLEGE ALGEBRA (11/12)**

This course prepares the student for college level mathematics. The student is given the opportunity to review and examine areas of study including advanced topics in Algebra, Geometry, statistics and probability. A school final exam is required.

**Prerequisite: Credit for Math 3 or Algebra 2 & Trig**

**0534 PRE CALCULUS (11/12)**

This course includes the study of Real & Complex numbers, Functions, Polynomials, Quadratics, Exponentials, Logarithms, Circle and Analytical Trigonometry, Sequences and Series and Intro to Limits and Derivatives. Emphasis will be on applications, problem-solving and mathematical modeling using a four-pronged approach: analytical, numerical, graphical and verbal. The objective of this class is to provide students with a solid foundation in Advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, and Analytical Geometry topics in preparation for Calculus.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2 & Trig - 80% and passage of the Algebra 2 & Trig Regents Exam**

**0533 PRE CALCULUS H (11/12)**

This course is designed to prepare the student for AP Calculus. It offers an in-depth coverage of all the topics in Pre Calculus (0534) with greater emphasis on independent and original work, and covers additional topics such as linear programming, parametric equations, mathematical induction, and an introduction to limits, as time permits.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2 & Trig H - 90%; or Algebra 2 & Trig - 95% plus 90% on Algebra 2 & Trig Regents Exam**

**APPEALS PROCESS**

A student who wishes to enroll in a course without a recommendation may choose to follow the appeals process. In the spring, the student will meet with the appeals board, comprised of the AP math chair, her current math teacher, the student's counselor and the Principal. The student will defend her reasons for wishing to take the course, and why she believes she can be successful. The appeals board will evaluate the student's argument, and make a decision regarding whether taking the course is in the student's best academic interest. If a student is approved to take the course, she will sign a contract.

**0551 CALCULUS (12)**

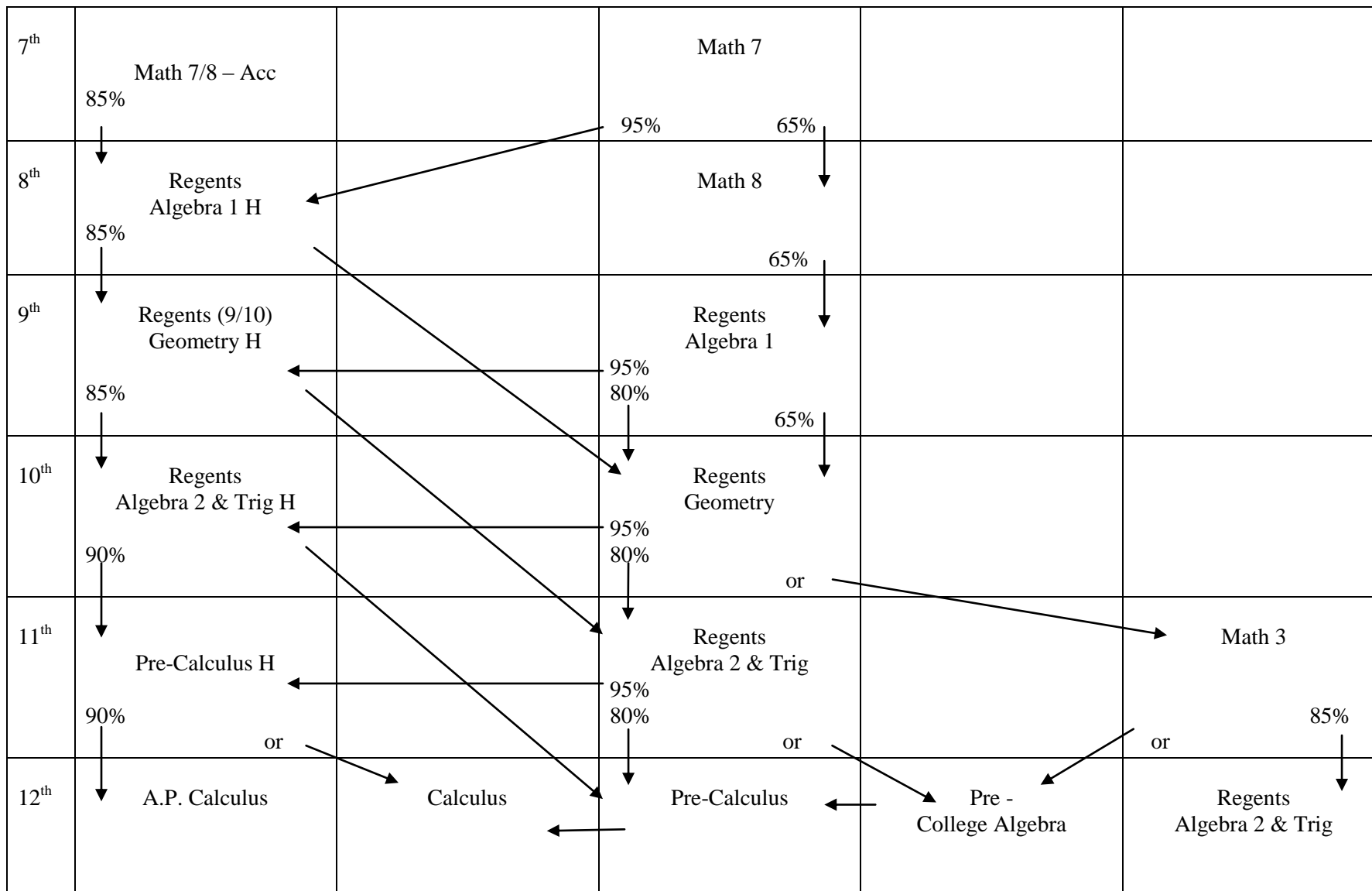
This is an introductory course covering basic concepts of differential and integral Calculus, with emphasis on applications. Students explore the calculus of Polynomial, Rational, Radical, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions using a four-pronged approach - analytical, graphical, numerical, and verbal - with the expectation that they will be able to demonstrate an understanding of Calculus beyond the manipulation of symbols. The option of dual credit with Monroe Community College is offered at an additional cost when demand requirement is met. **Prerequisite: Pre Calculus - 85%**

**0550 AP CALCULUS (12)**

This course covers the AP Calculus AB syllabus as prescribed by the College Board, and some topics from the BC syllabus. The core of differential and integral calculus as it applies to elementary functions is covered, including limits, derivatives and their applications, integrals and their applications, and simple differential equations. A four-pronged approach is used with the goal of having students incorporate the analytical, graphical, numerical, and verbal points of view. This course prepares the student to take the AP Calculus AB exam in May and a second course in Calculus at the college level. The option of dual credit with Monroe Community College is offered at an additional cost when demand requirement is met.

**Prerequisite: Pre Calculus H - 90%, Pre Calculus - 95%**

**Layout of Mathematics' Courses  
2011 – 2012**



Other Prerequisites: Calculus: 85% in Pre-Calculus  
A.P. Calculus: 95% in Pre-Calculus

# PERFORMING ARTS

## **0672 MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA (7-8)**

Students enjoy rehearsing and performing a varied repertoire of music. In addition, essential skills such as music reading, listening and rhythms are taught and reinforced. Emphasis is placed on creating music as an ensemble.

Performances include a holiday concert and a spring concert. Concert attendance and lessons are mandatory. In-school lessons are available to students who do not study privately with an accredited music teacher.

**Prerequisite: Study of an orchestral instrument for 1 consecutive year preceding 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade or audition**

## **0681 MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR**

Participants in this performance group enjoy the experience of singing in a group setting without being experienced singers. No prior experience is necessary. The ensemble rehearses and performs unison and two-part choral arrangements in various styles. Basic choral vocal techniques are taught, as well as essential music skills such as reading, writing and listening. Daily participation and concert attendance are mandatory.

## **0682 LEARN TO PLAY AN INSTRUMENT (7-8)**

Learn to play an instrument! Students meet in an ensemble setting and learn the basics of their respective instruments including maintenance, playing, as well as various elements of musical performance. Students also attend regularly scheduled lessons. Upon successful completion of this course, students are eligible to perform in one of the Mercy Orchestra groups. Students will be assisted in renting an instrument from a credible music store (sometimes available for rental directly from Mercy). Please wait for classes to begin before purchasing or renting an instrument. Instruments offered include all wind instruments and percussion.

## **0381 THEATRE ARTS 8**

This semester course focuses on the development of public speaking and dramatic interpretation skills. It includes study of theatre history, terminology, and theatre and set design. The course includes units on improvisation, mime, pantomime, skits, and role-play. Students study and experiment with stage direction and adaptations of prose texts to drama. The course culminates with a student production of a one-act play.

## **0611 WOMEN'S CHOIR (9-12)**

The Women's Choir is a performing vocal ensemble whose repertoire includes challenging classical and contemporary choral music, spirituals and folk songs in three and four-part harmony. Daily class participation and concert attendance are requirements of this ensemble. Vocal technique, sight – singing and basic musicianship skills are included in the curriculum. Members must be able to match pitch.

## **0613 ORCHESTRA (9-12)**

This course is offered to students who have studied an orchestral instrument for a minimum of two years. Students enjoy a variety of ensemble opportunities. Performances include school concerts as well as performances outside of Mercy. (Solo and All-County/All-State festivals, etc.). Performance participation and lessons are mandatory requirements of this course. In-school lessons are provided to those who do not study privately.

**Prerequisite: 2 years study of an orchestral instrument or successful audition**

**0620 SHOW CHOIR (9-12)**

This select vocal ensemble combines choreography of all styles with challenging three and four-part harmony to create unique, upbeat performances. The repertoire includes, but is not limited to, Musical Theater, Jazz and Pop styles. Daily class, some after school rehearsals, and participation in performances are requirements of this ensemble. The group performs outside of Mercy in the Rochester community and in annual music festivals on the East coast. Group vocal lessons are offered and strongly encouraged. Participants supply their own dance shoes. Enrollment is **by audition only** and is limited to 20 students, grades 9 – 12. Previous singing and dance experience are required.

**0325 INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE (9)**

In this full year course, students are introduced to all aspects of theatre, including the history of drama, set design and special effects, and plays from the Golden Age through contemporary musical theatre. The emphasis is on acting, and class activities include improvisation, memorization of scenes, and costume design. Student performances are prepared throughout the year. This elective course fulfills the requirement of one credit in the fine arts.

**0333 THEATRE PERFORMANCE (11-12)**

This semester elective provides an experience in all aspects of performance. Areas covered are light and sound design, performance technique, and analysis of literature. The emphasis is on acting, singing and dance. **Prerequisite: 2 years of high school performance courses: Intro to Theater, Orchestra, Women's Choir, and Show Choir.**

**0190 INDEPENDENT STUDY IN MUSIC (12)**

This course is recommended for students planning to pursue music in college or for students who want to further expand their own personal growth as a musician and performer. Students will be exposed to an in-depth study of music theory (including composition and transposition), conducting, music history and much more!

**Pre-requisite: Participation in High School Orchestra or Show Choir**

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION

*The curriculum follows the New York State Education Standards. Students are expected to pass written tests and meet attendance and participation requirements. In addition, they have an opportunity to participate in health-related community events. At all levels, the Physical Education grade is weighed in the student's overall average. Class meets 3 alternating days of the 6-day cycle.*

## **0770-0780 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7&8**

The emphasis of this program is on the introduction of team sports. Basic skills, game strategy and general knowledge of each sport are presented. In addition to team sports, tumbling, fitness, dance and project adventure activities are taught. Fitness testing is also incorporated into the program.

## **0710-0720 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9&10**

At this level, the focus is on providing the student with several team and individual sport opportunities, as well as affording the student a chance to improve her level of fitness. Fitness levels are charted in both the fall and spring. Some of the activities offered are badminton, basketball, dance, fitness, lacrosse, orienteering, soccer, softball, team handball, track and field, and volleyball.

## **0730-0740 PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11&12**

At this level, the focus is on providing the student with individual or lifetime sport opportunities. Skills are taught and practiced so that activity can be enjoyed now and in the future. Some of the activities offered include archery, fitness, first aid and CPR, golf, recreational games, and personal safety. Fitness levels are charted in both the fall and the spring.

**NOTE:** Each student must earn a total of two credits in Physical Education and have been enrolled in Physical Education courses for all four of her high school years to be eligible for graduation.

## **0771 HEALTH EDUCATION (7)**

Current issues in health are studied in order to help students become aware of recent developments and trends in the field. Topics related to physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual health are explored to aid students in intelligent decision-making. Among these topics are nutrition, relationship – building, and abstinence education. Students apply critical thinking skills and discuss topics in light of Catholic traditions and faith values.

## **0721 HEALTH EDUCATION (10)**

The health program affords students opportunities to expand their awareness and knowledge of a variety of health issues that include communication, personality, stress management, drugs, nutrition, and human sexuality. The class focuses on a holistic approach to wellness and encourages students to make healthy decisions in regard to their total well-being. This semester course is required for graduation.

## **JUNIOR/SENIOR**

### **ATHLETIC EXEMPTION**

Juniors and seniors may use their athletic experience in a junior varsity or varsity sport for Physical Education credit. Athletes may exempt for ONE quarter of the school year, and must do so during the particular quarter in which their sport competes: (Fall Sport – 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr.; Winter Sport – 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr.; Spring Sport – 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr.). Each coach will grade student athletes according to the Physical Education Department Rubric.

**JUNIOR/SENIOR  
INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Juniors and Seniors may earn Physical Education credit for ONE quarter by participating in 30 hours of instruction from a qualified professional at a commercial facility. This option is ONLY for juniors and seniors who are actively pursuing higher levels of certification and/or more competitive levels of performance (e.g. dance, martial arts, etc.). All Independent Study Course plans must be pre-approved by the Physical Education Department.

# SCIENCE

## 0870 LIFE SCIENCE (7)

This course follows the NYS core curriculum. Concepts and skills necessary for the study of life science are introduced, with an emphasis on active participation by the students. Topics covered include life characteristics, cell structure and processes, cell reproduction, genetics, organism classification, the human body, and the environment.

## 0880 PHYSICAL SCIENCE (8)

This course follows the NYS core curriculum. It is a laboratory course designed to develop both the process skills and concepts needed to understand the physical sciences, which include Physics, Chemistry, and Earth Science.

## 0810 EARTH SCIENCE R (8)

Earth Science is a laboratory course with interdisciplinary study related to the earth. Topics include astronomy, geology, meteorology, energy and environmental cycles. The course follows the NYS Regents curriculum. 1200 minutes of laboratory work are required. Students take the Earth Science Regents Exam in June. Eighth graders who meet the prerequisites may take this course.

**Prerequisite: Life Science - 93%**  
**Enrolled in Algebra 1-8**

## 0821 LIVING ENVIRONMENT R (9)

This course follows the NYS Living Environment Core Curriculum. Topics include biochemistry, cellular biology, human biology, genetics, molecular biology, ecology and evolution. 1200 minutes of laboratory work are required. Students take the Living Environment Regents Exam in June.

## 0811 EARTH SCIENCE R (10)

This is a laboratory course with interdisciplinary study related to the earth. Topics include astronomy, geology, meteorology, energy and environmental cycles. The course follows the NYS Regents curriculum. 1200 minutes of laboratory work are required. Students take the Earth Science Regents Exam in June.

## 0831 CHEMISTRY R (10, 11)

This course follows the NYS Regents curriculum. Topics include matter and energy relationships, atomic structure, bonding, periodic table, mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acid-base theories, oxidation-reduction reactions, electrochemistry, organic chemistry and nuclear reactions. 1200 minutes of laboratory work are required. Students take the Chemistry Regents Exam in June.

**Prerequisite: Earth Science – 80%**  
**Geometry – 80%**

## 0841 PHYSICS R (11, 12)

This course follows the NYS Physics Core Curriculum. Topics include motion, energy, light and sound waves, electricity and magnetism, and modern physics. Emphasis is on problem-solving, understanding concepts, and enrichment of science/math skills. 1200 minutes of laboratory work are required. Students take the Physics Regents Exam in June.

**Prerequisite: Chemistry – 80%**  
**Math 3B – 80%**

**0845 The Andrew J. Kirch Charitable Trust Applied Science Course (11, 12), in memory of Victoria Ciaccio**

This course is designed to develop real world scientific applications. Building upon the NYS Regents foundation, students will develop an understanding of how all sciences affect everyday life. All students will be held to NYS Science Standards. Topics include: environment, energy, living systems, atomic structure, motion, force, and climate.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCIENCES**

Advanced Placement Biology, Chemistry and Physics are rigorous, full-year courses that cover challenging concepts in great depth. In order to cover all of the necessary material, each course has a lengthy summer assignment, and students are tested on this material during the first week of the school year. In addition to regularly assigned homework, students are expected to spend at least 5 additional hours per week studying / preparing this material. Due to the length and depth of curriculum, students are expected to engage in individual learning in order to successfully complete this college level course.

**0850 AP BIOLOGY (12)**

This course follows the AP Biology curriculum defined by the College Board, and is the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. Students must exhibit strong math skills, a high level of interest, and significant time commitment. Topics include biochemistry, cellular mechanics, plant and animal physiology, human physiology, genetics, reproduction and development, molecular biology, ecology and evolution. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

**Prerequisite: Chemistry – 90%**  
**Math 3B - 85%**

**Enrolled in Pre-Calculus or Calculus**

**0862 AP PHYSICS B (11, 12)**

This course follows the AP Physics B curriculum of the College Board. Students must exhibit a high level of interest and ability in math and science. The curriculum includes the following topics: kinematics, dynamics, energy, thermodynamics, fluids, electricity, magnetism, waves, optics, atomic structure and nuclear physics. Complex reasoning in problem-solving and in the use of technology and the scientific method in the laboratory are emphasized. Students will take the College Board AP Physics B exam in May and a local exam in June.

**Prerequisite: Chemistry – 90%**  
**Math 3B - 85%**

**Enrolled in Pre-Calculus or Calculus**

**0856 AP CHEMISTRY (12)**

This course follows the AP Chemistry curriculum of the College Board. Students must exhibit strong math skills and a high level of interest and time commitment. Topics include kinetics, types of reactions, stoichiometry, and thermodynamics. An integral portion of the course is comprised of laboratory experiments. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

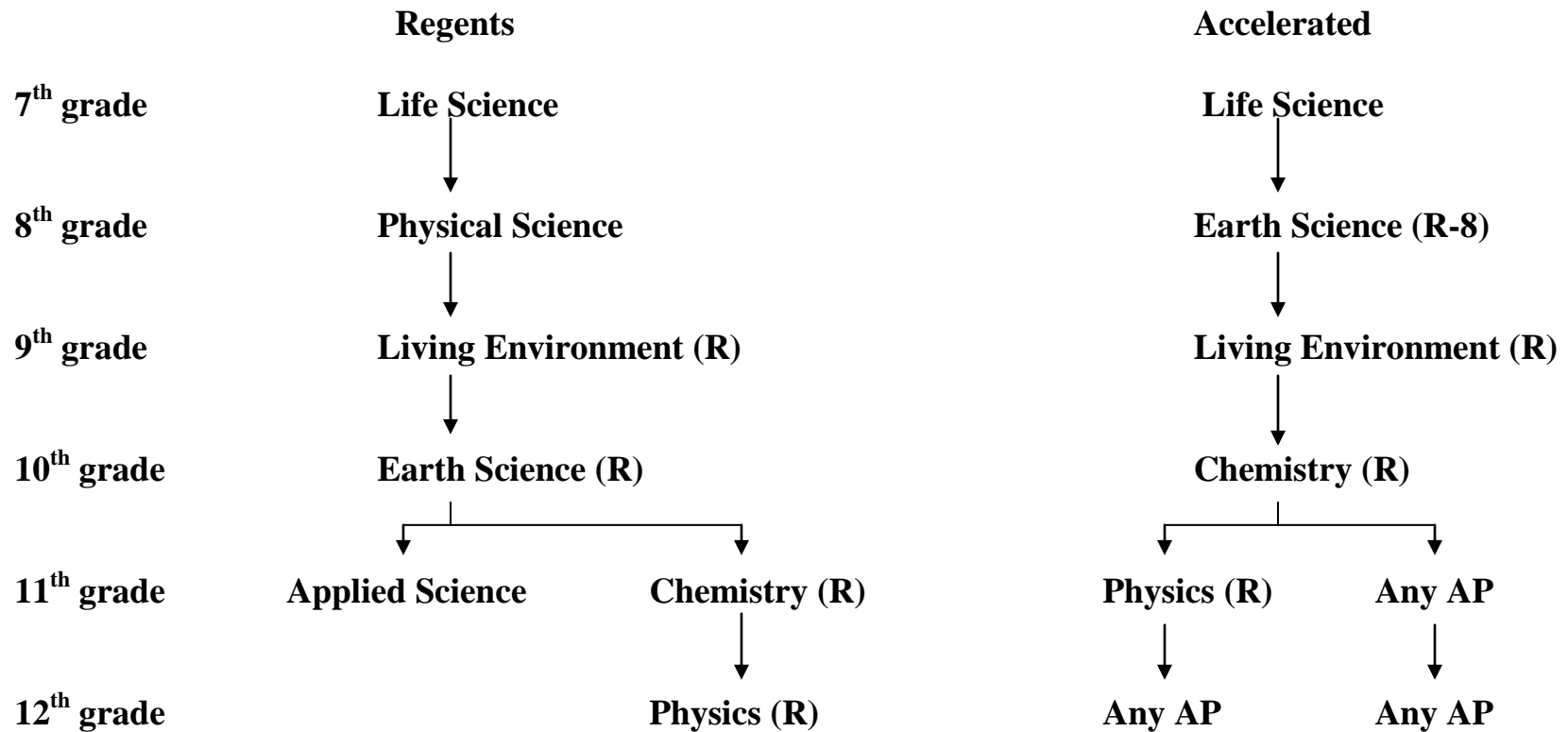
**Prerequisite: Chemistry – 90%**  
**Math 3B - 85%**

**Enrolled in Pre-Calculus or Calculus**

**APPEALS PROCESS**

A student who wishes to enroll in a course without a recommendation may choose to follow the appeals process. In the spring, the student will meet with the appeals board, comprised of the AP science teacher, her current science teacher, the student's counselor, and the principal. The student will defend her reasons for wishing to take the course, and why she believes she can be successful. The appeals board will evaluate the student's argument, and make a decision regarding whether taking the course is in the student's best academic interest. If a student is approved to take the course, she will sign a contract.

## Science Course Selection



**\*Students are evaluated after 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade to switch from Regents to Accelerated or Accelerated to Regents**

# SOCIAL STUDIES

## 0970 SOCIAL STUDIES 7

This course examines the history of America from Pre-Columbian times to the Civil War. Topics include the first Americans, European explorers, settlers and the colonists of America. The forging of a national identity from a diverse population and the broadening and strengthening of a democratic institution are emphasized. The political, social and economic changes during this time are stressed, and compared and contrasted to a modern America.

## 0980 SOCIAL STUDIES 8

A continuation of the study of the United States, from the Civil War to the present, this course stresses the political, social and economic changes that the United States has undergone over this span of time. The course emphasizes American values and traditions.

## 0910 GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 1 R (9)

This course is presented through a chronological and thematic approach. Themes that are explored are central to world history: geography, economic organization, politics and law, war and diplomacy, technology, religion, philosophy, science and the arts, social relations, and cross-cultural interaction. The course begins with the Rise of Civilization and ends with the Age of European Expansion.

## 0911 PRE-AP WORLD HISTORY (9)

This is the first half of a two-year course that develops an understanding of global evolution. This course highlights the nature of changes in a world context from 8000 B.C. E. until 1750 C. E.. An emphasis is placed on causes and consequences of societal interactions. Students taking this first half of the course meet the NYS requirements for 9<sup>th</sup> grade social studies.

**Prerequisite: Mercy 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. SS – 93% Entrance Exam – 90% ile**

## 0920 GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 2 R (10)

This course is a continuation of study from the previous year. It begins with the Age of Enlightenment and ends with current world issues. The area of study remains global, with the exception of the United States. An emphasis on cultural elements and global interdependence is included. Students take the NYS Global History Regents Exam in June.

## 0921 AP WORLD HISTORY (10)

This course is offered to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who have successfully completed Pre-AP World History in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. It begins chronologically with 1750 C.E. and ends with the present, building on an understanding of cultural, institutional, and technological precedents that, along with geography, set the human stage. Specific time periods are studied for change and continuity throughout the course. Students taking this course meet the NYS requirements for 10<sup>th</sup> grade social studies. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May, and also the NYS Global History Regents Exam in June.

**Prerequisite: Pre AP WH – 90%; Gl. His. 1R – 93%**

**0930 U.S. HISTORY & GOVERNMENT (11)**

This course covers six major units of United States history. The first unit emphasizes the study of the roots of democracy and the origins and development of the Constitution during the early years of our history, stressing the expansion of individual rights and civil liberties. The other five units follow the United States chronologically since 1865, concentrating on economic, political, social and foreign policy changes. Students take the NYS US History Regents Exam in June.

**0950 AP UNITED STATES HISTORY (11)**

This course takes a detailed look at the political, economic and social aspects of American History from the Colonial Period to the present. Areas of study are viewed chronologically, with the major emphasis placed on critical analysis and historical interpretation. Students taking this course satisfy the NYS requirement for 11<sup>th</sup> grade social studies. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May and the NYS US History Regents Exam in June.

**Prerequisite: AP WH – 90%;  
Gl. His. 2R – 93%**

**0940 ECONOMICS (12)**

This course presents basic concepts and principles to provide the economic understanding necessary to function effectively and intelligently as citizens of the United States. Comparisons are made with other national economic systems. Microeconomics is also covered in terms of the interplay between business, government, labor and the consumer.

**0941 PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT (12)**

This course provides the student with the necessary knowledge and skills to enable her to participate actively in the democratic process. Students evaluate actual and proposed public policies at the school level, as well as at local, state, national and international levels. In lieu of a final exam, students are required to work in cooperation with others in researching and evaluating a proposal which impacts public policy.

**0951 AP EUROPEAN HISTORY (12)**

This course follows the AP European History curriculum of the College Board. The course is developed on the basis of religion, politics, economics, society and military life, showing the interaction of countries of Western Europe. An emphasis is placed on deductive analytical thinking in the presentation of essay and document based questions. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May, after which they produce a project on Public Policy Formulation to fulfill the requirements of Economics and Participation in Government.

**Prerequisite: AP US – 90%;  
US His. R – 93%**

**0942 PSYCHOLOGY (11 – 12)**

This semester elective provides students with an introduction to Psychology. Students have the opportunity to explore such topics as psychological theories, personality, dreams, senses, memory, motivation, emotion, gender roles, stress and psychological disorders.

**0952 AP PSYCHOLOGY (11 – 12)**

This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields within psychology. Students also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. It follows the AP curriculum of the College Board.

Students are required to take the AP Exam in May.

**Prerequisite: 90% avg. in Honors SS courses; 93% avg. in R SS courses**

**0955 CRIMINAL JUSTICE (11 – 12)**

This semester elective is designed to provide students with practical information and problem solving related to the American criminal justice system. Units of study include the nature and causes of crime, categories of crime and defenses, the role of police in the investigation of crime, rights of accused persons, proceedings before trial, trial procedures, sentencing and corrections and juvenile justice. Course work includes the use of case studies, role-playing, small group activities, and participation in a mock trial.

**0958 CIVIL LAW IN AMERICA (11 – 12)**

This semester elective provides students with an overview of the major areas of American civil law: Individual Rights and Liberties, Family Law, and Torts. Among the topics covered are freedom of speech, press and religion; the right to privacy; due process; discrimination; marriage; foster care and adoption; divorce and custody; negligence and liability. Course work includes the use of case studies, role-playing, participation in a mock trial, and visitation to civil court proceedings when possible.

# THEOLOGY

## **1070 THEOLOGY 7**

This course focuses on the following topics: Knowing God in Jesus Christ, following Jesus Christ, the Sacraments, Liturgy of the Mass, Prayers and the Liturgical Seasons. An integral component of the curriculum is a regularly scheduled community service experience.

## **1080 THEOLOGY 8**

This course focuses on two major topics: the historical development of Christianity, and the Catholic Church and Christian Morality. An integral component of the curriculum is a regularly scheduled community service experience.

## **1010 HEBREW SCRIPTURE (9)**

This is an introduction to Hebrew Scripture, with emphasis on Salvation History, Patriarchs, Monarchy and Prophets. Biblical ethics is used to explore ethical issues in today's world. An introduction is given on such topics as prayer and beliefs about God. Topics are related to one's life today.

## **1020 CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE (10)**

This course is a survey of the New Testament with an emphasis on the Gospels. It is an in-depth look at the teachings of Jesus, especially as they relate to morality, prayer and the Church. A Survey of the first century of Church history through the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles is also included.

## **1030 CATHOLIC MORALITY (11)**

This semester course explores what it means to be a morally mature Christian. The goal of the course is to provide a framework for making good moral choices within the tradition and teachings of the Catholic faith. Students have an opportunity to examine their own moral growth and development as well as specific moral issues that face us individually and as a society.

## **1031 LIVING SACRAMENTS (11)**

This semester course stresses the notion of the sacramentality of all human experience. Through an examination of personal concepts of God, prayer, sign and symbol, and the history and current theology of the seven sacraments, students have an opportunity to examine the presence of God in all of life.

**Seniors take two of the following semester electives:**

## **1041 CONTEMPORARY ISSUES (12)**

This course builds on the basis laid in Catholic Morality, by studying ethics and ethical systems. It provides an opportunity to search out and study many of the moral problems that face us as individuals and as a society, problems about which we, personally, must make decisions.

## **1042 PRAYER (12)**

This course provides students with the opportunity to explore their relationship with God and the possible ways of expressing that relationship. Various approaches to prayer are examined and some of the great spiritual teachers of the Christian tradition are studied. Journaling and film study are integral components of the class.

## **1043 RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD (12)**

This course studies the beliefs of many different religions, including Eastern and Western Religions. Its purpose is to allow students to understand better their own faiths by examining the beliefs of others. The course deals primarily with the similarities and differences among the various faiths, with an aim toward deeper understanding.

**1044 SOCIAL JUSTICE (12)**

This course explores the Christian call to act justly. Through an examination of our biblical heritage, Catholic Church social teaching, and tools of social analysis, a context for examining specific issues is provided. Issues studied in this course include prejudice and racism, peace, non-violence, genocide, poverty, immigration, and the environment.