



ROCKHURST

HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE CATALOGUE

2018-2019

Rockhurst High School
9301 State Line Road
Kansas City, MO 64114-3299
Phone 816.363.2036 · FAX 816.363.8883
www.rockhursths.edu

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INTRODUCTION

Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam

Spring 2018

Rockhurst High School (RHS) serves the greater Kansas City area by educating Ignatian leaders, “men-for-others,” in the Roman Catholic Jesuit College Preparatory tradition.

As a Jesuit school, RHS brings the 450+ years of Jesuit tradition of personal care to bear on every facet of its program. Consequently, we seek to develop in each young man a positive self-image, appreciation of the richness of God’s creation, maturity of faith with commitment to justice and peace, and the ability to critically reflect upon root questions of human existence. Through this development, the school seeks to elicit from students a response beyond the ordinary and commonplace.

Since the school’s founding in 1910, the Jesuits and lay Ignatian educators of Rockhurst have carried on a vision of creating tomorrow’s leaders today. Rockhurst produces gifted young men who are willing to share their faith, friendship, and talent. Rockhurst alumni have advanced to the highest levels of business, industry, sports, art, drama, and community for nearly a century.

This catalogue has been produced to assist students and parents in developing a course of studies for the next school year. The keynote to planning a program of studies is personal responsibility. The student is to take an active role in the planning for his future. Students are encouraged to discuss plans in depth with parents, counselors, teachers, and administrators.

The curriculum at RHS represents a combination of courses fundamental to the Ignatian spirit of education, a rich offering of core and elective college preparatory courses designed to challenge the mind and enliven the spirit of each member of the student body.

When planning a program of studies students must keep in mind the following graduation requirements. These requirements have been selected in a way that meet or exceed the prerequisites and recommended subjects for any selective university in the United States.

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

ARTS DEPARTMENT

COMMUNICATION ARTS – One Semester

FINE OR PERFORMING ARTS – One Semester

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT – One Semester *of Computer Science*

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT – Eight Semesters

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT – Eight semesters

MODERN AND CLASSICAL LANGUAGES – Four Semesters (of same language)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT – One semester

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT – Six semesters (Three laboratory sciences required)

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT – Six semesters

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT – Eight semesters

COLLEGE PREPARATORY ELECTIVES – Twelve semesters

COMMUNITY SERVICE – 75 hours - (25 each year prior to senior year)

*** Seniors are required to successfully complete the Senior Service Project.**

*** A total of twenty-eight credits are required for graduation; each semester course equals one-half credit.**

*** Students are required to enroll in seven classes each semester at RHS.**

HONORS, ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP), AND ADVANCED COLLEGE CREDIT (ACCP) & (HSCP) PROGRAMS

It is our intention to make the best use of students' God-given talents by ensuring they are presented with the academic challenge and individual attention which has been the hallmark of Jesuit education at RHS.

Students in freshman and sophomore years at RHS may be admitted to the Honors program based upon recommendations and placement examination scores. In junior and senior years, students who meet with academic success in one or more academic areas are encouraged to enroll in Honors and/or Advanced Placement courses.

Given the additional rigor of the Honors and Advanced Placement coursework at RHS, juniors are limited to a total of three and seniors a total of four Advanced Placement courses per year. An exception is available to a student who would like to exceed these limits; however, to do so he must: 1) have a cumulative GPA of 3.850 or higher and 2) receive permission from the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs, his counselor, and a parent. Under no circumstances will a junior be allowed to exceed a total of four and a senior a total of five Advanced Placement courses per year. There are no restrictions on the number of Honors Courses a student may take if qualified.

Students selected to enroll in the Advanced Placement course work for Advanced Placement credit are expected to take the Advanced Placement Examinations(s) given in May.

The Advanced College Credit Program (ACCP) & High School/College Partnerships (HSCP) offer students in specified courses credit from Rockhurst University (RU) and the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). The following courses are available:

RU (ACCP) ~ Honors French III, French IV (AP), Honors Spanish III, Honors Spanish IV, Precalculus.

UMKC (HSCP) ~ Honors Chemistry, Multivariable Calculus.

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education requires that students have a 3.0 cumulative grade point average in high school to enroll in dual enrollment courses. Both RU and UMKC offer a special high school tuition rate per credit hour. Many colleges and universities accept dual enrollment credits, however there is no guarantee. Families are encouraged to check with the institutions that they are interested in directly about their policy. Course registration is done on the high school campus. Juniors and seniors only are eligible to enroll in dual enrollment courses through RU and UMKC.

RU requires a minimum of five students per section to enroll in the course. If there is not the required minimum to enroll, the course(s) will not be offered for credit through RU; however, the course will not be cancelled at RHS. For further information on RU ACCP, refer to www.rockhurst.edu/accp/.

WEIGHTED COURSE CRITERIA

All courses at RHS are college preparatory courses, have the same weight (except for Honors and Advanced Placement courses) and are awarded equal academic credit.

The Weighted Course Criteria requires a minimum of a 3.3 overall cumulative grade point average (GPA) to apply for admission to Honors courses and a 3.5 overall cumulative grade point average for admission to AP courses. An exemption will be given to students not meeting the overall cumulative requirement IF: 1) the student has an overall GPA of 3.0 – 3.29 for admission to Honors or 3.3-3.49 for AP courses AND 2) has a cumulative of 3.3 in the subject area to which he is applying for an honors course or a cumulative of 3.5 in the subject area to which he is applying for an AP course. Please note these are MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS. Individual departments may have additional requirements for Honors and Advanced Placement courses as indicated in their respective course descriptions.

CLASS REQUESTS AND SCHEDULES

Students will ordinarily be assigned to the courses requested for an academic year provided that all prerequisites for these courses are met. It is important that students select these courses after giving consideration to future study plans and career and life goals.

ARTS DEPARTMENT

COMMUNICATION ARTS

One semester of Communication Arts is required for graduation

PUBLIC SPEAKING (14)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective course that meets Communication Arts requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is designed to build observable skill development demonstrative of competent communication in public, group, classroom and interpersonal contexts. Students will have many in-class opportunities to improve their public speaking skills through formal speeches, group activities, improvisations, and other projects. Students will not only learn how to write a speech, but how to communicate it effectively to an audience.

COMPETITION DEBATE (16)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course (offered only first semester)

Type of Course – Elective course that meets Communication Arts requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest and/or experience in argumentation and debate performances. The course requires an ADVANCED LEVEL of reading and organizational skills. While previous experience is not necessary, it is beneficial.

Course Description – This course is designed to prepare students for competitive speaking and debating, with a focus on the Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum styles of debate. Students will examine issues or questions by looking at both sides equally and weighing the evidence on each side to solve problems, to establish truth or validity, and to understand opposing viewpoints. Participation in Friday and Saturday Speech and Debate competitions in October, November, and December count as the SEMESTER EXAM. *This course may be taken by sophomores, juniors and seniors that previously had Public Speaking (14) and have an interest in competitive debate, teacher approval required.*

COMPETITION SPEECH (17)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course (offered only first semester)

Type of Course – Elective course that meets Communication Arts requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest and/or experience in persuasive and interpretive performances. The course requires ADVANCED reading and MEMORIZATION skills. While previous experience is not necessary, it is beneficial.

Course Description – This course is designed to prepare students for competition speaking with a focus on public address, interpretation and limited preparation events. Students will develop fundamental skills for effective performance and presentation, including: 1.) Oratorical skills of research, composition, use of language, and persuasion; and 2.) Interpretive skills of literary analysis and characterization in performance. Participation in Friday and Saturday Speech and Debate competitions in October, November, and December count as the SEMESTER EXAM. *This course may be taken by sophomores, juniors and seniors that previously had Public Speaking (14) and have an interest in competitive speech, teacher approval required.*

ADVANCED COMPETITION SPEECH & DEBATE I AND II (18) and (19)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course (*I offered 1st semester, II offered 2nd semester*)

Type of Course – Elective course that meets Communication Arts requirement

Prerequisite – Competition Debate or Competition Speech

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest and/or experience in argumentation and debate performances. The course requires an ADVANCED LEVEL of reading and organizational skills. *Teacher approval required.*

Course Description – This course is designed to further develop students' skills and confidence in the areas of public speaking, research, debate, and creative performance through preparation and exposure. All styles of speech and debate competition are available, with the expectation that students will try new styles and events of competition speaking. This course provides students the opportunity to develop and improve critical reasoning skills, research, analysis, composition, persuasion, and personal performance confidence. Participation in Friday and Saturday Speech and Debate competitions will serve as the SEMESTER EXAM. *Teacher approval required.*

INTRODUCTION TO MASS MEDIA (045)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest in learning about the influences of different mediums of journalism. This course serves as an excellent precursor to other journalism classes.

Course Description – This course examines the history and foundation of established media. Students will explore major industries in media books, newspapers, television, movies, radio and the internet. Students will gain an understanding of news values, the credibility of information, and the importance of mass media on both individuals, society, and more.

NEWSPAPER I (43)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor; students will spend time outside of the class in research, reporting and producing the Prep News and Quarterly magazine.

Course Description – This production-based course is aimed at advancing the skills learned in Principles of Journalism or Journalism in the Digital Age within a lab-like setting. Students serve as staff members for the Prep News monthly newspaper and Quarterly magazine. Reporting, writing, editing, layout, and photographic skills are developed further with the production of each edition. Guided by important critical thinking skills, students must be responsible for meeting individual deadlines while working in a collaborative team setting.

NEWSPAPER II (HONORS) (44)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Newspaper I, Photography, or Instructor Approval

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of instructor; students must understand the responsibility of being editors for the school newspaper and magazine and the time outside of class required to fulfill those responsibilities. This is a weighted course.

Course Description – Students enrolled in Newspaper II will hold an editorial position with the Prep News and/or Quarterly. A strong foundation of journalism skills, as developed in previous coursework, will be combined with an understanding of how to work in a team-like environment. Skills such as leadership, planning, staff management, coaching, implementation, evaluation and reflection are hallmarks of this course during the production of each edition.

PHOTOGRAPHY (867)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor. Students will be allowed to share the school's equipment in a responsible manner. The student's schedule must provide time allowance to take photos on weeknights and weekends.

Course Description – This course will focus on digital photography which functions both to communicate for the mass media and as an artistic expression. The medium of digital photography will serve as a practicality to innovative technology, including capturing an event and processing an image digitally for a publication. Students will have projects in both photojournalism and artistic photography. Much of the semester assignments will be "shot" outside of class time.

YEARBOOK (862)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor; creativity, active participation, and interest in shaping the Quarry. Most work will be completed within school hours, but occasionally students may be required to attend and cover events outside of the regular school day (athletics, performances, etc.)

Course Description – The class publishes the school yearbook, Quarry, the annual yearbook of Rockhurst High School. Students learn the basic tenets of magazine journalism, including photography, design, layout, writing, editing, and more. Students must utilize team building skills to coordinate all aspects in producing the Quarry.

INTRODUCTION TO BROADCASTING (046)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest in learning the art of broadcasting.

Course Description – The class will introduce students to the basics of radio and television broadcasting. Students will have the opportunity to learn introductory journalism and technological skills to be used in future career choices. Students will prepare recorded and live radio and television productions for various audiences. Students will participate in hands-on reporting assignments. Students will conduct research, write and produce independent productions. This course is a foundational course for future potential RHS broadcasting ventures/courses.

BROADCASTING II (047)

Grade Level –10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective course

Prerequisite – Introduction to Broadcasting

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest in preparing weekly podcasts and video productions for the Rockhurst community. The course requires organizational skills and the ability to work independently and in groups on projects while meeting deadlines.

Course Description – This course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to produce a simple podcast/video show. The element of live broadcasting will also be included, wherein students learn to perform in an “as live” broadcast, involving sports, news, and current events. Students will examine scriptwriting, editing, storytelling, and camera work. Communication skills will be greatly improved as a by-product of taking this course.

INTRODUCTION TO MOVIE MAKING AND EDITING (970)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – One introductory computer course, or Instructor Approval

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is designed to provide a basic understanding of moviemaking and editing using Adobe Premier Pro Software. General topics will include planning/pre-production and planning/post-production. Specific topics to be covered are basic vocabulary, script development, importing and editing clips, adding transitions and video effects, audio editing, lighting and color adjusting and producing a short movie. The students will gain hands-on experience filming, working individually and in a group. Skills taught in this course should prepare each student for development of a video/movie. Students in this introductory class may be called upon to provide assistance for RHS departments. The culminating event will be the production of a feature film to be shown during the *Roscars* film/media festival.

ADVANCED FILMMAKING AND EDITING (972)

Grade Level –11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Introduction to Movie Making and Editing

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest in working on independent film projects

Course Description – Students in this class will work on independent film projects and projects for members of the Rockhurst community. The students will enhance their existing skills in Adobe Creative Suite products. The students will also use additional auxiliary film equipment that was not available in the introductory course.

WEB PAGE DESIGN (962)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – One introductory level computer course

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course will focus on Web Page Design using HTML and Cascading Style Sheets (CSS). It will use Adobe Dreamweaver, Brackets and Notepad ++ software as a programming platform. This will be a team based class, with one-to-one learning, meaning that students are expected to teach each other and share ideas and knowledge.

INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHIC DESIGN (20)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – The majority of Rockhurst students possess basic computer skills. This course in graphic design will show students creative, practical ways to enhance their existing skills for success at Rockhurst and beyond. The course will cover Microsoft Office products and Google document preparation. Students will also be introduced to InDesign, Photoshop and Illustrator. The general design principles covered in this class are foundational skills for Newspaper, Yearbook, Introduction to Web Design and

Photography courses. Instruction will be in PC and MAC environments giving students versatility in applying these skills.

BUSINESS LAW (965)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is designed to acquaint the students with some of the legal problems and rights encountered in business transactions. This course will include law and the judicial systems; law relating to minors, consumers, and the business firm; elements of contracts and credit; sales contracts; employment laws, commercial paper; insurance and property rights.

AUTOMATED ACCOUNTING (953)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Automated Accounting allows the student an opportunity to learn the basics of a manual accounting cycle. Additionally, students will use Glencoe and Peachtree software to apply those basics to an automated accounting cycle. As students acquire basic accounting skills and the “language of business” they should also gain perspectives for possible business related careers such as banking, sales, investing, ownership, management, marketing, law and many others. Students will also be exposed to the use of automated tax software to gain skills in filing personal returns and the understanding of the U.S. tax system.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR OTHERS (985)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course inspires and engages students with the perseverance and determination of an entrepreneurial mindset needed to succeed academically and in life. Relying on the values of Men for Others, students will grow more confident in themselves and their ability to positively affect their community. By utilizing an experiential, problem-based methodology, students are encouraged to apply what they are learning in real-world circumstances, enabling them to develop entrepreneurial attitudes, behaviors and skills. Utilizing peer learning, students identify problems to be

solved, learn what problems create the greatest opportunities for the community and marketplace, assess what data they have, what assumptions need testing, and how and where to access new information that may lead to the resolution of the problem. Students refine their ideas in the real world by working through assumptions, data, and validation with experienced entrepreneurs. Culminating with an “Entrepreneurship for Others” (EFO) Pitch Night, open to the public, students will present their learning canvas experiences and any associated products or services.

FINE ARTS

One semester of either Fine or Performing Arts is required for graduation

VISUAL ART FOUNDATIONS (800)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length - One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is meant to give students the opportunity to explore and develop their creative abilities. Students will be introduced to various forms of visual art and focus on the elements and principles of art and design in drawing, painting, printmaking, graphic design, ceramics, and sculpture art forms. Different media will be used creatively in an art studio setting. Art history will also be studied throughout the semester as well as color theory. Current events locally and nationally will be discussed with regard to aesthetics. Creative expression will be explored throughout the semester.

DRAWING & DESIGN FOR INDUSTRY (808)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Art and Architecture *or* Visual Art Foundations

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course establishes for the student the reason and rationale to the act of creating/inventing, and how objects are constructed by surveying the history of invention and the work of noted inventors/designers. The course objective goes further in teaching students to communicate their inventive ideas through object based freehand drawing, the mechanical processes of drafting, and both real and model making and virtual modeling with CADD (Computer Aided Drawing/Drafting). Throughout the course an emphasis is placed on teamwork/workflow, collaboration and communication.

DRAWING (ADVANCED) (816)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Drawing or approval of instructor.

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course utilizes a variety of drawing and thinking methods as basic to visual communication, design and the arts. Students will use the concepts of visual thinking, visual logic, and metaphoric or creative thinking. Ideas for drawings may develop from observation, imagination, nature, and historical, cultural, or human sources.

PAINTING (814)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Drawing, Visual Arts Foundations or approval of instructor.

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course reviews the basic mechanics of style, and expression of drawing, problem solving and painting. Painting techniques in watercolor, inks, acrylics, and mixed media coincide with the thought process of communicating ideas. Students practice concepts of visual thinking, visual logic, and metaphoric or creative thinking. Ideas for painting may develop from observation, imagination, nature, and historical, cultural, or human sources.

HAND POTTERY (813)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Drawing or Visual Arts Foundations

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This class introduces hand-built clay techniques of pinch, coil, and slab clay construction. Ancient and contemporary clay forms are explored from historical and multicultural aspects. Using combinations of the hand building techniques, the slab roller, and extruder, both functional and sculptural clay forms are created. Surface decoration includes a variety of glazing, slip painting, and textural methods.

HAND POTTERY (ADVANCED) (861)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Hand Pottery

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This course encourages the development of advanced, creative skillful construction using hand building clay techniques of pinch, coil, and slab clay. Ancient and contemporary clay forms are explored from historical and multicultural aspects. Using combinations of the hand building techniques, the slab roller and extruder, both functional and sculptural clay forms are created. Surface decoration includes a variety of glazing, slip painting, and textural methods.

WHEEL POTTERY (852)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Hand Pottery

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – The potter’s wheel is the basic technique learned in this class. After exploring the ancient and contemporary forms of wheel-thrown pottery, students produce a variety of traditional and original clay pieces.

STUDIO ART (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (840)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Three semesters of art

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This course is for the serious art student. Students will conceive, plan, and execute individual art projects in one of three areas: Drawing portfolio, 2-D design portfolio, or 3-D design portfolio. AP Studio Art emphasizes independent working by the student and a significant commitment to the course. Students will submit portfolios to the Advanced Placement board in the spring.

PERFORMING ARTS

One semester of either Performing or Fine Arts is required for graduation.

THEATRE I (854)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None. Students that have taken Theatre II or Theatre III may not enroll in this class.

Course Description – Theatre I provides students with an introduction to the study of acting, dramatic literature and theatrical production. Students will acquire skills in communicating ideas, critical thinking and collaborative problem solving. This course prepares students for further theatrical study and nurtures an appreciation for the many forms of theater. This class does not require participation in after-school productions.

THEATRE II (865)

Grade Level –10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Theatre I

Criteria for Enrollment – None. Students who have taken Theatre III may not enroll for this class.

Course Description – Theatre II curriculum furthers the student’s study of acting, dramatic literature and theatrical production. Students take skills learned in Theatre I and apply them to gain a deeper understanding of theatrical production through extended activities such as sword fighting, scene development, and theatrical design. This class does not require participation in after-school productions.

THEATRE III (890)

Grade Level - 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite –Theatre II

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Theatre III is an ADVANCED theatre class. Students will work on auditions, learn movement techniques and create believable characters for the stage. The class will produce a play that will be performed in May. This includes costumes, scenery, lighting and sound. This class is designed to help train a well-rounded theatre student who is prepared to participate in college theatre if she should so desire. Students will explore the collaborative process of theatre and will learn to communicate effectively with peers and build strong relationships based on trust. This class does not require participation in after-school productions.

INTRODUCTION TO DANCE (892)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Introduction to dance is designed for students with no formal dance training. Students will learn basic dance steps and terminology, body control and core conditioning, as well as basic anatomy, the history of dance, and healthy lifestyles (including healthy eating habits and nutrition).

THEATRE TECHNOLOGY I (860)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This is a practicum class that is a “hands on” opportunity for students to learn and practice the various disciplines associated with mounting an entertainment event. The basis for this class is the many events staged by Rockhurst Fine Arts and Pastoral Departments in the Rose Theatre, Studio Theatre, gym and other campus and off-campus venues. Proper and safe use of tools/machinery/materials are stressed while students work in areas of construction, installation/rigging, lighting and audio.

THEATRE TECHNOLOGY II (894)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Theatre Technology I

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – Theatre Technology II is an extension of Theatre Tech I where students focus on stage lighting, set design and sound design while Theatre Technology I focuses on the theoretical aspects of design. Students will explore the principles of design and will complete several design projects.

FRESHMAN CHOIR (870)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Freshmen Choir is a non-auditioned choir for all freshmen new to the Rockhurst choir program, regardless of previous experience. Freshmen Choir performs at concerts, festivals, and freshmen school masses. Freshmen Choir also has the honor of leading their student body in select All School Masses.

ROCKHURST CHOIR (880 – fall semester)

Grade Level – 10, 11

Length – One semester course (fall semester only)

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – Rockhurst Choir meets as a combined class with the Freshman Choir during the fall semester. The two classes combine to form a large ensemble that performs at all Fall Choir Concerts. Rockhurst Choir is a non-auditioned choir available for sophomores and juniors with any amount of choral experience. Singers focus on beginning vocal and choral technique. This course is rigorous in its approach to teaching beginning music literacy and sight reading.

ROCKHURST CHOIR 2 (883 – spring semester)

Grade Level – 10, 11

Length – One semester course (spring semester only)

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Rockhurst Choir (880)

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – Rockhurst Choir 2 meets as a combined class with the Freshman Choir during the spring semester. The two classes combine to form a large ensemble that performs at all spring Choir Concerts. Rockhurst Choir 2 is a choir course available for sophomores and juniors who have successfully completed Rockhurst Choir (fall). Singers focus on intermediate vocal and choral technique. This course is rigorous in its approach to teaching intermediate music literacy and sight reading.

ADVANCED CHOIR (881)

Grade Level - 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Freshmen Choir, Rockhurst Choir, or director's approval

Criteria for Enrollment – Audition and approval of instructor.

Course Description – Advanced Choir is an auditioned choir of sophomores, juniors and seniors. Advanced Choir is an integral part of the choral program. Its members have at least one year of previous experience in the choral program. Members exude strong abilities in sight reading and vocal/choral technique. The Advanced Choir performs a wide array of choral music at all concerts, festivals, contests, and special events at Rockhurst. The Advanced Choir also has the honor of leading their student body in select All School Masses.

CONCERT CHOIR (882)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Freshman Choir, Rockhurst Choir, or Advanced Choir.

Criteria for Enrollment – Audition and approval of instructor.

Course Description – The Concert Choir is the most advanced choral course that Rockhurst has to offer. Concert Choir provides a wide variety of music ranging from renaissance to vocal jazz. Singers have an extensive amount of choral experience, and demonstrate mastery in sight reading and vocal/choral technique. The Concert Choir performs at all Rockhurst concerts, festivals, contests, District and State events, and performs joint concerts with the treble voices of St. Teresa’s Academy and Notre Dame de Sion. The Concert Choir also has the honor of leading their student body in select All School Masses.

MUSIC IN THE HUMANITIES (801)

Grade Level –11, 12

Length – One semester course (spring semester only)

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course traces the development of Western music from the Greco-Roman period to the present and includes units on world music and the history of popular music. Students will learn the fundamental techniques of musicology, music theory and critical listening skills. Students will also study the cultural influences of history and how they shape philosophy, visual art, architecture, literature, music, and theatre, and how all the humanities relate to each other.

MUSIC THEORY (810)

Grade Level –11, 12

Length – One semester course (fall semester only)

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Four semesters of choral or instrumental music

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of instructor

Course Description – This course introduces the student to musicianship, theory, musical materials, and procedures. It integrates aspects of melody, harmony, texture, rhythm, form, musical analysis, elementary composition and, to some extent, history and style. Musicianship skills such as dictation and other listening skills, sight-singing, and keyboard harmony are also an important part of the theory course. The student’s ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental to this course. It is required that the student has acquired at least basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument through their four semesters in the Rockhurst choral and instrumental programs.

INTRODUCTION TO PIANO (879)

Grade Level –9, 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Intro to Piano is a course designed for beginning and intermediate piano players. The curriculum begins at basic skills covering note names, intervals, keys, clefs,

chords, scales and performance pieces to develop beginning to intermediate keyboard ability and piano performance technique. Students will develop fluency in reading music for the piano, finger dexterity, expressivity, and an elementary understanding of music theory.

ADVANCED PIANO AND GUITAR (888)

Grade Level -10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course (Offered second semester)

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Audition *and/or* Approval of Instructor.

Course Description - Students will learn how to play their respective instruments in a full group and individual setting at a more advanced level. Students will also be able to perform for the school masses or services. The curriculum will involve students learning how to perform solos, small ensembles, and liturgical music with each other, applying their knowledge of music for these settings. In addition, these students will have the chance to rehearse with singers/cantors who sing at mass. Students will improve learning how to sight read, learning the musical theory and history behind their instrument. To apply all their knowledge, students will have to play at various masses throughout the semester at Rockhurst High School and other churches. The Gather Hymnals Volume 1 & 2 will be used throughout the semester. Practice outside of class is **CRUCIAL**. Students who already have a basic understanding of piano or guitar can take this class as a way to advance their skills on piano or guitar performance and technique.

CONCERT BAND (887)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Previous experience on a brass, woodwind or percussion instrument is required.

Criteria for Enrollment – Audition; Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in Concert Band must plan to be available to rehearse or perform at various school and community functions that will be outside of the regular class and/or school day.

Course Description – Concert Band is designed to give musicians a fundamental music course that includes technical and challenging compositions in all of the musical styles. Students that perform any instrument with any experience level can lead towards performing for the jazz band, orchestra, or for school masses. All students in this class will participate in the MSHSAA solo and small ensemble festival in the spring, as well as various other functions. This class will also include the focus of learning piano, a new instrument, or a secondary instrument.

ORCHESTRA (859)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Audition, one to two years of playing experience

Criteria for Enrollment – Audition; Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in orchestra must plan to perform at various school and community functions that will be outside of regular classes.

Course Description – Orchestra is designed to give the experienced string player an opportunity to perform with other musicians in an orchestral context. Course content includes sight-reading, small ensembles, music theory, music history, opportunities for composition, and development of individual skills. Repertoire is primarily drawn from classical to modern contemporary works while being tempered with other types of music. All students are expected to participate in KC Metro District #3 All-District auditions in the fall and the solo and small ensemble music festival in the spring sponsored by MSHSAA.

JAZZ ENSEMBLE (853)

Grade Level –9, 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – One to two years of playing experience

Criteria for Enrollment –Audition; Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in Jazz Ensemble must plan to perform at various school and community functions that will be outside of regular classes.

Course Description – Jazz Ensemble is designed to give the advanced music student an opportunity to listen, study and perform music in the jazz genre. Course content includes jazz theory, improvisation, biographies of great performers, recorded performances of great jazz artists, and musical selections which touch upon the development of jazz, e.g., Dixieland, Be-bop, West-coast Cool, Jazz-Rock, and Fusion. Jazz band members are expected to audition for the All-District Jazz Band (in the fall), participate in the solo and small ensemble music festival (in the spring), and travel and perform at two jazz festivals in early February and March.

PERCUSSION FUNDAMENTALS (877)

Grade Level – 9, 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course (Offered first semester)

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Percussion Camp during the first week of August

Criteria for Enrollment –Audition; Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in Percussion Fundamentals need to have attended the Percussion Camp.

Course Description – This course is designed to give percussionists the opportunity to expand their performance skills. Emphasis in this class will focus on performance on a multitude of percussion auxiliary instruments, snare, tympani, multiple tenor drums and bass drum. This course also provides the student with the opportunity to perfect their technical ability, playing style and sticking technique. The curriculum for this course will utilize percussion ensemble literature and music from drum line percussion charts. This course will expand upon performance ability and styles so that students in this class can perform at the Christmas concert in December. Enrollment in this course leads to the opportunity to audition for other music courses requiring percussion.

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

One semester of Computer Science is required for graduation

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE (900)

Grade Level – 9, 10

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Required course that meets Computer Education requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Through the process of learning a programming language, students will create and not simply consume technology. In doing so they will develop their computational thinking and problem solving skills. Topics include graphics, animation, user interaction, abstraction, algorithms, and the object-oriented programming paradigm. The language of choice for this course is Processing, an extension of the Java language. No prerequisite technical skills are required.

COMPUTER MANAGEMENT (LEVEL 2) (950)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective course that meets Computer Education requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – The intermediate level course builds on fundamental computing skills and concepts. The student will use the productivity tools and features of MS Office software to solve problems and to create documents, databases, spreadsheets and presentations needed for high school, college courses or personal and professional use. The student will gain hands-on experience using computer applications for word processing, spreadsheets, file organization, databases, and presentation graphics in the Microsoft environment using Word, Excel, Access, and Powerpoint. The student should have previous computer experience and keyboarding skills. Students will be using these skills in desktop publishing applications. Students will compare Microsoft uses to Apple products such as Pages, Keynote and Numbers. ownership, management, marketing, law and many others. Students will also be exposed to the use of automated tax software to gain skills in filing personal returns and the understanding of the U.S. tax system.

SOFTWARE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT (975)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – One programming course, or instructor approval

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Students take on the role of software engineer as they work in teams to design and architect personally relevant native mobile applications for Android and iOS.

In addition to building mobile applications, students gain exposure to the process of creating and consuming data in the cloud with particular emphasis on social media. Android is programmed in Java, iOS is programmed in Swift, and Structured Query Language (SQL) is used to facilitate database transactions.

COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (980)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4) or teacher approval. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test.

Course Description – The seven primary ideas of AP Computer Science Principles are creativity, abstraction, data and information, algorithms, programming, the internet, and global impact. This course is not committed to teaching a particular programming language or tool. By focusing the course beyond the study of machines and systems, students also have the opportunity to investigate the innovations in other fields that computing has made possible and examine the ethical implications of new computing technologies.

COMPUTER SCIENCE A (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (982)

Grade Level –11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – One course of programming, calculus, or physics; or teacher approval.

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4) or teacher approval. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test.

Course Description – This course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. The course emphasizes both object-oriented and imperative problem solving and design. These techniques represent proven approaches for developing solutions that can scale up from small, simple problems to large, complex problems. The students will also use additional auxiliary film equipment that was not available in the introductory course.

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING (282)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Elective course to meet the four year lab science option

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry. A third lab science must either be completed or taken concurrently.

Criteria for Enrollment – This course is an engineering course designed for college bound students who have shown an interest in engineering or who have an interest in manually working on machines and the engineering process.

Course Description – Principles of Engineering (POE) is a high school-level survey course of engineering. The course exposes students to some of the major concepts they will encounter in a post-secondary engineering course of study. Students have an opportunity to investigate engineering and high tech careers, POE gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity, project, and problem-based learning. Used in combination with a teaming approach, learning in this manner challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and problem solving skills based on engineering concepts. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education. To be successful in POE, students must be prepared to employ engineering and scientific concepts, applying their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges and engineering design problems. Students will also learn how to document their work and communicate their solutions to their peers and members of the professional community.

INTRODUCTION TO ROBOTIC ENGINEERING (270)

Grade Level –9

Length – One semester

Type of Course – Elective course to introduce freshmen to robotic design

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – This course is meant for freshmen only and is not a lab science. It is meant for students wanting to contribute/participate in Robotics at the club level.

Course Description – Students are introduced to the project-based program of robotics. Students will learn about the Engineering Design Process (EDP), the documentation of the EDP in an Engineering Notebook, and experience an introduction into several principles of Physics, all using a robotics platform. Students will work in groups, each contributing and collaborating to build, program, and operate a robot. Intra-class competitions would highlight the activities in this course. This course teaches students the importance of the Engineering Design Process.

ROBOTIC ENGINEERING I (272)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Elective course to meet a fourth lab science option

Prerequisite – Completion of Biology, Chemistry. A third lab science must either be completed or taken concurrently. It is strongly encouraged that Physics is taken either prior or concurrently.

Criteria for Enrollment – This is an engineering course designed for college bound students who have shown an interest in robotic engineering or who have an interest manually working on machines and the engineering process.

Course Description – Through problems that engage and challenge, students experience a range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, physics concepts, computer programming,

and robotic automation through the inquiry process. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, design, and development while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation. This is a "maker science" which utilizes project-based learning with a lab experience revolving around the process of inquiry.

ROBOTIC ENGINEERING II (274)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Elective course to meet a fourth lab science option

Prerequisite – Completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Robotic Engineering I.

Criteria for Enrollment – This is a course designed for college bound students who have shown an interest in robotic engineering, creating simple circuits, and working with machines.

Course Description – Through problems that engage and challenge, students experience a range of engineering topics, including simple circuitry, sprockets and gear ratios, programming, and robotic automation through the inquiry process. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, design, and PID (Proportional Integral and Derivative) control while learning industrial robotics, documentation, collaboration, and presentation. This is an “advanced maker science” with a lab experience based on the iterative process.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Eight semesters of English are required for graduation

ENGLISH I (12) (13)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course focuses on the development of composition skills, reading, and language skills. Students compose paragraphs and short essays in all modes of discourse. Students will develop reading skills through a study of book length texts and short non-fiction articles. Also, students will engage in a discrete study of grammar. Students will write a minimum of four (4) paragraphs and seven (7) essays. In addition, students read five (5) to seven (7) books and a Shakespearean play.

ENGLISH I (ADVANCED) (11)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Placement in English I (Advanced) will be by invitation. Placement is determined by the Admissions Office from Placement Examination scores.

Course Description – This course is similar to English I with additional expectations in the number of essays and books.

ENGLISH II (22) (23)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – English I or English I (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course builds on the writing, reading, and language skills introduced and developed in English I. In the writing component, students will add greater complexity and sophistication to their essays. Students will write a minimum of ten (10) essays in the modes of narration, description, exposition, and argumentation and will study important concepts of grammar, usage, and mechanics. The literature component will focus on a study of short fiction. Students will also read a minimum of five books and continue to develop reading skills through the study of short non-fiction articles.

ENGLISH II (ADVANCED) (21)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – English I or English I (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment – A grades in regular English I or B grades in Advanced English I, scores from the PreACT test, GPA, teacher recommendation, and approval of the Department Chairman.

Course Description – This course is similar to English II with additional reading and writing expectations.

ENGLISH III (31)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – English II or English II (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment - None

Course Description – This course is titled Advanced Composition/Studies in Drama. In the writing component, students will continue to develop and refine their writing skills with emphasis on the more sophisticated essays they will face in college. Many of the essays will be researched, and students will be introduced to different research methods. This course will cover the first half of the St. Martin’s Guide to Writing, and students will write a minimum of ten (10) essays. The literature component will focus on a study of drama and a minimum of five titles from the Junior Reading List.

ENGLISH III (ADVANCED PLACEMENT/LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION) (33)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – English II or English II (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4). In addition, for acceptance to the course, the following factors will be considered: GPA; past English grades; scores from the Verbal and Writing Skills sections of the PSAT.; an evaluation by the applicant’s current English teacher of the applicant’s abilities in writing, literature, and class participation; and the evaluation by and approval of the Department Chairman. Students who are accepted to English III AP Language and Composition but who fail to achieve a “B” or higher grade in the second semester of English II may have their acceptance to English III AP Language and Composition rescinded.

Course Description – This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Language and Composition exam. Students will write a significant number of essays focusing on prose analysis and argumentation. As part of the writing process, students will evaluate, integrate, and cite a range of research to support claims. Students will also read content from a wide variety of disciplines across a broad historical spectrum. Analyzing the use of rhetorical strategies in the assigned reading will be a primary focus. Students in this course are expected to take the AP Language and Composition Exam.

ENGLISH IV (41)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – English III, English III (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is titled Advanced Composition/Studies in Poetry. In the writing component, students complete the St. Martin’s Guide to Writing begun in junior year, with emphasis on literary analysis and essays requiring research, field research, and observations. Students will write a minimum of ten (10) essays. The literature component will focus on a study of poetry, with the particular theme or emphasis determined by the teacher. Students will also read a minimum of five (5) titles from the Senior Reading List.

ENGLISH IV (ADVANCED PLACEMENT/LITERATURE & COMPOSITION) (46)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite –English III or AP English III

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4). In addition, for acceptance to the course, the following factors will be considered: GPA; past English grades; scores from the Verbal and Writing Skills section of the PSAT; an evaluation by the applicant’s current English teacher of the applicant’s abilities in writing, literature, and class participation; and the evaluation and approval of the Department Chairman. Students who are accepted to English IV AP Literature and Composition but who fail to achieve a B or higher grade in English III or a B- or higher grade in English III AP in the second semester may have their acceptance to English IV AP Literature and Composition rescinded.

Course Description – This course is designed to prepare students for the AP Literature and Composition exam. Students will write a significant number of essays focusing on analysis of literary texts. These compositions will take a variety of forms, including narrative, expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Students will also read and analyze a range of complex literature, primarily fiction and poetry that is appropriate for college level study. The analysis will include a close study of a work’s structure, style, and themes. Students in this course are expected to take the AP Literature and Composition exam.

CREATIVE WRITING: FICTION (35)

Grade Level – 11,12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective (does not fulfill a core English requirement)

Prerequisite – English I or Advanced English I, English II or Advanced English II

Criteria for Enrollment –None

Course Description – In this course, students will develop their creative thinking and writing skills through the process-driven production of several short pieces of fiction. Students will develop their ability to read like a fiction writer as an essential part of this process.

In addition, students will workshop their short stories and those of their peers frequently in this course.

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

Eight semesters of Mathematics are required for graduation

NOTE: A graphing calculator is required for all math courses. All students are required to have the TI-84+CE calculator.

ALGEBRA I (112) (113) (114)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Assignment is based on combined quantitative and mathematics skill portions of placement examination. Combined scores of 120 to 179 will be initially placed in Algebra I (112). Combined scores below 119 will be placed in Algebra I (113) or Algebra I (114). If a student retests, the scores from the first test will be used for mathematics placement.

Course Description – Algebra I is a traditional course in elementary algebra with an emphasis on solving everyday problems. The course falls into four basic parts: 1) the four operations on real numbers and their use in the solution of linear equations and related problems; 2) exponents, polynomials, factoring, and fractions, leading to the solution of more complicated problems; 3) inequalities and systems of open sentences; and 4) irrational numbers and equations.

ALGEBRA I (ADVANCED) (111)

Grade Level – 9

Length - Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Assignment based on combined quantitative and mathematics skill portions of placement examination. Combined scores of at least 180 are required. If a student retests, the scores from the first test will be used for mathematics placement. Students must have taken an Algebra course (Algebra I or Pre-Algebra) in junior high/middle school.

Course Description – This course leads the student into the “honors” math track which culminates in the AP Calculus Exam and/or the AP Statistics Exam his senior year. The course is designed for the motivated student who has taken an algebra or pre-algebra course in the 8th grade. The student should be proficient with the basic operations of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division performed on all types of rational numbers. The mathematical concept of the function is the focus of the course. Graphing, modeling, and transforming linear, exponential, and quadratic functions using the TI-84+CE and the DESMOS APP are the key components. Understanding both visually and analytically how functions change leads the student to Calculus. Most of the problems studied in this course use algebra in context (word problems).

GEOMETRY/ALGEBRA II (122) (124)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Algebra I

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description - In the study of Euclidean geometry, the student familiarizes himself with properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons. The study of right triangles and circles are the fundamentals for future topics in trigonometry. Precise wording in definitions and theorems is emphasized in the development of proofs. Throughout the year, the student masters the algebra of solving linear equations and inequalities within the context of geometric problem solving. Functions and their properties are further developed in coordinate geometry.

GEOMETRY/ALGEBRA II (ADVANCED) (121)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Algebra I (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students who took Algebra I (Advanced) must have at least a B- for both semesters and approval of the instructor. If the student does not maintain a B- for the second semester, he will not be placed in the advanced level. For a student receiving a C+ or below for the first semester, he must have at least a B- average for both semesters to continue in the advanced level. For students who took Algebra I (112) or Algebra I (113), students must have an A for both semesters to include an A on both semester examinations.

Special Note – This course is open to freshmen who score at least 75% (90 of 120 points) on the qualifying examination. For those freshmen who score between 80 and 89 points on the qualifying examination, they may be admitted if they complete a two week summer course in Advanced Algebra I offered at Rockhurst High School.

Course Description – A semester of Euclidean geometry familiarizes the student with the properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and other polygons. The study of right triangles and circles are fundamentals for future topics in trigonometry. Precise wording in definitions and theorems is emphasized. A semester of algebra allows the student to master solving linear and quadratic equations and inequalities. Matrices, determinants and complex numbers are introduced, and students master the quadratic formula. Functions are further developed. Advanced students learn the laws of exponents and radicals, as well as logarithmic, rational and polynomial functions.

ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY (131)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Geometry/Algebra II

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – After strengthening their knowledge of the algebra of real numbers through a first quarter review of the Algebra II of the Geometry/Algebra II course,

students will expand their understanding of exponents, radicals, and logarithmic, polynomial, and rational functions. Quadratic relations, matrices, and conic sections will also be studied. The fourth quarter will be devoted to the study of trigonometry.

PRE-AP MATHEMATICS (HONORS) (132)

Grade Level – 10, 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Geometry/Algebra II (Advanced). *Summer school is required for students that took regular Geometry/Algebra II (122) during the sophomore year.

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor. The student must possess a solid knowledge of the algebra of real numbers and Euclidean geometry.

Special Note – Students advancing from Geometry/Algebra II (122) must complete the work covered in Advanced Geometry/Algebra II (121) through summer school at Rockhurst High School. These students must also have at least an 80% on the PSAT and have an A in both semesters and on both semester examinations, as well as recommendation from their teacher.

Special Note – Students advancing from Geometry/Algebra II (Advanced) (121) must have at least a B- for each semester. If student does not maintain a B- for the second semester (Algebra II portion of this course), he will not be placed in Pre-AP Mathematics. If a student receives less than a B- for the first semester, he must have at least a B- average for both semesters.

Course Description – Pre-AP Mathematics prepares the superior mathematics student for college level calculus and physics. The study of constant, linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions provides a solid foundation for differential and integral calculus. The “limiting concept” is the focus of the course.

INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE ALGEBRA (145)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Algebra II/Trigonometry

Criteria for Enrollment – Students with a combined average of less than 80% in Algebra II/Trigonometry can enroll in this course. Students with an average of 80%, or higher, may be recommended for this course by their Algebra II/Trigonometry instructor.

Course Description – A thorough review of the algebra of real numbers provides the student with a solid foundation for college level mathematics courses. The first semester focuses on ACT/SAT preparation and the concept of functions. The second semester emphasizes the conic sections, logarithms, and trigonometric functions as well as problem solving techniques.

PRECALCULUS (ACCP) (144)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semesters

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Algebra II/Trigonometry

Criteria for Enrollment - Must have 3.0 cumulative GPA. A grade of B or above in both the first and second semesters in Algebra II/Trigonometry, a percentile rank of 60% or above on the PSAT, and approval of the instructor is required.

Course Description – The course will study functions and their graphs, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions, probability, and sequences and induction. The course will conclude with a preview of calculus (the limit and the derivative). Emphasis will be placed on application problems. Purpose of the course is to prepare the student for an entry level college Calculus course.

CALCULUS I (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (140)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Pre-AP Mathematics (Honors) or Algebra II/Trigonometry

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4) and have the approval of the instructor. Students must complete approximately 40 hours of preliminary work over the summer. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test.

Special Note – Selection from Pre-AP Mathematics to AP Calculus I will be based on the percentile average of the 1st and 2nd quarter grades, the first semester exam, and the mathematics PSAT score. This average must be at or above 77% and the student must maintain this average for the 3rd and 4th quarter and second semester exam. Quarter grades and the PSAT scores will be weighted at twice the semester exam score. Students not meeting the 77% level through the first semester will be selected if their average of all quarter grades, both semester exams, and mathematics PSAT is above 77%. Pre-AP Mathematics students receiving an average of 77% or below 77% for the course will be placed in Precalculus (144).

Course Description – The first semester covers the derivative of all the elementary functions. The second semester concentrates on the integral and its applications in finding areas, volumes, and solving differential equations. Two independent study units are incorporated into the second semester.

CALCULUS I-II (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (149)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Pre-AP Math (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor. Students must complete approximately 40 hours of preliminary

work over the summer. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test.

Special Note – Selection from Pre-AP Mathematics to AP Calculus I-II will be based on the percentile average of the 1st and 2nd quarter grades. The first must be at or above a 93% and the student must maintain this average for the 3rd and 4th quarter and second semester exam. Quarter grades and the PSAT scores will be weighted at twice the semester exam score. Students not meeting the 93% level through the first semester will be selected if their average of all quarter grades, both semester exams and mathematics PSAT is above 93%. Students falling below 93% will be placed in AP Calculus I (140). Students falling below 77% will be placed in Precalculus (144).

Course Description – The first semester covers the derivatives of all elementary functions and their applications. This semester also covers anti-differentiation and an understanding of the integral, meaning and application. Methods such as linear approximation, Euler’s method, Power series and Taylor polynomials will be used to approximate values of functions. The second semester covers integration techniques, differential equations, parametric and polar coordinates, and the convergence of series.

CALCULUS II (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (150)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Calculus I

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test.

Course Description – This course covers integration techniques, inverse trigonometric functions, hyperbolic functions, inverses, the calculus of polar defined relations and functions, the conic sections, infinite sequences and series, and Taylor Polynomials.

MULTIVARIABLE CALCULUS (HSCP) (160)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Calculus II

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor.

Course Description – This course covers vectors, solid analytic geometry, vector functions and multiple variable functions, partial derivatives, multiple integrals, and line and surface integrals with applications. HSCP credit through UMKC is offered.

STATISTICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (157)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Student must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4) and have teacher approval. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test.

Course Description – This course will introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: 1) Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departure from a pattern. 2) Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study. 3) Anticipating patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation. 4) Statistical Inference: Estimating population patterns and testing hypotheses.

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Four semesters in the same Modern & Classical Languages are required for graduation.

FRENCH I (511)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – No background in French is required

Course Description – The four language skills – listening, speaking, reading, and writing – are developed simultaneously. Emphasis is on oral communication and active classroom participation by the student. This course will cover essential vocabulary and basic structures of the French language so that the student will be able to communicate in the second language. By the end of the course, students have the ability to do the following: ask and answer basic questions; use proper word order; use common idiomatic expressions and write short compositions.

FRENCH II (521)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – French I or successful achievement on the French Qualifying Examination.

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course includes a grammar review. Review material is covered quickly to enable students to spend time studying more advanced material. New material includes past and future tenses, conditional and imperative moods, reflexive and irregular verbs in all known tenses and moods, adverbs, and negations interrogative pronouns. Emphasis is placed on perfecting pronunciation and writing ability. Culture and civilization are also studied.

FRENCH III (HONORS) (ACCP) (530)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – French II

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor

Course Description – In this course, both oral and written communication are stressed with a strong emphasis on vocabulary and grammar, including grammar review and continued study of more complex grammar. Numerous oral and written activities provide opportunities for students to apply newly acquired skills. Students are also encouraged

to relate the material to their own experiences. Reading is taught through cultural and literary selections that build vocabulary and serve as stimulus for discussion.

FRENCH IV (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (ACCP) (540)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – French III (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test.

Course Description – The course aims to develop the ability to understand spoken French in various contexts. It expands a French vocabulary sufficient for reading newspaper and magazine articles, literary texts, and other non-technical writings without dependence on a dictionary. Also, it increases the ability to express oneself in French, both orally and in writing, coherently, resourcefully, and with reasonable fluency and accuracy. The class is conducted primarily in French.

FRENCH V (HONORS) (550)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – French IV (AP)

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor.

Course Description – The course is intended for students who have passed the AP French Language exam and intend to pursue French language at the post-secondary level. It is a reading and writing intensive course covering a variety of sub-topics in French and francophone history, culture and language allowing for flexibility based on student interest. This course entails a significant amount of independent work.

LATIN I (611)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Must score at least 80% on the composite score on the Placement Examination

Course Description – This is a beginning course that teaches Latin primarily through reading (rather than conversation). Students engage in the following activities: reading Latin aloud and silently; composing Latin questions and sentences; translating Latin sentences into English and vice-versa; memorizing and using vocabulary; developing listening and speaking skills; composing and presenting dialogues and conversations in Latin; studying the history and origin of English words derived from Latin; and learning about life in the early Roman Empire.

LATIN II (621)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – Latin I or successful achievement on the Latin I Placement Examination.

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This course concentrates on mastery of declensions, verb forms, and vocabulary. Students are also offered an introduction to prose readings from classical authors. Emphasis is placed on increasing both Latin and English vocabulary and developing Latin reading skills. Students are expected to write accurate sentences in Latin and translate, read, and explain selections from prose authors and poets.

HONORS LATIN III (625)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Latin II

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor.

Course Description – Honors Latin III is designed to offer students the opportunity to apply the skills acquired in previous years of Latin to the translation of continuous text in both prose (Cicero) and in poetry (Catullus and Horace). Early portions of the class will focus on reviewing grammar and vocabulary through analysis of prose. Through the study of Cicero, students develop an understanding of and appreciation for classical principles of rhetoric and their influence on modern attempts at persuasive speaking. These particular works of Cicero afford students the opportunity to explore Roman political and judicial affairs were conducted. Through the study of Horace's, Catullus' and Ovid's lyric poetry, students learn the principles of Roman prosody and acquire the skill necessary for the identification of different meters in poetry. Students explore the prevalent themes in early lyric poetry and engage in some comparative study in order to investigate the impact of classical poetry on modern poetry.

LATIN IV (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (635)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Latin III (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

Course Description – The AP Latin IV course is designed to offer students the opportunity to apply the skills acquired in previous years of Latin to the translation of continuous poetic and prose text. Through the study of Vergil's epic poetry and Caesar's *De Bello Gallico*, students will engage in literary analysis of prose text examining Caesar's use of rhetorical principles and stylistic devices. Also, students will develop a deeper

awareness of ancient Roman historical perspective and its impact on subsequent historical writing.

GREEK I (HONORS) (651)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Two years of a foreign language with a grade of “B” or better each semester

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This course introduces students to the study of ancient Greek. The course equips the student with the fundamentals of grammar and vocabulary necessary to the translation of Attic Greek texts. Since Greek is a highly inflected language, students sharpen their analytical and synthetic thinking ability through rigorous grammatical analysis. At the same time, students are exposed to the classical tradition in such areas as history, politics, philosophy, and poetry. By the end of the second semester, students are able to translate simple, extended prose, both in passages adapted from such authors as Plato, Herodotus, and the tragedians and passages taken directly from works of these ancient authors. Attic Greek also serves as a firm foundation for the study and translation of both Homeric Greek *Odyssey* and *Iliad* and Koine Greek.

GREEK II (HONORS) (652)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Greek I

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This course is a reading intensive course designed for students who have mastered all the fundamental elements of Greek grammar and vocabulary. The course offers students an opportunity to review Attic Greek forms and syntax and study Koine and Homeric Greek. In the first semester students read Plato’s *Apology* and major portions of the New Testament. This reading involves both syntactic and literary analysis of the text. Students read from the four Gospels as well as from the “Acts of the Apostles” and the “Letters”. The second semester is devoted to the study of Homer. Students read several books from the *Odyssey* or the *Iliad*. In reading this most ancient poetry students have the opportunity to explore the poetic diction that is unique to epic songs based on an oral tradition. Students familiarize themselves with dactylic hexameter as a special form of expression. They also explore the impact these poems have had on subsequent western poetry and literature in general.

MANDARIN CHINESE I (670)

Grade Level –9, 10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment –No background in Mandarin Chinese necessary

Course Description – This course introduces Mandarin Chinese and Chinese culture to beginning Chinese learners. Students will learn pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar fundamentals as essential elements in reading, writing, and understanding elementary Chinese. Also, students will develop awareness and appreciation of Chinese culture, history, society and etiquette when developing basic communicative competence in Chinese. To maintain proficiency of Chinese and have success in the class, students will be expected to actively engage in performance based tasks and assessments.

MANDARIN CHINESE II (672)

Grade Level –10, 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – Mandarin Chinese I or successful achievement on the Mandarin Chinese I Qualifying Exam

Criteria for Enrollment –None

Course Description – This course builds on language skills developed in Mandarin Chinese I. The course will systematically review basic grammar and key sentence patterns of Chinese previously studied, provide practice in the appropriate use of idiomatic expressions, and further develop skills in reading and writing Chinese characters. It will also build vocabulary, expand reading comprehension, and encourage extensive conversation in Chinese. Students will experience some authentic course material about Chinese culture and history, and strive to imitate native accent and rhythm to function in daily communication situations. To maintain proficiency of Chinese and have success in the class, students will be expected to actively engage in performance based tasks and assessments.

MANDARIN CHINESE III (HONORS) (674)

Grade Level –11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – Mandarin Chinese II

Criteria for Enrollment –Student must meet weighted course criteria (see introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor.

Course Description – Mandarin Chinese III is an advanced course that reviews and further develops skills learned in previous years. Students are exposed to more authentic material in addition to the textbooks. Discussions, compositions, reflections, and presentations are based on the Chinese culture and current events. Instructional materials and activities are strategically adapted from authentic sources (newspaper articles, radio clips, TV programs, etc.) to support students' learning and maintain interests. Students will continue to expand and refine their vocabulary and review grammar. To maintain proficiency of Chinese and have success in the class, students will be expected to actively engage in performance based tasks and assessments.

MANDARIN CHINESE IV (HONORS) (676)

Grade Level –11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – Mandarin Chinese III

Criteria for Enrollment –Student must meet weighted course criteria (see introduction, p. 4);
Approval of Instructor.

Course Description – Mandarin Chinese IV is an advanced course that emphasizes the application of skills learned in previous years. The course engages students in more authentic materials, current events, history and activities (newspaper articles, radio clips, TV programs, etc.), which deepen students' immersion into the language and culture. Students will develop and demonstrate their levels of Chinese proficiency through discussions, compositions, reflections, and presentation. Students will continue to expand and refine their vocabulary and review grammar. To maintain proficiency of Chinese and have success in the class, students will be expected to actively engage in performance based tasks and assessments.

SPANISH I (712) (713)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – No background in Spanish necessary

Course Description - Spanish I is designed for the beginning Spanish student. Comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing skills are developed simultaneously from simple to more complex sentence structures. The learning process is based on the active participation of each student in a variety of formats. Students learn essential vocabulary, basic structures of the language, and cultural aspects of Latin America and Spain.

SPANISH I (ADVANCED) (711)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course - Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Placement in Spanish I (Advanced) will be by invitation. Placement is determined by the Admissions Office from Placement Examination scores and/or from the Spanish Qualifying Examination.

Course Description – This course is for students who have had one or more Spanish courses but did not place in a second level Spanish course at RHS or for those who had high verbal scores on the Placement Exam. These students review and/or learn, more in depth, to use the basic grammar structures taught in the Spanish I course. In addition, they will acquire the following: an expanded vocabulary, an increased reading proficiency, improved oral expression, an increased aural proficiency, the ability to write short compositions, and further knowledge of Spanish and Latin American cultures.

SPANISH II (722)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – Spanish I

Criteria for Enrollment – None.

Course Description – This course aims to improve the student’s ability to speak, read, and write in Spanish. Also, the course strives to systematically review grammar previously studied, to master new concepts in Spanish, and enhance the student’s knowledge of the cultural diversity of the Spanish-speaking world. There will be considerable emphasis on the improvement of oral skills, and students will be encouraged to speak in Spanish on a variety of topics. Course materials are designed to stimulate conversation and perfect that skill, striving to imitate the native speaker’s pronunciation accent and rhythm.

SPANISH II (ADVANCED) (721)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective that partially fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – Spanish I, Spanish I (Advanced), or successful achievement on the Spanish Qualifying Examination.

Criteria for Enrollment – Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This course is designed to challenge the student who during his first year actively participated in class and demonstrated the ability to advance more rapidly than the average student. Course content aids students in acquiring the following skills: increased oral proficiency, an expanded vocabulary, the ability to read selections appropriate to intermediate-level students, and increased ability to write compositions. Students will further develop their ability to express themselves in spoken and written Spanish and become more culturally aware of the Spanish-speaking world.

SPANISH III (731)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Spanish II or Spanish II (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet departmental criteria and have approval of instructor.

Course Description – This course builds upon the skills and material covered in Spanish I and II; it reviews all major grammatical structures and introduces a broader scope of grammatical knowledge. Emphasis is given to improving oral skills, broadening the range of grammatical structures the student can effectively use in writing and conversation, enriching the student’s vocabulary and deepening his cultural awareness of the Spanish-speaking world.

SPANISH III (HONORS) (ACCP) (730)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Spanish II or Spanish II (Advanced)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet the weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor

Course Description – This advanced language course allows students to practice the major grammar structures previously studied as well as more complex grammar concepts. Considerable emphasis will be given to enriching the students' active vocabulary and increasing their ability to comprehend and express themselves in spoken and written Spanish. Students will be required to speak in Spanish in a variety of situations ranging from class discussion to oral presentations. The history, geography, and culture of Spain and Mexico are studied, along with selected short literary works.

SPANISH IV (741)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Spanish III or Spanish III (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet departmental criteria and have approval of instructor.

Course Description – This course emphasizes helping students increase their proficiency in reading, oral communication (listening and speaking) and developing the ability to write correctly in Spanish. The course also enhances the students' knowledge of the Spanish-speaking world. Considerable emphasis will be given to enriching the students' active vocabulary. Students will be required to speak Spanish in a variety of situations ranging from class discussions to oral presentations. Students will read short cultural essays and review Spanish grammar.

SPANISH IV (HONORS) (ACCP) (740)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Spanish III or Spanish III (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); Approval of Instructor

Course Description – The Honors Spanish IV course emphasizes listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. The class is conducted entirely in Spanish, and English is only allowed when a specific concept requires it. While not an "AP" course, the Honors IV course still focuses on major themes of the AP Spanish Language & Culture Exam with activities focusing on Interpersonal, Interpretive and Presentational Communication. Students continue their vocabulary expansion based on the text themes. They also review and utilize all the main Spanish tenses, especially through partner and group communication activities. This level of achievement will instill in the student the realization that proficient communication is an achievable goal in the target language. The course also integrates lessons on Hispanic culture, customs, history and an introduction to literature. This course also emphasizes various advanced grammar concepts, vocabulary enrichment such as idiomatic expressions and advanced uses of the subjunctive mood.

SPANISH IV (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (750)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Spanish III (Honors) and/or Spanish IV (Honors)

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4). Approval of Instructor and Department Chair. Students enrolled are prepared for and expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam.

Course Description – AP Spanish Language and Culture course focuses on the six main themes of the AP exam: Personal & Public Identities, Contemporary Life, Global Challenges, Science & Technology, Families & Communities and Beauty & Aesthetics. The course aims to develop college level reading, writing, comprehension and speaking skills per AP standards of Interpretive, Interpersonal & Presentational communication. Authentic Spanish print, audio and video sources are the primary materials for the class. Students are expected to converse only in Spanish every class. Limited, specific grammar review is targeted by the instructor to meet the particular needs of the students. The primary activities and homework reflect the sections of the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam: Reading Comprehension, Email Reply, Persuasive Essay, Interpersonal Conversation, Cultural Comparison Oral Presentation. All students are expected to take the AP exam in the spring.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

One semester of Physical Education is required for graduation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (1052)

Grade Level – 9, 10

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective that fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This is a general physical education class with beginning weight training, team sports, and fitness tests. Students are required to show a beginning knowledge of weight training with the emphasis on technique. Students are also required to demonstrate aerobic, anaerobic, and strength competence, as required in the fitness tests.

PHYSICAL FITNESS (1051)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective that fulfills graduation requirement

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Emphasis in this course is placed on advanced weight lifting. Team sports are also played as a secondary activity. Students are required to show an advanced degree of fitness as the tests require.

LIFETIME SPORTS (1041)

Grade Level – 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Physical Education or Physical Fitness

Criteria for Enrollment – Physical Fitness or Physical Education.

Course Description – Lifetime Sports offers a student the opportunity to learn and participate in the skills of sports that can be played throughout one's lifetime. The disciplines that are taught in the course are golf and bowling. ***A fee for bowling and golf will be required for the use of the facilities. The total fee for golf and bowling will range from \$150.00 to \$160.00 depending on the number of times these facilities are scheduled.***

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Six semesters of Laboratory Science are required for graduation

BIOLOGY (225) (226)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Biology is a study of living organisms, from the microscopic to the macroscopic levels of biological organization. This course is presented using an evolutionary approach, starting with molecules and finishing with living systems in the human. Biology is taught through Experimental Design utilizing Science Inquiry, thus analysis of biological functions and systems is covered. This course is a lab science; the laboratory experience is the foundational center of learning in this course and is where many concepts are introduced. During labs students are expected to collect and analyze data while making observations and measurements. This course utilizes Project-Based Learning, where students will encounter biology concepts at an enriched level through projects, collaborate with other students, and present a paper based upon their analyzed conclusions.

BIOLOGY (HONORS) (223)

Grade Level – 9

Length - Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment (freshmen) – Students with a sufficiently high score on the science portion of the HSPT exam (High School Placement Test) and approval of the department chairperson may enroll in this course. The reading portion of the placement test may also be taken into consideration. This course is designed to lead students into the Biology (Advanced Placement) course.

Course Description – Areas of Biology studied are cellular biology, genetics, evolution, virology, immunology, and reproduction. Students learn to: 1) identify the main structures in the cells and understand their function, 2) understand the main concepts in evolution, 3) understand heredity, including DNA, gene regulation, and protein production, and 4) understand the fundamentals of virology, immunology, and animal reproduction.

BIOLOGY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (220)

Grade Level – 10, 11, 12

Length - Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – General Biology or Honors Biology, General Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4).
Students receiving an A grade both semesters in Biology or B both semesters in

Biology (Honors) may request approval of the instructor for enrollment in AP Biology. If students have completed other science courses, their performance in those classes may be evaluated as well for enrollment in AP Biology. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement test. Students who have taken Honors Biology are encouraged to take AP Biology. Approval of the current AP Biology instructor is required.

Course Description – This course is designed to challenge the student at the college level. The course will present the principal topics covered in college general biology courses.

CHEMISTRY (235) (236)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Biology or Honors Biology

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – Chemistry is designed to give a good general knowledge of the following: 1) composition and behavior of matter, 2) history of the development of chemistry as a science, 3) knowledge of principles and laws which have been deduced regarding matter, and 4) hands-on experience with laboratory procedures and equipment, developing lab technique. Topics covered include Measurements and Math Skills, Atomic Structure, Substances, Periodic Properties, Compounds, Stoichiometry Reactions, Solubility, Properties of Acids and Bases, and Gas Laws.

CHEMISTRY (HONORS) (HSCP) (232)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – General Biology or Honors Biology.

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have completed General or Honors Biology. Students taking General Biology must have grades of A- or better both semesters. Students taking Honors Biology must have grades of B or better both semesters. Students who have taken the PSAT/NMSQT must have a minimum Selection Index and Critical Reading percentile of 80 or above. Students must have a minimum 3.00 cumulative GPA, a grade of “B” or higher in math, and meet weighted course criteria (see Introduction, p. 4); recommendation of currently Biology instructor and approval of the Honors Chemistry instructor are required.

Course Description – In this course, students study Atomic Theory and Structure, Stoichiometry, Chemical Reactions, Thermochemistry, Periodicity, Chemical Bonding, Molecular Structure and States of Matter. This course is intended for students who plan to take AP Chemistry at RHS and pursue chemistry courses in college. The course is accredited through the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) and covers the same timeline, pace, and lab experiments as the first-semester General Chemistry course at UMKC. Students, for an extra fee, can receive five hours of college credit (four hours lecture, one-hour lab) from UMKC. This is an option and no student is required to pay this fee or receive the credit.

CHEMISTRY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (230)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – An elective course to meet the three-year science requirement for graduation

Prerequisite – General Chemistry or Honors Chemistry.

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have completed either General Chemistry or Honors Chemistry. Students taking General Chemistry must have grades of A- or better both semesters. Students taking Honors Chemistry must have grades of B+ or better both semesters. Students not meeting the above criteria may request approval from the AP Chemistry instructor. Students not meeting the above criteria may request approval from the AP Chemistry instructor. Recommendation from current Chemistry instructor and approval from AP Chemistry instructor is required.

Course Description – This course reviews some topics covered in General Chemistry and Honors Chemistry but focuses in greater depth in those areas and adds more challenging material not usually covered in high school General Chemistry courses. Subject matter covered in this course includes Atomic Theory, Chemical Bonding, Gases, Liquid and Solid States, Solutions, Descriptive Chemistry, Stoichiometry, Equilibrium, Kinetics, Thermochemistry, Acid-Base Chemistry, Oxidation-Reduction/Electrochemistry., and some basic Organic Chemistry. This course emphasizes laboratory work (more than General Chemistry and Honors Chemistry) and puts a greater requirement for reading and learning from the text on the student. Laboratory work will include both quantitative and qualitative analyses and students will be required to maintain a precise laboratory notebook. Students enrolled in AP Chemistry are expected to take the Advanced Placement test. This course is designed for students planning to pursue multiple Chemistry courses in college.

PHYSICS (246)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – An elective course to meet the three-year science requirement for graduation

Prerequisite – Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

Criteria for Enrollment – Students should have at least a C- average in previous math and science courses. Students should also have a minimum of 40% on the math PSAT. Any other student should have a good academic work ethic or a strong recommendation from the counselor.

Course Description – Physics is the study of matter and energy and their transformations. This course is an algebra-based approach to Physics, covering mechanics, optics, electromagnetic theory, and modern physics (relativity, quantum, atomic, and nuclear theory). Students will apply problem-solving skills from the class to laboratory activities which will demonstrate the concepts. Math skills used in problem solving are algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and vector analysis.

PHYSICS (HONORS) (243)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – An elective course to meet the three-year science requirement for graduation. This course is designed for students who are considering science or engineering as a college major.

Prerequisite – General Chemistry or Honors Chemistry and **concurrent enrollment in Pre-AP Math or Calculus.**

Criteria for Enrollment – Students should have a minimum of a C+ average in all math and science courses. Students should also have a strong academic work ethic supported by the counselor’s recommendation.

Course Description – Physics is the study of matter and energy and their transformations. Areas of Physics covered in this course are mechanics (kinematics, dynamics, energy, momentum, rotations, and gravitation) and electromagnetism (electric fields, electric forces, electric potential, circuits, and magnetism). Labs and data analysis are part of the classroom experience to help students understand the concepts. Science inquiry is utilized in order to assist the students in applying the concepts to problem solving. Math skills used in problem solving are calculus, algebra, trigonometry, vector analysis, and rudimentary calculus concepts. Previous coursework in calculus is not necessary.

PHYSICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (240)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Science elective

Prerequisite – Physics or Pre-AP Physics and **concurrent enrollment in Calculus I or II.**

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have received a minimum grade of a B- or higher in Pre-AP Physics. Students who have completed Physics (246) with a minimum grade of B+ both semesters may enroll with a recommendation from their Physics (246) teacher, and with approval by the AP Physics teacher. Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Test.

Course Description – The main purpose of this course is to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Physics C Exam in May. Therefore, the course covers only Mechanics and Electromagnetic theory. After initial review of the concepts, students work on the more challenging problems that cover more than one concept. All unit tests will be constructed from previous Advanced Placement exams. Each quarter, students work as teams to do projects where they design experiments, collect data, and do analysis on the major concepts covered that quarter.

HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY (252)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – An elective course to meet the three-year science requirement for graduation.

Prerequisite – General Chemistry or Honors Chemistry

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is designed to give students a better understanding and appreciation of how the human body functions. The course will be taught in a manner that will provide practical and useful knowledge as well as prepare students to meet the scientific demands in college. The course includes both lecture/discussion and regular laboratory work. Topics covered will include the following: physiological stress,

digestion and nutrition, skeletal system, articulation, anatomy and physiology of muscles, nervous system, blood, and the cardiovascular system.

EARTH SCIENCE (262)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Elective course to meet the three year lab science requirement

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry

Criteria for Enrollment – This is a course designed for students who have an interest in geology, astronomy, oceanography, or meteorology.

Course Description – This course is designed to give students an experience leading to better understanding the earth and the processes that have shaped it. Students will go into the field to experience the discovery of minerals as well as observation of the night sky. Weather patterns will be observed and evaluated with an emphasis on severe systems. The course is inquiry-based within a lab experience with the goal of developing critical thinking skills, which are required to interpret Earth's past and how its processes continue to evolve the planet. The course is divided into four quarters; Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography, and Astronomy. The Midwest region will be highlighted as students will understand their region and how it was shaped. At the conclusion of the course, students will not only be familiar with the vocabulary used in the field, they will be able to complete tasks such as star identification, mineral identification, and weather map interpretation.

FUNDAMENTALS OF SCIENCE RESEARCH (284)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester lab science course

Type of Course – Elective course to meet the four year lab science option

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry. A third lab science must either be completed or taken concurrently. Instructor approval required.

Criteria for Enrollment – This course is designed for the student who has an interest in Conducting research using scientific methods. Students who enroll must understand the Responsibilities of designing and implementing their individual projects. This is a pure research course based on the completion of the final experiment.

Course Description – In this course, students will engage in all of the steps of the scientific process, beginning with the proposal of an original hypothesis and ending in the communication of their research results. Initially, the class will focus on information literacy. Students will learn about different types of scientific articles, how to use databases to search for articles, and how to read them effectively. The second area of focus will be experimental design, measurements, and record-keeping. A third focus will be on analyzing data with statistics and some tools/software used for this. Lastly, students will use what they've learned to select an authentic topic/question, design a feasible research project, and conduct it on campus at Rockhurst High School. Students will chronicle the progress of their research by maintaining a work log and reflect upon their experiences by documenting "records of thinking". This progress will be shared with the teacher throughout the year and followed up with one-on-one mentoring

meetings. Students will complete a written report of their research, as well as present their findings/experiences at a Rockhurst Research Symposium at the end of the year.

ASTRONOMY (280)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester science course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – Biology and Chemistry. A third lab science must be completed or taken concurrently.

Criteria for Enrollment – This course is a survey of the cosmos and is meant to fulfill the elective requirement for graduation.

Course Description – Students will investigate the origin, dynamics, and properties of our solar system, galaxy, and beyond in the cosmos. An emphasis will be placed on the study of planetary geology, stellar evolution, and deep space phenomena. This course is a field science; laboratory work will be conducted in the evening with students learning to use telescopes to identify celestial objects. The history of space travel will be covered, leading to a discussion regarding current NASA missions within the solar system. Current events in space exploration will be discussed throughout the course.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Six semesters of Social studies are required for graduation

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS (315)

Grade Level – 9

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course will build a foundation for future social studies courses.

Students will learn about the evolution of human societies from their origins until approximately 500 C.E. Students will learn about the emergence of human civilizations in Africa, the Americas, Europe, China, India, and Southwest Asia. A particular emphasis will be placed on the development of distinct human cultures, the evolution and impact of world religions, and the emergence of diverse political and economic systems.

Students will learn skills essential to social studies, including analysis of primary and secondary source texts, organization of information, knowledge of geography, placing individuals and events in historical context, interpretation of charts, graphs, and maps, methods of synthesizing complex ideas, and both written and verbal forms of communication. Students will work to develop important study skills, including time management, effective use of technology, note-taking, reading comprehension, and organizational strategies.

MODERN WORLD HISTORY (321)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Ancient Civilizations

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course will build on the foundation of the Ancient Civilizations course.

Students will learn about the development of human societies from approximately 500 C.E. until contemporary times, up to and including the events of the past 10 years.

Students will learn about the evolution of civilizations in Africa, the Americas, Europe, China, India, Northern and Central Eurasia, Southwest Asia, Southeast Asia and Oceania. A particular emphasis will be placed on understanding both the reasons for and the impact of the development of diverse human cultures. Students will continue to develop skills essential to social studies, including analysis of primary and secondary source texts, organization of information, knowledge of geography, placing individuals and events in historical context, interpretation of charts, graphs, and maps, methods of synthesizing complex ideas, and both written and verbal forms of communication.

Students will work to improve upon important study skills, including time management, effective use of technology, note-taking, reading comprehension, and organizational strategies.

MODERN WORLD HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (320)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation.

Prerequisite – Ancient Civilizations

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have a minimum of a 3.7 cumulative GPA, an A- in Ancient Civilizations, a recommendation from their current social studies instructor, a composite score in the 90th percentile on the Reading and English portions of the PreACT exam.

Course Description – This course is intended for students that are motivated to engage in a more comprehensive and intensive study of the content and skills emphasized in the Ancient Civilizations and Modern World History courses. Students enrolling in this course should be independent learners who are motivated by the challenge of doing college-level work. Students will learn about the evolution of human civilizations from approximately 500 C.E. until contemporary times in Africa, the Americas, Europe, China, India, Northern and Central Eurasia, Southwest Asia, Southeast Asia and Oceania. Students will focus on ways in which human societies differ from one another and the reasons for this differential development, as well as characteristics and challenges shared by all human societies. Students will learn how to recognize and define historical periods and the importance of understanding the historical context. Students will also examine controversies in the study of history and learn how to construct historical arguments based on the use of historical evidence and analytical reasoning. Students will continue to develop skills essential to social studies, including analysis of primary and secondary source texts, organization of information, knowledge of geography, placing individuals and events in historical context, interpretation of charts, graphs, and maps, methods of synthesizing complex ideas, and both written and verbal forms of communication. Students will also be taught important college-preparatory study skills, including time management, effective use of technology, note-taking, reading comprehension, and organizational strategies. Students enrolled are prepared for and required to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

U. S. HISTORY (331)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Ancient Civilizations and World History

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – U.S. History is a survey of the important political, social, economic, cultural, technological, intellectual, and diplomatic trends, events, and ideas that have taken place in the territory that now constitutes the United States. The course will begin with an examination of pre-Columbian American civilization and culminate with the study of contemporary American society, including the events of the past ten years. Students will write essays using primary source documents and original historical research. These will constitute a major focus of the assessment for this course. Students will be continue to develop and master essential social studies skills, including analytical thinking, analysis of primary and secondary sources, organization of information, historical research, placing events and individuals in historical context,

note-taking, map, chart, and graph interpretation, verbal and written forms of communication, time management, effective use of technology and methods of synthesizing complex ideas.

U. S. HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (330)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – Ancient Civilizations and World History

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have a minimum of a 3.6 cumulative GPA, a B+ or higher in AP World History or an A in World History, a recommendation from their current social studies instructor, and a score in the 90th percentile for the English and Reading portions of the PreACT test.

Course Description – This course is intended for students that are motivated to engage in a more comprehensive and intensive study of the content and skills emphasized in the US History course. Students enrolling in this course should be independent learners who are motivated by the challenge of doing college-level work. This course is designed to expose students to the political, social, intellectual, economic, and cultural events and trends that have shaped the development of the United States. The course will begin with an examination of pre-Columbian American civilization and culminate with the study of contemporary American society, including the events of the past ten years. Students will write essays using primary source documents and original historical research. These will constitute a major focus of the assessment for this course. Students will be continue to develop and master essential social studies skills, including analytical thinking, evaluation of alternative interpretations of historical events and trends, analysis of primary and secondary sources, organization of information, historical research, placing events and individuals in historical context, note-taking, using maps, charts and graphs to convey information, analyzing political cartoons, verbal and written forms of communication, time management, effective use of technology, and methods of synthesizing complex ideas. Analytical writing will be a major component of this course. Students enrolled are prepared for and required to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT (347)

Grade Level – 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – U.S. History

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is designed to introduce the student to the structure of the United States political system and the processes that guide and influence it. Through lecture, discussion, reading, civic participation, research and writing, the student will develop an understanding of the basic principles underlying our political system, as well as patterns of behavior and interaction between citizens and government and the impact that these interactions and behaviors have on the lives of US citizens and non-citizens. The course will focus on providing students with the essential knowledge and skills needed to be an effective citizen. Students will be taught important

college-preparatory skills, such as: the ability to analyze primary and secondary sources; to evaluate alternative interpretations of and perspectives controversial issues; to understand, interpret, and use graphical representations of data and ideas, including maps, charts, political cartoons; to present analytical arguments and synthesize complex ideas in both written and oral forms; to effectively use technology to acquire about and analyze complex problems.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (349)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Selected core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – World History and US History

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have a minimum of a 3.6 cumulative GPA, an A- average in their social studies courses or a B average in AP social studies courses, a recommendation from their current social studies instructor, and a score in the 85th percentile for the Critical Reading and Writing portion of the PSAT.

Course Description – This course will provide a more in-depth coverage of concepts and skills taught in the American Government survey course. This course seeks to orient the student to the American political process by studying the philosophical foundations, historical development, and modern institutions, patterns of behavior and belief, and public policies of the American government. Through lecture, discussion, reading, civic participation, simulation, research and writing, the student will come to understand the basic principles underlying our political system, as well as patterns of behavior and interaction between citizens and government and the impact that these interactions and behaviors have on the lives US citizens and non-citizens. The course will focus on providing students with the essential knowledge and skills needed to be an effective citizen. Students will be taught important college-preparatory skills, such as: the ability to analyze primary and secondary sources; to evaluate alternative interpretations of and perspectives controversial issues; to understand, interpret, and use graphical representations of data and ideas, including maps, charts, political cartoons; to present analytical arguments and synthesize complex ideas in both written and oral forms; to effectively use technology to acquire about and analyze complex problems. Analytical writing will be a major component of this course. Students enrolled in this course are prepared and required to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

ECONOMICS (341)

Grade Level – 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course introduces students to the fundamental principles of economic theory and practice. Students will be exposed to important theories and concepts in both macroeconomics and microeconomics. Students will develop a working definition of economics and are introduced to supply and demand and the economic theories that emanate from it. Students will learn about different forms of economic and political organization, including socialism, capitalism, and communism, and the effects of these

systems on economic outcomes and human behaviors. Students will learn about different business models, including sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations. The course explores other important economic concepts including pricing, gross national product, inflation, taxation, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and economic indicators. Students will learn about important economic institutions, like the Federal Reserve System, banks, corporations, and stock exchanges. Students will be expected to use these concepts to examine alternative claims regarding economic policy and business strategy and will be expected to construct analytical arguments based on the use of reasoning and evidence.

HISTORY OF THE KANSAS CITY REGION (355)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – US History

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course will focus on the local history of the Kansas City region from the beginning of European settlement to the present. Students will learn about local Native American tribes and the effect of European settlement on their development, the controversies surrounding the admission of Missouri and Kansas into the United States, Kansas City's role in westward expansion, the Civil War and its effects on the region, the emergence of the Populist movement in Kansas, the involvement of Kansas City in World War I, the development of Jazz in Kansas City, the rise of organized crime during Prohibition, the Pendergast Political Machine during the Roaring 20s and Great Depression, the Truman and Eisenhower Presidencies, the growth of the suburbs in Kansas City area, desegregation and its effect on Kansas City and the region, Walt Disney's influence on the entertainment industry, and other local topics. The purpose of this course will be to further develop students' skills in historical research, deepen their knowledge of American history, and immerse them in the history of our local region. Special focus will be placed on encouraging students to visit local history sites, like the National Frontier Trails Museum, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the National World War I Museum, and the Truman Library.

AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES (357)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – One semester course

Type of Course – Elective

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – Interest in U.S. History as well as interest in learning different perspectives on many issues that have had an impact in African American history.

Course Description – This course will survey political, economic, cultural, intellectual, and religious contributions of African Americans. The course will look at the struggle, endurance, and triumphs of African Americans while fighting for racial equality from the time of slavery to present day United States. Students will study major events and themes in African American history, as well as people who have made significant contributions to the development and advancement of the African American race and

culture. Students will also study the local impact on African American history. Connections across many cultures, as well as looking at the impact on current events will be studied and used to answer overarching questions. Students will see how the democratic process of the United States has impacted African American history.

EUROPEAN HISTORY (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (345)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective (Offered in alternate years) ***Not offered in AY '18-19**

Prerequisite – AP World History; may not replace U.S. History or the American Government requirement.

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have a minimum of a 3.5 cumulative GPA, an A- average in their social studies courses, a recommendation from their current social studies instructor, and a score in the 85th percentile for the Critical Reading and Writing portion of the PSAT (for junior applicants) or a score in the 85th percentile for the English and Reading portion of the PreACT test (for sophomore applicants).

Course Description – This course examines the political, social, intellectual, economic, and cultural trends and developments in modern Europe. Chronologically, the course examines European History from the end of the Middle Ages to the present. The course will focus on how the major events, personalities, and trends in Europe over the past five hundred years have influenced both the development of the continent and the world at large. Students are expected to demonstrate proficiency in reading comprehension, independent study, oral presentation and discussion, research, and writing. Analytical writing will be a major component of this course. Students enrolled in this course are prepared and required to take the Advanced Placement Examination.

COMPARATIVE GOV'T AND POLITICS (ADVANCED PLACEMENT) (346)

Grade Level – 11, 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Elective (Offered in alternate years)

Prerequisite – AP World History; may not replace U.S. History or the American Government requirement.

Criteria for Enrollment – Students must have a minimum of a 3.5 cumulative GPA, an A- average in their social studies courses, a recommendation from their current social studies instructor, and a score in the 85th percentile for the Critical Reading and Writing portion of the PSAT (for junior applicants) or a score in the 85th percentile for the English and Reading portion of the PreACT test (for sophomore applicants).

Course Description – This course introduces students to important concepts used by political scientists to study politics in a variety of country settings. Students will be expected to acquire a basic understanding of important concepts, themes, and generalizations about different forms of government used in the world today. They will also gain knowledge of important facts pertaining to the political, economic, social, cultural, and historical development of ten-twelve specific countries. These countries will include, but are not limited to, Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, South Africa, and the United Kingdom. Students will compare and contrast political institutions and processes across countries and derive generalizations from these

comparisons. They will also learn to analyze and interpret data relevant to the study of comparative government and politics. Students will be expected to demonstrate reading comprehension, participate in class discussions, write analytical essays, give oral presentations, and demonstrate effective use of technology in conducting research. Students enrolled in this course are prepared for and required to take the AP Examination in May.

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Eight semesters of Theology are required for graduation

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY I & II (417) (418)

Grade Level – 9

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course is a study of the foundations of Catholic Christianity in order to have a common language and framework for further study in Theology. Topics include scripture, sacraments, and church history. Another key component of freshman theology is the study of the foundational principles of Catholic Morality. This study of Catholic Morality includes decision making, moral conduct, and the Catholic Teachings on sex and sexuality.

SCRIPTURE I & II (427) (428)

Grade Level – 10

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – The richness of the Hebrew Scripture and Christian Scriptures are explored during the sophomore year. Students will study scripture according to the most current historical/critical methods used by the Church. The curriculum includes an extensive exploration into the Pentateuch as well as of the Prophets. This understanding of the Hebrew faith allows the students to know better the person of Jesus Christ and the impact He had on the faith of the first century Christians as well as the impact He continues to have on the faith of the 21st century Christians.

PHILOSOPHICAL FOUNDATIONS OF CATHOLIC FAITH I & II (433) (439)

Grade Level – 11

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course will provide a basic introduction to logic and to contemporary problems in philosophy, as well as an introduction to Catholic philosophical positions on the nature of God, the human person and nature. Students will develop a competency to reason and to evaluate the prevalent philosophical positions of our culture. These include skepticism of human knowledge, total determinism, absolute indeterminism, moral relativism, and materialism. Students will also explore the kind of person they can become if they were to follow these philosophies. Second semester, the course will

explore other religions through philosophical foundations of the Catholic Faith. Understanding is important in the development of a mature faith.

CATHOLIC FAITH IN PRACTICE I & II (447) (448)

Grade Level – 12

Length – Two semester course

Type of Course – Core course required for graduation

Prerequisite – None

Criteria for Enrollment – None

Course Description – This course provides students with an opportunity to put their faith into action by looking at Social Justice and Christian Lifestyles. Social Justice urges students to become more aware of the practical conclusions of following Jesus in today's world as Christians attempt to sow justice to harvest peace and true world development. Christian Lifestyles helps prepare students for an adult understanding of, and commitment to, their choices in life as they respond to God's invitation to serve the Kingdom as a single, married, or religious person.