



BELLARMINO PREPARATORY SCHOOL

2020-21

COURSE CATALOG



2300 S. Washington St. Tacoma, WA 98405 | 253-752-7701

www.bellarmineprep.org



Bellarmino Preparatory School

Course Catalog 2020-21

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Tacoma, WA 98405

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Bellarmino Curriculum

The Bellarmine Curriculum is designed to prepare students for college. Students will earn a College Preparatory Diploma reflecting a minimum of 26 credits. Bellarmine curricular sequences are designed for students of varying levels of academic readiness. For the student in need of some remedial study focused study skill classes are offered that provide an intensive executive functioning curriculum. Entrance to the World Language program may be delayed and the student is encouraged to take electives that would be helpful with their transition to the sophomore College Preparatory Program.

For the student capable of additional academic challenge there is an Honors sequence. Students participate at Honors level in the College Prep Program. The Bellarmine grading scale is consistent for the college preparatory program and the Honors level courses. Students capable of the additional challenge of Honors level will schedule in Advanced Placement® courses. Advanced Placement® courses culminate in a required College Board test in the spring. Successful results on the tests can be accepted as college credit for the student as per individual college policies.

COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM

FRESHMAN

English	Full Year	Required
Mathematics	Full Year	Required
PE/Health	Full Year	Required
Science	Full Year	Required
Theology	Full Year	Required
World Language	Full Year	Required
Electives	Full Year	

SOPHOMORE

English	Full Year	Required
Mathematics	Full Year	Required
PE/Health	Semester	Required
Science	Full Year	Required
Social Studies	Full Year	Required
Theology	Semester	Required
World Language	Full Year	Required
Elective	Full Year	

Sophomores should be certain they have earned credits in all courses listed as freshman requirements. Summer school may be required for credit retrieval of failed courses prior to entry to the sophomore year.

JUNIOR

English	Full Year	Required
Math	Full Year	Required
Science	Full Year	
Social Studies	Full Year	Required
Theology	Full Year	Required
World Language	Full Year	
Elective	Full Year	

Juniors should be certain they have earned credits in all courses listed as freshman and sophomore requirements.

SENIOR

English	Full Year	Required
Mathematics	Full Year	
Science	Full Year	
Social Studies	Full Year	Required
Theology	Semester	Required
World Language	Full Year	
Elective		

GRADING SCALE

93-100	A	4.0
91-92	A-	3.7
89-90	B+	3.3
84-88	B	3.0
82-83	B-	2.7
80-81	C+	2.3
75-79	C	2.0
73-74	C-	1.7
71-72	D+	1.3
66-70	D	1.0
0-65	F	

Academics and Curriculum

Academic Requirements – Teachers are responsible for assigning, collecting and evaluating class assignments and homework. Bellarmine utilizes MOODLE as its learning management system and teachers are expected to maintain a current syllabus on this platform for students and parents to access. It is equally expected that students will expend the time and effort required for success at Bellarmine. Individual students who are repeatedly negligent will be referred to the Vice Principal of Curriculum and Instruction or Principal.

Teachers who wish to require a student to remain after school under their own supervision may do so and students are obliged to stay. Students may also be assigned to RASH (Required After School Help). RASH is assigned on a daily basis and is moderated by an assigned faculty proctor. RASH may be assigned for test make-up; for homework or class work completion; for makeup work due to absences. RASH is held daily for one hour after school. Failure to complete RASH assignment(s) will result in a zero.

Grades – Students are ordinarily graded with a letter grade, ranging from an A for excellence to an F for failure. Students' cumulative grade point averages are determined by their semester grades. Students scheduled as Teacher Assistants will earn .5 credits and a Pass/Fail grade unless approved by the Vice Principal of Curriculum and Instruction. Grades will depend upon a student's performance in class discussions, class attentiveness, homework performance, attendance and testing. Teachers use a variety of methods of determining the grading standards for their course. These will be explained at the beginning of each course and semester.

Grading – The faculty of Bellarmine Preparatory School believes it is important to keep open lines of communication with parents regarding student grades. Students and parents are provided with a password for the FamilyLink on-line gradebook at the beginning of each school year for grade progress and attendance. Parents and students will be able to access this information at any time, utilizing the student Bellarmine e-mail address and confidential password. There are two official grading periods each semester. Reports will be mailed home at the mid-semester (9 weeks) grading period. The semester grade (18 weeks) is the only grade calculated as part of a student's cumulative grade point average (g.p.a.). Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled at the mid-point of each semester.

Homework – Homework is designed to support the instructional process at Bellarmine Preparatory School. Expectations will include reading, practice of concepts and reflection. Homework focuses primarily on preparation for the next class period in each content area through reading, review and reinforcement of skills.

Bellarmino Preparatory School believes that homework reinforces, enriches and enhances independent learning and organizational skills. Each academic department determines the homework percentage of the final grade, and students in the college preparatory program should expect 15 – 30 minutes of homework for each class period. Advanced and AP courses may exceed this parameter (30-60 minutes).

Graduation Requirements (2020-21 school year)

At Bellarmine, a total of 21 credits are specified as department requirements. A total of 26 credits will be required for graduation and a College Preparatory Diploma.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS.....26 Credits

The department requirements for graduation are:

1	Fine Arts (.5 in Visual Arts is required) (.5 in Music, Visual Art, or Theater)
4	English
2	World Language
3	Mathematics
1.5	Health/Physical Education
3	Science
3	Social Studies
3.5	Theology
<hr/>	
21	Credits in Required Subject Areas

The four-year semester program provides opportunities for students to earn 28.5 credits.

TRANSFER STUDENTS and INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Credit from coursework earned prior to entering Bellarmine Preparatory School is not added to the Bellarmine transcript. Credit and placement are evaluated prior to acceptance to verify Bellarmine graduation requirements from the time of enrollment. Final transcripts from the previous school will be requested by Bellarmine directly from schools within the United States. International students must provide final transcripts to Bellarmine from previous schools outside the United States.

Transfer and international students need to provide additional official transcripts from their previous schools for college applications.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

As a college preparatory school students, advisors, and counselors will plan the high school program carefully. The high school program should include meeting admission requirements specific to schools being considered. Generally academic admission requirements for two and four year colleges are as follows and include enrollment in an advanced mathematics or algebra based science course the senior year:

English	4 credits
World Language	2-3 credits
Social Science	3 credits
Laboratory Science	3-4 credits
Mathematics	3-4 credits of college preparatory mathematics

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

College Preparatory Diploma: Minimum of 26 credits earned including all required courses.

High School Diploma: In extenuating circumstances, as approved by the Principal or Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction, a student may earn a diploma with fewer than 26 credits. The student must meet all state graduation credits and courses required by Bellarmine.

Students who attend Bellarmine through spring of their senior year but do not earn credits required for a college preparatory diploma or who do not earn required credit (course specifically required for graduation) are given until the age of 21 to take courses at an approved institution to complete graduation requirements and submit a transcript to earn a Bellarmine diploma.

Department Requirements

ART

One credit (1.0) in Fine Arts is required for graduation. .5 of this credit must be in the Visual Arts. Music or Theater can fulfill the other .5 credit requirement.

ENGLISH

4 credits required.

One credit is required for each of the four years. Required courses in English are: English 1, English 2, American Literature/Composition, Senior Composition and Senior Literature or an AP English course.

MATHEMATICS

3 credits required.

One year of algebra, one year of geometry and one year of advanced math are required for graduation.

MUSIC

Elective fine arts credit.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

1.5 credits required.

1 credit is required for freshmen.

.5 credit is required the sophomore year.

SCIENCE

3 credits laboratory science required. Biology is required.

SOCIAL STUDIES

3 credits required.

1 credit World History, 1 credit U.S. History, 1 credit senior level history including required American Government.

THEOLOGY

3.5 credits enrollment required.

Enrollment in the following courses is required: 1 credit freshman religion, .5 credit sophomore religion, 1 credit junior religion, .5 credit senior religion. Beginning with the class of 2021, .5 credit will be earned through Ignatian Formation spring of the senior year.

WORLD LANGUAGE

2 credits required of the same language.

This graduation requirement may be waived for students who have received permission from the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction based on educational assessments. The waiver may impact college admission.

Academic Policies and Procedures

DROP AND ADD PROCEDURE

Students are permitted to drop and/or add classes on an individual basis. Students will be permitted to drop classes when they have been forced to drop because of extended illnesses or when they have been misplaced due to inaccurate testing and recommendations. These requests must be initiated by parent or teacher and may reflect a "W" (withdraw) no credit on the transcript.

Students who elect a course and find that the course is not meeting their needs may request a schedule change before the end of the second week of the semester. Courses may be added through the second week of a semester as available, and only if space is available.

All schedule change drops after the third week of a semester will be failure drops. This will apply to changes created by failure to keep up with the course, lack of motivation, and other failures on the part of the students which make it impossible for the student to continue with the course. In these cases of approved drop failures, the approval is to permit students to quit attending the class, but the student does receive an "F" for the course, and the "F" will be part of the student's permanent transcript.

By policy, Bellarmine does not honor requests for specific teachers when multiple teachers teach the same class. However, a student who is not academically successful (i.e., earns a failing grade) may petition the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction for a schedule change at semester. The change will be honored only if space is available or if it helps balance the affected classes.

SENIORS AT MID-YEAR (END OF FIRST SEMESTER)

Any senior who has been on academic probation (below 1.8 g.p.a. at any grading period in his or her junior year) and is allowed to enter the senior year shall be notified that he/she may be dismissed at mid-year if one or more of the following occur:

- Below 1.8 g.p.a. at a grading period during first semester
- Failed two (2) required classes/credits for graduation
- Semester grades (January) remain below 1.8 g.p.a.

SENIORS AT GRADUATION POLICY (END OF SECOND SEMESTER)

Any senior who has a failing grade at the end of first semester shall be notified that his or her right to participate in the graduation ceremony is in jeopardy. Failing grades in more than two (2) courses for the senior year will result in automatic denial to participate in the graduation ceremony. Second grading period (9 weeks) grade will be checked and if there are two or more failing grades, final grades will be asked for early.

FAILURE POLICY

Any student who earns a failing grade in a course may repeat the course in summer school or in the following school year with prior course approval by the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction. Upon completion of the course, the grade received will be recorded with the registering school also noted on the transcript. The original grade (F) will remain as recorded. Exceptions to this policy are at the discretion of the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction. Courses which are specifically required for graduation must be repeated for credit retrieval.

CROSS ENROLLMENT AND COLLEGE CREDIT

Bellarmino students are allowed to participate in elective classes at the post-secondary level. Any courses taken outside of Bellarmine require prior approval from the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction. Credit and grades will not be recorded on the transcript.

ARRUPE VIRTUAL LEARNING INSTITUTE

Bellarmino is a member of the Arrupe Virtual Learning Institute (on-line courses). Students seeking credit should have course pre-approved by the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction. These approved courses will appear on the Bellarmine schedule. Credit and grades will be recorded on the transcript. Letter grades are transferred from AVLI percentages utilizing the Bellarmine grading scale.

<http://www.arrupevirtual.org/>

DUAL CREDIT

Dual-credit programs allow students to earn high school and college credit simultaneously. In some courses, both Advanced Placement (AP) classes and Cornerstone classes will be taught concurrently.

College in the High School (CHS)

Bellarmino provides opportunities for students to earn college credit through Central Washington University's Cornerstone Program (College in the High School). Similar to the Running Start model, the designated courses use an approved CWU syllabus and curriculum and are taught by Bellarmino teachers who have qualified as CWU lecturers. Enrolled students become CWU students of record and receive college credit; grades received in dual credit courses are recorded by the university, and thus become part of the students' future college transcript.

Credits earned through CWU are widely recognized by most colleges and universities, both public and private, in and out of Washington State, and creates a variety of options in academic program planning, including opportunities for acceleration, reducing requirements, and taking additional courses toward major or minor areas of concentration. Bellarmino does not guarantee the transferability of credit to all universities. Students are encouraged to work with their counselor to investigate the transferability of credits to the colleges they are most interested in attending. Course billing is managed directly through Central Washington University.

Advanced Placement (AP)

AP courses are rigorous, college-level classes in a variety of subjects that give students an opportunity to gain the skills and experience colleges recognize. (<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse>) Your AP score shows how well you did on the AP Exam. It's also a measure of your achievement in your college-level AP course. This score will be used by colleges and universities to determine if they will grant you credit for what you've already learned, or allow you to skip the equivalent course once you get to college (this is known as advanced placement). (<https://apscore.collegeboard.org/scores/about-ap-scores/>)

Art

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

Art Department courses are designed to assist all students with the process of discovering and developing creativity in the Visual Arts. The focus is directed toward a sensitivity to the visual world while exploring personal expressions through a variety of media and creative processes. In addition to hands-on Art making experiences, the curriculum introduces students to areas of Art History, as well as the means to discuss issues involving the Visual Arts. Creating Art requires intellectual, emotional, physical and spiritual alertness. The Art curriculum is designed to assist students as they explore their creative potential.

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

One Fine Arts credit is required for graduation. .5 of this credit must be in the Visual Arts. Music or Theater can fulfill the other .5 credit requirement. Advanced classes have prerequisites. All Art classes are graded. Evaluation is based on a variety of criteria including the creative application of project objectives, personal expression, and overall craftsmanship.

DESIGN

.5 Credit/One Semester

Open to freshmen and sophomores

Focus is on content as well as application of the Design Elements and Principles. Students explore a variety of media and techniques including Photographic processes, Drawing, Blockprinting, Painting and Sculpture. Contemporary and historical cultural traditions are introduced along with an art vocabulary.

CRAFTS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Design for freshmen and sophomores. Serves as a stand-alone art credit for juniors and seniors.

Design Craft artforms are unique to society and culture. They integrate the purposeful relationship of material and design. In this class we will explore a variety of different crafts and their relationship to a culture. Historical and contemporary crafts are included. Design quality fundamentals are stressed as part of good craftsmanship.

INTRODUCTION TO CERAMICS

.5 Credit/One Semester

This course emphasizes the elements and principles of three-dimensional design as it relates to clay. The student is introduced to the different handbuilding techniques of pinch, slab, ceramic sculpture, and coil. The student will also learn glazing techniques and firing processes. Cultural, historical and contemporary traditions are incorporated.

ADVANCED CERAMICS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: Design and Introduction to Ceramics

This class is for the student who intends to gain experience with the use of the potter's wheel along with more advanced handbuilding techniques. Glazing processes are studied through varied applications. Design principles as they relate to Ceramics are stressed.

INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Design for freshmen and sophomores. Serves as a stand-alone art credit for juniors and seniors.

Requirements: 35 mm SLR camera with adjustable aperture and shutter speed. Black and white film photography is explored involving correct use of the camera, developing, enlarging and printing processes. Design principles as they relate to composing a picture via the camera are incorporated and artistic expression is emphasized. The historical background of photography is studied. One paper is required. This course requires out of class time for shooting film.

ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: Design and Introduction to Photography

Advanced Photography builds on technical skills and design concepts developed in Introduction to Photography. Emphasis is placed on personal expression and refined print quality while exploring a variety of more experimental darkroom techniques. Students will examine a wide variety of artworks by professional photographers to better understand the arc of photo history and to inspire students in their personal artistic expression.

INTRODUCTION TO SCULPTURE

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Design freshmen and sophomores. Serves as a stand-alone art credit for juniors and seniors.

This class is a step by step introduction to making sculpture and artwork that occupies and defines space. Carving, additive sculpture, modeling, mold making, and a variety of construction techniques are covered as a way of developing students' creative talents. This is a great class for artists and non-artists alike. It is an excellent primer for architects and engineers.

DRAWING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Design

Students will explore ways to develop drawings more inventively as well as heighten their observational skills. Utilizing a variety of drawing media, students work from still-life arrangements, the figure, and personal subject matter. Students are also introduced to a number of artists and their styles as they relate to projects in progress. The goal is to deepen creativity through understanding of drawing media and awareness of visual dynamics.

PAINTING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: Design and Drawing (Design only for juniors and seniors.) Students will explore ways to creatively examine their visual world through the media of acrylic and watercolor painting. Students will work from still-life arrangements, interior settings, landscape, portrait, and personal subject matter. Students will gain skill in color mixing and painting techniques, as well as sharpen their personal artistic creativity.

PRINTMAKING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Design for freshmen and sophomores. Serves as a stand-alone art credit for juniors and seniors.

Students will have a broad understanding of and extensive practical experience with a variety of printing processes. Content will include: block relief, monotypes, additive printing, etching and stenciling. Students will examine what an art print is and why artists choose this medium.

INDEPENDENT STUDY

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: Approval of instructor and completion of 4 semesters of Visual Art.

Those students who want further instruction in a particular Art discipline or need assistance to prepare a portfolio for college application can enroll in an additional art course on an independent study basis. This is dependent on student / teacher schedule availability.

INTRODUCTION TO THEATER

.5 Credit/One Semester

"All the world's a stage..." Students will explore the world of theater in this class. The course is designed to provide students with basic drama activities and exercises. Stage terminology and the history of the theater will be taught. Mime, improv, and performances are some of the areas that may be offered. The benefits of this class include building self-confidence, group dynamics and specific acting skills. *Introduction to Theater* will expose the class to literature. Students will be able to time travel and "become" other people through imagination and creativity.

Electives – non-departmental

INTEGRATED STUDIES 1/2

1 Credit/Two Semesters, Pass/Fail

.5 Credit/One Semester, Pass/Fail

This course is designed to support students identified as needing additional and intentional support for successful high school and college readiness. The focus of the course brings together multiple disciplines, covering math, science, language art classes, as well as study skills and habits of the mind. Placement is determined by the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction based on academic recommendation by the Director of the Learning Resource Center or at admission, summer school, academic review, or parent request.

STRATEGIC LEARNING 1/2

1 Credit/Two Semesters, Pass/Fail

.5 Credit/One Semester, Pass/Fail

This course is designed to provide supervised learning assistance and strategies, emphasize study skills and support the college preparatory program with tutorial assistance. All students may consider enrollment in the course, but placement is determined by the Vice Principal of Curriculum & Instruction based on academic recommendation by the Director of the Learning Resource Center or at admission, summer school, academic review, or parent request.

STUDY HALL 9/10

No Credit/One Semester

A one semester study class in the Academic Commons. Each student will be expected to plan their use of time. Students will follow that plan and have access to the library under the guidance of the library supervisor. Attendance is expected.

STUDY HALL 11/12

No Credit/One Semester

Junior- and senior-level students may opt for a non-supervised study time. Students and advisors will consider course demands, the student's co-curricular and out of school responsibilities to determine how to best manage the study time. Bellarmine is a closed campus. Library research, computer work, homework, study groups, tutorials and SAT preparation are a few of the kind of weekly activities that should be included in an academic support plan. Only if this is scheduled as a late start or early dismissal is the student not required to be on campus.

LEADERSHIP 1: FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP

.5 Credit/One Semester

In this introductory course, students spend time learning about their own personality in the context of leadership. They also work to identify their strengths and weaknesses as they pertain to leadership and then work to harness this knowledge as they develop their leadership skills. In addition, they are introduced to foundational skills and other elements which are essential to developing their own unique leadership style.

LEADERSHIP 2: Servant Leadership in Context

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Leadership 1

This course is intended to build upon the skills and knowledge gained in our Fundamentals of Leadership class. In Servant Leadership in Context, students focus on further developing their leadership style and skills through experiential practice. This course provides students with a foundation of the essentials of servant leadership and the opportunities needed for students to learn "lessons of leadership" by working with clubs and organizations on the Bellarmine campus as well as outside of the Bellarmine campus.

English

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The courses at Bellarmine are designed to provide a background of human knowledge and experience so the student, through effectiveness gained in reading, writing, speaking and listening, is capable not only of understanding and assessing personal desires, values, creativity and individual potential, but is also able as a compassionate human being to evaluate, to understand, and to become enriched by the experience of others. In all courses there will be an emphasis on both the grammar and compositional skills required for effective writing.

English classes may be presented at two levels. Honors classes will be more comprehensive and offer a more intensive exposure to composition and literature. Placement in these classes is determined by achievement test scores and teacher recommendation. Course material in college preparatory classes is selected to challenge students while also preparing them for college courses.

A student interested in applying for the honors English program should have a 3.66 or better cumulative g.p.a., English g.p.a. of 3.7 or better, and an English teacher's recommendation based on the following suggested observations: the applicant is an insightful participant in class, works well on an abstract level, is self-disciplined and a highly motivated learner, extends reading and learning outside the classroom, demonstrates mastery of academic writing (as distinguished from creative), demonstrates creative thought in writing or presentation, enhances the learning environment.

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

One credit English 1 (Freshman Year)

One credit English 2 (Sophomore Year)

One credit American Literature/Composition (Junior Year)

One credit Senior English

Four credits total are required for graduation: one credit must be earned each year.

Students are encouraged to take elective courses in the areas of their interests and needs in addition to the departmental requirements. These electives include Annual, Intro to Theater, Public Speaking, Creative Writing and Journalism which may be taken over and above the requirements but not in place of them.

COURSE SEQUENCES

	COLLEGE PREPARATORY	HONORS
9 th	English 1	English 1
10 th	English 2	English 2 Honors
11 th	American Literature/Composition	American Literature/Composition Honors
12 th	Senior Composition and One English Literature*	AP Literature or AP Composition

*English Literature:
(for English credit)
Contemporary Voices
Fantasy and Science Fiction
Gothic Literature

Electives:
(for elective credit)
Annual
Creative Writing
Introduction to Theater
Public Speaking
Humanities Honors (Freshman)

ENGLISH 1

1 Credit/Two Semesters

English 1 provides a study of grammar and usage skills. Vocabulary (spelling and definitions) and knowledge of literary terms based upon the reading material covered each semester are stressed. Literature includes short story, nonfiction, essay, novel, poetry and drama. Through explanation, experimentation and practice, writing skills are emphasized. This course is required for graduation.

ENGLISH 2

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: English 1

This course will endeavor to build composition skills by strengthening the ability of the students to develop expository, descriptive, and narrative paragraphs closely related to the literature they are reading. Skill in expressing themselves in essay form will be emphasized in order that students can express themselves well in all their classes. The study of literary concepts initiated in the freshman program will be continued through reading, discussion, and analytic compositions. Particular terminology for drama, short story, essay, poetry, and the novel will be emphasized along with the function and purpose of each. This course is required for graduation.

ENGLISH 2 HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: English teacher recommendation

The mythological approach is strengthened through the reading of a Greek Epic. The study of literary pattern is extended into a critical approach to various novels and plays. Literary terms and structures as well as vocabulary development are emphasized. The students write narrative and expository papers to develop skill in writing essays. The primary objective of the course is to prepare students for further development of their analytical skills.

AMERICAN LITERATURE/COMPOSITION

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: English 1 and 2

This course explores our American Heritage chronologically so that the student will become acquainted with the writers who have shaped our literary background. The student will read, write, and discuss the types of literature which ultimately reflect the philosophies of the authors. The students will increase their awareness of their own value system and that of the society in which they live. Compositions involving criticism, analysis, argumentation and comparison/contrast will be assigned as students will read selected American novels. This course is required for graduation.

AMERICAN LITERATURE/COMPOSITION HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: English 2 Honors, and/or English Department recommendation

Honors level American Literature is a survey of the major writers, modes and themes in American literature from the time of the first settlements in the New World to the present. Specific writers include such major figures as Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Twain, Dickinson, Fitzgerald, Hemingway and Steinbeck. The primary objective of the course is to develop students' analytical skills through close reading of assigned material and in depth class discussion. This critical analysis will focus on the unique development of the American character and its relationship to the continual development of the American consciousness. Students will be required to exhibit their analytical skill in both take home writing assignments and in class essay exams. In addition to daily class assignments, extensive outside reading is required.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: Honors standing and/or English Department recommendation

Students will be engaged in the careful reading of the literary works written primarily by English authors. Students will intensively study representative works from several genres, i.e., novel, short story, poetry, drama, essay. The works studied will come from various time periods and from authors such as Chaucer, Shakespeare, Pope, Swift, Wordsworth, Keats, Conrad, Joyce. Writing assignments and discussion will focus on the essay and the critical analysis of literature. Writing units will especially emphasize the effective use of language and the organization of ideas in a clear, coherent way. The analytical and writing skills emphasized in the course will serve also as

preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam at the conclusion of the year.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: Honors standing and/or English Department recommendation

The course will include both the reading and analysis of varieties of expository prose, as well as the study of the process of writing. The required essays and formal research papers will demonstrate particular skills and practice. Students will study examples of prose from various fields and periods and examine basic elements of style, diction, and syntax, while learning to control, refine, and polish their personal styles. The course will also serve as preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam at the conclusion of the year. This course qualifies for dual credit. See page 8.

SENIOR COMPOSITION

.5 Credit/One Semester

This course will prepare senior students for college by focusing on the writing process. A majority of class time will be spent reviewing and learning skills pertaining to sentence style, paragraph development, and expository writing. Major projects will include use of various rhetorical modes, research work and literary analysis. This course qualifies for dual credit. See page 8.

SENIOR LITERATURE

.5 Credit/One Semester

Senior students not enrolled in AP courses are required to take Senior Composition (.5 credit) and one senior literature course (.5 credit). Each Literature course will emphasize reading and understanding a variety of literary genres within a specific theme in contemporary literature. Students will be expected to read the assigned literature, participate in class discussions, take regular examinations, and write analysis essays.

Contemporary Voices

This course explores the voices of those “on the margins.” These writers are in society, yet not considered part of the mainstream; they are viewed as “other” due to differences in race, gender, culture, socio-economic status, mental health, disability, and/or nationality-to name a few. The course will encourage students to explore a wide variety of texts and literary styles. In addition to developing the students’ ability to write a traditional literary analysis, the course will encourage students to experiment with their own unique style and voice. Ultimately, we will learn how to better hear those vitally important voices that are all too often missing in our society, and we will consider how we might help empower them.

Fantasy and Science Fiction

This one-semester course will seek to examine the enduring appeal and resonance of the imaginative genres of Fantasy Literature and Science Fiction and will explore, in depth, the continuing relevance of these two popular genres in modern literature. Particular attention will be paid to exploring how, in the midst of a very real “information age,” myth-making and the symbolic representation of the “secondary worlds” of fantasy and science-fiction continue to have an increasing impact on the popular consciousness.

Gothic Literature

Gothic Literature follows the thematic approach in which the students read and analyze a subset of British Literature beginning with the late 1700s and culminating with more modern material. Students read a variety of novels, poems, and short stories, write analytical essays, and create their own Gothic stories.

ELECTIVES

HUMANITIES HONORS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Freshman course

Prerequisites: open to freshmen, Placement Exam score, recommendation of 8th grade teacher, or recommendation from English 1 instructor for 2nd semester enrollment.

Humanities Honors is a one-semester elective for the highly-motivated student who plans to pursue honors-level coursework in Social Studies and English. Course content includes topics drawn from the arts, literature, religion, philosophy, and history of ancient Western civilizations. Using both textbooks and primary documents, students learn to identify patterns of change, continuity, and shared characteristics in the societies which developed around the Mediterranean. This course introduces and practices those writing skills essential to advanced-placement coursework—researching an academic topic, building vocabulary, improving sentence and paragraph structure, and developing an essay that structures an argument with content and clarity.

CREATIVE WRITING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Students will engage in daily creative writing in a workshop atmosphere. They will learn techniques for more inventive and distinctive writing, and will strengthen their powers of imagination and observation. The major project is a “creative writing portfolio”, to include samples of many different types of writing, both poetry and prose. This course offers an ideal forum for those students longing for greater freedom of written expression.

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC SPEAKING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Students will learn the fundamentals of public speaking in a creative and fun environment. Speaking and word games will be used to build student confidence. Specific attention to impromptu and extemporaneous speech will be utilized. The students will perform a variety of topical speeches, including informative, persuasive, group, and debate. A great way for students to develop organizational, presentational and vocal skills that the student will use across the curriculum.

YEARBOOK 1, 2

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite for Yearbook 1: open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors

Prerequisite for Yearbook 2: Yearbook 1.

Bellarmino's yearbook, “The Cage,” is a student publication that uses photography and story-telling to capture special moments throughout the school year. Participating in yearbook will allow students to work on their proofreading and editing abilities while also building up a strong design background through learning page layouts, interviewing techniques, marketing strategies, social media advertising, and coordinating release events. Editors may be required to take Yearbook 2 in the spring to complete the publication.

JOURNALISM

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: application, open to juniors and seniors

The course combines the theory and skills of journalistic writing with the practical experience of publishing the school paper, The Lion. Class time will be divided between instruction in writing news stories, features, sports, editorials, headlines and advertisements, and actual experience in the areas of interviewing, business management, photography and layout. The class will produce a print and/or digital edition of the Lion every four to six weeks, working with an outside printer and the digital WordPress program. The Lion also works with professional news hubs such as USA TODAY High School Sports and a music review site, gomoxie.org . In 2017-18, the news staff officially introduced broadcast journalism to the curriculum and also digital media content.

Mathematics

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

Mathematics education at Bellarmine strives for a proper balance between mathematical reasoning, problem solving, and computational facility. The analysis and presentation of data and the use of equations to model real phenomena are coupled with fundamental number skills and a solid understanding of standard algorithms. The use of technological tools to speed computation is put into perspective along with the ability to estimate and assure the reasonableness of solutions. Mathematical foundations begin with Algebra and Geometry courses, while the upper-level curriculum is broad, embracing the fields of Calculus and Statistics.

... God's universe is written with the language and characters of mathematics.
—Galileo

CURRICULAR PROGRAMS & PATHWAYS

Different levels of courses are offered in order to provide a pathway of mathematics that is appropriate for each individual student. All pathways are designed to meet the minimum requirements for most universities. The mathematics curriculum is designed so that all students receive the same core concepts, skills, and applications. Honors level courses go well beyond the core curriculum, providing an enriched, challenging course for students with high math ability and interest, particularly those interested in the natural/physical sciences and/or other quantitative fields. Such courses are fast-paced and exceed the expectations of a standard college preparatory curriculum. Other pathways of study in mathematics present strong preparation for the college-bound student. A wide range of mathematical disciplines is explored, and four years at this level are recommended for students entering any collegiate field.

Summer school may be recommended or required in order to prepare or review for one of the fundamental courses (Algebra or Geometry). Summer school is not recommended as a way of accelerating the student's position in the Bellarmine curriculum. Every course has the prerequisite of completion of the previous course or its equivalent. In addition, the recommendation of the previous instructor or the Math Department is also required for every selection.

COMMON PATHWAYS IN THE MATHEMATICS CURRICULUM

The pathways suggested below are flexible, and will allow lateral moves going down the chart below. Each course has the prerequisite of completion of the previous course.

COURSE SEQUENCES

	COLLEGE PREP	ACCELERATED COLLEGE PREP	HONORS
9th	Algebra 1 Algebra E	Geometry (A)	Geometry Honors
10th	Geometry (B) Geometry (A)	Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry	Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry Honors
11th	Algebra 2 Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry	Pre-Calculus	Pre-Calculus Honors
12th	Trigonometry/Functions/Statistics Pre-Calculus	Intro. to Calculus AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC

ALGEBRA LAB

.5 Credit/One Semester, Pass/Fail

Prerequisite: Students will be placed based on invitation through the school counselor and with parent consent.

Algebra is a gateway course for all students in high school. Algebra 1 builds upon several key algebraic topics that will later lead into both Geometry and Algebra 2 courses. The Algebra 1 Math Support Lab is designed to support

9th grade Algebra 1 students by providing daily pre-teaching experience focusing on the same essential math content they will encounter in their Algebra 1 class. Algebra Lab is not a remedial program. Students acquire transferable knowledge in Algebra content allowing them to draw on these experiences with confidence and persistence when in their Algebra 1 classroom. The course provides a math elective credit towards graduation but does not replace the math requirements for graduation.

ALGEBRA 1

1 Credit/ Two Semesters

Scientific (prefer TI-30X115) or graphing (TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition) calculator required

Algebra provides the fundamental concepts, algorithms, and skills for working the symbolic language of high school mathematics. The beginning of the course provides a thorough review of skills related to variables, exponents, order of operations and the distributive property. Students also develop an understanding of functions, which is woven throughout the course. Students then begin an intensive study of linear equations, functions and inequalities. This is followed by the study of exponential, quadratic, polynomial, and rational functions. A look at radical expressions and equations, the Pythagorean Theorem, and trigonometric ratios completes the course.

ALGEBRA ENRICHED

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Scientific (prefer TI-30X115) or graphing (TI-83+ Silver, or TI-84 Silver Edition) calculator required

This course is for students who have taken some algebra and are recommended for review and/or additional topics in algebra before moving into geometry and advanced mathematics coursework. This course is a review and an extension of algebra and will include project work.

GEOMETRY (A,B)

1 Credit/ Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

With an emphasis on modeling, the course organizes geometric content so that students make connections between the vocabulary, concepts, and applications of geometry in the world around them. The course begins with the study of points, lines, planes and angles. Right angle trigonometry and trigonometric concepts are explored, and triangle congruency and similarity are integrated throughout the course. The course progresses through transformations involving reflections, rotations and translations followed by geometric ratios and proportions. The study of circles includes arc, chord, secant and tangent relationships. Properties of 2- and 3-dimensional geometric shapes are studied, along with their perimeter, area, and volume formulas and applications. Coordinate geometry is incorporated into the curriculum consistently. The use of multiple representations helps students visualize important concepts. A strong Algebra Review strand is woven into the course throughout the year.

Geometry A

In addition to the content specified above this course establishes a strong strand of logical reasoning and critical thinking beginning with Inductive Reasoning. A variety of strategies of formal proofs, including paragraph, flow, and two column proofs are developed.

Geometry B

The pace of this course is designed for the student who would benefit from differentiated instruction, review and practice of computational mathematics and algebraic manipulation. Logical reasoning and both formal and indirect proofs will be developed.

GEOMETRY HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

Geometry Honors provides a much more rigorous course with a faster pace and supplemental material for group projects. Additional content includes, but is not limited to, non-Euclidean Geometry, advanced work with tessellations, Aristotilean logic, and a more in-depth study of trigonometry, including the Law of Sines and the Law of Cosines.

ALGEBRA 2

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

This full year advanced algebra course begins with the study of linear functions, inequalities and systems of linear

equations, including matrices. Students will solve quadratic equations by graphing, factoring, completing the square and the quadratic formula. Second semester topics include polynomial functions, power and root functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs. The course concludes with work graphing, manipulating and solving rational functions and a review of right angle trigonometry.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA/TRIGONOMETRY

1 Credit/ Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

Prerequisites: "C" or better in Algebra, Algebra E, Geometry and teacher recommendation.

Advanced Algebra emphasizes facility with algebraic equations, their graphs, and applications of mathematics to the world around them. The study begins with a review of basic algebra concepts and progresses from linear and quadratic functions to polynomial, exponential, logarithmic and rational functions. Matrices are explored as a tool for solving systems of equations. This course continues with a rigorous exploration of trigonometric functions and identities. Competency both with and without the use of technology is emphasized.

ADVANCED ALGEBRA/TRIGONOMETRY HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

This is a very rigorous course beginning with a comprehensive review of algebra. Students will study equation solving and graphing of linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions. Systems of equations and inequalities will be explored through a variety of methods. Additional topics in trigonometry, matrices, sequences, series, and probability may be discussed. Applications require students to create and analyze mathematical models using acquired algebra skills and technology.

TRIG/FUNCTIONS/STATISTICS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

The first semester of this full-year course is designed to cover introductory topics in trigonometry using both right angle trigonometry and the unit circle approach. Exact trigonometric ratios are explored in degree and radian measure in all quadrants of the Cartesian plane. Basic quotient, reciprocal and Pythagorean identities are studied. Students will graph the trigonometric functions and study amplitude, period and phase shift transformations. Applications are presented and graphing calculators are used to complement analytical procedures.

The second semester of this full-year course will focus on the use of critical thinking skills to organize and present information graphically, numerically, symbolically and verbally. Students will solve linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential and power equations with an emphasis on application and modeling. The mathematical content is integrated with a variety of real world, socially relevant environmental science applications and the use of the TI-84 graphing calculator technology. The course will conclude with a study of fundamental statistics including measures of central tendency, quartiles and the 5-number summary, graphical displays of data, and standard deviation.

PRE-CALCULUS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

This course explores in further depth the topics of Advanced Algebra with emphasis on those skills required for calculus. Topics include polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs, and systems of equations and inequalities. A rigorous treatment of trigonometry introduces an analytic approach to fundamental identities and trigonometric formulas. Additional topics may include matrices and determinants, sequences, series, and probability. Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be prepared for an introductory calculus course.

PRE-CALCULUS HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

This is a highly rigorous course which explores in further depth the topics of Advanced Algebra with emphasis on those skills required for calculus. Graphical, numerical and algebraic modeling is emphasized with respect to polynomial, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions. Arithmetic and geometric sequences and series, conic sections and discrete mathematics involving combinatorics and probability are explored. The course

concludes with an introduction to limits. Problem solving, conceptual understanding, graphical interpretation and facility with technology are integrated into a variety of applications. Students successfully completing this course will be well prepared for AP Calculus.

INTRODUCTION TO CALCULUS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

This course includes pre-calculus mathematics as well as the first semester of calculus. Topics include basic concepts of algebraic, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions. Core calculus topics include limits, derivatives, and integrals. Because pre-calculus concepts are integrated throughout the calculus material, students study calculus early in first semester. Various investigative, mathematical applications will also be explored throughout the course. This course qualifies for dual credit. See page 8.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

After a brief review of functions and limits the derivative is studied in detail. The first semester is devoted to the derivative, curve sketching (with and without a calculator), applications of the derivative, and theory. The integral as antiderivative and area under a curve is also investigated. The second semester covers integral calculus, its applications, theory and methods. Several weeks of the last quarter are devoted to preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam (All students are required to take the exam.)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS BC

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ or TI-84 Plus C

After an extensive review of derivatives, integrals, and applications, more advanced topics are studied in detail. The class covers integration by parts, partial derivatives, calculus with polar coordinates and vectors, and sequences and series (with special emphasis on Taylor Series polynomials). The class will be based on understanding and theory as well as the ability to complete computational calculus. Several weeks of the last quarter are devoted to preparation for the Advanced Placement Exam. (All students are required to take the exam.)

ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Graphing calculator required: TI-83+ Silver or TI-84 Silver Edition

Statistics is the mathematics of formally compiling data from samples and then applying the rules of probability to both data and samples in an attempt to draw meaningful conclusions about the characteristics and behavior of larger populations. Advanced Placement Statistics is a two-semester sequence which approaches this subject with the scope and difficulty of an introductory college course. It begins with the distinction between data and information and how measurements tend to be distributed within samples. Students will learn how to gather data correctly and to draw meaningful conclusions. A consideration of probability and randomness leads to the creation of effective models of distributions and proportions as well as the hypotheses we can expect to test. All AP Statistics students are required to take the AP exam.

ELECTIVES

SEMESTER

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER GRAPHICS

.5 Credit/One Semester

This is a multidisciplinary course that will blend concepts from geometry, art, computer science and engineering. Students will use iPads and school computers to work with digital photo editing, video editing and 3-dimensional design. Each student will complete projects in MOODLE and then display their finished work in an online portfolio. This course accommodates a wide range of interests and abilities.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Geometry (may be taken concurrently with instructor permission)

This introductory survey course is offered in partnership with the TEALS (Technology Education and Literacy in Schools) program hosted by Microsoft YouthSpark. The course is based on the UC Berkeley CS10 course offers students a hands-on introduction to computer science that surrounds us every day. The course is far more than just learning to program. We will focus on some of the “Big Ideas” in computing such as abstraction, design, recursion, concurrency, simulation, and the limits of computation. We will show some beautiful applications of computing that have changed the world, talk about the history of computing, and where it will go in the future.

INTRODUCTION TO PYTHON PROGRAMMING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry (may be taken concurrently with instructor permission)

This introductory project-based programming course is offered in partnership with the TEALS (Technology Education and Literacy in Schools) program hosted by Microsoft YouthSpark. Python is a user-friendly language, and is taught as an introductory language at many universities. At Bellarmine, students may take this course as their first introduction to computer science or as a secondary course to study Python as a new language. Algorithmic thinking and problem solving are used to learn the fundamentals of programming with Python as well as some advanced features of the language. Projects focus on solutions to real-world problems, simple interactive applications and console-based games to put students’ new computer science knowledge into practice.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

1 Credit/Full Year

Prerequisite: Advanced Algebra/Trigonometry and Introduction to Computer Science Principles or Introduction to Python Programming.

Access to a computer at home is required for assigned homework and projects

The AP Computer Science A course prepares students to take the College Board AP Computer Science exam. This course is offered in conjunction with the TEALS (Technology Education and Literacy in Schools) program hosted by Microsoft YouthSpark. This in-depth course in computer science theory and practice utilizes the curriculum from University of Washington’s CSE 142 course for computer science majors. Students will learn to program in the Java language, with emphasis on problem solving, computer science theory, applications, algorithms, programming style and programming design.

PERSONAL FINANCE

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: open to sophomores (with teacher permission), juniors, and seniors

This course is designed to help students have a better understanding of finance and money. The primary goal is to have students become financially literate so they can understand how their choices affect their personal finances. The topics we will cover include loans, interest rates, credit, budgeting, taxes, insurance, investments (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.), and planning

Music

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The department will provide students with an opportunity to develop their musical talent and skills on instruments or with the voice. The program is designed for education and performance. It is the explicit aim of the school to have a high performance quality band, choir, and orchestra. In this way Bellarmine will provide the students with an opportunity to integrate their musical talents with a wide range of academic, social, and athletic interests of our American culture.

Coursework is designed to reinforce solid foundational skills and develop proficiencies measured by grade-level standards established by professional music associations and the federal and state departments of education. Students leaving Bellarmine with four years of progressive music experiences are expected to be prepared to enter college ensembles.

Music can be taken in a four-year sequence. Care should be taken by the student and advisor to ensure that the student can take four years of music and still meet the Bellarmine graduation requirements. Any specific questions can be directed to the Music Department Chair.

CONCERT BAND

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: junior high band or audition

*Course Fee**

All freshman band students with one year or more experience will enter this class. Students will be provided the opportunity to develop their proficiency on their instrument so they might qualify for entrance into the Wind Ensemble, the most advanced performance group. Young musicians will have the opportunity to perform in major school concerts as well as in jazz band and marching band. This course is open to all grade levels. Participation in the Lion Marching Band and Pep Band is required as part of the course. Training and team-building with band members takes place in the required Band Camp at Bellarmine during the third week of August. Performance at home games and community events is part of our service to the community, and counts for approximately 25% of the course grade (30% in the fall, 20% in the spring).

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: open to all students by instructor approval

*Course Fee**

Students will learn basic and advanced techniques related to the performance of percussion instruments. This will include keyboard percussion, timpani, multiple percussion, marching percussion, snare drum, and all auxiliary percussion as well as non-traditional percussion instruments. During the first semester, all Percussion Ensemble students will perform with the Marching Band. The Percussion Ensemble may take special trips to perform at various festivals and/or events. The ensemble will perform many concert pieces that feature percussion as well as normal percussion duties for concert groups. Performance is required. This is a year-long course.

WIND ENSEMBLE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: open to all students by audition only

*Course Fee**

This is Bellarmine's most advanced instrumental performing group. Activities include concerts (Fall, Winter, and Spring), special assemblies, winter tour and the Lion Marching Band and Pep Band. This ensemble provides young musicians who excel with an opportunity to use and further develop their talents and abilities; therefore, all members are expected to fulfill a one year commitment to this band. Participation in the Lion Marching Band and Pep Band is required as part of the course. Training and team-building with band members takes place in the required Band Camp at Bellarmine during the third week of August. Performance at home games and community events is part of our service to the community, and counts for approximately 25% of the course grade (30% in the fall, 20% in the spring).

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: instructor recommendation and audition

*Course Fee**

Chamber Orchestra is a year-long class for all string players. Students will perform standard and contemporary chamber orchestra literature and have opportunities for solo and small ensemble performances. The class focuses on improving technique, style, and will musical concepts, working on both technical skills and overall musicianship. Students will work to improve tone production, sight reading, ensemble performance and technical skills on their instrument. Chamber Orchestra performs and school concerts and participates in festivals. This course satisfies both the WIAA and TYS requirements for school program participation.

JAZZ LAB

.5 Credit/Two Semesters

Zero Hour: 7:00 a.m. – 7:50 a.m. (M, F)

Prerequisites: none

*Course Fee**

This is an entry level jazz course and is recommended for students seeking placement in the Jazz Band course. Students learn the basics of jazz style, history, and improvisation. If students play a wind instrument or a percussion instrument, they must be concurrently enrolled in one of the other Music Department performing groups.

JAZZ BAND

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Zero Hour: 7:00 a.m. – 7:50 a.m. (M, T, Th, F)

Prerequisites: instructor recommendation and audition (takes place at the beginning of fall semester)

*Course Fee**

This is the advanced jazz course and is open to students by audition only. Curriculum goes deeper into the study of jazz style, history, and improvisation as compared to Jazz Lab, and there is an increased focus on performance and competition. If students play a wind instrument or a percussion instrument, they must be concurrently enrolled in one of the other Music Department performing groups.

CONCERT CHOIR

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: none

*Course Fee**

Concert Choir is comprised of the majority of vocalists at Bellarmine. Class is devoted to the training and development of a strong performance choir. Opportunities for public performances are essential objectives. Emphasis is placed on developing proper techniques of vocal production and experiencing a variety of music types.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: At least one semester in Concert Choir and/or recommendation of instructor following audition

*Course Fee**

Vocal Ensemble is a small group of selected vocalists devoted to the learning and performance of various kinds of music. Emphasis is placed on the refinement of vocal production and performance techniques. Ensemble member represent Bellarmine's finest. Therefore, each member demonstrates qualities of musical excellence, leadership, and sound moral values. Open to 10th-12th grades.

*Music course fees may include: chromatic pitch pipe (choral), theory book, special attire for performing and funding for performing tours.

Physical Education/Health

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Physical Education and Health Department provides a variety of lifetime activities that encourage students to make wellness and fitness a priority as they establish lifetime goals. Our hope is to instill in students the attitudes and beliefs that encourage a healthy way of living. Furthermore, we want to give students the knowledge and the experience necessary to carry out a life of fitness and wellness.

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

1 credit Physical Education/Health (Freshman Year)

.5 credit Physical Education/Health (Sophomore Year)

FRESHMAN HEALTH/PE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

SOPHOMORE HEALTH/PE

.5 Credit/One Semester

The freshman curriculum involves four quarters of instruction including: one quarter of health and one quarter of individualized fitness in the fall, and two quarters of team sports in the spring. All freshmen will also have the opportunity to receive CPR certification through the American Red Cross. The sophomore curriculum includes two quarters of instruction including: one quarter of health and one quarter of lifetime sports.

Performance and concern for health and physical maturity for each individual are emphasized. The real measure of a person is not what he or she can do in comparison to others, but what he or she can do in comparison to his or her own best self. It is in this framework that the physical education and health department join enthusiastically in the mission of helping develop the God-given potential in every student.

ELECTIVES

LIFETIME FITNESS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

This course is designed to build a foundation for a healthy life. Students will be introduced to a number of aerobic and anaerobic activities including but not limited to yoga, pilates, tai chi, core training, aerobics, circuit training, and more. The class will also include classroom instruction on general health issues, diet and nutrition, body image, and the development of a personal wellness program. Activities will vary each semester depending on gym and classroom availability, and may include some off-campus activities.

STRENGTH CONDITIONING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

This course is recommended for all athletes and students interested in increasing their level of physical fitness.

Program goals include:

- Improve overall physical fitness through a systematic program of intensive weightlifting exercises accompanied with a speed development program.
- Increase awareness of alternative fitness activities as applied to a regular fitness program once the student leaves school.
- Develop basic lifting skills using both the free weights, and isokinetic lifting machines and establish correct spotting and safety skills to be applied during the weightlifting exercises.
- Students will develop an interest in the activity of weightlifting which can be expanded by continuing in an advanced program or on an individual basis.

ADVANCED STRENGTH CONDITIONING

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: open to juniors and seniors, Strength Conditioning

This class is based upon the goals and outcomes of Strength Conditioning 1 but adds the element of a customized workout program for each individual participant. The class will allow the student to design a program that is specific to their desired goals, whether it may be sport specific or a program designed to enhance weight loss or muscle toning.

SPORTS MEDICINE

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

Sports Medicine is designed for students interested in fields such as athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, nutrition, physiology of exercise, kinesiology, and other sports medicine related fields. Sports Medicine emphasizes the prevention of athletic injuries, including the components of exercise science, basic anatomy, medical terminology, principles of safety, first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and vital signs. Subject matter will also include discussion of nutrition, protective equipment, members of the sports medicine team, taping and wrapping, mechanisms of injury, and application of other sports medicine concepts. The Sports Medicine class requires a certain amount of practical hours with various athletic teams.

SPORTS PSYCHOLOGY

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

What makes the highest percentage free-throw shooter on the team miss her shot in the final seconds of the game? Why does the star soccer player, who has never previously missed a penalty shot, send his shot over the crossbar during the shootout of the state championship game? These and other questions of how psychological variables influence athletic performance will be explored. Techniques and skills used to enhance sport performance will be taught including: goal setting, imagery, relaxation techniques, self-talk strategies and team building. This course is appropriate for athletes interested in improving performance and students interested in coaching.

TEAM SPORTS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: open to sophomores, juniors and seniors

This semester course will be divided into a variety of sport "seasons." Leadership and sportsmanship will be emphasized along with development of sports skills and strategies. Students of all athletic ability levels are encouraged to participate. Activities will vary each semester depending on gym and field availability. Possible activities include soccer, basketball, volleyball, pickle ball, softball, floor hockey, and flag football.

TEACHER ASSISTANT

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: approval of instructor; Pass/Fail

The teacher assistant will have an opportunity to develop skills in the demonstration of physical activities and also in leadership. Students will be encouraged to expand their own appreciation of physical performance. They will be given the opportunity to share responsibility for the course. Physical education assistants must have prior approval from the physical education instructors.

Science

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

Courses provide students with a rigorous and relevant curriculum focusing on the foundations, methods, and implications of science. Knowledge, skills, and understanding are developed to inspire lifelong learning, global awareness, and stewardship of God's creation.

A Bellarmine graduate will be able to

- * Apply scientific knowledge and understanding to daily life
- * Develop questions and creatively solve problems
- * Collect, analyze, and effectively communicate data

Critically evaluate scientific literature

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

Three credits of laboratory science including Biology are required for graduation.

SCIENCE CURRICULUM

Biology, Chemistry and Physics are offered in college prep and honors sections, and both Chemistry and Physics also include an Advanced Placement level. Honors courses are intended for the student who has demonstrated above average ability and a definite interest in science. Differences in the sections are listed in the Course Descriptions. Students will be advised as to whether they should take Honors courses on the basis of test scores and recommendations of former teachers.

This chart shows the most common pathways. Recommendations are influenced by current math courses. Seniors have greater scheduling options and can enroll in more than one year long science class. Semester electives can be taken in addition to year-long core science during any grade. These courses include: Astronomy, Electronics, Forensics and Marine Biology.

COURSE SEQUENCES

	COLLEGE PREP	ACCELERATED* COLLEGE PREP	HONORS	
9th	Investigative Laboratory Science	Biology	Biology Honors	
10th	Biology	Physics	Chemistry Honors	
11th	Physics	Chemistry	AP Chemistry	
12th	Chemistry	Year Long Electives (AP Environmental Science, AP Physics 1 and Anatomy and Physiology)	AP Physics 1 or AP Physics C	AP Physics C or AP Chem

*The Accelerated Program recognizes that some eighth grade programs allow students to move ahead in the college preparatory program. Students may or may not be at Honors level in this program. Students should be certain they are prepared to continue in the program for the four year sequence. Honors students should refer to the Honors sequence above.

Placement in science is balanced with math placement. 9th grade students taking Algebra will be scheduled for ILS. 9th grade students taking Geometry may be scheduled for ILS or Biology.

INVESTIGATIVE LABORATORY SCIENCE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

This course is structured as an inquiry based, process-oriented, dynamic examination of science, integrating traditional laboratory methods with computer technology. Topics of study include, but are not limited to, the physical sciences (physics and chemistry), biological science (ethology, freshwater ecology, botany) and the earth sciences (meteorology). Students will work independently and cooperatively as they develop the skills and confidence necessary to do real science. Students are encouraged and guided to work, think and act as a scientist and will use the scientific method to analyze data gathered in the above areas of study. Much time is spent using computer technology to process the data and develop written reports. As partial requirement for the course, students are expected to do independent research projects, write research papers and present the research using PowerPoint.

BIOLOGY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Biology is the study of all living things. This course will emphasize the fundamental unity in the “diversity of life forms.” Throughout the course the major life processes among all living things will be covered. Each student will become involved in class discussion, laboratory investigations, reports, and when possible, will hear guest speakers and take field trips in the areas to be studied.

In the first semester the students will begin with a general review of the methods of science, basic chemistry concepts, laboratory techniques, and metric method of measurement. Students will then study the generalized cell, studying its structures and related functions. The cellular mechanisms of enzymes, ATP, respiration, and photosynthesis will be discussed. The first semester will finish with the reproduction and development of different living organisms, beginning with the cellular level (Mitosis) to the molecular level (DNA). Heredity, and theories of evolution will follow.

During the second semester, the students will begin with the relationships among different organisms. Taxonomy and classification of the characteristics of the major phyla of organisms will be covered. The systems, integration, homeostasis, and behavior among all living organisms, including humans, will be compared and studied. By the end of the course, the students will observe more closely the interaction of living things and their environment.

BIOLOGY HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Students will study biology as described above with some additional and more detailed study in the following areas: cellular chemical activity, nutritional chemical activity, molecular biology, immunology, plant experimentation, classification of both plants and animals, and ecology. An increased use of outside references, current events, reports, Science Fair projects and investigations will be included in Honors.

PHYSICS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: 1st year Algebra, C+ or better

Physics is a high school level lab oriented course designed to be accessible to the students with a first year Algebra background. Knowledge of trigonometry is not assumed and will be taught as needed. Emphasis is placed on basic understanding of principles of physics, with numerous clear examples. In the first semester, the student will investigate mechanics (motion, forces, conservation of momentum and energy). The second semester is devoted to a study of waves, energy transfer, electronics and electromagnetism.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS 1

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: Current enrollment in pre-calculus

AP Physics 1 is a college level, trigonometry based physics course. Topics covered in the course include Newtonian mechanics, angular momentum, circular motion, work, energy, power, the universal law of gravity, wave mechanics, sound, as well as an introduction to electric circuits. AP Physics 1 is a more rigorous course than the college prep physics course. AP Physics 1 can be taken as a second year of physics. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Physics 1 exam.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS C: Mechanics

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: Calculus or current enrollment in a calculus course

AP Physics C is a college level calculus based physics course designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement C mechanics exam. The course is an in-depth study of Newtonian mechanics, angular momentum, circular motion, work, energy, power, as well as the universal law of gravity. This course is typical of a first year physics course for science and engineering majors. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Physics C Mechanics exam.

CHEMISTRY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: Two years math, Biology, G.P.A. 2.5 or above (or by special permission of department)

This course provides the students with an understanding of the molecular theory of matter and energy. Students will be expected to understand and use the metric system, chemical formulas and chemical equations. Topics first semester would include stoichiometric problems, energy changes, chemical bonding and atomic theory.

The second semester includes gas laws, the study of water and water solutions, equilibrium, acids and bases, precipitation reactions and oxidation-reduction reactions. The labs that are performed are oriented to the various concepts that are being developed.

CHEMISTRY HONORS

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: Advanced Algebra or concurrent enrollment in Advanced Algebra/Trig, Biology, 3.2 G.P.A. or above

This course is designed to prepare a student for future courses or careers which require a strong foundation in chemistry. To meet that goal the student should plan to take both semesters of the course. This two semester course will give an adequate preparation for college chemistry. Experimentation and mathematical facility are an integral part of both semesters.

The first semester will include chemical terms and formulas, the mole concept, chemical equations, stoichiometric problems, the Periodic Table, modern atomic theory and ionic and covalent bonding. During the second semester gas laws, liquids and solids, solutions, energy changes, reaction kinetics and equilibrium are topics to be investigated. Other concepts to be studied are modern acid-base theories, precipitation reactions, oxidation-reduction reactions and electrochemistry. The lab the second semester will focus on topics in qualitative and quantitative analysis.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: one year of chemistry and approval of instructor

This is a college level course in general chemistry which will prepare the student to take a national advanced placement test that could give college credit or placement in the honors level course. Topics studied in depth include stoichiometry, gases, quantum mechanics, bonding theory and chemical kinetics during the first semester. The second semester includes chemical equilibrium, acid-base, precipitation, oxidation-reduction reactions, and chemical thermodynamics.

The accompanying laboratory will emphasize lab skills, inductive reasoning and quantitative precision. A bound laboratory notebook will be required to develop communication skills.

ELECTIVES

FULL YEAR

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry, open to seniors

This course is designed for students who are considering a career in the health sciences as well as students interested in the structure and function of the human body. Topics of the course include homeostasis, structure and function of body systems, and special topics relating to human health and disease. The first semester will include histology and the study of the integumentary, skeletal, muscular, and nervous systems. The second semester will include the endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, digestive, respiratory, circulatory, urinary and reproductive systems. This is a two semester course with lecture and lab including several required dissections. This course qualifies for dual credit. See page 8.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Pre-Requisites: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geometry, Advanced Algebra (Chemistry or Physics may be taken concurrently.)

The scientific principles and disciplines learned in previous science courses are an integral part of AP Environmental Science. Students are encouraged to consider and apply scientific principles when completing the activity components of this course. Topics covered will include earth systems, living systems, pollution, global climate change, and urban environments with an emphasis on sustainability and stewardship of natural resources. Current economic and legislative policies will also be examined. Students will participate in both laboratory and field exercises that allow them to collect data, analyze their data mathematically and present their interpretations in written and oral forms. Case studies provide opportunities to debate all sides of environmental issues.

SEMESTER

ELECTRONICS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

An introduction into the rapidly expanding and important field of electronics. Designed for the high school student who has an interest in electronics, and has completed first year algebra, the course consists of an examination of the basics and an overview of applications of solid-state technology in audio and digital electronics. Students will learn skills used in the manufacture, design and trouble-shooting of electronic devices.

MARINE BIOLOGY

.5 Credit/Spring Semester

Prerequisite: Biology, open to juniors and seniors

The student studies the marine life of Puget Sound and adjacent waters. The basic phyla of the invertebrates are covered along with many of the vertebrates of the open ocean. Along with marine biology, the student studies the concepts and processes of physical properties of sea water, radiation balance, ocean circulation, waves, tides, and chemical cycles.

ASTRONOMY

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: Algebra, Geometry, Physics

Subject matter will include: history of astronomy; planetary (solar system) astronomy; light, time and space; birth, life and death of stars; and beyond our galaxy, including study of quasars, pulsars and black holes. The instructor will incorporate the use of the "inquiry method" along with textbook study and classroom labs, as well as at least two nighttime observation sessions.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: Biology, may be taken concurrently, open to freshmen and sophomores

Environmental Science is a one semester elective class open to freshman or sophomore students who have taken or are currently taking Biology and who are interested in learning more about the environment. The course will provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The aim of the course is to encourage students to become stewards of the earth. We will think critically and intelligently about global change as it impacts environments, economies, and societies. Topics include human population growth, natural resources, pollution, and climate change. Class time is spent primarily doing hands-on activities, performing experiments, and discussing current event.

FORENSIC SCIENCE

.5 Credit/One Semester

Open to juniors and seniors

With an explosion of interest in forensic science and the application of science to law, this course will introduce forensics such as DNA testing, fingerprinting, crime scene investigation, and evidence gathering as used in criminal and civil cases. The course is designed to tie together concepts learned in biology, physics, math, statistics, and genetics using current forensic science practices. Students will practice science and inquiry and apply the scientific methods of observation, collection and classification of data, looking for relationships, forming a hypothesis, testing it, and then advancing a conclusion or opinion. Students will be prepared to defend conclusions based on their own observed evidence.

MARINE CHEMISTRY

Course Fee

The Marine Chemistry program is a four year, honors level, *co-curricular* scientific research program designed for highly capable and highly motivated students who have a special interest in learning science beyond the typical classroom setting. Selection into the program is competitive and begins prior to the ninth grade at Bellarmine. Students must submit an application and are judged using the following criteria; entrance exams scores, teacher recommendations, middle school grades, a student essay and a week of after school lab, practical sessions. Successful completion of each year results in the awarding of .5 honors science credit.

Social Studies

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Social Studies Department strives to encourage students to appreciate the rich diversity in history and to recognize the influence of past cultures on the present. In addition to mastering a basic chronology of history, students are expected to develop analytical skills by looking critically at events and individuals who have shaped historical events. Courses cover political, social, economic, cultural, and religious developments. Students in all Social Studies classes develop skills in textbook reading, writing essays and research papers, and oral presentations.

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

All students must take three credits of Social Studies, including one in World History, one in United States History, .5 in American Government, and .5 in a senior level course.

COURSE SEQUENCES

	COLLEGE PREPARATORY	HONORS
10th	World History	AP World History
11th	United States History	AP United States History
12th	American Government and Sr. Social Studies	AP Government

WORLD HISTORY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

This sophomore course surveys the breadth of the human experience from the first human settlements in Africa to the modern period of global interdependence. In addition to presenting the chronological expanse of the human story, this course also looks at the rich cultural traditions and practices that both make a people unique and exhibit shared human values. Study skills focus on writing the analytical essay, the preliminary research techniques necessary to complete the junior-year research paper, text-book reading and test-taking strategies, and working in small groups to complete major projects.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Humanities Honors OR recommendation of English 1 instructor.

Highly-motivated students in this sophomore course study historical events in a global context. World history is not simply the isolated histories of various societies at various times, but the interaction of societies in Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe which have, over time, linked all peoples into an integrated whole. Themes which highlight patterns of interaction include the impact of trade, diplomacy, migration, economic expansion, and technology. These themes help students put what is particular about each society's social, political, and economic institutions into a larger context. Continuing the skills developed in Humanities Honors, and in preparation for the Advanced Placement courses junior and senior years, students learn to extract meaning from a textbook, to analyze primary documents as evidence, and to research and write analytical essays.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

This course covers the story of the United States beginning with Native Americans, continuing through colonization, creation of a nation, expansion, Civil War, economic growth, World Wars, and contemporary issues. Within this chronological framework, students study political, social, and economic change. All students must research a topic in U.S. history and complete a major analytical paper.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: Instructor recommendation

This course is designed to prepare students for the national advanced placement examination in United States History. In addition to following a college survey test, the course serves to develop interpretive skills through reading outside essays related to significant events in each historical period. Students develop skills in writing analytical essays and will complete a research paper as a culminating project.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT: FEDERAL AND WASHINGTON STATE

.5 Credit/One Semester

This course examines the philosophy and institutions of the U.S. Constitution and American government at the federal, state, and local level. Students will be familiarized with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics. It will also acquaint students with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. This course meets the senior graduation requirements.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT GOVERNMENT & POLITICS:US

1 Credit/Two Semesters

This course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States, including both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. Students will be familiarized with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. government and politics. In addition, students will participate in a Constitutional competition called We the People where students will work in groups and compete as a class at the school, state, and possibly national level. This competition will involve a group reading of a written response to a series of questions about the constitution and politics, along with a Question and Answer period where students are tasked with speaking extemporaneously to a panel of judges in order to demonstrate their understanding of constitutional precepts. Ultimately, We the People helps students master the intricacies of the U.S. Constitution, its application today, and the role of the citizen in our democracy. This full year course meets senior graduation requirements of American Government and senior social studies elective.

SOCIAL STUDIES OPTIONS

Seniors are required to take American Government and one of the following courses:

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Prerequisite: instructor recommendation

This course is equivalent to a college freshman level psychology course and prepares students for the national advanced placement examination in psychology. Students cover the topics studied in the one-semester psychology course in greater depth and participate in an ongoing research project over the course of the full year on a topic related to the field of psychology. This course qualifies for dual credit. See page 8.

PSYCHOLOGY

.5 Credit/One Semester

This course examines traditional and contemporary theories of psychology. A major emphasis is the study of the life cycle from birth through adolescence. A part of this process will be observations at day care centers and grade schools. Abnormal psychology and various approaches to therapy are explored. Through observation, reading, group discussion, reflection papers and projects, students evaluate and apply concepts advancing a deeper understanding of human development.

CONTEMPORARY WORLD PROBLEMS

.5 Credit/One Semester

In this course, students study the historical, political, cultural, and social background of contemporary world events. Special emphasis will be paid to the study of developing and emerging nations with focus on cultural and social diversity. Additional emphasis will be placed on political, economic, and environmental interdependence in the 21st century.

ECONOMICS

.5 Credit/One Semester

In this course, students will study the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Emphasis will be given to the study of national income and price determination, economic performance measures, economic growth, and international economics. This course will also examine the nature and functions of product markets, and include the role of government efficiency and equity in the economy.

ELECTIVES

HUMANITIES HONORS

.5 Credit/One Semester

Prerequisites: open to freshmen, Placement Exam score, recommendation of 8th grade teacher, or recommendation from English 1 instructor for 2nd semester enrollment. See course description: English (page 16).

Theology

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

Bellarmino exists primarily to provide an excellence in education that is more than academic. This education of the whole person is activated by an Ignatian vision that is at its core religious. Religious education at Bellarmine begins with the awareness that all members of the Bellarmine community are religious educators, with parents as the primary educators. Within this community of faith, and following in the footsteps of Ignatius, the Religious Education Department challenges the student to more consciously reflect on their lives and the world in light of Catholic Christianity. In doing so, Bellarmine hopes the student will ultimately be more integrated (whole), more discerning, and more able to choose to be “a Man/Woman for Others” under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The curriculum has three levels of presentation: as a call to be formed by the Spirit of Jesus, as a way to be informed about the Catholic Christianity (as articulated by the US Catholic Bishops’ Framework for Religious Instruction), and ultimately, as a means of transformation “for the greater glory of God”.

DEPARTMENT OBJECTIVES

- To promote a progressive initiation into prayer.
- To help students come to know of and about Christ.
- To help them strive for a personal relationship with Jesus.
- To promote formation in authentic spiritual values and attitudes so students can discern between good and evil, recognize the reality of sin (personal and societal), its effects on true freedom, so as to “become more fully human.”
- To help students examine their lives in light of the Hebrew and Christian Scriptures.
- To place students in touch with the religious traditions and spirituality of Catholic Christianity.
- To promote an awareness and sensitivity to other faith traditions in the world.
- To promote the following learning skills: repetition, logical analysis, critical reflection, synthesis, theory and application, imaginative expression in creative writing or images, and essay writing.
- To connect the religious education curriculum more intimately with the variety of campus ministry programs.
- To promote a clear expression of the Ignatian vision and spirituality.
- To introduce students to Catholic Social Teachings and their impact upon everyday life for a person of conscience.

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

Enrollment in 3.5 credits of Theology are required for graduation.

Enrollment in the following courses is required: 1 credit freshman religion, .5 credit sophomore religion, 1 credit junior religion, .5 credit senior religion. Beginning with the class of 2021, .5 credit will be earned through Ignatian Formation spring of the senior year.

FRESHMAN LEVEL

THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE (Jesus in Scripture)

.5 Credit/One Semester

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with its major sections and books. Particular attention will be given to how the Old Testament tells of Christ’s coming.

THE PERSON AND MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST (Christology)

.5 Credit/One Semester

This course focuses on the person of Jesus found both in Scripture and as taught through Tradition. The Gospels will be of primary focus, where both the stories of Jesus and Catholic theology will be studied. This course will examine how the culture and geography of the Ancient Near East played a role in the person and mission of Jesus. The course will also look at how Christology developed immediately after the death of Christ until the Council of Trent in the 4th century.

SOPHOMORE LEVEL

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY

.5 Credit/One Semester

This course will explore the meaning of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ---the Paschal Mystery. The ultimate focus of the course is to show how the redemptive love of God through Jesus Christ fully and continually transforms all of humanity and creation. The course concludes with an invitation for the student to see their life in light of the Resurrected Jesus and how to develop an ongoing relationship with him.

JUNIOR LEVEL

THE PILGRIM CHURCH

.5 Credit/One Semester

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the Living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the understanding that the Church was founded by Christ through the apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The course will explore the nature of the Church as the Body of Christ in both its human and divine elements in the world today.

LIFE IN CHRIST

.5 Credit/One Semester

Through case studies, readings, discussions, journals and projects, students will investigate the moral concepts that govern our lives as companions of Jesus. This class will invite students to recognize that in Christ they can discover who they are truly meant to be in God's eyes. *Life in Christ* focuses on the essential message of Christ's moral teaching: the importance of the individual's love of God and neighbor.

IGNATIAN FORMATION

.5 Credit (earned spring of senior year) Pass/Fail

The four-year Ignatian Formation program provides one of the many avenues in which we live out our mission of developing young men and women who are committed to leadership and service. Grounded in Ignatian teachings and values and with an emphasis on the development of the whole person, this comprehensive program includes spiritual growth opportunities, social/emotional learning, development of leadership skills, on and off-campus service, social justice forums, and academic support. Each Ignatian Formation class, including an advisor and designated counselor, remains together for four years. This class counts as a .5 Theology credit which will be awarded upon completion of the program senior year and will include the class of 2021 and beyond.

SENIOR LEVEL

CHRISTIAN LIFE MATTERS:

.5 Credit/One Semester

The senior course in religious studies builds upon three years of religious and faith formation at Bellarmine. The purpose is to clearly integrate the faith life of students with the academic studies of the previous years. The hope is that this course will give students an opportunity to reflect on where they have been, where they are now, and where they are going (including in their relationship with Jesus). There will be three specific courses taught under this heading. They are:

Prayer: This course designed to explore the Christian context of prayer as our response in faith to God's love for us. Ignatian meditation, contemplation and the Examen are introduced and practiced. The core of the prayer class is the experience of an adaptation of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. Daily prayer in class, written reflections and a prayer journal are essential aspects of the course.

Relationships and Lifestyles: A course which will explore the general decisions each person is called to make as adult Christians in the modern world, with a special emphasis on marriage, single life, religious vocations, etc.

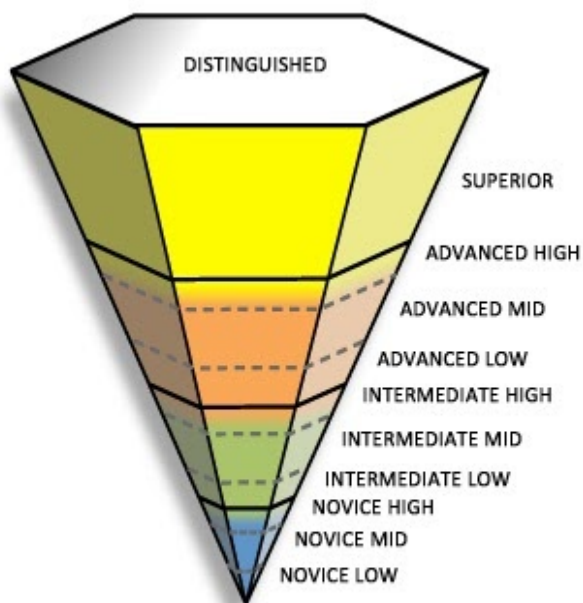
World Religions: In this course, students will learn the major components of the following world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and Islam. We may also touch on other "smaller" traditions (such as Jainism, Sikhism, etc.) per the students' interest and as time allows. The course will begin with exploring the meaning of "spirituality" and conclude with discussion on the impact of religion in current world affairs. This course is focused on students experiencing traditions through guest speakers, experiential projects and videos. Students will be challenged to deepen their understanding of their own faith journey in light of the gifts they experience in these non-Christian religions.

World Language

DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Department of World Languages strives to prepare students to be leaders in a global community. World Language courses guide students to broaden and shape their understanding of and openness to diverse cultures. Our goal, founded on Jesuit ideals, is for students to graduate ready to thrive in a multi-ethnic world. Learning another language is intellectually challenging, interdisciplinary, develops analytical thinking, and lifelong learning. Proficiency in another language is an essential asset to any career; students are encouraged to choose a language based on interest, college, and career potential. Four years of language study is highly recommended in order for students to realize the full impact of their language learning. Outside of academic courses, students have opportunities to take part in summer culture and immersion trips and host students from other countries. The Department of World Languages provides dual-credit courses in French, Spanish, and Japanese at the 151 and 152 level, through Central Washington University's Cornerstone/College in the High School Program.

Course Descriptions



First Year (Spanish, French, Mandarin Chinese): A student completing the first year of language study will be proficient at the **Novice Low - Novice Mid** level.

Second Year (Spanish, French, Mandarin Chinese): A student completing the second year of language study will be proficient at the **Novice High - Intermediate Low** level.

Third Year (Spanish, French): A student completing the third year of language study will be proficient at the **Intermediate Low - Intermediate Mid** level.

Fourth Year (Spanish, French, Japanese): A student completing the fourth year of language study will be proficient at the **Intermediate Mid - Intermediate High** level.

Honors students (Spanish 1, 2, 3, and 4) will be proficient at the higher range of the above levels. A student completing an **AP Language and Culture** course will be proficient at the **Advanced Low - Advanced High** level.

Proficiency levels are defined by ACTFL, The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Proficiency is assessed in three types of communication. The links explain how a student communicates in each level.

[Interpretive](#): the ability to listen and read in the language of study

[Interpersonal](#): the ability to communicate with others in the language of study

Presentational: the ability to present to others in the language of study

DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS

Two credits in world language are required for graduation. The language department urges students who plan to go to a four year college take a minimum of three years, and recommends four years. Four year state colleges usually require two years of language. Language classes require twenty minutes minimum of oral and written homework per weekday night. A "C" is strongly recommended to continue into 2nd or 3rd year courses. Teacher recommendation is required for honors placement.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

FRENCH 1

1 Credit/Two Semesters

First year French introduces students to the language and cultures of the French-speaking world. Students communicate in the three modes on a basic level through guided practice.

FRENCH 2

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Second year French continues to expose student to French language and cultures through the modes of communication. Students learn to express themselves in the past and present tenses. Students are proficient in guided communication.

FRENCH 3

1 Credit/Two Semesters

FRENCH 4

1 Credit/Two Semesters

In third and fourth year French students reinforce and further develop the modes of communication in various time frames and moods. Communication in third year French is more self-guided and more detailed. The goal of fourth year French is spontaneous communication in all modes.

These courses qualify for dual credit. See page 8.

JAPANESE 4

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Third and fourth year Japanese reinforces and further develops the modes of communication in various time frames and levels of speech. Students learn 100-200 level kanji and focus on more spontaneous communication in all modes.

This course qualifies for dual credit. See page 8.

MANDARIN CHINESE 1

1 Credit/Two Semesters

First Year Mandarin Chinese introduces students to the language and culture of the Chinese-speaking world. Students communicate in the three modes on a novice level, through guided practice. Students are introduced to the Chinese character writing system.

MANDARIN CHINESE 2

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Second Year Mandarin Chinese continues to expose students to Chinese Language and culture through the modes of communication. Students learn to read, write, and type basic Chinese characters. Students experience Chinese cultural activities, study China's history and current situation, and conduct their own exploration of China.

SPANISH 1

1 Credit/Two Semesters

First year Spanish introduces students to the language and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world. Students communicate in the three modes on a basic level, through guided practice.

SPANISH 2

1 Credit/Two Semesters

Second year Spanish continues to expose students to Spanish language and cultures through the modes of communication. Students learn to express themselves in the past present tenses. Students are proficient in guided communication.

SPANISH 3

1 Credit/Two Semesters

SPANISH 4

1 Credit/Two Semesters

In third and fourth year Spanish students reinforce and further develop the modes of communication in various time frames and moods. Communication in third year Spanish is more self-guided and more detailed. The goal of fourth year Spanish is spontaneous communication in all modes.

These courses qualify for dual credit. See page 8.

SPANISH HONORS

Students scoring in the top 10% of the Entrance/Placement exam or entering Bellarmine ready to begin Spanish at the 2nd year level may be placed in the first or second year honors sequence. This course of study prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam. Honors courses are faster paced with more in depth presentation of curriculum.

Advanced Placement SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

1 Credit/Two Semesters

In this course students prepare for university-level language studies, as well as the Advanced Placement Exam. Students learn advanced grammar and vocabulary through authentic cultural contexts, communicating formally and informally in the three modes at the university level. AP Spanish students are required to take the AP Exam in May.