
St. Gregory the Great High School

Curriculum Guide

2008-2009



St. Gregory the Great High School

Mission Statement

The mission statement of St. Gregory, a Catholic, co-educational high school, defines the task it has chosen to accomplish: “to provide students of diverse academic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds a secure environment in which they can experience quality education that equips them with the skills needed to become contributing members of society, and to accomplish this in an atmosphere that encourages respect and fosters human values.”

The St. Gregory the Great High School Student at Graduation

At graduation, St. Gregory the Great High School students will demonstrate:

- an understanding and appreciation of the Catholic tradition
- a regard for themselves, others, and all of God’s creation
- an awareness of the emotional and physical well-being of the human person
- mathematical and scientific literacy
- the ability to communicate clearly – listening, writing, & speaking standard English
- the ability to read and think critically
- an understanding of the fine and applied arts
- an awareness of being a responsible citizen of the United States
- a regard for global consciousness

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Description of Credits

0.5 Credits = 1 Stage
1.0 Credits = 2 Stages

Each stage is a half-semester

Letter Coding

H = Honors (more challenging material)
B = Basic (basic knowledge of the subject)

All classes without an H or B are “regular” classes

Graduation Requirements

English	4 Credits
Religion	4 Credits
Mathematics	3 Credits
Science	3 Credits
Social Studies	3 Credits
Business/Technology	1.5 Credits
Consumer Economics	0.5 Credit
Community Service	1 Credit
Fine Arts.....	1.5 Credits for Grade 12 2 Credits for Grades 9, 10, 11
Physical Education.....	0.5 Credit for Grade 12 1.5 Credits for Grades 9, 10, 11
Health	0.5 Credit
Electives*	8 Credits for Grade 12 9 Credits for Grades 9, 10, 11

** Electives may include courses from the Foreign Language Department, the Learning Resource Department, Protégé Program or any of the other departments listed.*

Department of Business and Technology



Philosophy

The Computer and Technology Department believes that students must master professional and practical skills to achieve success in the business world and in their lives. These skills include the ability to think critically, work cooperatively, follow directions, organize work, produce professional-looking work and achieve goals set by themselves and others. Students are encouraged to become self-motivated and to organize and complete tasks.

Graduation Requirement: 1.5 Credits

Course Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10 11 12	Microsoft Suite.....	0.5
10 11 12	Introduction to Business	0.5
10 11 12	Desktop Publishing	0.5
10 11 12	Career Planning.....	0.5
10 11 12	Cyber Ethics	0.5
11 12	Database Design and Development	0.5
10 11 12	Web Page Design	0.5

Course Descriptions

Microsoft Suite

Description:

Students will learn the basic and intermediate functions of Microsoft Office. Application software includes: Microsoft Word, Excel, and Power Point.

Introduction to Business

Description:

This course will provide Web-based business simulations where students are the CEO's and learn to make price, production, capital investment, marketing, and research and development decisions for their businesses. This course introduces critical economic and management principles.

Desktop Publishing

Description:

Students will learn to create, publish and distribute a bi-weekly, student-focused newsletter. They will select graphics and write articles to communicate a positive message to the student body. Application software: Microsoft Word and Quark Express.

Career Planning

Description:

The Career Planning class is designed to prepare students for the work world with emphasis on self-evaluation, career choices, career development, communication skills professional standards and etiquette.

Cyber Ethics

Description:

In this course students will learn the legal, ethical and social issues and implications of violating cyber laws in the United States. Students will review case studies and participate in ethical debates on issues connected to the rise of online communications and electronic information technology. The impact of these technologies on freedom of speech, privacy, property rights, and other democratic values will be examined.

Database Design and Development

Prerequisites: Microsoft Suite

Description:

This course is designed for students who would like to learn about the design and development of databases, mainly for small businesses. Students will learn how to model data, how to construct a database, and how to develop a database in a business environment. They will also learn the features of MS Access to apply the database design principles and use tables, forms, queries and reports to develop an integrated application use.

Web Page Design

Prerequisite: Microsoft Suite and Teacher Approval

Description:

This course is designed for students who want to increase their knowledge of technology. This introductory course investigates the basics of Web page design through a series of lectures and hands-on tutorials. Participants will learn how to create and manage Web pages using a graphical Web page editor in a multitasking environment. Knowledge of Hyper Text Markup Language (HTML) is an asset but not required.

Department of English



Philosophy

The SGHS English curriculum is designed to aid students in improving and refining their grammar and vocabulary skills while gaining fluency by interpreting material through written and spoken means. As they engage in the study of literature, students will be encouraged to voice their opinions, become active listeners and participate in discussions. Students will be required to defend their interpretations of literary texts through vigorous research and writing. Students will gain confidence in evaluating literary works, effective problem solving, written and oral expression, and creativity. The goal of the department is that, upon completion of their course of study, students will become avid readers, independent thinkers, and life long learners who will be able to communicate critically and creatively.

Graduation Requirement: 4 Credits

Course Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9	Survey of Literature and Composition	1.0
10	World Literature and Composition.....	1.0
11	American Literature.....	1.0
12	British Literature.....	1.0
11 12	Contemporary Bestsellers.....	0.5
11 12	Film Studies	0.5
11 12	Journalism/Publications	1.0
11 12	Poetry Workshop	0.5
9 10 11 12	Speech	0.5

Course Descriptions

English 9: Survey of Literature and Composition (Required)

Description:

The goal of this course is to improve reading and writing skills. Students will study grammar in an effort to improve their writing and develop basic composition skills. They will also write a number of essays, including personal narratives, comparison and contrast, short stories and poems. Students will study the literary genres: short story, non-fiction, myth and legend, poetry, drama and the novel. They will read a variety of literature in order to improve reading comprehension.

English 10: World Literature and Composition (Required)

Prerequisite: successful completion of English 9

Description:

In this course students will examine how literature reflects the social and political issues of time and place. An important element of this process will be an introduction to the literary research process. Composition will focus on improving essay structure, developing and expanding on a thesis statement through the five paragraph structure, and the ability to write standard English, understand grammatical concepts and further develop his/her vocabulary.

English 11: American Literature (Required)

Prerequisite: successful completion of English 10

Description:

In this course, students will gain a greater awareness and appreciation for American literature, as well as strengthen their grammar and writing skills. Students will interpret and evaluate the progression of Native American oral tradition and literature and explore writings of American authors from the pre-colonial period through the twenty-first century. The forms of literature examined will include but not be limited to: short story, novel, poetry, and non-fiction. Students will provide an in depth analysis of American drama. Active reading strategies will allow the students to comprehend key literary elements to help them fully enjoy literary works and gain confidence as engaged and critical readers. Students will be expected to complete daily journal exercises and various writing assignments in order to develop research techniques, become better writers, and learn more about themselves and methods of creative self-expression.

English 12: British Literature (Required)

Prerequisite: successful completion of English 11

Description:

In this course, students will learn how to establish a greater awareness and appreciation for British Literature, as well as strengthen their grammar and writing skills. Students will take special notice of how both the history and government of a people affected and influenced the writings during a particular time period. Students will read selections beginning with stories passed down through oral tradition from the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Period epics, such as *Beowulf* and Homer's *Iliad*. Student will explore chivalric writings and character sketches from Sir Gawain and the Green Knight and Geoffrey Chaucer's *The Canterbury Tales*. Students will read and evaluate Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, as well as delve into the poetry of the Romantics, Victorian literature, and an emerging Modernist movement.

Contemporary Bestsellers

Prerequisite: successful completion of English 11

Description:

This class will focus on popular works of the past five to ten years. In addition to fiction, works studied may include biographies, essays, works of history or social science. Possible texts include: *Tuesdays with Morrie*, *Kite Runner*, *Bleachers*, and *The Curious Incident of the Dog at Nighttime*. Critical Thinking, literary analysis and thematic discussion will be used throughout the course.

Film Studies

Prerequisites: None

Description:

Introduction to Film Studies is a course designed to give students a more active, informed and engaged approach to watching movies. Students will study various elements of filmmaking and production such as acting, cinematography, sound, editing, screenwriting, and direction. They will also examine current issues in film and Hollywood such as independent film, CGI and technology, marketing, the Studio System, piracy and other topics to be determined.

Journalism/Publications

Prerequisites: An interest in detailed work, writing and graphics; the ability to work on a team; creativity; patience; the ability to meet deadlines; an honor roll student; recommendation of English teacher and approval of yearbook advisor

Description:

The yearbook class is for students interested in creating the 2008-2009 St. Gregory High School yearbook. Students will learn desktop publishing (PageMaker): layout, design, copy writing, editing and photography. The class will be conducted as a workshop to produce the yearbook.

Poetry Workshop

Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 10

Description:

In this course, students will explore various poetic forms and conventions by reading, analyzing, and writing their own works of poetry. Students will workshop their own poems, as well as those of published poets, in order to discover their own poetic voices. Students will vigorously exercise their writing and brainstorming skills to unearth the poetic potential within, as well as to share that emotion and verse by completing a portfolio of their work.

Speech Communications

Prerequisites: none

Description:

In this course, students will explore the various ways one can communicate and how to utilize forms of communication in a powerful and intentional manner. Students will be expected to write and deliver various speeches to their classmates. By the end of this course of study, students will understand how messages are conveyed through verbal and nonverbal communication, become confident with public speaking, understand how to give and receive constructive feedback, and develop an awareness of how to communicate messages in an effective manner.

Department of Fine Arts



Philosophy

Belief in each student’s individuality in creative expression is fundamental to the creative arts department. Through development of self-discipline, responsibility, respect for others and respect for art, students can master the skills needed to be truly artistic. In preparing for the future, the department maintains a realistic approach to artistic concepts in today’s society, enabling the students to become aware aesthetically of their school, home, community, and the world around them. It is the hope that creating ideas, realizing projects and understanding the results will lead to this awareness.

Graduation Requirement: 1.5 Credits for Grades 11 & 12
2.0 Credits for Grades 9 & 10

Course Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9 10 11 12	Art Fundamentals.....	0.5
9 10 11 12	Drawing and Painting.....	0.5
10 11 12	Sculpture.....	0.5
11 12	Design and Architecture.....	1.0
11 12	Studio Art.....	0.5
11 12	Art and Religion.....	0.5
11 12	Interdisciplinary Art.....	1.0
11 12	Film Studies.....	0.5
10 11 12	Music	1.0

Course Descriptions

Art Fundamentals (Required)

Prerequisites: None

Description:

This course introduces students to the elements of design and art including: value, line, color, and texture, using a variety of media. It offers the student a systematic way to look at the art of today and an opportunity to develop skills of observation, drawing, interpretation and analysis of works of art from the 19th and 20th centuries. Among the media used are graphite, charcoal, India ink, watercolor, tempera, wire, and block printing.

Note: This course is required for all students. Students who have fine arts credits from other schools must have them in a visual art course in order to be exempted from Art Fundamentals.

Art and Religion

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals

Description:

This course addresses the message of Christian religion as seen in the art of the Middle Ages through the 20th Century. Students read bible stories and learn how the artist became a visual storyteller. Analysis of composition and the cultural and religious factors involved in the paintings are used in this process.

Drawing and Painting

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals

Description:

The goal of this course is to continue the skill development of art fundamentals with a focus on the styles of drawing and painting of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Students use a variety of media including charcoal, graphite, watercolor, tempera and acrylics. This variety of experiences allows the student to discover skills and develop them in order to find a means to self-expression. Students study the human face and develop self-portraits and learn how to draw the human form in proportion.

Sculpture

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals

Description:

In this course students learn about the history of sculptural form and its changing role and purpose in society. Students begin with a survey of sculptures and then focus on the use of the mask in three societies: Northwest Coast Indians, Mexican, and African tribal. Using wire, students learn about human proportion in the creation of a figure in action. Additional wire portraits are created after a study of the works of Calder. Students learn to make paper and create abstract sculptures. A study of Pop Art and the focus on everyday images provide the impetus for Pop Art food sculptures. Evaluation is done by critique and students are expected to be able to explain their work and answer questions from other students.

Design and Architecture

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals with a grade of B or better and permission of the teacher

Description:

In this course students have the opportunity to learn the principles of design and their applications in both two dimensional and three dimensional forms. Students must be able to follow complicated verbal directions for perspective drawing. This involves some beginning drafting and drawing of plans for dwellings and a history of the development of the American house.

Studio Art

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals with a grade of B or better, permission of the teacher.

Description:

This course is for the advanced level student who has completed one year of art and is prepared to focus on developing a personal style. Students research artists who interest them and explore materials and methods based on their research. Evaluation is through oral critique and students must be prepared to articulate why the visual arts are important to their development.

Interdisciplinary Art

Prerequisites: Art Fundamentals and permission of the teacher

Description:

This course is based on the common elements in the arts including visual, sound, drama and performance, movement and creative writing. Students will develop ideas through themes and experimentation with various media in order to produce writing and performances that will be video taped as well as presented to a live audience.

Film Studies

Prerequisites: None

Description:

Introduction to Film Studies is a course designed to give students a more active, informed and engaged approach to watching movies. Students will study various elements of filmmaking and production such as acting, cinematography, sound, editing, screenwriting, and direction. They will also examine current issues in film and Hollywood such as independent film, CGI and technology, marketing, the Studio System, piracy and other topics to be determined.

Music Appreciation

Prerequisites: None

Description:

Introduction to Music presents the opportunity for students to develop an understanding of music beyond what they hear in their everyday, on the radio or through the Internet. The course is designed to expose students to a variety of music styles, both past and present, from all over the world. And in turn, students will begin to recognize how music reflects and connects to our communities, and to society as a whole. Throughout the course, students will listen to musical selections from their text, the instructor, and from their own collections. Through the listening exercises and assignments, they will be able to identify and describe different musical styles and periods, use basic musical concepts and terminology, and understand the overall structure of music and the ways it is organized and performed.

Department of Foreign Language



Philosophy

Because speaking another language other than one's own is becoming more a necessity in today's multi-cultural society, the foreign language department believes it should provide students with the opportunity to learn a language other than their own. The aim of this department is to teach the various aspects of the language so that students will be able to communicate in situations, which require either the formal or informal aspect of the language. Through the acquisition of another language, students will feel pride in being able to create and communicate with others in another language; as well as foster an appreciation and understanding of another culture and the people within it. Thus, students will have an increased respect for themselves and others. The foreign language department believes that the learning of a foreign language will help students embrace the values of diversity and tolerance.

Note: It is the recommendation of this department that students who plan to attend college take two credits of a foreign language, to be started freshman year. Enrollment in the second year of any language is done upon consultation with the instructor, the student, the counselor and the parent. In order to aid retention and continuity, there should not be a gap of greater than one year between each year of language instruction. All students are encouraged to enroll in foreign language.

Course Selections

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9 10 11 12	Spanish 1.....	1.0
9 10 11 12	French 1	1.0
10 11 12	Spanish 2.....	1.0
10 11 12	French 2.....	1.0
11 12	Spanish Writing	1.0
11 12	Spanish 3	1.0
11 12	French 3	1.0

Course Descriptions

Spanish 1

Prerequisite: None. English 9 and World Studies strongly recommended.

Description:

The students will be introduced to the language in both spoken and written form, as well as being exposed to its cultural aspects. The students will learn simple vocabulary and grammar, which enable them to speak, read, write and understand simple sentences.

Spanish 2

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in Spanish 1; permission of instructor, counselor and parents or a proficiency test with a grade of B or better. Whether the student has taken the class, or has taken the proficiency test, those shouldn't have been taken more than one year before.

Description:

This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. Instruction will build on the vocabulary and grammar presented in Spanish 1. Students will learn additional vocabulary and more complex grammar, which will enable them to speak, read, write and understand more complex thoughts and ideas.

Spanish 3

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in Spanish 2; permission of instructor, counselor and parents or a proficiency test with a grade of B or better.

Description:

In this lower intermediate class, with a focus on grammar review, additional vocabulary, writing of essays in Spanish and enhancement of cultural awareness; the students will learn how to use more complex sentence structures, build additional vocabulary, and enlarge their knowledge of different people and cultures in the Hispanic world.

Spanish Writing

Prerequisite: native Spanish speakers or equivalent background in the language.

Description:

Designed for Spanish-speaking students, this course places emphasis on the improvement of reading and writing skills in the business world by enhancing letter writing and electronic correspondence. This may take the form of improving spelling, expanding vocabulary at formal registers, broadening the range of topics controlled in written and oral expression.

French 1

Prerequisite: None

Description:

The students will be introduced to the language in both spoken and written form, as well as being exposed to its cultural aspects. The students will learn simple vocabulary and grammar, which enable them to speak, read, write and understand simple sentences.

French 2

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in French 1; permission of instructor, counselor and parents or a proficiency test with a grade of B or better. Whether the student has taken the class, or has taken the proficiency test, those shouldn't have been taken more than one year before.

Description:

This course is a continuation of French 1. Instruction will build on the vocabulary and grammar presented in French 1. Students will learn additional vocabulary and more complex grammar, which will enable them to speak, read, write and understand more complex thoughts and ideas.

French 3

Prerequisite: A grade of C or better in French 2; permission of instructor, counselor and parents or a proficiency test with a grade of B or better.

Description: French 3 continues to reinforce oral & written communication skills, emphasizing everyday topics. It gives students the opportunity to deepen their knowledge and to practice both oral and written expression and comprehension through socio-cultural themes.

Department of Learning Resources



Philosophy

The Department of Learning Resources is designed to foster a sense of responsibility, independence, intellectual growth and success in the students. Every aspect of the department lends itself to maintaining a comfortable, caring atmosphere. The students are encouraged to try a variety of educational methods that can render them independent learners.

Course Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9 10 11 12	Learning Resources Program (LRP)	1.0
9 10 11 12	English as a Second Language (ESL)	1.0

Department Guidelines:

The LRP department is designed to provide a supportive atmosphere to students with an IEP or with learning difficulties. Students may take up to eight semesters of LRP, however the goal of the department is to help students cope with their learning differences and successfully handle the challenges of high school. Students are encouraged to use compensations to maintain academic success without LRP as quickly as possible.

A student can be enrolled in the Learning Resource Program every stage of every year at St. Gregory the Great High School.

Course Descriptions

Learning Resource Program

Prerequisite: IEP/Department, parent or counselor recommendation

Description:

The Learning Resource Program (LRP) is a special support program where students learn about their learning disabilities as well as their strengths. Students learn how to cope with their learning differences and how to adjust their goals to a realistic level. The teachers help the students adjust to changes in school as well as in life. The goals of LRP are to equip students with the qualities of responsibility, independence, and knowledge of self-worth that will enable them to succeed in graduating from high school and continue on to reach goals that reflect their potential. The program is designed to reinforce the curriculum of the regular content coursework and to build skills that enhance learning.

English Language Learners (ELL)

Description:

This program is intended to provide support and assistance to English language learners with academic and social language skills such as listening, speaking, reading and writing.

Department of Mathematics



Philosophy

The Mathematics Department of St. Gregory the Great High School believes in providing an opportunity for all students to learn the mathematics they need for success in our contemporary technological society. Methods of instruction emphasize exploring, investigating, reasoning, communicating and sharing mathematical concepts on the part of all students. The mathematics curriculum aims to stimulate and increase the curiosity of students in order to expand their knowledge, comprehension, and appreciation of the underlying structures of the universe. The department attempts to guide and instruct students in using current mathematical tools and skills leading toward practical applications as well as the development of mathematical power. It is the hope of the Mathematics Department that mutual respect and excitement of success in math will help develop within each student that positive, personal confidence that is necessary to become a creative contributing member of society.

Graduation Requirement: 3.0 Credits

Course Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9	Critical Foundations of Algebra	1.0
9 10	Basic Algebra 1	1.0
9 10	Algebra 1	1.0
10 11	Geometry	1.0
10 11 12	Basic Geometry	1.0
11 12	Basic Algebra 2	1.0
11 12	Algebra 2	1.0
11 12	Applied Math	1.0
11 12	Intro to Pre-Calculus and Trig	1.0
12	Trigonometry	1.0
12	Pre-Calculus	1.0

Department Guidelines:

The mathematics department suggests four credits following the above sequence for most students. The department’s philosophy stresses flexibility to accommodate the special needs of students.

- 1) Placement of students in freshman classes will depend upon entrance placement test and/or incoming freshman summer school grades.
- 2) The math department staff will place students in sequential courses based upon a student’s meeting the stated prerequisites, ability and effort.

- 3) A scientific calculator (Ti 30) must be purchased by all students before the first math class taken at SGHS. Students are required to have this calculator in all math classes.
- 4) The procedures for all classes in the Mathematics Department will include: lecture, group activities, problem solving, mathematical writing, and class discussion.

Course Descriptions

Critical Foundations of Algebra

Prerequisites: placement by department or counselor

Description:

Critical Foundations of Algebra is designed to strengthen math skills and ease the transition into high school algebra and geometry. This course provides a supplemental review of number sense and operations; fractions, decimals, and percentages; ratios and proportions; and measurement of two and three-dimensional figures.

Basic Algebra 1

Prerequisites: placement by department or counselor

Description:

This course covers the basic concepts of Algebra 1 including: use of variables and integers to solve linear equations, use of formulas, working with polynomials, learning factoring, solving equations with two variables, and working with squares and square roots.

Algebra 1

Prerequisites: placement by department or counselor

Description:

This course covers the laws of algebra, solving linear, fractional and quadratic equations, inequalities, the use of formulas, factoring, functions, systems of equations, graphing and radicals and working with squares and square roots.

Basic Geometry

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra 1

Description:

Students will be introduced to proofs and will discover and apply geometric concepts such as angles, triangles, distance, area and volume.

Geometry

Prerequisites: successful completion of Algebra 1

Description:

Students will discover and apply geometric concepts such as angles, triangles, distance, area and volume. Students will learn informal and formal deductive proofs. Students are introduced to trigonometry concepts.

Basic Algebra 2

Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra 1, Geometry

Description:

This course will focus on the next set of core skills in algebra, including: properties of real, irrational and complex numbers, equations and inequalities, radicals and rational expressions, and quadratic functions. Students will make real world applications.

Algebra 2

Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry

Description:

Students will expand their algebraic skills to include these topics: Properties of real, irrational and complex numbers, equations and inequalities, radicals and rational expressions, quadratic and trigonometric functions. Students will be expected to make real world applications.

Applied Math

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Basic Algebra and Basic Geometry; Department recommendation

Description:

Students will learn math concepts for life after high school. Topics include: computing wages, balancing checking accounts, using W-2 forms to complete 1040 EZ tax forms, renting or purchasing a home, buying and maintaining a car, insurance and other useful concepts.

Trigonometry

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of “B” in Geometry and Algebra 2, Department recommendation

Description:

This course is intended for honors students with a good background in mathematics and will serve as a good foundation for students interested in taking calculus in college. The topics include trigonometric functions, the unit circle, radians and degree measure, right triangle trigonometry, graph of sine, cosine and tangent functions, inverse trigonometric functions, fundamental identities, trigonometric equations, sum and difference formulas, law of sines and cosines, complex numbers, DeMoivre's theorem, polar coordinates.

Pre-Calculus

Prerequisite: Minimum grade of “B” in Algebra 2, Department recommendation

Description:

Students will investigate and expand the fundamentals of algebra 2 and trigonometry. Topics include: linear, quadratic and polynomial functions; graphs of inverse functions with applications; analytic geometry; trigonometric equations and functions; polar coordinates and complex numbers; vectors, sequences, matrices; probability and statistics.

Intro to Pre-calculus and Trig

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Course Description:

Pre-Calculus section:

This course will introduce students to the following: functions, domain and range, the graph of a function, displacement of a graph, reflections in the x-axis, fractional exponents, logarithms and logarithms functions, inequalities, analytic geometry, degrees and radians, definitions and laws of trigonometric functions, right triangle trigonometry, and graphing sines and cosines functions.

Department of Physical Education



Philosophy

Physical education focuses on the total well being of the student. This program encompasses interrelated studies in health, first aid, and physical education, utilizing the use of cognitive as well as psychomotor skills. Basic concepts provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to maintain a sense of wellness and stability in their lives. Students will be able to explore concepts such as mental health, physical health, sexuality, and substance abuse, as well as deal with topics such as self-esteem, nutrition and exercise, abstinence education, sexually transmitted diseases, prenatal and postnatal care (including childbirth), smokeless tobacco, steroids, and many other topics of their own personal interest. The student will gain knowledge, which can lead to maintaining lifelong wellness.

Graduation Requirement: 1.0 Credits for Class of 2009-2010
2.0 Credits for Class of 2011-2012

Course Selections

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9 10	Introduction to Physical Education	0.5
9 10	Health	0.5
10 11 12	Physical Education II	0.5
10 11 12	Conditioning & Weight Lifting	0.5
10 11 12	Team Sports.....	0.5

Course Descriptions

Introduction to Physical Education (Required)

Prerequisites: None

Description:

Students will learn and perform the basic skills and measurements related to physical fitness by performing strength, flexibility and endurance exercises. Students will prepare goals and measurements for submission to the President’s Council on Physical Fitness. This course will also include individual weight training.

Health (*Required*)

Prerequisites: Introduction to Physical Education

Description:

This course provides information on a variety of health topics such as mental health, dating and relationships, sexually-transmitted diseases, AIDS, contraception, abortion, child care, breast cancer, testicular cancer, drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse and dating violence. This course also includes the Red Cross Training Program in Standard First Aid and Adult CPR.

Physical Education II

Prerequisites: Introduction to Physical Education and Health

Description:

This class is a continuation of Introduction to Physical Education. Students will perform more advanced skills related to physical fitness by performing strength, flexibility and endurance exercises.

Conditioning and Weight Lifting

Prerequisites: one credit of physical education or approval of instructor

Description:

This course enables students to measure, perform and set strength building and conditioning goals. The students will work individually as well as in small groups as they study general muscular, skeletal and body systems. Each student will be responsible for documenting and recording fitness and lifting data on to a computer.

Team Sports

Prerequisites: one credit of physical education or approval of instructor

Description:

This course will allow students to gain experience in a variety of team sports. The students will work cooperatively to learn basic concepts of sports such as basketball, volleyball, etc.

Department of Religious Studies



Philosophy

Based on the principle that one’s spiritual development is foremost in the formation of the complete person, the religion department believes it should develop and reinforce a positive outlook within students’ perceptions of their own spirituality. Challenged by the attitudes of today’s society, the department sets out to enhance the student’s appreciation of self, others and God by presenting concepts grounded in Catholic values. Such investigation will heighten an awareness of one’s place in the world and one’s relationship with what is sacred. Because SGHS is composed of individuals from various religious backgrounds, the department also attempts to foster students’ understanding of their own religious convictions in the light of the truth present in other religions. Ultimately, the religion department extends an invitation to students to develop guidelines for a healthy and fulfilling adult life.

Graduation Requirement: 4 credits

The sophomore and junior requirement and electives will be offered alternating years.

Course Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9	Introduction to Religious Experience.....	1.0
10 11	Jesus of History, Christ of Faith	1.0
10 11 12	Morality.....	0.5
10 11 12	Bearing Witness	0.5
10 11 12	Peace & Justice	0.5
10 11 12	Prayer	0.5
12	Christian Lifestyles	1.0

Course Descriptions

Introduction to Religious Experience (Required)

Prerequisites: None

Description:

This course provides orientation to the newest members of the SGHS community by examining Christian practices and Catholic tradition. Students will explore their relationship with God and understand that they are unique and lovable and a child of God. They will understand the goodness of all people and all of creation. Students will be introduced to the sacraments of initiation, especially the celebration of the Eucharist. They will become comfortable with accessing the Bible. They will learn about Pope Saint Gregory the Great and the SGHS Commitment to Greatness. They will examine the grace and responsibility of being part of a loving faith-filled community.

Jesus of History, Christ of Faith

Prerequisites: Religion 9

Description:

This course examines the very center of our faith at SGHS. From a mystical and historical perspective students will examine the times in which Jesus lived, his roots in Judaism and the Hebrew Scriptures, his teachings and example in the Gospel, and his death and resurrection to save us all. They will examine the early Church, led by Jesus' disciples and the Holy Spirit in creating communities of faith.

Morality

Prerequisites: Religion 9

Description:

This course employs Judeo-Christian values to examine beliefs and choices. Students will develop awareness of a Christian well-formed conscience and practice a just process for making decisions and seeking objective truth.

Bearing Witness

Prerequisites: Religion 9

Description:

This class focuses on the nature of prejudice and racism. Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust are the springboard for examining the impact of violence and hatred, as well as contemporary justice issues.

Peace and Justice

Prerequisites: Religion 9

Description:

Students will explore the bishops' Pastoral Letters and issues such as racism, war, pollution and economic justice from the perspective of moral theology. The students will identify issues, define priorities and design an action plan.

Prayer

Prerequisites: Religion 9

Description:

Students will explore building right relationships by turning with love toward God in prayer, liturgy and the sacraments. After exploring the nature of prayer, the class provides opportunities to practice and lead prayers of petition, thanks, praise, journaling, meditation, Scriptures, communal worship, and especially the Eucharist.

Christian Lifestyles (Required)

Description:

Christian Living II. This course assists students in identifying the demands of their roles in a changing society. Dating, college life, engagement, marriage, family, single life, and religious vocations are examined within the context of Christian beliefs.

Department of Science



Philosophy

Since science is prevalent in today's society, the science department believes it should develop within each student an intellectual curiosity and an understanding of the basic scientific forces governing the universe. The aim of the department will be to present these basic concepts in a manner that will demystify and take the fear out of science by promoting learning through scientific inquiry and discovery. Finally, the science department seeks to develop within each student the ability to evaluate achievements in science and technology in the context of Christian values as embodied in the philosophy of SGHS.

Graduation Requirement: 3.0 Credits

Course Selection

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9 10	Physical Science.....	1.0
10	Biology	1.0
10	Biology (H)	1.0
11 12	Chemistry	1.0
11 12	Chemistry (H)	1.0
11 12	Physics.....	1.0
11 12	Introduction to Chemistry	0.5
11 12	Introduction to Physics	0.5
11 12	Environmental Science	0.5
11 12	Integrated Science	0.5

Department Guidelines:

All students are required to take three (3) credits of science, including Biology. College bound students are expected to take physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics. The above sequence is the suggested progression, but the department is flexible to meet the special needs of students.

- 1) Placement of students in freshman classes will depend upon the entrance placement test.
- 2) The Science Department staff will place students in sequential courses based upon the student meeting the stated prerequisites, ability and effort.
- 3) Students are expected to have the scientific calculator (TI 30) from their math class.
- 4) The procedures for all classes in the Science Department will include: lecture, labs, class discussion, group activities, internet research, and scientific writing.
- 5) Grading for all science classes will be based on: homework, labs, tests, quizzes, class work and graded notebooks.

Course Descriptions

Physical Science

Prerequisite: Department or counselor recommendation

Description:

This college-preparatory lab course introduces students to the fundamentals of chemistry, physics, and environmental science. Students will use the scientific method of problem solving. The following topics will be covered: matter, atoms, periodic table, chemical bonds, chemical reactions, acids, bases, motion and forces, energy and power, magnetism and electromagnetism, radioactivity and environmental issues such as nuclear power.

Biology

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Science and department recommendation

Description

Students will be introduced to the importance of biological concepts and processes. Topics covered include: cell parts and functions, genetics, human body systems and science and society.

Biology (H)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Science and department recommendation

Description

Honors Biology covers the entire biology curriculum with an emphasis on scientific research and biological bases for medicine, public health and conservation. Students will be expected to choose a special topic for research. This is a college preparatory lab course.

Chemistry (H)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2, Physical Science and Biology and department recommendation

Description:

Students will study atoms as the building blocks of matter. Topics covered are: Classification of matter, quantitative relationships, atomic theory, chemical bonding, kinetic theory, reaction rates, and families of chemicals such as acids, bases and salts, and organic chemistry. This is a college preparatory lab course and students will be expected to demonstrate appropriate lab techniques

Chemistry

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra, Physical Science and Biology and Department recommendation

The purpose of the course is to introduce the basic ideas of Chemistry. The emphasis will be in how to understand the concepts rather than remember formulas or equations. At the same time, students will learn the connection between chemistry and technology and how the theoretical ideas of chemistry can be found in very day life.

Physics

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 2, two science courses and Department recommendation. Trigonometry preferred.

This course is intended for students with a good background in mathematics. The purpose of the course is to introduce the basic ideas of physics, with emphasis on understanding the concepts rather than remembering formulas and equations. Students will learn the connections between the laws of physics and its application in everyday life. Emphasis will be place don the use of computer applications for plotting and drawing data results.

Introduction to Physics

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and two science courses and department recommendation

Description:

This course covers the basic ideas of physics and is intended for students with little background of mathematics. The topics covered will be linear motion, mass and weight, states of matter, density and volume, forces and mass including Newton's laws, fluids and mechanical work and power.

Introduction to Chemistry

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and two science courses and department recommendation

Description:

This course covers the basic ideas of chemistry and its intended for students with little background in mathematics. The topics covered will be scientific method, system of measurements, properties of matter, change of phase, temperatures scales, atomic structure, properties of the periodic table, chemical reactions, acids and bases, naming binary compounds, the concept of mole, and hydrocarbons.

Integrated Science

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and department recommendation

Description:

This course is intended for students with very little background of mathematics and will give them an overall view of physics and chemistry. The topics covered will be scientific method, system of measurements, states of matter, temperature scales, physical and chemical properties of matter, atomic structure, properties of the periodic table, mass and weight, motion and forces.

Environmental Science

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology and Department recommendation

Description:

Students will study the interrelationships between organisms and their environments. Topics covered are: ecological principles and issues, populations and communities, food web and food chain, earth's biome, water, carbon, and nitrogen cycles, biodiversity, habitat preservation, and people's effect on the environment.

Department of Social Studies



Philosophy

The Social Studies Department believes that each student should have knowledge and understanding of the historical, social, economic and political forces that shape the society in which he/she lives. Students study people, cultures, social structures and behaviors to gain a better understanding of ourselves both as individuals and as members of a society. With this in mind, students are encouraged to ask questions and think critically about the past, present and future. They are asked to consider global issues of gender, class, culture and ethnicity with the goal of helping to change the world for the better. This knowledge enables the student to take an active role in the pursuit of a more just and humane society.

Graduation Requirement: 3.0 credits and a passing grade on the federal and state Constitution tests, given in U.S. History.

Courses Selections

<u>Grades</u>	<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Credit</u>
9	World Studies I	1.0
10	World Studies II	1.0
11	U.S. History.....	1.0
11 12	Consumer Economics	0.5
11 12	African American History.....	0.5
10 11 12	American Politics I.....	0.5
10 11 12	Chicago History	0.5
10 11 12	Current Issues	0.5
10 11 12	Cyber Ethics	0.5
10 11 12	Latin American Studies.....	0.5
11 12	Law & Society.....	0.5
11 12	Race, Class and Gender	0.5
10 11 12	Sociology.....	0.5
11 12	Women's Studies.....	0.5

Sophomores may be allowed into courses specified for juniors and seniors only with the approval of the instructor.

Elective courses are generally offered alternating years, providing a maximum of choices for all.

World Studies I and II (Required)

Prerequisites: None

Description:

In this course students will study the history of humankind in order to become knowledgeable of past events and historical time periods, to develop both a global and regional awareness, and to be able to explain how history, geography, and time have created the world of today. This course is divided up into two sixteen-week modules with the Renaissance as the end goal of the first module, and the present day the end goals for the second module. Ideally, Part I is taken in 9th grade and Part II is taken in 10th grade. Students will receive two full credits for this class upon successful completion (1.0 credit for World Studies I and 1.0 credit for World Studies II).

U.S. History (Required)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

This course is a survey of the history of the United States. Special attention is given to challenging situations faced by the American people as the country developed. An understanding of economic, political, environmental, social systems will be incorporated into the class, culminating with present day issues. The student must also pass the Illinois Constitution test and the United States Constitution test during this course.

Consumer Economics (Required)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

In this course the student will study the consumer, the marketplace, consumer credit, money management, insurance, and buying guides. The student will apply the principles and procedures of business to personal and family problems, as well as buying and selling in the consumer market. The student will also have the chance to demonstrate his/her knowledge by having an opportunity to teach a class.

Cyber Ethics

Description:

In this course students will learn the legal, ethical and social issues and implications of violating cyber laws in the United States. Students will review case studies and participate in ethical debates on issues connected to the rise of online communications and electronic information technology. The impact of these technologies on freedom of speech, privacy, property rights, and other democratic values will be examined.

African American History (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Description: African Americans have had one of the most significant impacts on the construction of the United States of America. The focus of this course will be the significance African Americans have played throughout American history from the slave trade to present. Students who enroll in this course will examine a variety of primary sources and will learn how storytelling, oral tradition and other forms of expression have played a role in the history of Africans in America.

American Politics (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

What rights do we have as Americans? What can and can't our government do? This course continues where Current Issues ended, with an introduction to both the presidential election and American government and politics. It will examine the ideas behind our democratic system, the basic structures of state and federal government, and how the three branches of government work together to make laws. This course will emphasize voting rights and citizen participation in the government process, including mock elections, voter registration, and election judging.

Chicago History (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: None

Description:

This course introduces the student to the history, art, architecture, government and cultural institutions of Chicago and Illinois. In order to facilitate their learning experience, students will be expected to research a relevant topic of their choice.

Current Issues

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

This course focuses on major issues and events in the news. Special focus will be placed on one or more major topics or areas of world conflict—as well as the presidential election. Students will learn how to judge the reliability of news reports, compare differing points of view, and find more information about a topic of interest to them. A news magazine or newspaper will serve as the basic text. Students who enroll in this course are encouraged to enroll in American Politics I, where some topics will be discussed in greater depth.

Latin American Studies (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II, U.S. History recommended

Description:

This is a survey course on modern Latin American history, from colonization to the present. Particular attention will be placed on the themes of conquest, colonization, imperialism, and underdevelopment as they relate to contemporary problems of Latin American society. Various nations in Latin America will be discussed, in an effort to identify common themes and experiences faced by all the nations of the Americas. The goal of the course is to develop in students a greater understanding of the past history of social injustice in the region and the current challenges of globalization.

Law & Society (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

This course offers a practical look at the relationship between citizens and the law, with special emphasis on the criminal justice system. The course will offer students an opportunity to participate in programs such as the Illinois Youth Law Summit, through the Chicago Constitutional Rights Foundation.

Race, Class and Gender (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

This course will examine the role of race, class and gender in American society with particular attention given to overcoming racism, sexism and class hierarchy. Students will examine and dissect ideas of what constitutes race and how racism operates in society, explore the concept of gender and women's struggle for equality in the U.S., and relate both to the more complicated issue of class in attempting to understand the dynamics of our society. In place of a textbook, students will read two to three books that relate to the issues focused on in the course.

Sociology (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description:

Have you ever wondered how we learn what behavior is acceptable or unacceptable? Why something is considered perfectly polite in one culture but illegal in another? In this course students explore human relationships as they occur in their personal lives and in society as a whole. The primary focus will be the methods for studying people within groups, group dynamics, deviance, the elements of culture, and the ways in which culture influences socialization. Multicultural topics and research will enrich this discussion.

Women's Studies (offered alternate years)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World Studies I and II

Description: Women have played a unique role in the development of human society, often with little or no recognition for their achievements. This course will focus on the roles women have played socially, politically, economically, and culturally across a variety of cultures and time periods. Students will also examine current global issues and their special relevance to women.

Protégé Program



Philosophy

The mission of the Protégé Program is to engage the student in an experience outside the classroom that will enrich his/her education and provide him/her with critical career insights.

Duration and credits

The Protégé Program runs over an 18-week period with a 15-hour week. The total hours for the (2) stage program are 270. Paid positions may work up to 20 hours without additional academic counselor approval. Each 18-week program is worth (2) full credits.

Prerequisites

Complete Career Planning class with a minimum C; good attendance record; recommendation of academic counselor and Career Planning class teacher.

Description of the Program

The Protégé Program was created out of the desire to better prepare our students for life after graduation. In college, students often declare a major where they have only an abstract comprehension of what it would be like to work in that field. The Protégé Program gives them a more realistic view of their career direction, which then encourages a more pragmatic outlook of their future. From a hands-on, practical perspective, the student will have the opportunity to participate in the resume, application, interview, hiring and employment process. A prerequisite to the program is the Career Planning class where students explore career choices, learn job seeking and job keeping skills and develop an employment portfolio.

An early afternoon dismissal allows students to work between 12 and 15 hours a week. Periodically, the student will return to the classroom to discuss activities, successes and/or challenges experienced in the workplace.

Students Receive:

- Credit towards graduation
- Real life marketable skills
- Exposure to different careers
- A source of recommendations
- That vital first job on their resume
- Experience, confidence and self-esteem

Our Partners

SGHS partners are the community business owners who have taken the challenge of helping students receive hands-on practical experience in preparation for their future. The partners have hired a student at an entry-level position and will be instrumental in providing concrete job skills. This apprenticeship type program provides partners with energetic high school students who are excited to enter the work force and eager to learn. Partners will be responsible for completing a student profile survey with reviews of their performance. The evaluation will be considered in their final grade.

Current Protégé Program Partners

A.C.T. Group, Ltd.	La Baguette
Alderman Patrick J. O'Connor	La Raza Newspaper
Andrea A. Raila & Associates, Inc.	Lakefront Group Properties
Ann Sather	Lake Shore Schools
AthletiCo	Landmark
Barneys NY	Lite Site
Bethany Retirement Community	Neumann Association
Careerbuilder.com	NCA - St. Ita Campus
Chappell Elementary	Macy's
Chicago Cubs	Oscar Mayer Elementary
Chicago Filmmakers	Painted Light
Dr. Charles Shulruff, DDS	Raven Theatre
Dr. Jose Rodriguez, DDS	S&C Electric Company
Erica Crohn Minchella Law	SGHS Media Center
Exelon Corporation	St. Gregory the Great Parish
Faithworld International Church	Stuart Ferst School
Flood Testing Labs	Swedish American Museum
Gordon Pharmacy	Swedish Covenant Hospital
Greene & Proppe Design	Tempel Steel
Harmony Art Glass	UPS Store
Hollywood Towers Beauty Spa	Uptown Animal Hospital
Hotel Burnham	Victory Records
Jiffy Lube	Washington Mutual
Joel Hall Dance Center	Weiss Memorial Hospital

Program Guidelines

1. **Attendance** – Students must notify the employer if he/she is going to be late or out ill. They must ask about company policy and get needed information the very first day. They must also notify the school according to the regular policy. Time may need to be made up and excessive tardies will not only affect grades but may result in firing and failing. A student may be scheduled to work even on a day when he/she has no school.
2. **Contracts** – There are mandatory agreements that must be signed between the student, parent and school as well as between the employer and the school. Copies of these agreements are kept on file and are available for view upon request.
3. **Grades** – 70% of the grade will be based on the evaluation that the employer gives the student based on performance. The other 30% will be based on a journal, homework and attendance at the few protégé meetings that will be called over the course of the two stages.
4. **Journal** – The student should pick up a journal and begin using it immediately. They must write at least one (1) sentence each day. It might be what they did that day, or what they learned or whom they met. They should carry it at all time.
5. **Meetings** – Students will meet as a group on an irregular but frequent basis. Attendance is mandatory.
6. **Dress** – Most protégés are able to wear their uniform to work. If they are out-of-uniform they must be **more formal** than their uniform. Shirts and ties for young men. Dress slacks and modest tops (NO LOW CUT OR BARE MIDRIFTS) for young women. Two (2) infractions of this rule will revoke out-of-uniform privileges.