

# Arlington Catholic High School

## Program of Studies

### 2018 - 2019

This booklet is designed to acquaint you with the courses available at Arlington Catholic High School. You must carry a program of six full credit courses per year. Music courses may only be chosen as a seventh course. Careful consideration should be given to your abilities, interests, and aptitudes when choosing courses. Any student who is permitted to take a seventh full credit course may not drop that course after the add/drop period. Requirements for high school graduation and college admission are also important factors in course selection.

## Requirements for Graduation

English	4 years
Theology	4 years
Community Service Hours (see Theology Department section)	4 years
Math (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II + Additional Math)	4 years
Science (Biology, Chemistry + Additional Science)	3 years
Social Studies (Freshman History, US History + Additional Social Studies or AP Seminar )	3 years
Language (French, Italian, Latin, Spanish)	2 years
Physical Education	2 years
Fine Arts/Humanities (Beginning with the Class of 2022)	1 credit

## Requirements

### Grade 9

Algebra 1  
 English 1  
 History  
 Language  
 Theology 1  
 Physical Education

### Grade 10

Biology (if not yet taken)  
 English 2  
 Geometry  
 Language  
 Theology 2  
 Physical Education

### Grade 11

Algebra 2  
 Chemistry (if needed)  
 English 3  
 Theology 3  
 United States History

### Grade 12

English 4  
 Mathematics  
 Science (if needed)  
 Social Studies (if needed)  
 Theology 4

## Honors and Advanced Placement Courses

### Honors (Grade 9)

- In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.
- A minimum of a B+ average in the appropriate subject area in grades 7 & 8.
- Scores on standardized tests, including the High School Placement Test, that indicate the student is capable in a particular subject area.
- Scores on Arlington Catholic's Placement Exams (Math and World Language)
- Since topics covered are cumulative and require considerable critical thinking, regular school attendance, including a minimal number of tardies and dismissals, is required.
- Department approval.

### Honors & Advanced Placement (Grades 10, 11, 12)

- In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.
- Specific requirements for each course or department can be found in each department's section of this Program of Studies
- Since topics covered are cumulative and require considerable critical thinking, regular school attendance, including a minimal number of tardies and dismissals, is required.
- Standardized test scores including PSAT, SAT etc. if applicable.
- Approval of current teacher or Department Chair

**Please note that no one standard automatically qualifies a student's placement into a course. Approval of the respective department is required for all courses.**

Students should consult with parents, teachers, and Guidance Counselors to plan a program appropriate for their abilities, interests, and future plans. While all courses at Arlington Catholic are college-prep and require strong effort, participation and critical thinking, many students should choose courses beyond that level. Arlington Catholic will encourage students to move up to an honors or AP course if we feel that this will better serve a student's abilities or future plans.

Students should choose courses based on interest and ability, not by teacher. Teaching assignments are not finalized until after the course selection process is completed.

All students must be re-enrolled in order to be able to register for courses. Please refer to the selection sheet for each grade level for specific instructions on how to complete the online registration process through ParentsWeb. Students with outstanding financial obligations will not be scheduled until their account is up to date. The course selection deadline is March 28th. All students who do not choose courses by March 28, whether for financial reasons or lack of completion, will have limited courses available to them.

Incoming students, both transfers and freshmen, must meet requirements and pass department placement exams, as required, for certain courses. For all Honors and AP courses, academic departments will review lists of course requests and a student's academic record before students are scheduled. Students and families who choose a level of course at the objection of the faculty and administration may forfeit their ability to change course levels at a later date.

Arlington Catholic will attempt to honor all approved requests. Under-enrollment or course conflicts may make requested scheduling impossible. Students will be advised of the conflict and asked to select an alternative course. Schedule changes may also occur due to a student's failure to meet prerequisites, conflicts in scheduling, or errors in placement.

Students will be allowed to make schedule changes, *based on space available*, within the timeline and limitations listed below. Proper protocol must be followed before a change is made. Please note, due to master schedule restrictions ACHS will not accommodate student initiated course changes for convenience such as teacher preference, class period, etc.

- Prior to the first day of school: Students may change course selections based on space available.
- First cycle (A-G) of school: Students and teachers may initiate level changes of the same course as space permits.
- Second and third cycles of school: Only changes initiated by a teacher, counselor or administrator will be allowed as space permits. No class changes will be made after the third cycle of school. A minimal number of level changes, up or down, may be made during midyear exams prior to the start of Quarter 3 (after midyear exams) with permission of Department Chairs, Guidance and Administration.
- No elective changes will be permitted once classes have begun.

# English Department

All students are required to take four years of English.

Summer reading is required each year.

Department approval is required for Honors & AP courses

## ENGLISH 1

1 Credit

English 1 provides a comprehensive foundation of close reading, writing, and grammar skills that students build upon throughout their high school career. Fiction and nonfiction reading selections from a variety of literary genres center around the theme of *Leaving for Points Unknown*. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. In order to begin to think more critically about these works, freshmen consider literal and figurative language. They identify literary devices, build vocabulary, understand effective sentence structure, and practice close reading. Using the writing process, they craft personal, expository, analytical, and argumentative paragraphs and essays, as well as imaginative pieces.

Grade: 9

## HONORS ENGLISH 1

1 Credit

Honors English 1 covers content similar to that of English 1. This course provides a comprehensive foundation of close reading, writing, and grammar skills that students build upon throughout their high school career; however, students are required to read and write on a more analytical level. In addition, students are often expected to work more independently. Students read both fiction and nonfiction selections from the major literary genres that center around the theme of *Leaving for Points Unknown*, and begin to think more critically about these works. They learn to identify literary language, build vocabulary, understand effective sentence structure, and practice close reading. Using the writing process, they craft personal, expository, analytical, and argumentative paragraphs and essays, as well as imaginative pieces. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Grade: 9

**ENGLISH 2****1 Credit**

English 2 builds upon the skills and concepts introduced in English 1. Reading selections center around the theme of *Navigating*. Texts come from a variety of genres including the novel, the short story, Greek and Shakespearean drama, the graphic novel, and poetry. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. The writing process emphasizes gathering, organizing and developing ideas with greater sophistication. Students learn about diction, tone, style, and voice through close reading and imitation. They are introduced to rhetorical appeals and strategies through nonfiction essays and articles. Grammar, usage, sentence structure, and vocabulary are taught in conjunction with PSAT/SAT preparation.

Grade: 10

**HONORS ENGLISH 2****1 Credit**

Honors English 2 covers content similar to that of English 2. This course builds upon the skills and concepts introduced in English 1; however, students complete additional readings as well as read and write on a more analytical level. In addition, a short term paper on a literary topic is required. Reading selections center around the theme of *Navigating*. Texts come from a variety of genres including the novel, the short story, Greek and Shakespearean drama, the graphic novel, and poetry. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. The writing process emphasizes gathering, organizing and developing ideas with greater sophistication. Students learn about diction, tone, style, and voice through close reading and imitation. They are introduced to rhetorical appeals and strategies through nonfiction essays and articles. Grammar, usage, sentence structure, and vocabulary are taught in conjunction with PSAT/SAT preparation. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Grade: 10

**ENGLISH 3****1 Credit**

English 3: American Literature focuses on the works of American writers as well as major literary themes and movements from the colonial period to the present through the lens of *Exploration*. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. Readings, which include fiction and nonfiction, essays, short stories, poems, novels and plays, act as springboards for discussion as well as writing literary analysis, argument, and synthesis. In addition, an intensive language component stresses close reading skills, grammar, usage and writing for the SAT. In the spring, juniors are guided through the process of writing college application essays. All students are required to write a term paper on a literary topic and complete a number of independent reading assignments.

Grade: 11

**HONORS ENGLISH 3****1 Credit**

Honors English 3: American Literature focuses on the works of American writers as well as major literary themes and movements from the colonial period to the present through the lens of *Exploration*. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. The Honors course requires additional readings, projects, and writing assignments. Readings, which include fiction and nonfiction, essays, short stories, poems, novels and plays, act as springboards for discussion as well as writing literary analysis, argument, and synthesis. In addition, an intensive language component stresses close reading skills, grammar, usage and writing for the SAT. In the spring, juniors are guided through the process of writing college application essays. All students are required to write a term paper on a literary topic and complete a number of independent reading assignments. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Grade: 11

**ENGLISH 4****1 Credit**

English 4 prepares students for reading and writing at the college level. The year is divided into four specific quarters. During the first two quarters, students read works from various time periods and genres devoted to the theme of *Divining*. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. To prepare for reading, writing, and thinking at the college level, students synthesize and apply skills acquired during their high school studies. The third quarter focuses on honing writing skills, using memoir in particular as a springboard for various types of writing such as imitation, personal narrative, argument, and analysis. During the fourth quarter, seniors use both technology and traditional methods to conduct research, design oral presentations, practice collaboration, and write and study independently.

Grade: 12

**HONORS ENGLISH 4****1 Credit**

Honors English 4 covers content similar to that of English 4; however, students will complete additional readings and write more extensive analyses. The year is divided into four specific quarters. During the first two quarters, students read works from various time periods and genres devoted to the theme of *Divining*. The students and teacher often collaborate regarding the choice of readings and assignments. To prepare for reading, writing, and thinking at the college level, students synthesize and apply skills acquired during their high school studies. The third quarter focuses on honing writing skills, using memoir in particular as a springboard for various types of writing such as imitation, personal narrative, argument, and analysis. During the fourth quarter, seniors use both technology and traditional methods to conduct research, design oral presentations, practice collaboration, and write and study independently. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Grade: 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH (LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION)****1 Credit**

Advanced Placement English: Language and Composition is a college-level course that helps students become skilled readers and writers. Readings from a range of nonfiction and fiction genres provide a way to explore the interactions among subject matter, writer's purpose, and audience response, as well as the linguistic resources that contribute to effectiveness in writing. Students read and explore written and visual texts as a basis for writing rhetorical analysis, argument, and synthesis essays. In addition, they keep journals and craft critical and creative writing of their own in a variety of genres and styles for a variety of purposes. Students often submit to the school's literary magazine, as well as seek other opportunities for publication. After the AP Exam in the spring, juniors are guided through the process of writing college application essays. Summer reading and writing are required.

Students interested in this course are strongly urged to have taken Honors English 2 or Honors English 3 and to have maintained a B average. An honors attitude, seriousness of purpose, active engagement in class material and discussion, participation, self-motivation, and strong work ethic are expected. Applicants from English 2 must have teacher approval. Students may be asked to submit a writing sample.

This course prepares students to earn college credit by passing the Advanced Placement Examination in Language and Composition. Students are required to take the AP Examination.

Grade: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH (LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION)****1 Credit**

Advanced Placement English: Literature and Composition is a college-level course which combines the reading and critical analysis of literature with extensive and detailed student composition. Students write essays interpreting works from a wide range of literary genres. Summer reading is required

Students interested in this course are strongly urged to have taken AP Language and Composition and to have maintained a B average. An honors attitude, seriousness of purpose, active engagement in class material and discussion, participation, self-motivation, and strong work ethic are expected. Applicants from Honors English 3 and English 3 must have teacher approval. Students may be asked to submit a writing sample.

The course prepares students to earn college credit by passing the Advanced Placement Examination in Literature and Composition. Students are required to take the AP Examination.

Grade: 12



**CREATIVE WRITING****1 Credit**

Get creative! This elective course offers students a forum for self-expression through writings other than the standard five-paragraph essay. Students will model a variety of genres including poetry, memoir, short fiction, drama, and news journalism, as well as work with mixed media forms, blending photography, visual art, video and music with words. They will free-write, read and imitate, keep a “real” notebook and build a digital portfolio. Students will be encouraged to enter contests and look for publishing opportunities such as *Teen Ink* and the school literary magazine, *Imaginary Gardens*. This course will fulfill the Fine Arts/Humanities requirement.

Grade: 10, 11, 12

# Social Studies Department

All students are required to take three years of Social Studies, which includes Western Civilization or Honors World History in the freshman year and US History in the junior year. AP Seminar may be used to fulfill the three year requirement, but does not, for juniors, replace US History. Department approval is required for Honors and AP courses.

## **WESTERN CIVILIZATION**

1 Credit

This course is a survey of the great civilizations of the western world. Beginning with pre-history, and ancient cultures, students will then discover the histories and culture of Greece and Rome; the rise of the Islamic World; and the development of Europe through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The course concludes with a study of Absolutism. Students develop skills in geography and writing, as well as in document reading and analysis.

Grade: 9

## **HONORS WORLD HISTORY**

1 Credit

This course is a study of the great civilizations of the world, beginning with Prehistory through the Reformation and Renaissance. Students will study The Middle East, China, India, Africa, Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Europe. The main aspects of a civilization are covered: government structure, culture, belief systems, societal structure, and geography. Emphasis will be placed on critical reading and writing as well as the development of a student's analytical skills. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Grade: 9

## **MODERN WORLD HISTORY**

1 Credit

This course examines the major turning points of the modern world from approximately 1700 to contemporary time. Components of this class include: Historical Linkage, the Enlightenment, the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution, Nationalism and the growth of Democracy, the Rise of Imperialism and Colonialism, World War I, Totalitarianism, World War II and the Cold War. Students should develop an understanding of the historic as well as contemporary geographic, social, political and economic consequences of the various areas and problems they review. Completion of a history course in the sophomore year is required for admission to AP U.S. History.

Grade: 10

**HONORS MODERN WORLD HISTORY**

1 Credit

This honors course explores major themes in world history from the time of the Scientific Revolution until the present day. Students will examine political, economic, social, and cultural aspects of history. Significant topics include the Enlightenment, Nationalism, Imperialism, Wars of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Popular Culture and significant revolutions (both violent and nonviolent). Great emphasis will be placed on analysis of issues and writing. Students are required to complete a written research project for this course. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated. Completion of a history course in the sophomore year is required for admission to AP U.S. History.

Grade: 10

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT WORLD HISTORY**

1 Credit

This course allows students to develop greater understanding of the evolution of global processes and contacts, in interaction with different types of human societies. Students examine and compare changes and the consequences of these changes throughout world history; it is these changes that, over time, have resulted in the knitting of the world into the tightly integrated whole it is today. The AP World History Exam covers material from approximately 8000 B.C. through the present day. Given the time frame for the course, preference will be given to students who have completed Honors World History, although the Department Chair/course instructor may allow students who did exceptionally well in Western Civilization to select this course with the understanding that additional reading may be required; departmental approval is required for all students to enroll in this course. Students are required to take the AP exam in May.

Grade: 10

**UNITED STATES HISTORY**

1 Credit

This course provides a one year survey of American history by exploring the themes of democracy, war, immigration, and social change. Examination of primary/secondary sources, critical thinking skills, cooperative learning, and discussion will be used to allow students to understand how the past relates to the present and the future.

Grade: 11

**HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY****1 Credit**

This course provides a one year survey of American history by exploring the themes of democracy, war, immigration, and social change. Examination of primary/secondary sources, critical thinking skills, cooperative learning, and discussion will be used to allow students to understand how the past relates to the present and the future. While essentially the same content as US History, instruction is at an accelerated pace and more independent work is required. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Grade: 11

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY****1 Credit**

This course is a single academic year survey of the history of the USA from first discovery to the present day. The course examines the geographic, political, diplomatic, cultural, social and economic forces that converged over time to forge a unique and dynamic entity that continues to impact the evolution of world society. The course involves extensive reading assignments and written work to prepare for class. Students must take the AP Exam in May.

Grade: 11

Requirement: Completion of history or AP Seminar in the sophomore year and departmental approval.

**AMERICAN LAW AND SOCIETY****1 Credit**

This course examines American Law in our judicial system today. Subject matter covered during the course of the year includes: The Constitution; Bill of Rights; other amendments, United States Supreme Court decisions; due process of law; lawmaking; the legal profession; crime in America; the criminal justice process; torts; contracts; and consumer law. Students are required to complete a written research project in this course.

Grade: 12

**ART HISTORY****1 Credit**

What is art and how is it made? Why and how does art change? How do we describe our thinking about art? These questions invite Art History students to discover the diversity of and connections among global artistic traditions in this year long course. Students interact with different types of art, observing and analyzing relationships of form, function, content, and context. Actively engaging with the art world through their reading, discussion, research, and writing, they learn about the visual characteristics of art, the people who make and experience art, materials and processes that create art, and the contexts that frame its production and reception. This course will fulfill the Fine Arts/Humanities requirement.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY****1 Credit**

Advanced Placement Psychology introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. Students also learn about the ethics and methods that psychologists use in their study. This course requires nightly reading assignments, numerous writing assignments, and extensive class participation. There is also a summer assignment for this course. Emphasis is placed on the ability to think, read, and write in a critical fashion. Students are required to take the AP examination.

Any student who is willing to do the work equivalent to a first-year college level course is invited to enroll and must submit an enrollment contract *before* registering for this course. No student will be permitted to withdraw from the course after the first full cycle of classes in September.

Grade: 12

**PSYCHOLOGY****1 Credit**

This course examines human behavior and thought processes. Among the topics that will be covered are: research methods; social psychology; how the brain and nervous system affects our behavior; perception; learning and memory; development across the lifespan; sleeping; hypnosis; and drug use; intelligence, personality and psychological disorders. Students will apply their study of psychology to their lives. Students will be required to do independent reading to prepare for class, actively participate and complete outside class projects.

Grade: 12

# Mathematics Department

All students are required to take four years of math,  
which generally includes Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2.

Courses marked with an asterisk (\*) below, do not fulfill the mathematics requirement.  
Any version of the TI-84 or TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required in all math classes.

**Note:** A grade of B- is required to remain in Advanced or Honors Math courses. A year end grade of A- and departmental approval are both required to move from an Honors level course to an Advanced level course; as well as to move from a college-prep level to an Honors level course. Departmental approval is required for Honors & AP courses.

## **ALGEBRA 1**

1 Credit

Algebra 1 is designed to give the students a solid foundation in basic algebraic concepts and skills which include sets, structure of number systems, equalities, and graphing in the coordinate plane. Highlighting some of the key areas of introductory geometry and basic logical reasoning, provides students the underlying groundwork for future mathematics courses.

Grade: 9

## **HONORS ALGEBRA 1**

1 Credit

This course is designed for the student well prepared by fundamental pre-algebra. Moving at a rapid pace, students are challenged by a highly competitive atmosphere. Students discover and develop algebraic concepts and skills by relating their knowledge of numbers to the variable. Topics include the language of sets, linear equalities, and inequalities, quadratic equations, linear systems, and functions. Numerous word problems provide practical application of the concepts being developed.

Grade: 9

**ADVANCED GEOMETRY****1 Credit**

This course is designed for highly motivated students with exceptional math skills and a strong background in Algebra. The course integrates Algebra concepts in the study of Geometry. The work centers around two basic understandings: the development of geometrical principles on a plane, and the nature of mathematical proofs. These two objectives are met by starting with undefined terms, such as point, line and plane, and then proceeding through the axioms and postulates to the theorems. In this approach, concepts are important as they relate to one another. The course concludes with the study of Area and Volume. In Advanced Geometry the subject matter is studied in greater depth, with more difficult proofs, than in the Honors Geometry course.

Grade: 9

**ADVANCED ALGEBRA 2 & TRIGONOMETRY****1 Credit**

This course is designed for highly motivated students with exceptional math skills and a strong background in Algebra and Geometry. Topics covered will include linear and quadratic functions, matrices, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, analytic geometry and an introduction to trigonometry. These topics are covered at a necessary depth to progress to Advanced Precalculus as a junior and AP Calculus as a senior.

Grade: 10

**GEOMETRY****1 Credit**

Basic concepts of Geometry which include point, line, and plane are discussed; various axioms, postulates and theorems contributing to the understanding of proofs are studied. The reinforcement of algebraic concepts helps to foster an understanding of mathematical reasoning and to illustrate the interrelation between Geometry and Algebra. Basic trigonometric ratios are also explored.

Grade: 10

**HONORS GEOMETRY****1 Credit**

The work centers around two basic understandings: the development of geometrical principles on a plane, and the nature of mathematical proofs. These two objectives are met by starting with undefined terms, such as point, line and plane, and then proceeding through the axioms and postulates to the theorems. In this approach, concepts are important as they relate to one another. In Honors Geometry the subject matter is studied in greater depth than in the college-prep course.

Grade: 10

**HONORS ALGEBRA 2 & TRIGONOMETRY– 230****1 Credit**

This is an intensive course in Algebraic skills which goes into greater depth and at a more accelerated pace than Algebra 2. Topics covered will include linear and quadratic functions, matrices, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, analytic geometry and an introduction to trigonometry. These topics are necessary for the study of Pre-Calculus and Calculus.

Grade: 11

**ALGEBRA 2****1 Credit**

This course consists of a detailed development of algebraic theory in the rational, real, and complex number systems. The subject matter deals with the study of relations, their properties and graphs with attention to the polynomial, logarithmic, and exponential functions. This course provides a strong foundation for all higher mathematics courses.

Grade: 11



**PRE-CALCULUS****1 Credit**

This course will prepare students for the next level mathematics course they would take in college. Topics include: coordinate geometry, polynomials, inequalities, functions, exponentials and logarithms. Time permitting, trigonometry would also be covered. The content taught in this course applies algebraic processes to analyze data and graphs.

Grades: 11, 12

**HONORS PRE-CALCULUS****1 Credit**

This course is intended for the above average math students. The same topics studied in Pre-Calculus are studied in this course, but at an accelerated pace. More emphasis is placed on the theory and use of the graphing calculator.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PRE-CALCULUS****1 Credit**

This course is intended for the advanced math student. The Pre-Calculus topics will be discussed at an advanced level and accelerated pace, with more emphasis on trigonometry. This course prepares students for the AP Calculus course.

Grade: 10, 11

**HONORS CALCULUS****1 Credit**

This course will prepare students for further study of mathematics in college. Topics covered will include a review of algebra, functions and graphs, derivatives, applications of the derivatives, exponential and logarithmic functions, integration, and applications of integration. Students must have successfully completed one full year of Honors Pre-Calculus.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB****1 Credit**

Advanced Placement Calculus is a college-level course which includes differential and integral calculus, and their applications. This course is intended for those students who are planning careers in engineering, mathematics, or computer science, and prepares students to earn college credit by taking the Advanced Placement exam. Any student wishing to take this course must have successfully completed one full year of Advanced Pre-Calculus and be recommended by the Advanced Pre-Calculus teacher. The student is required to take the Advanced Placement Calculus AB Exam.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS BC****1 Credit**

Advanced Placement Calculus BC is a college-level course which includes differential and integral calculus, infinite sequences and series, polar functions, and applications of these topics. This course is intended for those students who are planning careers in engineering, mathematics, or computer science; and prepares students to earn college credit by taking the Advanced Placement BC exam. Any student wishing to take this course must have successfully completed one full year of Advanced Placement Calculus AB and be recommended by the AP Calculus AB teacher. The student is required to take the Advanced Placement Calculus BC Exam.

Grade: 12

**HONORS ROBOTICS \*****1 Credit**

This is a STEM-related (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) course that will be challenging but great fun! This course will be a standard length ACHS course earning honors credit, structured as a hands-on, laboratory-style class in which we will be designing, building, and programming autonomous robots. We have a sophisticated collection of robotics parts to use gathered from our recent participation in the New England Regional Botball Competition (<http://www.botball.org/>). In fact, the culmination of the course will be participating in the Botball competition held annually at UMass, Lowell. Our robots will be programmed using a modified C language which contains an extensive library of special functions to control motors, sensors, and even webcams!

Grades: 11, 12

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP & MARKETING\*****1 Credit**

This course will encourage students to explore all aspects of business, from recognizing opportunities to planning for successful futures. The major emphasis is on developing a start-up business and by the end of the course, pitching the plan. Topics will include: the entrepreneurial mindset, developing opportunities, business organization, marketing strategies, accounting, inventory management and essential financial statements. Students will develop a business plan and present in a “Shark Tank” environment to potential “investors.” Guest speakers, group projects and various simulations will be used to provide students with a thorough understanding of all aspects of running a business.

Grades: 11, 12

**COMPUTER APPLICATIONS \*****1 Credit**

This laboratory class is designed to develop an understanding of and literacy about computers and digital technology. In addition to using print and electronic textbooks, the Internet is integrated throughout both semesters of this split topic course. During the first semester, students develop expertise in the use of the Microsoft Office Suite, covering advanced Word topics, Excel spreadsheets, and Access databases. In the second semester, students explore desktop publishing and graphic design. Beginning with advanced topics in Microsoft PowerPoint and then moving on to Adobe In Design for advanced page layout, the course covers aspects of the design and production of communication products. The course also covers electronic publishing including producing Adobe PDF documents and basic web pages.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**WEB DESIGN \*****1 Credit**

Students learn to create dynamic and interactive web sites. In the first semester, students learn to write HTML and CSS code while using Adobe Dreamweaver to create web pages. Effective graphics are a big part of programming for the web, and students also learn to use Adobe Photoshop to manipulate graphics files. In the second semester, students learn to use JavaScript to make their web pages more interactive and responsive to the user. To provide an authentic web developer experience, students are given access to a domain and publish their own web site to the World Wide Web. Students also explore audio and video helper applications to add multimedia components to their projects. Finally, students use Adobe Flash to create interactive video components to add to their web pages.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**COMPUTER PROGRAMMING \*****1 Credit**

This course provides a foundation in computer programming using the Java language. Students will gain an understanding of object-oriented programming including data encapsulation and polymorphism. Topics include: data representation; writing classes; using decision and looping structures; manipulating arrays; and learning the basics of Swing graphics. Completion of this course will place the student in a strong position to excel in an advanced Computer Science course.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A\*****1 Credit**

This course covers topics typically found in a college-level first course in computer science, and provides a solid preparation for the College Board's Advanced Placement Computer Science A examination. The course introduces students to computer science with fundamental topics that include problem solving, design strategies and methodologies, organization of data (data structures), approaches to processing data (algorithms), analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing. This course is designed for students with knowledge of basic English and algebra and having intermediate to advanced PC skills. Students should be comfortable with functions and the concepts found in the uses of functional notation, such as  $f(x) = x + 2$ . Emphasis will be placed on the study of Java syntax, object-oriented programming, problem solving, and algorithmic development.

Grades: 11, 12

# Science Department

All students are required to take three years of science, including **Biology and Chemistry**.  
Department approval is required for all Honors and AP courses.

## HONORS BIOLOGY 1

1 Credit

Honors Biology 1 is designed for freshmen who plan to take four years of science at Arlington Catholic and have demonstrated high aptitude in mathematics and reading comprehension. It is a laboratory-based course intended to provide those students with an in-depth knowledge of biology and to further develop their investigative and interpretive skills. Its content is taught on a molecular level, allowing students a better understanding of the rapid advances in biology. Topics include: cells, DNA structure, protein synthesis, genetics, evolution, biochemistry, as well as a deeper study of life processes as they relate to various organisms. This course requires independent research and study.

Grades: 9, 10

## BIOLOGY 1

1 Credit

Biology 1 is a **required laboratory course** offered to freshmen and sophomores. This course is designed to heighten awareness of the interdependence of living organisms with the environment. Topics covered include: cell structure and function, the cell cycle, biochemistry of organic nutrients, classification, energy transformations, DNA, genetics, evolution and life processes as they relate to various organisms.

Grades: 9, 10

## CHEMISTRY

1 Credit

A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Chemistry is a **required laboratory course** offered to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. This course is designed to familiarize students with the basic concepts involved in chemistry. Topics covered include: structure, properties and classification of matter; physical and chemical changes in matter; formula writing; chemical equations; atomic structure; periodic properties of the elements; chemical bonding; behavior of gases and the gas laws; acids, bases and salts; and basic stoichiometry. Laboratory exercises are designed to reinforce principles taught in the class.

Grades: 10, 11

**HONORS CHEMISTRY 1****1 Credit**

A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Honors Chemistry acquaints the student with the basic concepts of chemistry as outlined in college-prep chemistry; however, it includes a more intensive treatment of subject matter with a particular emphasis on chemical mathematics. This course requires independent research.

Grades: 10, 11

**HONORS BIOTECHNOLOGY****1 Credit**

This introductory course in biotechnology will give students a broad understanding of biotechnology and its impact on society. Topics covered include microbiology and cell culture; human genetics, plant tissue culturing; DNA and RNA, protein technologies; healthcare and pharmaceuticals; food processing (GMO's); energy and environmental management; cloning; stem cells; and bioethics. Lab exercises include the following but are not limited to Gram staining, microbes and health, bacterial transformation, DNA extraction, casting agarose gels, electrophoresis, SDS-PAGE, size exclusion chromatography, plant cloning, biofuels, and comparative proteomics.

Requirements: Students need to have completed Biology and Chemistry and should have attained a B+ average in each class or B- in Honors Biology I or II and Honors Chemistry I or II.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY****1 Credit**

AP Biology is a course designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. Colleges may grant credit, appropriate placement in college courses, or both, to students who have scored satisfactorily on the AP exam. Goals of this course include the following: to help students develop a conceptual understanding of science as a process; to give students personal experience in scientific inquiry; to study unifying themes that integrate major topics in biology; and to apply knowledge and critical thinking to environmental and social concerns. Students who take AP Biology will develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts in and across domains. The AP Biology curriculum revolves around four Big Ideas. These are:

Big Idea 1: The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life.

Big Idea 2: Biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis.

Big Idea 3: Living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes.

Big Idea 4: Biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties.

Students will be responsible for designing and running their own experiments which may require extra time before or after school and students must also complete a summer assignment prior to the start of the course in the fall. All students are required to take the AP Biology Exam.

Requirements: Students must have advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, and must have received at least an A- in both Honors Biology 1 and Honors Chemistry in addition to having above average reading comprehension. Standardized test scores will also be considered.

Grades: 11, 12

**HONORS CHEMISTRY 2****1Credit**

Honors Chemistry 2 is open to juniors and seniors who have had a solid performance in mathematics and in their first year chemistry course. This course offers a strong college preparatory background in qualitative, quantitative, and theoretical aspects of chemistry for those interested in pursuing science or healthcare-related courses in college. This course expects students will make a serious commitment of time and energy. Concepts presented include: structure and properties of matter; states of matter; energy transformations; solutions; reaction types; stoichiometry; equilibrium; kinetics; electrochemistry; nuclear chemistry; and introduction to both organic chemistry and biochemistry. Students are required to prepare independent projects. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Requirements: Students must have a B+ in Algebra 2 and other mathematics courses and B+ in Chemistry or B in Honors Chemistry and Honors Algebra 2 as well as other honors mathematics courses. Students coming from Chemistry are responsible for topics that bridge the gap between college-prep Chemistry and Honors Chemistry. There will be a summer assignment.

Grades: 11, 12

**BIOLOGY 2****1 Credit**

This course is for juniors or seniors who need to fulfill a third year science requirement or wish to enroll in a fourth year elective. Topics covered will help students develop into global citizens who are informed of timely issues and who can use their knowledge to make informed decisions at the personal, national and global levels. Topics covered include, but are not limited to, macromolecules; cells; homeostasis; DNA; human body systems; plants; classification; and evolution. These topics go into greater detail than those covered in Biology 1.

Grades: 11, 12

Requirements: Students need to have completed Biology and Chemistry.



**INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING-****1 Credit**

This elective gives students a basic overview of the engineering process. This involves the application of scientific knowledge to the solution of everyday problems in ways that pay attention to the needs of society and the environment while taking into account economic constraints. This hands on course requires students to work independently as well as in groups to research, develop, build and test projects in areas such as, but not limited to, transportation, manufacturing, and construction.

Requirements: It is recommended that students have received at least a B- in previous science courses.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY****1 Credit**

AP Chemistry is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year in college. For some students, this course enables them to undertake, in their first year, second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or to register in courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. For other students, the AP Chemistry course fulfills the laboratory science requirement and frees time for other courses. AP Chemistry will meet the objectives of a college general chemistry course. Students in this course will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course will contribute to the development of the students' abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. This course differs from the usual first high school level chemistry course with respect to the kind of textbook used, the topics covered, the emphasis on chemical calculations and the mathematical formulation of principles, and the kind of laboratory work done by students. Other differences include the number of topics treated, the time spent on the course by students, and the nature and variety of experiments done in the laboratory. Topics covered include atomic theory and structure, periodicity, chemical bonding, acids and bases, gases, liquids, solids, solutions, reaction types, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics and thermodynamics. The course also requires students to participate in laboratory experiments, which will involve extra time before and after school. Students must complete a summer assignment prior to the start of the course in the fall. All students enrolled in this class are required to take the AP Chemistry exam.

Grades: 11, 12

Requirements: Students must have received at least an A- in Honors Chemistry as well as an A- in Honors Algebra 2 or an equivalent math course. Standardized test scores will also be considered.

**PHYSICS****1 Credit**

This course is open to juniors and seniors who have a good mathematical background. Basic algebra and simple trigonometry are used for problem solving. The course is designed to familiarize students with concepts of physics necessary for following science courses in college. Topics include: kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, and power, linear momentum, circular and rotational motion, gravitation, waves, heat, electricity and magnetism. Laboratories are included to reinforce topics. Students taking this course are required to prepare independent projects. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Requirements: Students enrolling in this course should have completed Algebra 2 and received a minimum of a B as a final average. It is recommended that students have received at least a B- in previous science courses.

Grades: 11, 12

**HONORS PHYSICS****1 Credit**

This course provides an introduction to physics principles with a more quantitative approach than Physics. This course moves at a faster pace and involves more problem solving than Physics. Laboratories are included to reinforce topics. Topics include kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, and power, linear momentum, circular and rotational motion and gravitation, waves, heat, electricity and magnetism. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

Grades: 11, 12

Requirements: Students must have demonstrated very strong mathematical abilities and should have completed Honors Algebra 2/Trig and received a minimum of a B as a final average.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PHYSICS C: MECHANICS****1 Credit**

This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory physics course usually taken by physics and engineering majors during their first semester. This is a calculus-based course that deals with the following topics: kinematics, Newton's laws of motion, work, energy and power, systems of particles and linear momentum, circular motion and rotation, oscillations and gravitation. The course includes hands-on laboratory work that is comparable to the laboratory component of an introductory college physics course. The student is required to take the AP Physics C: Mechanics exam. A TI-84 Plus graphing calculator (silver edition) is required for this course.

Grades: 11, 12

Requirements: AP Calculus AB must be taken previously or concurrently. If AP Calculus is being taken concurrently then students should have received an A- in Advanced Pre-Calculus.

**HONORS ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY****1 Credit**

Honors Anatomy and Physiology is open to juniors and seniors who are interested in pursuing a health-care related course of study in college. It is an in-depth, lab-based course that explores the structure and function of the human body systems and how they work together to maintain homeostasis or health. The course prepares the student for a college level Anatomy and Physiology course. Students who do not intend to undertake a college program of study in the healthcare fields can take the course but should be aware of the rapid pace and in depth approach the course will follow. Independent reading and research are required in this course. The lab component includes mandatory dissections. Also, a summer project will be required and will be due on the first day of class.

Grades: 11, 12

Requirements: Students need to have completed Biology and Chemistry and should have attained a B+ average in each class or B- in Honors Biology I or II and Honors Chemistry I or II.

**FORENSIC SCIENCE****1 Credit**

Forensics is a multidisciplinary course which incorporates biology, chemistry, and physics as well as analytical skills. This course is developed to fulfill the third year lab science requirement or for those students who wish to take a fourth year of science. It is intended for those who have a strong interest in the sciences. The course will include labs, lab reports, projects and presentations. Topics will include, but are not limited to: observation skills, crime scene investigation, hair analysis, blood and blood splatter patterns, fingerprinting analysis, case studies, forensic toxicology, handwriting analysis, and forensic anthropology.

**Students should be aware there may be graphic material.**

Requirements: Students need to have completed Biology and Chemistry.

Grades: 11, 12

# Physical Education

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

¼ Credit

Physical Education is a course requirement for all Freshmen and Sophomores. The Physical Education class is an introduction to basic skills and movement by participation and instruction in the following activities: Badminton, Basketball, Flag Football, Lacrosse, Paddle Tennis, Pilo-Polo, Ping Pong, Whiffle Ball, Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, Jump Rope, and Hula Hoops. Students will work on individual skills as well as group work and teamwork by participating in a variety of structured recreational games. Physical Education class will also utilize and understand the importance of the Wellness Center and the Turf Field. Throughout the year all Physical Education classes will participate in Health Workshop programs. The Physical Education Program helps students develop socially, emotionally and physically. The Physical Education class promotes a healthy environment with emphasis placed on good sportsmanship and fair play.

Grades: 9, 10

# World Language Department

All students are required to take a minimum of two consecutive years of French, Italian, Latin or Spanish. A minimum of a B- average in an honors course is required to remain in that level. A minimum of a B+ average in the appropriate prerequisite college preparatory course(s) is required to move to the honors level.

Departmental approval is required for all Honors and AP courses.

**Please note:** Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test in order to be placed in a College Prep 2 or Honors level 2 course.

## **FRENCH 1**

1 Credit

French 1 is for students who have never studied French before or have had very little French at the middle school level. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the French-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in French and students are encouraged to speak as much French as possible.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

## **HONORS FRENCH 1**

1 Credit

Honors French 1 is for students who have never studied French before or have had very little French at the middle school level and are generally strong students academically. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the French-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in French and students are encouraged to speak as much French as possible.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

**FRENCH 2****1 Credit**

French 2 is for students who have completed a French 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level. This course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of French-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak only French during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**HONORS FRENCH 2****1 Credit**

Honors French 2 is for students who have completed a French 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level and are generally strong students academically. The course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of French-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak only French during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**HONORS FRENCH 3****1 Credit**

Honors French 3 continues to build on the skills learned in prior levels, emphasizing both fluency and accuracy through more advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. The course also focuses on developing a greater understanding of the customs and cultures of French-speaking countries. The Level 3 National French Exam is taken in the spring. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak only French during class time.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**HONORS FRENCH 4****1 Credit**

Honors French 4 continues to build on the skills learned in prior levels, emphasizing both fluency and accuracy through advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. It also focuses on developing an even greater understanding of the customs and cultures of French-speaking countries. The Level 4 National French Exam is taken in the spring. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak only French during class time.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (VHS)****1 Credit**

This is a challenging, college-level course for students who have had a minimum of four years of French (at least one year in middle school and Honors French 2, Honors French 3 and Honors French 4 in high school). The course prepares students for the various components of the AP exam: reading comprehension, listening comprehension, a formal email response, a persuasive essay using three sources, a recorded conversation, and a recorded cultural presentation. Students must take the AP exam in the spring in order to receive AP course credit. In addition, students may opt to take the Level 5 National French Exam in the spring.

Grade: 12

**ITALIAN 1****1 Credit**

Italian 1 is for students who have never studied Italian before or have had very little Italian at the middle school level. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and culture of Italy is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Italian and students are encouraged to speak as much Italian as possible.

Grades: 9, 10, 11



**HONORS ITALIAN 1****1 Credit**

Honors Italian 1 is for students who have never studied Italian before or have had very little Italian at the middle school level and are generally strong students academically. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and culture of Italy is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Italian and students are encouraged to speak as much Italian as possible.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

**ITALIAN 2****1 Credit**

Italian 2 is for students who have completed an Italian 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level. This course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Italy. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Italian and students are expected to speak only Italian during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

**HONORS ITALIAN 2****1 Credit**

Honors Italian 2 is for students who have completed an Italian 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level and are generally strong students academically. The course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Italy. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Italian and students are expected to speak only Italian during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

**LATIN 1****1 Credit**

This course is designed for students who have had no previous study of Latin. Latin-derived English vocabulary and the general principles of how such words are formed will be a major focus of the course. In addition, important aspects of Roman civilization will be presented.

Grades 9, 10, 11

**HONORS LATIN 1****1 Credit**

This course is designed for students who have had no previous study of Latin and are generally strong academically. Students will work at a more intensive pace than in Latin 1. The major focus of the course is Latin vocabulary, grammar and reading comprehension. In addition, important aspects of Roman civilization will be presented. Students will be prepared to take the Level 1 National Latin Exam in the spring.

Grades 9, 10, 11

**LATIN 2****1 Credit**

This course builds on the skills learned in Latin 1. Students will be expected to do work involving the active production of Latin as well as reading comprehension of increasingly authentic Latin prose. In addition, important aspects of Roman history and civilization will be presented. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades 9, 10, 11

**HONORS LATIN 2****1 Credit**

This course builds on the skills learned in Honors Latin 1. Taught at a more rigorous pace than Latin 2, students will be expected to do work involving the active production of Latin as well as reading comprehension of increasingly authentic Latin prose. In addition, important aspects of Roman history and civilization will be presented. Students will be prepared to take the Level 2 National Latin Exam in the spring. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades 9, 10, 11

**HONORS LATIN 3****1 Credit**

This course builds on the skills learned in Honors Latin 2 with a focus on literary vocabulary and advanced concepts of grammar. Students will be expected to do rigorous work involving the active production of Latin as well as reading comprehension of authentic Latin prose. Unique to this level is the study of the late Republican era of Roman history and the writings of Julius Caesar and Virgil. Students will be prepared to take the Level 3 National Latin Exam in the spring.

Grades 10, 11

**SPANISH 1****1 Credit**

Spanish 1 is for students who have never studied Spanish before or have had very little Spanish at the middle school level. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Spanish and students are encouraged to speak Spanish in class.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

**HONORS SPANISH 1****1 Credit**

Honors Spanish I is for students who have never studied Spanish before or have had very little Spanish at the middle school level and are generally strong students. This course is taught at a more rigorous pace than Spanish 1. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Spanish and students are encouraged to speak as much Spanish as possible.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

**SPANISH 2****1 Credit**

Spanish 2 is for students who have completed a Spanish 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level. This course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**HONORS SPANISH 2****1 Credit**

Honors Spanish 2 is for students who have completed a Spanish 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level and are generally strong students academically. Taught at a more rigorous pace than Spanish 2, this course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to enroll in this level.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**SPANISH 3****1 Credit**

This course emphasizes a building of the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills learned in Spanish 2 with focus on more advanced structures, vocabulary and idiomatic expressions. The course also develops a greater understanding of the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**HONORS SPANISH 3****1 Credit**

Honors Spanish 3 emphasizes building both fluency and accuracy through more advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. Taught at a more rigorous pace than Spanish 3, the course also develops a greater understanding of the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. The Level 3 National Spanish Exam is taken in the spring. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**SPANISH 4****1 Credit**

Spanish 4 continues to emphasize the building of fluency and accuracy through advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. It also focuses on developing a deeper understanding of the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time.

Grades: 11, 12

**HONORS SPANISH 4****1 Credit**

Honors Spanish 4 continues to emphasize the building of both fluency and accuracy through advanced listening, speaking, reading and writing activities. Taught at a more rigorous pace than Spanish 4, the course also focuses on developing a deeper understanding of the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. The Level 4 National Spanish Exam is taken in the spring. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time.

Grades: 11, 12

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE****1 Credit**

This is a challenging, college-level course for students who have had a minimum of four years of Spanish (at least one year in middle school and Honors Spanish 2, Honors Spanish 3 and Honors Spanish 4 in high school). Taught exclusively in Spanish, the course prepares students for the various components of the AP exam: reading comprehension, listening comprehension, a formal email response, a persuasive essay using three sources, a recorded conversation, and a recorded cultural presentation. Students must take the AP exam in the spring in order to receive AP course credit. In addition, students may opt to take the Level 5 National Spanish Exam in the spring.

Grade: 12

# Theology Department

All students are required to take four years of Theology, which includes a one semester elective their senior year. Active participation is expected in all classes.  
Departmental approval is required for Honors courses.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT

In keeping with our mission as a Catholic school and to living out our Core Values, students are required to complete community service hours each year. As part of their Theology course, students will reflect on their service from a Christian perspective.

### Required Hours:

Freshmen: 20 hours

Sophomores: 20 hours

Juniors: 10 hours

Seniors: 5 hours (completed by the end of first quarter) and an in-class activity in their Theology course

Service sites must be approved by the Campus Ministry office; the “Ministry” section of the school website lists approved locations and contacts. *Students are strongly encouraged to find volunteer opportunities at their local parish, Saint Agnes Parish or Saint Agnes School.*

Students may choose to complete their service hours over the summer. All service must be completed no later than March 1<sup>st</sup> of each year; service hours for seniors must be completed by the end of the first quarter. Students will be required to submit their service information and must submit a reflection paper in order to receive credit for their service. A due date for these forms and papers will be announced in Theology class. A sample of each grade’s service will be verified with the sponsoring location.

Students who do not complete the service, do not properly submit the form or do not submit a reflection paper will receive a grade of Incomplete on their report card which will remain in place until the service is completed and forms or reflection papers are submitted. As Community Service is both essential to our mission as a Catholic school as well as a graduation requirement, students who do not complete the requirement may be ineligible to return to Arlington Catholic.

**THEOLOGY 1**1 Credit**FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLIC BELIEF**

This course introduces the four-year Theology curriculum. Its purpose is to help the students examine and deepen their own understanding of the fundamental beliefs of the Catholic faith. Students explore the nature of God and faith and the meaning of God's call to act with unconditional love and live with a Catholic worldview. In addition, such basic doctrines as the Trinity, the Incarnation, and the Paschal Mystery are studied. Students are encouraged to apply these concepts to their own lives.

**INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

This course is designed as an introduction to the Bible as well as a study of the Hebrew Scriptures. It offers students an opportunity to read the Bible and learn how to understand and apply its truths to their own lives. Through a study of basic biblical themes, the course develops an understanding of how God has worked in human history and still works in our world today.

Grade: 9

**THEOLOGY 2**1 Credit**INTRODUCTION TO THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES**

This course introduces students to the person and message of Jesus and continues the study of the Bible begun in the preceding course. It shows students how to understand the message of the Christian Scriptures in light of the Gospels. Students are given opportunities to apply Jesus' message to their own lives.

**CHRISTIAN MORALITY**

This course presents a Catholic understanding of the nature and meaning of morality based on reason and Revelation. Using Jesus as a role model, the course focuses on the Christian concepts of conscience development, moral law and freedom.

Grade: 10



**HONORS THEOLOGY 2**1 Credit

This course covers essentially the same material as the college-prep course. However, it offers students the opportunity to explore these concepts in more depth. Therefore, this course requires students to do additional reading, write quality essays, and engage in active, meaningful discussions. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Recommendation: Students should have a minimum grade of B+ in Theology 1.

Grade: 10

**THEOLOGY 3**1 Credit**SOCIAL JUSTICE**

This course is designed to enable students to make mature, Christian decisions about complex world problems. Specifically, the course addresses national and global problems such as racism, sexism, a poverty and war. The responsibility of the Church to address these issues is examined through the study of pertinent Church documents, encyclicals and pastoral letters.

**SACRAMENTS AND THE CHURCH**

This course examines the concepts of sacredness and sacramental awareness from a Catholic perspective. The meanings of symbols and rituals are explored through the study of the sacraments and prayer of the Catholic Church.

Grade: 11

**HONORS THEOLOGY 3**1 Credit

This course covers essentially the same material as the college-prep course. However, it offers students the opportunity to explore these concepts in more depth. Therefore, this course requires students to do additional reading, write essays, and engage in active, meaningful discussions. In an honors level course, students are expected to have a serious, consistent work ethic, be actively engaged in class material and discussion, and be self-motivated.

Recommendation: Students should have a minimum grade of an A- in Theology 2 or a B in Honors Theology 2

Grade: 11

**THEOLOGY 4**

1 Credit

**EXAMINING THE PROBLEM OF EVIL: A CATHOLIC-CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE**

This course examines the Problem of Evil: what is evil, and why does it exist? The theological form of the Problem of Evil can be stated in this way: If God is all powerful and loving, then why is there evil in the world? However, we will see that this problem is not limited to religious believers, but is part of a much broader question about the issue of purpose and meaning in the world. This course will attempt to wrestle with the question of the Problem of Evil by examining traditional Christian theological answers to this problem such as: The Fall of Man and Original Sin, Christ's Atonement, and the Fall of Lucifer. In addition to the theological answers to the Problem of Evil, we will examine the intriguing contributions of modern social science to this question, particularly Social Psychology and the work of Philip Zimbardo in his landmark book *The Lucifer Effect*. Case studies will be drawn from various historical events such as the Witch Trials of Europe and America, the Jewish Holocaust, and the Rwandan Genocide.

**RELIGIONS OF THE WORLD**

Students will develop a critically reflective approach to the study of the major religions of the world. This course explores the various forms of religious expression throughout history and into the modern world. Specifically, the students study concepts such as theism, atheism, cults, mythology and indigenous religion along with major religions such as Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and the religions of Japan and China. The context of the course is our increasingly globalized, pluralistic world. The course aims to clarify how religious beliefs and practices shape and influence society, and how culture shapes and influences particular religions and our own religious experiences.

**VOICE AND VISION**

This course combines the fields of theology and communications. Students will be taught formal public speaking skills and group process techniques. Formal speeches (none of which require memorization) are part of this course, but the core of the course revolves around ethical and theological topics. Topics include lying and deception, liberation theology and Latin American politics, the Domination System and confronting evil, core questions of meaning and spirituality, self-knowledge and spiritual consciousness etc. In addition, students will explore biographical portraits of renowned Christian activists, peacemakers and theologians such as Thomas Merton, Stephen Biko, Dolores Huerta, Jane Addams and Oscar Romero.

**CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLES – Required semester course in all senior electives**

In this second semester course, students assess their own moral values in light of the Church's teachings on the issues of love, sexuality, personal identity and vocation.

# Fine Arts Department

All students, beginning with the Class of 2022, are required to take one credit of a Fine Arts or Humanities course. Courses that fulfill this requirement are also found in the English and Social Studies Departments.

What makes AC Arts “inspiring and uplifting?”

The “spiritual” element comes into play when the learner becomes the artist.

The artist must be “inspired” to create.... (“Inspire” does mean *to breathe in the spirit*).

We offer classes that provide students with the opportunity to do just that.

## **ART 1**

**1 Credit**

This course is an introduction to art. Students use a range of artistic mediums and techniques to gain a broad understanding of visual art as a whole. Student work in this class includes pencil drawings, watercolor, ink, acrylic, cut paper, ceramics, and various other mediums. This course is recommended for students who do not have previous art experience.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

## **DESIGN**

**1 Credit**

Design is one of the most important elements of art. In this course, we break down the art making process into some of its simplest forms so that we can get to the root of what makes things visually appealing. Students learn how to use composition to guide the viewer’s eye to the things the artist wants them to see. They also practice working within fixed guidelines, as designers would if they were working in the industry. Students in this class work in traditional mediums as well as digital.

Requirements: Average grade of “A” in primary school art classes or completion of Art 1.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**HONORS PAINTING AND DRAWING****1 Credit**

Drawing is the foundation of all the other art forms. Students in this class learn the important concepts about drawing so that they will be able to recreate what they see on paper or on a canvas. Once they have practiced the skills of drawing, they add color and begin working in acrylic. This class focuses on creating from observation and learning how to interpret and deconstruct what you see.

Requirements: Average grade of “A” in primary school art classes or completion of Art 1.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**SCULPTURE****1 Credit**

Students make a variety of projects in 3D in this class. There is a wide range of mediums and techniques used to create a range of styles for different assignments. Materials include organic and polymer clays, cardboard, paper mache, found objects, and various other materials. Work also ranges greatly in size where students make life sized sculptures of things ranging from snails to people.

Requirements: Average grade of “A” in primary school art classes or completion of Art 1.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

**AP VISUAL ARTS STUDIO****1 Credit**

This is a small class for seniors that is student driven. Each student is responsible for designing and creating projects that cater to their own interests and skills. The purpose of this course is largely for students who want to create work for a portfolio to submit to colleges.

Requirements: Permission of Instructor.

Grade: 11, 12

**CHORUS**1/2 Credit

Chorus is a performing class for all students who wish to develop their vocal technique and choral singing skills. Students will sing quality choral and a cappella repertoire from a variety of musical time periods and genres including sacred, classical, world music, musical theater and contemporary music. Students will work to improve sight reading, vocal technique, choral blend, harmonic independence, diction and musical expression. There will be at least one required performance each term.

This course may only be selected as a seventh course and will meet 3 times each cycle. It will replace the student's study period those 3 days.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**MUSIC APPRECIATION**1/2 Credit

Music Appreciation is a non-performing class for all students who love music and would like to develop skills and knowledge to enhance their enjoyment and appreciation of all types of music. This course will include an introduction to the elements of music such as melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, style, and form, as well as learning about the evolution of music throughout history. Students will be exposed to music from a variety of genres and time periods from medieval music to contemporary popular music.

This course may only be selected as a seventh course will meet 3 times each cycle. It will replace the student's study period those 3 days.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

**THEATER ARTS I**1 Credit

This course introduces students to the art of play production. Students will be introduced to various aspects of production including playwriting, acting, costuming, make-up, set design, lighting, sound, props, directing, dramaturgy, as well as stage and house management. Students will study these elements in the context of readings from a variety of theatrical genres. At the end of each semester, students will produce a short play or showcase in which they will have the opportunity to apply their skills.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

# AP Capstone™

The College Board's AP Capstone™ is an innovative college-level program based on two new courses, AP® Seminar and AP Research, that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP courses. The program immerses high school students in the challenging practice of the critical skills, in an

interdisciplinary approach, that students need today. The ability to think independently, write effectively, research, collaborate, and learn across disciplines is essential for success in college and beyond.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. This option allows students taking multiple AP courses to distinguish themselves to colleges and universities. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™.



AP Capstone was developed in response to feedback from higher education. The two AP Capstone courses, with their associated performance tasks, assessments, and application of research methodology, complement the rigor of AP courses and exams by equipping students with the power to analyze and evaluate a variety of types of information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

- Analyze topics through multiple lenses to construct meaning or gain understanding
- Plan and conduct a study or investigation
- Propose solutions to real-world problems
- Plan and produce communication in various forms
- Collaborate to solve a problem
- Integrate, synthesize, and make cross-curricular connections

## **AP SEMINAR**

### **1 Credit**

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. The course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

Students who are highly motivated and prepared for college-level coursework are best suited for the program, but the program also benefits those students who show potential for AP course work but have not as yet enrolled in AP courses. Students should demonstrate curiosity about real-world issues, a willingness to take intellectual risks, and a dedication to acquiring the skills that colleges and universities value — critical inquiry, analysis, and research. In short, AP Capstone students have an interest in becoming curious, independent, and collaborative scholars. Above average grades in English are highly suggested.

This course may be used to fulfill the 3 Year Social Studies requirement.

**Prerequisite:** Instructor approval required. Students will be required to sign an enrollment contract and make a commitment to remaining in the course once enrolled.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

## **AP RESEARCH**

### **1 Credit**

AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a yearlong investigation to address a research question.

Students further develop the skills acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of approximately 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

**Prerequisite:** AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research. Instructor approval required.

Grades: 11, 12