

## **1. The Purpose of the Academic Handbook**

The most important aspect of your high school career is the selection of courses that you choose to help you reach your goals you have identified for yourself for the future. It is the type of activity that has meaning and direction, and therefore it becomes a very worthwhile task. The goals for your future vocation may change and so may your desire to take particular courses, but these changes do not become an overwhelming problem if you have chosen them with your God-given talents in mind.

No school is capable of doing the myriad of things that will satisfy every individual's needs. But as the school and its curriculum are able to provide opportunities which help students develop their God-given talents, then the school is facing the challenge of our changing world. Therefore, knowing the limitations of our building, finances, staff, etc., we present these ideas for your consideration. Each student (by thinking clearly about what he/she believes is his/her life's direction) can aid making Faith Lutheran High School a "workshop in Christian living". It is only as we develop our God-given talents in an atmosphere of Christian love and challenge, allowing for mistakes and repentance to be demonstrated, that we claim to be a Christian school.

As Christians, we must do our "best in all things". Teachers and students must strive together to improve and develop the curriculum so that it can be used as a tool for Christian growth

## **2. Administration**

Faith Lutheran High School is operated by the congregations of the Lutheran Church. These congregations elect delegates to represent them in meetings of the Association. The delegates will elect a Board of Directors and this Board is responsible for the proper administration of the school. The Executive Director and his assistants are directly responsible for the day to day operation of the school.

## **3. Faculty**

Faith Lutheran High School employs Christian teachers who are qualified for certification in their respected educational areas, a high percentage of which have earned or are working toward graduate degrees. Each of the staff is committed to a total development of the student.

**4. Admission Policies**

Faith Lutheran High School has been established to serve young people of McHenry County.

It admits students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, student aid, and other administered programs.

Students must have satisfactorily completed grade eight and make application to enroll on forms from either the school office or the school’s website. Upon receipt of the application, Faith Lutheran High School will request records from the previous school, and determine through consultation with the applicant, the parents, and school officials from the previous school if Faith Lutheran High School is the school to best meet the student’s particular needs. This decision will be made by an admission committee. The student and the parent(s) will be asked to sign a covenant to validate a Christian perspective between the parents, the student and the school. A placement test is administered to all potential freshman students. Faith Lutheran High School discourages enrollment during the school year unless there would be a family relocation. If a student does transfer during the school year, (s)he will be required to submit three letters of recommendation to be considered.

Students from association congregations of the Faith Lutheran High School Association will be accepted first. All other applications that are received will then be considered until the maximum enrollment is reached.

**5. Attendance**

The school policy on absences and tardies is stated in the publication, STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK. Here it is appropriate to mention the future implications of missing class or often coming in late. After the twelfth absence from a semester class, a student will receive a zero for the class on each day of further absence (day 13, 14, etc.). School initiated absences (except a disciplinary nature) will not count toward this total. If, due to more than twelve absences, a student loses credit, he/she may appeal the loss of credit to the Appeals Committee. Note Tardy Policy in the STUDENT- PARENT HANDBOOK.

## 6. Scheduling Classes

1. “Course Selection Sheet” from your advisor. The Chart following these directions may also be helpful.
2. Please note:
  - A. Each semester course is worth .50 credit.
  - B. A course taken for 2 semesters will earn 1 credit.
  - C. A student may not register for a second year of work in an elective subject in which she/he received a “D” for the first years work without permission from the department or your advisor.
  - D. Classes with less than 6 students may not be offered.
3. Pre- registration: Fill out the “Course Request Sheet” on your own or with your advisor. You must sign up for a minimum of 7 credits. Students who wish to be excused from one class or wish to take eight classes per semester may do so with the permission of their advisor.
  - A. The class schedule will be based on these requests.
  - B. A tentative class schedule will be sent to you when the schedule is completed.
  - C. Keep in mind that some courses will have limits. If a course is “full” or if not enough students have signed up for it, you will be asked to choose an alternative course. When the “course selection sheet” has been turned in with both signatures you will have finished the task.
  - D. No student will be allowed to schedule more than one study hall per semester without administrative approval.
4. Final Registration: After receiving your tentative schedule and you wish to change anything, meet with the Director of Student Services.

## 7. Schedule Changes

Class changes, through the office and approved by the faculty members involved and the Student Service Office, can be made at the end of a grading period. **Class Transfer Request** forms (signed by each teacher involved, the student, the registrar, and the parent) can be obtained from the Student Services Office.

1. A student may drop a course during the first two weeks of a quarter without having it appear on the permanent record.
2. Courses dropped after two weeks of a quarter, with an advisor’s permission, receive WP (withdraw passing) if the student is passing or W.F. (withdraw failing) if the student is failing. A WP will not be counted in cumulative averages, but a W.F. will be averaged in as a failure.
3. If a student drops any course without consent of the advisor, he/she receives an automatic failure.

4. When a student drops a class, he/she must maintain at least seven classes in their schedule. Student/parent initiated schedule changes will have a \$20.00 filing cost applied after the add/drop period.

### 8. Homework

Faith Lutheran High School believes that if students are to achieve in a satisfactory manner, they should be doing homework. At least an hour of homework each night should be a minimum if a student expects to receive satisfactory grades. However, the school needs also to remember that the student is receiving homework in other classes too. It is this wise use of time that takes planning. Homework should be assigned and expected to be completed in line with student's individual ability. All assigned homework is to be submitted for completion of the course. Assigned homework submitted after the stipulated due date may not be credited for grading purposes – it's at the discretion of the teacher.

### 9. Progress Reports

Grades can be monitored on a regular basis for the student's progress with Fast Direct computer access. Parents are encouraged to monitor grades and communicate, if necessary, via email on Fast Direct.

### 10. Semester Exams

Semester exams will be given in all high school classes according to the yearly schedule. The grade point value for the exam will be 20% of the semester grade.

### 11. Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each nine-week period on the exact dates listed on the school calendar. They should be evaluated by both student and parent. The letter grades have the following meaning.

Grade	Description	Grade
A	Superior achievement and good work habits	90-100
B	Above average achievement and good work habits	80-89
C	Average achievement and satisfactory work habits	70-79
D	Below average achievement and weak work habits	60-69
F	Failure and unsatisfactory work habits	59-0
I	Incomplete, some item missing	

P Passing work is satisfactory

Incomplete grades become failures if not completed within two weeks of the end of the grading period. All grades are passing except "F". Ordinarily, college bound students should seek to maintain at least a "B" average or above. Student's who fail a course are normally expected to make the course up in summer school, correspondence courses, or subsequent school years.

**12. Grade Point Average**

GENERAL	BASIC	HONORS	A.P.
A = 4.00	A = 3.50	A = 4.50	A = 5.00
B = 3.00	B = 2.50	B = 3.50	B = 4.00
C = 2.00	C = 1.50	C = 2.50	C = 3.00
D = 1.00	D = .50	D = 1.50	D = 2.00
F = 0	F = 0	F = 0	F = 0

**13. Honor Roll**

Based on a 4 point scale, an Honor Roll shall consist of student's attaining a 3.5 - 4.0 grade point average at the end of each semester. Student's receiving a 3.0 - 3.49 average shall be included on a Merit Roll.

All courses taken by the student are calculated equally. To justify this, all courses offered shall contain sufficient academic content as evidenced by a syllabus, be evaluated by means of periodic written tests, and contain regular homework assignments. The cumulative GPA's are used to establish class rank. At the end of the seventh semester, the highest GPA will be designated the valedictorian, the second highest GPA will be salutatorian. The GPA's will be carried to three decimal places.

**14. National Honor Society**

The Faith Lutheran High School Chapter of National Honor Society is sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals. It is open to juniors and seniors who have met a cumulative grade point average of 3.33 or better for a minimum of four semesters and have demonstrated Christian character, service, and potential leadership qualities. The final selection of National Honor Society candidates is made by the faculty. Induction ceremonies will be held in the fall for juniors and seniors.

### **15. Academic Probation**

A student will be placed on Academic Probation for a semester if he/she receives lower than a 1.0 GPA during the previous semester. The student cannot exceed a total of two semesters of lower than a 1.0 GPA and remain in school. After the second semester, the student will be requested to leave Faith Lutheran High School unless an appeal is filed and accepted by the Appeals Committee.

### **16. Released Time Policy**

Full- time senior students at Faith Lutheran High School may be released from school during the day on a regular basis if the released time is used to attend a class or classes at another approved educational institution. The student may also be released for an internship program with an approved agency.

### **17. Independent Study**

A student may participate in an Independent Study if all regulations are met.

The following steps have been established:

1. An impossible scheduling problem necessitates the taking of an independent study class to meet graduation requirements.
2. The proposed independent study project is developed by the student and Director of Student Services.
3. The student and Director of Student Services select and gain agreement from a teacher to serve as advisor of the project.
4. A student may only participate in two independent study programs during their high school career.

### **18. Foreign Excursions**

The teacher requesting the excursion shall complete an application and forward it to the Executive Director no later than October 1 of the present school year for trips outside the continental United States. The completed application, shall include an itinerary of the trip, educational objectives, rationale to support the application, and the means of transportation, as well as a list of the names of students wishing to accompany the teacher, provision for student supervision, and an itemized budget outlining costs. (It is recommended that a minimum of six months of advanced planning is necessary).

The completed application, when approved by the Executive Director will be submitted to the Board of Director's for consideration. Board approval of applications will be returned to the Executive Director. The Executive Director or designee will secure transportation and accommodations for the approved trip and oversee all arrangements. Student's participating in an approved trip will be under the discipline code of the school and those additional regulations set by the teacher-chaperone and approved by the Executive Director. A violation may result in the student being returned home at his/her parent's expense.

### **19. Early Graduation**

Student's desiring to accelerate their high school program in order to complete their requirements for graduation in less than four years of high school must meet the following requirements:

1. Students interested in participating in the Early Graduation Program must apply through the Student Services Office.
2. Complete requirements for graduation as specified by the State of Illinois and the Board of Directors of FLHSA.
3. Maintain a 3.5 GPA at the time of application and graduation and exhibit intellectual and emotional maturity. The Executive Director and Director of Student Services of the school must approve the early graduation.
4. Application for Early Graduation must be turned in to the Director of Student Services before April 1 of the sophomore year and the plan must be confirmed before June 1 of that year.

Planning must include a conference for the parents and the student the Director of Student Services. The Executive Director must approve the plan.

A maximum of three credits toward graduation may be earned in summer and/or extension school. No credit may be earned prior to completing the eighth grade.

Should a student fail to complete this program at the end of six semesters, the student will be required to complete the senior year with the customary load of classes and two semesters in attendance.

All required Theology courses must be taken. A passing grade in Theology must be obtained for every semester in attendance.

## 20. Graduation

To graduate, a student must have earned 25 credits. The number of credits required depends on the number of semesters in attendance at Faith Lutheran High School (Theology credits needed is dependent on the semesters at the school).

To graduate a student must have successfully completed the following requirements:

English – 4 credits	Math – 3 credits
Social Science – 3 credits	Physical Education – 1.5 credits
Science – 3 credits	Foreign Language – 2 credits
Keyboarding – .5 credit	Fine Arts – .5 credit
Theology – 4 credits	Health – .5 credits
Consumer Ed. – .5 credits	Electives – 2.5 credits

A fee of \$5.00 is charged for each transcript after the first five (5). This fee must accompany the request for the transcript. No transcript will be released until all financial obligations have been met.

Transcripts are sent directly by the school to the requested address. No information can or will be released from a student's records without written permission of the student or the parent of a student under the age of eighteen (18).

## 21. Course Descriptions

### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT 4 CREDITS

#### **ELEMENTS OF LITERATURE** (2 semesters) – 9

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course is an introduction to higher level reading, comprehension, and writing skills. Students learn how to read and evaluate material in many different genres as well as taught the skills to research material and information that can then be laid out in an essay form. Students learn how to read and write in a professional manner using the skills of imagery, characterization, ambiguity, irony, and many others.

#### **AMERICAN LITERATURE** (2 semesters) – 10

**Prerequisite:** *Elements of Literature*

This course focuses on the writings in American Literature. Beginning with the Native Americans and first settlers, the students follow the history of this country through the voices of its own people. Students understand the many periods of American History by looking at those who lived it, by way of journal entries, poems, letters, short stories, and novels. Students also begin to see that what they do today could be studied in the future and that each individual life affects the nation as a whole.

#### **BRITISH LITERATURE** (2 semesters) – 11

**Prerequisite:** *Elements of Literature & American Lit.*

This course follows the writers of the British canon. British writers are in many ways the foundation of literature today, and the study of them allows students to have a better understanding of language and literature. The students also learn the importance of perspective and the many views found in history through the different writings of the past. Political, social, psychological, and economical issues are all found in these writings, and by studying the writings students can also study the many different viewpoints about these issues.

### **WORLD LITERATURE (2 semesters) – 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Elements of Lit., American Lit., and British Lit.*

This course is a study of ancient literature, beginning with the creation of the world in scripture. The students compare some of the earliest forms of writing known to the world today. While comparing different accounts of ancient events through these writings, students see many similarities between these cultures. Students also see many struggles in life that have continued on through the centuries. By studying these ancient cultures and the people in them, students have a better understanding of what it truly means to be human.

## **FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT .5 CREDIT**

### **ADVANCED ART (1 year) – 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Fundamentals of Art*

This course is designed to hone the skills that were learned in Fundamentals of Art. A deeper exploration of the techniques that were previously introduced will be stressed with an emphasis on pen and ink, scratchboard, watercolors, sculpture, pastels, colored pencil, and conte.

### **ADVANCED DIGITAL DESIGN (1 year) – 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Introduction to Digital Design*

This class is designed to further develop the student's aptitude in the use of Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. Students will explore advanced techniques as they design and illustrate various projects including brochures, magazine pages, comic strips, collages, product illustrations, postcards, logos, and package designs.

### **DRAWING (1 year) – 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Fundamentals of Art*

Basic drawing skills will be developed with an emphasis on basic form, perspective, shading and blending, still life, figure drawing, creative drawing, and various types of illustration. This class explores a variety of drawing media including pencil, pen and ink, conte, colored pencil, scratchboard, and charcoal. Students study a multitude of subject matter including objects, living things, architectural environments and conceptual themes.

This class is designed to improve the student's visual skills by placing emphasis on drawing what can be seen.

### **FUNDAMENTALS OF ART (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of art. Students will develop an understanding of the elements and principles of design and color theory. This class includes an introduction to a variety of art techniques and media including: pen and ink, scratchboard, watercolors, graphite pencil, paper mache, collage, jewelry and bead making, computerized design, colored pencil, acrylics, ceramics, clay sculpture, conte, and pastels.

### **ILLUSTRATION (1 year) – 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Fundamentals of Art*

This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of genres, media, tools, and techniques in the field of commercial illustration. Some of the genres covered will be science, medical, and caricature illustration. Using pen and ink, pencil, gouache (a water medium), colored pencil, and scratchboard students will develop their creative and illustration skills.

**Introduction to Digital Design (1 year) – 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Fundamentals of Art*

This is an introductory course in creating computerized illustrations with good design principles using Adobe Illustrator and Photoshop. Students will learn the fundamentals of the programs while creating works relevant to the advertising and design industry. Assignments will encourage growth and development in design, creativity, and technical skills including projects on type design, logos, brochure design, and photo manipulation.

**INTRODUCTION TO GRAPHIC DESIGN/LAYOUT DESIGN (1 year) – 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Introduction to Digital Design*

This course will cover two specific areas of graphic design: the choices designers make to create good layouts such as typeface, color, composition, illustrations, and photographs; and design projects and categories. This class includes both studio and computerized work. Some examples are logotype, advertisements, brochures, and magazine layouts.

**3-D Art (1 year) – 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Fundamentals of Art*

This course is a study of all things in 3-D. Students will experiment with different techniques involving art in three dimensions including tie-dye, paper mache, sand paintings, pottery, jewelry and bead making, peace pipes, sculptures, masks, soap carving, pumpkin carving, ornament making, painting, and ceramics.

**CONCERT BAND (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Two Years Experience on Chosen Instrument*

By participating in the band course, each musician is provided with a quality instrumental music experience and will have the opportunity to perform for Faith Lutheran High School and the community. The band is a concert ensemble consisting of woodwind, brass, and percussion instruments. Each member will receive individual instruction and mentoring as well as whole group rehearsals. Band members need to be able to read music and have some experience with their particular instrument. Each musician will also have the opportunity to perform in a solo & ensemble contest. Repertoire will cover a wide variety of musical styles and genres, including classical, jazz, pep-band style tunes, and sacred music.

**CHORUS (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

By participating in the choir course, each musician is provided with a quality vocal music experience and will have the opportunity to perform for Lutheran High School and the community. The chorus will teach and reinforce the fundamentals of choral singing and vocal technique, and is open to all students of Faith Lutheran High School. The Chorus will cover a variety of musical styles and genres, including classical and popular numbers, as well as seasonal sacred and secular music. Group rehearsals and sectionals are an integral part of the class, with individual instruction available if needed. Each musician will also have the opportunity to perform at a solo & ensemble contest.

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT  
2 CREDITS**

**GERMAN I (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course introduces the German language and the culture of the people who speak it. The class emphasizes vocabulary, basic grammar, oral and written work, in preparation for reading everyday German and carrying on basic conversations in the target language. Communicative competence is best achieved through the constant practice of four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Class will be conducted primarily in German.

**GERMAN II** (1 year) –9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *C- or better in German I or Teacher Approval*

This course continues in the development of the student's linguistic proficiency in German through a fully integrated approach to language learning. This class emphasizes the advanced grammar needed to read, understand, and use the German language in oral and printed forms. It also develops appreciation of German culture and prepares students for college entrance by fulfilling language requirements. Class will be conducted primarily in German.

**LATIN I** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Consider that over 60% of English words have Latin roots. The study of Latin, highly recommended for gifted students, increases vocabulary, enhances linguistic competence in English, and provides a solid base for the study of other romance languages. This course emphasizes grammar, vocabulary, and translation.

**LATIN II** (1 year) –10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *C- or better in Latin I*

The purpose of this course is to review and expand the student's knowledge of Latin language. Grammatical and syntactical principles are studied in depth.

**SPANISH I** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course introduces the Spanish language and the culture of the people who speak it. The class emphasizes vocabulary, basic grammar, oral and written work, in preparation for reading everyday Spanish and carrying on basic conversations in the target language. Communicative competence is best achieved through the constant practice of four language skills: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Class will be conducted primarily in Spanish.

**SPANISH II** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *C- or better in Spanish I or Teacher Approval*

This course continues in the development of the student's linguistic proficiency in Spanish through a fully integrated approach to language learning. This class emphasizes the advanced grammar needed to read, understand, and use the Spanish language in oral and printed forms. It also develops appreciation of Spanish culture and prepares students for college entrance by fulfilling language requirements. Class will be conducted primarily in Spanish.

**SPANISH III** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *C- or better in Spanish II or Teacher Approval*

This course is designed to help students continue to develop fluency in the language by maintaining their focus on the message being communicated. This course will be focused heavily on the grammar of the Spanish language, preparing them for their Spanish trip at the end of May.

**SPANISH IV** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *C- or better in Spanish III or Teacher Approval*

In this course the student works towards fluency in Spanish by continuing studies started in Spanish III. It involves the reading of novels, short stories, and current publications to develop an appreciation of the literature and culture of Hispanic countries. Class will be conducted primarily in Spanish.

**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT  
3 CREDITS**

**PRE-ALGEBRA** (1 year) – 9,10,11,12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Students will learn basic algebra concepts and be prepared for Algebra 1 class. Pre-algebra is designed as the bridge between basic math and the study of algebra. Previous concepts in basic math will be reviewed and fine tuned. The course will be spent reviewing and perfecting the order of operations, fractions, ratios, and percents, before introducing variables, functions, and their graphs. Students will have the opportunity to apply the concepts they are learning to real-life situations. It is specifically designed for students who need extra help grasping new concepts.

### **ALGEBRA I (1 year) – 9,10,11,12**

#### **Prerequisite:** *None*

This course is designed to be the introduction to the major concepts of Algebra and the launching pad for the series of high school math courses. Topics include use of variables; positive and negative numbers; solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities; use of radicals, monomials, and polynomials within and amongst the order of operations. Emphasis is given to real world application of algebraic equations and formulas. Students who have successfully completed Algebra 1 in Grade 8 do not have to repeat this course.

### **GEOMETRY(1 year) – 9,10,11,12**

#### **Prerequisite:** *Algebra I*

Geometry is designed to develop an appreciation of plane and solid geometry as a mathematical system. Basic algebraic skills are strengthened throughout the course, while the main focus remains on the role of inductive and deductive reasoning in mathematical exercises. The use of logic and proofs reinforce conclusions to segment, angle, and triangle theorems. We recognize properties of quadrilaterals, find areas of plane figures and surface areas and volumes of solids. Constructions, right triangle trigonometry and coordinate geometry complete this study.

### **ALGEBRA II(1 year) – 9,10,11,12**

#### **Prerequisite:** *Algebra I and Geometry*

Algebra 2 is designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra 1. Algebra 2 will build on the basic concepts presented in Algebra 1 to encourage higher order thinking. Algebra 2 students will represent and analyze mathematical situations. The students will analyze and apply a variety of methods to model and graph linear and nonlinear equations and inequalities. Students will also use algebraic, graphical, and numerical methods for analysis of quadratic equations and functions and polynomials and rational functions. Exponential functions, logarithmic functions, data analysis, and probability will be explored in Algebra 2. Students will be expected to use a TI-83 or TI-84 graphing calculator to demonstrate an understanding of concepts throughout the course.

### **PRE-CALCULUS (1 year) – 10,11,12**

#### **Prerequisite:** *Algebra II and Teacher Approval*

The course is designed as a bridge between algebra classes and the study of calculus. Previous concepts in algebra and geometry will be reviewed and strengthened. It also provides a foundation of Pre-calculus concepts, techniques and applications to prepare for more advanced work. Students will have the opportunity to model real-world data using mathematical concepts and applications. The course begins with topics in relations, functions and graphs and continues with trigonometric topics including graphs, identities and parametric equations. It also includes advanced functions and graphing with conics, exponential and logarithmic functions and discrete mathematics. The course concludes with an introduction to calculus including limits and continuity. .

### **AP CALCULUS (1 year) – 11,12**

#### **Prerequisite:** *Pre Calculus and Teacher Approval*

This course is designed to provide an adequate preparation for college calculus work and covers the goals of AP Calculus to prepare them for the Advanced Placement Exam. Real-world applications, open-ended questions, photographs, and interesting facts motivate the concepts covered in each chapter. The student should be able to work with functions, graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. They will understand the meaning of the derivative in terms of rate of change and local linear approximations and use it to solve a variety of problems. The student will understand the relationship between the derivative and the definite integral as expressed in both parts of the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. With the completion of this course at an “A” level and the taking of the Advanced Placement Exam in May, the student will be eligible for college credit.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT**  
**2 CREDITS**

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (1 semester) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

The physical education class educates students about the various benefits of physical activity, including health and fitness, recreation, and character development. All course work is designed to provide students with knowledge and experiences that will allow them to value and participate in physical activity throughout life. God created the amazing human body and we are called to be stewards of His wonderful gift. All students are required to take one and a half credit of physical education in a variety of individual, team, and dual sports in order to receive a diploma.

**HEALTH** (1 semester) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Health education includes the study of human ecology, growth and development; the emotional psychological, physiological, hygienic and social responsibilities of family life including sexual abstinence until marriage; prevention and control of disease; public and environmental health; consumer health; safety education and disaster survival; mental health and illness; personal health habits; alcohol and drug use and abuse; the dangers of tobacco use, nutrition; and dental health. This is a state mandated course that must be completed for graduation.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**  
**3 CREDITS**

**BIOLOGY** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This lab class introduces the concepts of: scientific method, characteristics of life, taxonomy, general chemistry, biochemistry, cell structure and function, cellular metabolism and photosynthesis, genetics, evolution and creation, protists, viruses, plant and animal tissues, and human systems. This course includes lecture, discussion, microscope technique, lab sessions, and dissection.

**BOTANY** (1 semester) – 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *Biology*

This lab class is an introduction to the anatomy, physiology, and reproduction of organisms in the plant kingdom. Laboratory sessions will include microscopic examinations and the identification of anatomical parts of leaves, stems, roots, and fruit.

**CHEMISTRY** (1 year) – 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *Biology, Algebra*

This is a non-lab course designed to give students an introduction to the concepts of chemistry including: measurements, the periodic table of elements, states, compositions and properties of matter, atomic structure and chemical bonding, chemical reactions, chemical equations, calculations of formula mass and moles, solutions, and acid-base equilibria.

**EARTH SCIENCE** (1 year) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Students of Earth Science will study the earth and the physical processes that shape and build it. The class will study the science behind the physical wonders of God's creation, including geology (rocks, minerals, plate tectonics, landforms, and weathering processes), meteorology (the atmosphere and the processes that govern weather

and climates), and astronomy (the earth's surroundings in outer space, including the solar system and beyond). This course includes lectures, discussion and lab sessions.

### **HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY HONORS** (1 year) – 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *B average or better in Biology*

This honors course is designed for the student that is interested in the human body and its processes. It includes study of the cell membrane, passive and active transport mechanisms, histology, general chemistry, general anatomical terminology and the following human systems; integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, digestive, urogenital, cardiovascular and respiratory. Laboratory exercises include working with skeletons (individual bones) and a cat dissection.

### **PHYSICS** (1 year) – 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Algebra II (can be taken concurrently)

This upper-level science course will focus on relating mathematical functions to physical concepts by involving the mechanics of nature. Subjects covered include kinematics (motion), vectors, momentum, lenses and mirrors, electricity, magnetism, and relativity. Proficiency in mathematics is required, as the course work involves advanced algebraic problem solving of real-world applications. Homework will be required on a regular basis, and lab work will be used to demonstrate various aspects of physical laws.

### **ZOOLOGY** (1 semester) – 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *Biology*

This lab class includes a survey of animal diversity including the phylogeny, anatomy, and physiology of the major animal phyla. This course includes numerous dissections.

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT  
3 CREDITS**

**WORLD GEOGRAPHY (1 semester) – 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

The world we live in is getting smaller and it is important for students to have a basic understanding of that world. Through this course, students will be introduced to the cultures and geography that have an impact on the world. This course allows students to study the world in two different ways. First, it provides students with a tour of the physical, cultural, and environmental geography of our planet. Secondly, it explores the current events surrounding various regions of the world. The course helps students to develop their own views on the rest of the world through class discussions, presentations, possible guest speakers, research projects and the use of multimedia.

**U.S. GOVERNMENT (1 semester) – 9, 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course will explore the events that led to the development of the United States Constitution, how it came into existence, why it took the form it did, how it has functioned since its adoption and how it is applied to American citizens. Some of the key topics will include: causes and effects of the Revolutionary War, the impact of philosophers, separation of powers, minority rights in the contexts of majority rule, relationship of church and state, and the influence of Greek and Roman republics. The class will also include a unit on the structure and history of Illinois government. Students will observe a government or political organization in action, participate in a simulated government hearing, and read and report on a book relating to the foundation of our government. This course is required by State standards. Students are required to pass the final exam with a grade of 60% or higher in order to receive a diploma.

**WORLD HISTORY (1 year) –10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Today, it has become increasingly important to understand the world that we live in. The purpose of this course is to expose students to different cultures and ideas of the world through the examination of historical civilizations and accomplishments. This course is a study of human history in a chronological time frame beginning from prehistoric man through the Industrial Revolution. Emphasis is placed on the progression of civilization and cultural development. Map work will be involved in order to see the changing shape of the region. This course will help students develop their own perspectives on historical events through reading, analyzing data, research projects, simulations, discussion of primary documents, and use of multimedia.

**HONORS WORLD HISTORY (1 year) –10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Minimum of a B Average and Teacher Approval*

Through college-level reading and classroom instruction, students will also be exposed to various viewpoints of their societies. This year-long course places an emphasis on Western history and traces the development of world history from the emergence of civilization to the present. The course relies heavily on primary source documents, and outside readings. Students will be required to participate in class discussions and individual projects. Objective exams will be given at the end of each unit including a multiple-section and an essay section. Additionally, students will be required to complete an eight-page research paper at the end of each quarter. Students that take this course are eligible to receive a weighted grade (based on a 12.0 scale).

**UNITED STATES HISTORY (1 year) –10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

In order for us to move forward effectively, we must understand our past. The purpose of this course is to expose students to our own nation's past. Through an understanding of where we have been, students will have a clearer vision of where we are headed. This course traces the rise of the United States from its colonial period to its present state as a world leader. Attention is given to social, economic, and political forces, which have shaped US society. All aspects of United States story are examined: history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, science, technology, and society. This course will help students to critically analyze different perspectives of historical events using primary sources. Students must take at least one semester of U.S. History and one Semester of Government to graduate.

**HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY (1 year) – 10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *Minimum of a B Average and Teacher Approval*

Through college-level reading and classroom instruction, students will also be exposed to all aspects of our nation's past. Through this knowledge, students will gain a better understanding of who we are as a nation and where our future is taking us. This is a two semester survey of American history from the age of colonization to the present. Solid reading and writing skills along with a willingness to devote time to homework and study are necessary to succeed. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, interpretation of original documents, and historiography. Additionally, students will be required to complete five-page research paper at the end of each quarter. Students that take this course are eligible to receive a weighted grade (based on a 12.0 scale).

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS (1 semester) – 11, 12**

**Prerequisite:** *2 Social Science Credits and Teacher Approval*

This course is designed to acquaint the student with a wide range of current worldwide and national issues. Important current events in the news will be traced to their historical roots. This course is designed to assist students in becoming more informed citizens and to give them the historical background of events necessary to better understand current situations. Students become familiar with important people, places and events in the news and are able to hold opinions based on facts and deeper understandings.

**THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
4 CREDITS**

**RELATIONSHIPS WITH GOD AND OTHERS (1 quarter) – 9**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Fitting in – that's what this course is all about. How does it feel to fit in with God, with others and with yourself? Through the sessions in this course, you'll discover more about God's love for you, how he helps develop positive relationships with Him, and with others, and how you can trust him, daily to guide you in all your "fitting in".

**GOSPEL OF JOHN (1 quarter) – 9**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course studies the Gospel of John. Students will be given the opportunity to apply the "truths" of John to your daily experience and have the Word of God make a difference in our life.

**GOD'S OLD TESTAMENT PEOPLE (1 semester) – 9**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

A study of some of the people of God tells about in the Old Testament who were both "saints and sinners" and how God used them to carry out his promises of love. Students will study famous people like David and Daniel and others less famous such as Hezekiah and Jehoshaphat.

**CHRISTIAN ETHICS (1 quarter) – 10**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Students will apply scriptural principles as they examine ethical questions. They will review God's promises to them and re-commit themselves to learning His will for their lives. They will wrestle with questions related to sex, the human body, marriage, government, and interpersonal relationships.

**STUDY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (1 quarter) – 10**

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course examines Paul's writings on the church. It helps students see that the church is the sum of its parts.

**EARLY CHURCH HISTORY: NAZARETH TO NICAEA** (1 semester) – 10

**Prerequisite:** *None*

A chronological overview of the New Testament and of early church history. The course will center on God's work through His people of the early Christian Church in spreading the Gospel to others.

**STUDY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE** (1 semester) - 11

**Prerequisite:** *None*

A study of Paul's major Letters to the early Christian Church, this course emphasizes the doctrinal content of our Christian faith as it has been confessed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church and as it relates to the life of modern Christian people. The letters studied in this course include Corinthians I & II and Thessalonians I & II and Philippians. Text: *Saved by Grace*.

**MODERN CHURCH HISTORY: CRUSADES TO MODERN** (1 quarter) - 11

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Things have not always run smoothly for the church of God in this world. This course investigates the early history of the church from 400 AD to the present day. Included is an examination of contemporary trends in the Christian Church. The course concludes with a brief history of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Text: *the Church Takes Shape*.

**COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS** (1 quarter) - 11

**Prerequisite:** *None*

What do other religions and Christian denominations teach about God and life? This class can help to provide some answers. Several non-Christian religions will be studied (such as Hinduism, Buddhism, etc.) as well as the theology of the Roman Catholic Church and non-Lutheran Protestant Churches.

**MANAGING A CHRISTIAN LIFE** (1 semester) - 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Students learn about godly ways of managing their bodies, relationships, sexuality, and time.

**GOD'S PLAN FOR ENGAGEMENT AND MARRIAGE** (1 quarter) - 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Helps students develop godly attitudes about sexuality, dating, marriage, and family life.

**HEBREWS, GENERAL EPISTLES, AND REVELATION** (1 quarter) - 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

An in-depth look at the last nine books of the New Testament. This course emphasizes the supremacy of Christ.

**REQUIRED COURSES**

**KEYBOARDING** (1 semester) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course includes learning basic machine parts, using the touch typing method of typing and incorporating the manipulation techniques. All alphabetic keys, number and symbols are learned. The student will learn how to make corrections and perform at a reasonable rate of speed. This course is mainly for students' personal use and students are strongly encouraged to take this class during their first semester of their freshman year. *This course is required for any student who cannot type at a minimum rate of 45 Words per Minute.*

**CONSUMER EDUCATION** (1 semester) – 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Students in this course study the wise use of income and resources to attain desired goals in everyday living. Intelligent use of consumer information is stressed. Topics include buying a new or used car, credit, budgeting, insurance, investing, advertising, and avoiding consumer rip-offs and scams.

**ELECTIVES**  
**2.5 CREDITS**

**HOME ECONOMICS** (1 semester) – 9, 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This semester course is intended for the student who wants an introduction into nutrition and application of cooking principles in food preparation; reading a pattern and basic sewing machine techniques.

**PSYCHOLOGY** (1 semester) – 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

This course is based on the study of human behavior. Topics will include physical, mental, social, and psychological development as well as sensation, perception, emotion, and abnormal behavior. Areas of study will include the major theories of psychology and their views of human development, personality, intellectual ability, learning and thinking, perception, and conflicts and adjustments. Taught with Christian perspective, students will look at the theoretical and practical approaches to psychology in everyday life.

**SOCIOLOGY** (1 semester) – 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** *None*

Students acquire an understanding of group interaction and its impact on individuals in order that they may have a greater awareness of the beliefs, values and behavior patterns of others. In an increasingly interdependent world, students need to recognize how group behavior affects both the individual and society.