

**Upper School  
Course Catalog  
2021-2022**

# Saint Agnes Academy Upper School Program of Study 2021-2022

## Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2022 26.5 credits including the following:

English	4	credits
Fine Arts	1.5	credits
Freshman Seminar	.5	credit
Mathematics	4	credits
Physical Education and Health	1	credit
Science	3	credits
Social Sciences	3	credits *
Theology	4	credits
World Languages (same)	3	credits
Electives	2.5	credits

*\* .5 credit required - Economics/Personal Finance*

### Notes:

1. **Required credits per semester: 3.5**
2. **26.5 total credits are required for graduation.**
3. **Economics/Personal Finance (.5) is required for graduation through the Class of 2022.**
4. **Starting with the Class of 2023, Freshman Seminar has been replaced with Freshman Leadership.**
5. **Starting with the Class of 2023, the World Language requirement for graduation will be 2 credits.**
6. **All Honors and Advanced Placement classes are taught at a faster pace. Honors classes add one quality point to GPA; Advanced Placement classes add two quality points to GPA.**
7. **All classes must have a minimum enrollment of 6 students.**
8. **There are fees for Family and Consumer Science, for Art 1, 2, 3, & AP Art, for CPR instruction in Health Class, for off-campus P.E. activities, and for the Advanced Placement Exams.**
9. **Students enrolled in an Advanced Placement course must take the Advanced Placement exam at the end of the year.**

**Consult the Saint Agnes Academy Upper School Handbook  
for credit guidelines and additional requirements.**

# **ENGLISH**

The Saint Agnes Upper School English Department provides a college preparatory curriculum that includes an introductory literature and composition course for freshmen, American literature for sophomores, British literature for juniors, and world literature for seniors. Courses must be successfully completed in sequence. Each course provides a survey of the specific type of literature while requiring more in-depth study of particular authors and classics relevant to the course. In all English courses, students strengthen their composition skills through writing personal, analytical, and persuasive essays and research papers. In addition, each course provides instruction in grammar, usage, and syntax; reviews standardized test-taking skills; and provides vocabulary study.

***ENGLISH 1*** focuses on four main areas: literature, grammar, writing, and vocabulary. As an introduction to literature, this course presents several genres, including poetry, drama, and the novel. Emphasis is placed on reading literature for analysis and learning the necessary tools for evaluating classic literature. Grammar study includes a review of grammar, usage, and mechanics. Composition of literary analysis essays focuses on writing as a process, with an emphasis on multiple drafts as well as revision and proofreading skills. Vocabulary study evolves from the literature and supplementary novels. **One credit.**

***HONORS ENGLISH 1*** follows the same focus as English 1 with additional reading, writing, and research. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- a 94 (A) or better for the year in 8th grade English;
- a favorable recommendation from previous English teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of English Department Chair; and assessment of the Pre-ACT 8/9 or ISEE score writing sample.

***ENGLISH 2*** is a study of American literature from the colonial period to the modern age. Expository essay writing is emphasized. Students are required to complete a literary research paper. Preparation for standardized testing is also presented to enhance reading comprehension skills and vocabulary usage. **One credit.**

***HONORS ENGLISH 2*** students read works of American literature from the Colonial Period through the Modern Age. The objectives of the course and the general procedures are the same as those of English 2 classes. However, this course requires the reading of additional novels and plays, and more in-depth analysis of literary selections. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- an 85 average or better for the year in the previous year's honors level class;
- a scholarly attitude as determined by the previous year's instructor and based upon the following qualities: demonstrates a strong work ethic, has good attendance, has good conduct, performs consistently on tests and papers, communicates in a straightforward manner with instructor, has a genuine interest in learning the subject matter, reacts well to setbacks, and works to improve effort;
- approval of English Department Chair.

*Note: Anyone who wishes to move from a standard to an honors level class must have a recommendation from her current English teacher, a writing sample for the honors teacher to approve, and a 93 average or better in English for the prior year.*

**ENGLISH 3** is intended to provide the student with a comprehensive overview of British literature with a focus on analytical writing. Students are required to complete essays and in-class writings on a regular basis, with an emphasis on reading comprehension and passage analysis. Vocabulary study evolves from the context of the reading. Grammar skills are reviewed as needed in conjunction with the writing of compositions. A research paper on an assigned literary topic is required second semester. **One credit.**

**HONORS ENGLISH 3** is a chronological survey of British literature from the Anglo-Saxon Period through the Modern Age. Students are required to write essays on a regular basis, with an emphasis on reading comprehension and passage analysis. A major research paper on an assigned literary topic is required second semester. Vocabulary study evolves from the context of reading assignments. Preparation for standardized tests includes vocabulary and grammar review, as well as practice testing. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- an 85 average or better for the year in the previous year's honors level class;
- a scholarly attitude as determined by the previous year's instructor and based upon the following qualities: demonstrates a strong work ethic, has good attendance, has good conduct, performs consistently on tests and papers, communicates in a straightforward manner with instructor, has a genuine interest in learning the subject matter, reacts well to setbacks, and works to improve effort;
- approval of English Department Chair.

*Note: Anyone who wishes to move from a standard to an honors level class must have a recommendation from her current English teacher, a writing sample for the honors teacher to approve, and a 93 average or better in English for the prior year.*

**ENGLISH 4** students read works of world literature with an emphasis on studies in the novel. All genres of literature and authors of various nationalities are explored. Grammar skills are reviewed as needed in conjunction with the writing of compositions. Vocabulary study focuses on words commonly found on standardized tests. **One credit.**

**HONORS ENGLISH 4** students read works of world literature. All genres of literature and authors of various nationalities are explored. The course is organized thematically in order to promote analysis of universal themes. In addition to daily reading and class discussions, students write essays on topics related to the works and research various authors and poets. Papers are chiefly analytical, presupposing in-depth study of the works, and are subject to peer criticism and rewriting. The supplementary reading texts and assignments for this course are designed to improve critical reading skills and analytical writing skills. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- an 85 average or better for the year in the previous year's honors level class;
- a scholarly attitude as determined by the previous year's instructor and based upon the following qualities: demonstrates a strong work ethic, has good attendance, has good conduct, performs consistently on tests and papers, communicates in a straightforward manner with instructor, has a genuine interest in learning the subject matter, reacts well to setbacks, and works to improve effort; approval of English Department Chair.

- Students' PSAT scores on the Evidence-based Reading and Writing sections of the PSAT may be considered to determine honors eligibility.
- A 60 percentile ranking or higher on both sections is recommended.

*Note: Anyone who wishes to move from a standard to an honors level class must have a recommendation from her current English teacher, a writing sample for the honors teacher to approve, and a 93 average or better in English for the prior year.*

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION*** students read selected works of world literature. All genres of literature and authors of various nationalities are explored. The course is organized thematically in order to promote analysis of universal themes. In addition to daily reading and class discussions, students write essays on topics related to the works and research various authors and poets. Papers are chiefly analytical, presupposing in-depth study of works and are subject to peer criticism and rewriting. **Advanced Placement practice tests and essays also constitute a major component of this course in preparation for the required Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. One credit. Open to seniors only.**

**Prerequisites:**

- a 90 average or better for the year in Honors English 3;
- a scholarly attitude as determined by the Honors English 3 instructor and based upon attendance, participation, and attitude;
- a 60th percentile ranking or higher on the Evidence-based Reading and Writing sections of the PSAT;
- approval of current English teacher and Chair of the Department.

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION*** is an introductory college-level composition course focusing on rhetoric. Students cultivate their understanding of writing and rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and writing texts as they explore topics like rhetorical situation, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and style. The course focuses primarily on nonfiction works. Students should be able to read complex texts with understanding and write in a manner that explores ideas, reconsiders strategies, and emphasizes revision of drafts. Students will write formally and informally through revised essays, journals, collaborative writings, and in-class responses as well as produce expository and argumentative compositions that introduce complex ideas developed through sustained reasoning. **Advanced Placement practice tests and essays also constitute a major component of this course in preparation for the required Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. One Credit. Open to seniors only.**

**Prerequisites:**

- a 90 average or better in the student's previous English class;
- a scholarly attitude as determined by the previous English instructor and based upon attendance and participation;
- a recommendation by the student's current English teacher.

## *Elective Courses*

***JOURNALISM - YEARBOOK*** Students work together to create and edit the school annual. They gain experience in the areas of photography, caption writing, ad sales, and page layouts. **Enrollment is limited. Open to seniors only. One credit.**

## **FINE ARTS**

***INQUIRY INTO THE HUMANITIES*** is a required, freshman-level course, in which students learn how to think critically, to reason, to question, to preserve the past, to understand our present and to give us insight that impacts the future. It is the goal of this course that the students develop a “philosophical habit of mind,” an inquiring and global way of thinking. Through study, research and discussion, students will discover how the arts leave a lasting record of human nature and behaviors throughout the ages. **One-quarter credit.**

***ART 1*** is the foundation level for art study throughout the SAA Upper School visual arts program. All freshmen are required to take one semester of Art 1. This class is designed to build on the skills developed at the elementary and junior high levels. Emphasis is placed on understanding and applying the seven elements of art through the use of various media, such as pencil, charcoal, paint, and printmaking. Throughout the semester we will cover contour drawing, charcoal techniques, color theory, grid drawing, printmaking, portrait drawing, and scratchboard. **One-quarter credit.**

***ART 2*** is an elective open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Continued emphasis is placed on understanding of the elements of art at a more advanced level. Drawing and painting skills focus more on concept, expression, and composition. Students work in many drawing and painting media, including pencil, ink, charcoal, watercolor, scratchboard, colored pencils, and printmaking processes. Artwork will be entered in local, regional, and national contests. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Art 1. Requires art teacher approval.**

***ART 3*** is an advanced art class open to juniors and seniors. Drawing and painting skills are taught in a more independent studio style, allowing students to explore areas of interest. A strong emphasis is placed on developing an understanding of composition and design while focusing on expression and creativity. Students begin building portfolios for college entrance requirements, as this is a Pre-AP course. Outside assignments are given weekly. Artwork will be entered in local, regional, and national contests. Students will be required to furnish some supplies. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Art 1 and 2. Requires art teacher approval.**

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT ART*** is an advanced art class that requires teacher approval. Classwork includes independent projects in various media as well as developing an area of concentration chosen by the student. Students develop a concentration and complete portfolios which will be sent to the College Board, which will be sent to the College Board for scoring and can earn college credit for the student. The student must complete the portfolio requirement to pass the course. Artwork from this class will be entered in local, regional, and national art competitions and scholarship competitions. Students will be required to furnish some supplies. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Art 1, 2, and 3 and teacher approval.**

***DRAMA 1*** is a class of oral communication with a dramatic flair. Students understand and apply the techniques used in formal speaking including listening skills, research skills, research methods, and speech preparation. This class works closely with Vocal Music 1 as many of the topics concern significant events in musical history. **One-half credit.**

***DRAMA 2*** covers all aspects of play production. Students participate in hands-on activities that give them a basic knowledge of technical theater and performance theater. The course begins with stage basics and performance skills, then covers theater history, and finally, technical theater. This class is appropriate for anyone interested in theater. **One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite: Drama 1 and approval by teacher.**

***DRAMA 3*** is a performance intensive workshop class. Students spend the entire semester working on monologue writing, play-writing, and performance for live audiences. **Only juniors and seniors are eligible. One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite: Drama 1, Drama 2, and approval by teacher.**

***VOCAL MUSIC 1*** is a class designed to foster an appreciation for music and to introduce knowledge of basic music skills. Sight singing, note recognition, rhythm basics and performance skills are taught. This class works closely with Drama 1 as much of the research and knowledge is expressed through public speaking opportunities as well as musical performance. **One-half credit.**

***VOCAL MUSIC 2*** is an elective open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Emphasis is placed on a sound knowledge of the musculature of vocal production, the mechanics of proper breathing and support, and optimal vocal production. Musicology includes major composers and eras as well as popular styles of the present day. Vocal Music 2 students participate in the end of the semester choral concert. **One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite: Vocal Music 1 and approval by teacher.**

# **LEADERSHIP:** **Empowered to Lead**

The St. Agnes Leadership Department focuses on helping a new generation of learners develop leadership skills needed for the challenges that they will face in a world where they are connected through technology and more globally aware and involved. The leadership courses are founded on this basic truth: leadership skills can—and should—be taught and practiced. Colleges and businesses are looking for young leaders who understand their own leadership potential, demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, and embrace core values that will serve as the moral compass and inspiration for their leadership. We also want students to understand the unique challenge of female leadership—and help them leverage their strengths as they navigate their college careers and life experiences. All students will take “Freshman Leadership,” which serves as their foundational course, enabling them to better serve and lead in areas they feel passionate about. Students can later choose to take the junior/senior elective if they want to further their understanding of leadership.

***FRESHMAN LEADERSHIP*** As a new generation has become more connected through technology and more globally involved, they need practical life and leadership skills to serve as their foundation. This course equips students to think and act like leaders, creating healthy habits of mind and behaviors that will serve them for a lifetime. We focus on three major areas: character (core values, timeless virtues), interpersonal skills, and leadership principles and development. All students have leadership potential, and with a growth mindset, they can become more self-aware and reflective about their own strengths and talents. With a dynamic curriculum informed by research and consisting of short readings, group activities, TED Talks, conversations, and reflection, students focus on how to lead themselves before they move forward to lead others. **Required for all freshmen. One-half credit.**

## ***THE POWER TO LEAD: BECOMING AN EFFECTIVE 21st CENTURY LEADER***

This expanded leadership course will focus on one essential question: how can every student become a better leader in her school, church, team, family, community, and peer group? Students reflect on their core beliefs and identify their own strengths as leaders. They also focus on the theory and practice of team-building and collaboration, which include hands-on activities (group tasks and role playing). The course introduces concepts such as emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills and explores challenges specific to female leadership. With a dynamic curriculum informed by research and consisting of short readings, group activities, TED Talks, conversations, and reflection, students focus on how to lead themselves and how they can effectively move forward to lead others in our school and beyond. **Open to all juniors and seniors. One-half credit.**

# **MATHEMATICS**

The St. Agnes Academy Mathematics Department provides a college preparatory curriculum by offering students a variety of mathematics courses. All students are required to complete a minimum of four years of math. The math program is designed to nurture students in developing their abilities to think critically and analytically, and to explore a variety of ways to solve problems. Students are also expected to learn how to work within a cooperative environment with others, to be creative, and to communicate ideas and questions clearly. Students are encouraged to attend the Math Lab, which is offered to any Upper School student who seeks extra math help.

**ALGEBRA 1** is designed as a standard algebra course for freshmen who demonstrate math skills appropriate to their age and grade level. Topics include solving equations, graphs and functions, systems of equations, and polynomial functions. The content and projects related to this course are designed to prepare students for Geometry. **One credit.**

**HONORS ALGEBRA 1** is a rigorous course that prepares students for Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra 2. Beginning with solving multiple step equations, students move quickly through familiar content. Extensive work on real-life applications helps students to understand the importance of algebra in our world. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites for rising 9th graders:**

- a 93 (A) or better for the year in 8th grade Algebra;
- assessment of the Pre-ACT 8/9 Math score;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of Math Department Chair.

**GEOMETRY** is the traditional math course for sophomores with age-appropriate math skills. It provides abundant opportunities for students to practice mathematical reasoning. During the first semester, concepts such as tools of geometry, proofs, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles, and quadrilaterals are taught. The second semester concludes with area, similarity, right triangle trigonometry, surface area, volume and circles. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1.**

**HONORS GEOMETRY** is designed for the student who has mastered algebraic skills. In this course, students develop an understanding of the structure and concepts of Euclidean plane geometry, building naturally on the step-by-step processes of algebra. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites for rising 9th graders:**

- a 95 (A) or better for the year in 8th grade Algebra;
- assessment of the Pre-ACT 8/9 Math score;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of Math Department Chair.

**Prerequisites for rising 10th graders:**

- a 96 (A) or better in previous math course;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of Math Department.

*ALGEBRA 2* is a junior-level course for students with age-appropriate math skills. The course features the traditional topics of intermediate level Algebra. Topics include polynomial, rational, exponential, trigonometric functions, and additional topics as time permits. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Geometry.**

*HONORS ALGEBRA 2* is the second course in the Honors sequence. This course is designed for students who possess a strong knowledge base in algebra and geometry topics. Students must also exhibit a commitment to quality, and a mature, scholarly attitude. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- An 85 (B) or better in Honors Geometry;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of Math Department Chair.

*PRE-CALCULUS* links previous math courses to Calculus. Trigonometry, probability, the theory of equations, analytic geometry, and limits will be studied. Students wishing to take Pre-Calculus must demonstrate a commitment to high quality work, as well as demonstrate a mature and scholarly attitude. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- 85 (B) or better in Algebra 2 and any other math class taken that year;
- approval of the Math Department Chair.

*HONORS PRE-CALCULUS* is an intensive math course that links previous math courses to Calculus. Trigonometry, function analysis, probability, the theory of equations, analytic geometry, and limits will be studied in a college-like atmosphere. Students wishing to take Honors Pre-Calculus must demonstrate a commitment to quality, and a mature, scholarly attitude. Students in this course will be prepared to take AP Calculus. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- an 85 (B) or better in Honors Algebra 2 and any other math class taken the previous year;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of the Math Department Chair.

***ADVANCED ALGEBRA AND TRIGONOMETRY*** covers linear, quadratic, rational, absolute value, square root, exponential and logarithmic functions as well as right triangle trigonometry, unit circle trigonometry, trigonometric proofs. Additionally, students apply trigonometric equations and graphing trigonometric functions. Skills and concepts that prepare students for an introductory college pre-calculus course will be emphasized. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- **85 (B) or better in Algebra 2 or successful completion of Pre-Calculus;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Math Department Chair.**

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT STATISTICS*** introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring real world data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Computers and calculators allow students to focus on conceptual understanding, rather than mere knowledge of procedures. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- **Successful completion of Pre-Calculus with a 96 (A) or Honors Pre-Calculus with an 85 (B) or Honors Algebra 2 with an 85 (B) or better in the previous SAA math course;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Math Department Chair.**

***COLLEGE MATH*** is a senior level math course designed to help students prepare for everyday life, as well as future mathematic courses. Topics include a variety of functions, trigonometry, conic sections, probability, statistics, and sequences and series. Students will work to reinforce many past math topics. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- **successful completion of Algebra 2;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Math Department Chair.**

*Note: Previous courses may not include Pre-Calculus or Honors Algebra 2.*

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS AB*** explores analytic geometry, limits of functions, definitions of derivatives and its applications, indefinite integrals, and applications of integration for algebraic, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions. This demanding course requires familiarity with all topics covered in previous math courses, a commitment to quality, and a mature, scholarly attitude. Advanced Placement practice tests also constitute a major component of this course in preparation for the required Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- **Honors Pre-Calculus with a 90 (A-) or better and any other math class taken that year;**

- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Math Department Chair.**

*Note: Students will be required to attend two Spring semester Saturday practice AP test sessions.*

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS BC** explores analytic geometry, limits of functions, definitions of derivatives and its applications, indefinite integrals, and applications of integration for algebraic, trigonometric, exponential, logarithmic functions, sequences, series, polar equations, parametric equations and vectors. This demanding course requires familiarity with all topics covered in previous math courses, a commitment to quality, and a mature, scholarly attitude. Advanced Placement practice tests also constitute a major component of this course in preparation for the required Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. AP Calculus BC is roughly equivalent to both first and second semester of college calculus courses. Advanced Placement practice tests also constitute a major component of this course in preparation for the required Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. **One credit.**

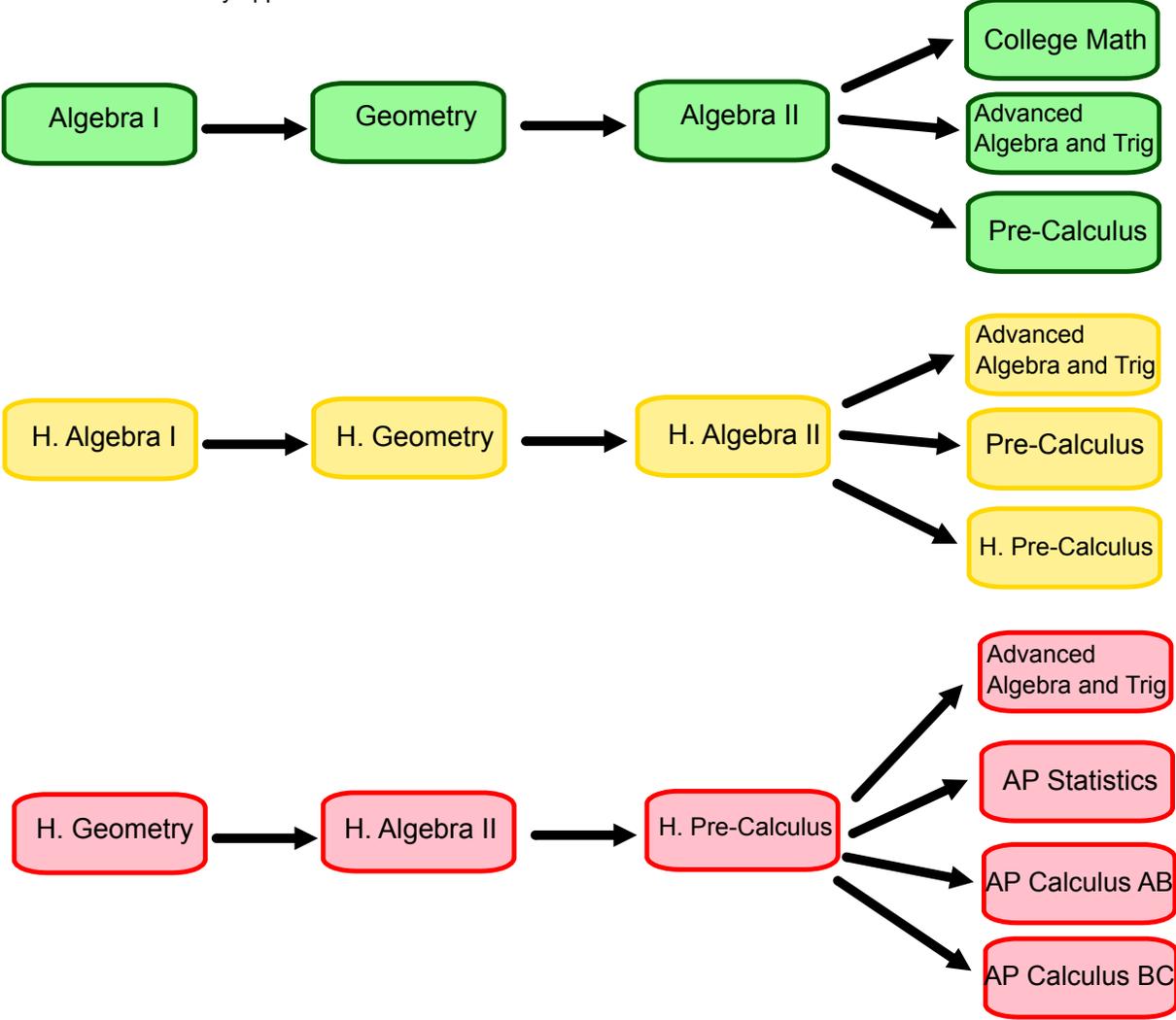
**Prerequisites:**

- **a96 (A) or better in Honors Pre-Calculus;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Math Department Chair.**

*Note: Students will be required to attend two spring semester Saturday practice AP test sessions.*

# Math Tracks

Students have many opportunities to move from track to track



# **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH**

*Note: Students who are members of any of the following SAA sports teams may receive credit for P.E. only (not Health): Basketball, Bowling, Cross Country, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, or Volleyball.*

Students must meet the following requirements:

1. participate and finish two seasons;
2. meet the specific requirements of the head coach of the individual sport;
3. have completed their two seasons by the end of the first semester of junior year.

*Note:*

1. *This credit may be earned only once.*
2. *The position of manager is eligible for P.E. credit.*
3. *A Pass or Fail Credit is awarded.*
4. *The two seasons can include two different sports and do not have to be consecutive.*

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION** offers the students instruction in lifetime activities, fulfills the P.E. requirement for high school graduation, and is offered as an elective for all students. Individual, dual, and team sports activities are included with the emphasis on offering lifelong participation opportunities. Aerobic and strength fitness, along with discussions of proper nutrition, are included in order for the students to learn to plan, implement, self assess, and modify a personal fitness plan. Students are prepared to lead a physically active lifestyle. **One-half credit. SAA grading scale applies rather than a pass/fail.**

*Note: Students will be assessed approximately \$40.00 for outside activities such as bowling, spin class, outdoor education, etc. The teacher will collect money as each event is approaching.*

**HEALTH** is a one-semester course designed to promote the choices that lead to physical, mental, and social health. Lifelong physical fitness is stressed, and students are encouraged to set individual fitness goals and develop exercise programs designed to meet those goals. Current issues such as personal safety, drug abuse, eating disorders, and nutrition are part of the course. Guest speakers provide important, updated information on these issues as well. **One-half credit.**

*Note: A CPR class is part of the program, and the students will be assessed a \$12.00 fee for certification.*

## **Elective Courses**

**FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE** is a one semester course designed to help students study and experience practical applications of food science, basic sewing, crocheting, upcycling, and do-it-yourself (projects) as well as such topics as financial planning and etiquette. **This course is open to seniors only. One-half credit.**

*Note: There is a fee for materials required for this course.*

# **SCIENCE**

The St. Agnes Academy Science Department provides students with a strong, well-rounded science education. Students are challenged and encouraged to pursue their special interests in a variety of courses at all levels. All students are required to complete three science credits: biology, chemistry, and one additional science course. Honors and Advanced Placement courses have limited enrollments and specific requirements as stated in each course description. In all cases, enrollment in Honors and Advanced Placement classes requires a scholarly attitude, good attendance, and good conduct. **Required for each science course: approval from current teacher, approval from the teacher of the desired course, and approval from the Department Chair.**

**BIOLOGY** provides an introduction to the major concepts of biology including biochemistry, cytology, genetics, evolution, diversity, anatomy and physiology, and ecology. Integrated laboratory activities allow students to enhance scientific reasoning skills by applying their knowledge to experimental situations. Writing formal lab reports helps students to develop communication skills within the context of science. **One credit.**

**HONORS BIOLOGY** is an accelerated survey of major biological concepts including biochemistry, cytology, molecular biology, genetics, evolution, diversity, ecology, and anatomy and physiology. Integrated laboratory activities allow students to enhance scientific reasoning skills by applying their knowledge to experimental situations. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite for rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders: Assessment of the Pre-ACT 8/9 or ISEE score and writing sample. In addition, students must be enrolled in Honors Algebra 1 or Honors Geometry.**

**CONCEPTUAL CHEMISTRY** is a practical, non-quantitative chemistry designed for students who desire an understanding of chemical concepts and applications. The main focus of this lab-oriented course is to help the student build a strong foundation in the basic concepts of chemistry, which are presented in the context of our daily lives. Successful completion of this course will meet the needs of students who do not plan on a science-related career after high school. **Recommended for juniors after completion of Biology and Physics. One credit.**

**CHEMISTRY** is designed to introduce students to the nature of chemistry, properties of matter and to build problem-solving skills through laboratory experimentation. The students learn to handle chemicals and laboratory equipment safely, and to observe, organize and record data, analyze results, and draw conclusions. Topics covered include atomic structure and compound formation, molecular behavior during chemical and physical changes, the periodic table, and the role of chemistry in our daily lives. **One credit. Prerequisites: Students must (1) be enrolled in or have taken Algebra 2 and (2) must have completed Physics or Honors Biology.**

**HONORS CHEMISTRY** is an advanced level course designed for students who are interested in a higher level of science. Students must have the aptitude to cover material more quickly and in greater depth. Topics include advanced atomic theory, physical and chemical behavior of elements, kinetic molecular theory of gases, introduction to organic chemistry, and behavior of solutions. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites: Students must have a 98 average or better for the year in Biology or Physics, or a 90 or better in Honors Biology. In addition, students must be enrolled in or have taken Honors Algebra 2 after having successfully completed a Geometry course.**

**PHYSICS** is a qualitative study of the central concepts of physics, including motion, sound, light, thermodynamics, electricity, and magnetism. Knowledge of the physical world and its laws provides a sound foundation for understanding all other sciences, including biology and chemistry. Laboratory activities provide hands-on experience with physics concepts and applications to the real world. **Required for sophomores who are enrolled in Geometry. One credit.**

### **Elective Courses**

**ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY** introduces students to the healthy functioning of the major human body systems. Although the emphasis of this course is on anatomy, students will examine the physiological components of the human body in order to understand how the structures and functions of the body are related. **This course is open to any junior or senior who has completed Biology and Chemistry. One credit.**

**HONORS ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY** is designed to be equivalent to a two-semester college introductory course in Anatomy and Physiology. Students will study the human body in detail, emphasizing the complementary nature of structure and function, molecular and cellular interactions, homeostasis, and metabolic processes. **This course is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their biology and chemistry requirements. Preference is given to students currently enrolled in AP Biology or Honors Chemistry. Requires an 88 or better in Honors Chemistry or a 92 or better in Chemistry. One credit.**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY** is designed to be equivalent to an introductory two- semester course in college Biology. Topics include biochemistry, cellular biology, molecular genetics and heredity, biotechnology, diversity, structure and function of organisms, evolution, and ecology. Upon completion of this course, students must take the Advanced Placement Examination and may be eligible for college credit. **This course is open to juniors or seniors who have earned an 87 or better in Honors Chemistry or a 98 or better in Chemistry. One credit.**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY** is designed to be equivalent to a college level general Chemistry course. Students enrolled in this course will attain an in-depth understanding of the fundamentals of chemistry. Students will display a thoughtful, systematic approach to solving problems. In addition, students will gain a deeper understanding of chemical concepts by completing various lab experiments. Topics and themes presented in the course include: the foundations of chemistry, stoichiometry, chemical reactions, properties of gases, thermochemistry, atomic structure, periodicity, bonding, kinetics, equilibrium, acid base chemistry, electro-chemistry, nuclear chemistry,

and organic chemistry. Upon completion of this course, students must take the Advanced Placement Examination and may be eligible for college credit. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites: A 93 or better for the year in Honors Chemistry. Must be enrolled in either Pre-Calculus or Calculus.**

*ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE* is offered to students who want to understand the natural environment and the environmental problems that we face in the modern world. This course is interdisciplinary, involving a wide variety of topics including interconnections between the living and nonliving world, the capacity of humans to alter natural systems, social and cultural considerations, and sustainable living. **This class is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their Biology and Chemistry requirements. One credit.**

*ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE* is designed to be the equivalent to an introductory one-semester college course in Environmental Science. By studying scientific concepts and methodologies, students will understand the interrelationships of the natural world, identify and analyze natural and man-made environmental problems, examine risks associated with environmental issues, and develop alternative solutions for solving or preventing them. Upon completion of this course, students must take the Advanced Placement Exam and may be eligible for college credit. **This course is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their biology and chemistry requirements. Preference is given to students currently enrolled in AP Biology or Honors Chemistry. Requires an 87 or better for the year in AP Biology or Honors Chemistry or a 93 or better for the year in Chemistry. One credit.**

*HONORS PHYSICS* explains how the relationships between force, energy, and time can be used to describe how objects move. Students will be using the concepts in this course to explain and predict natural phenomena by performing inquiry labs and observing simple demonstrations. This honors course will contain a greater emphasis on trigonometry and a more advanced level of algebra than the conceptual course. The content is divided into the following fields of physics: one & two-dimensional kinematics, dynamics (Newtonian physics), electricity, optics, and sound. The number one priority is to learn how to think critically, in a scientific manner, about the physical environment. Labs and animations are integral in exploring the concepts of this course. **One Credit.**

**Pre-requisites: Successful completion of Honors Algebra 2, and concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or Honors Pre-Calculus. Students should have a 90 or above in Honors Chemistry or a 95 in regular Chemistry.**

## ***Project Lead the Way Electives (PLTW)***

***Note: Students who complete the requirements of their chosen pathway earn the AP + PLTW student recognition, a qualification that demonstrates to colleges and employers that the student is ready for advanced course work and is interested in careers in this discipline. To earn the recognition, the student must satisfactorily complete three courses in the pathway - one AP course; one PLTW course; and a third course, either AP or PLTW - and earn a qualifying score of 3 or higher on the AP Exams(s) and a score of Proficient or higher on the PLTW End of Course (EoC) assessment(s).***

***PRINCIPLES OF THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (PBS)*** students explore concepts of biology and medicine as they take on roles of different medical professionals to solve real-world problems. Over the course of the year, students are challenged in various scenarios, including investigating a crime scene to solve a mystery, diagnosing and proposing treatment to patients in a family medicine practice, to tracking down and containing a medical outbreak at a local hospital, stabilizing a patient during an emergency, and collaborating with others to design solutions to local and global medical problems. **Requirements: This class is designed for freshmen. Upperclassmen may enroll if space is available. Enrollment is limited. One credit.**

***HUMAN BODY SYSTEMS (HBS)*** is the second in the sequence for the *Project Lead the Way* Biomedical Sciences Program. Students examine the interactions of human body systems as they explore identity, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis. Exploring science in action, students build organs and tissues on a skeletal Maniken®; use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration; and take on the roles of biomedical professionals to solve real-world medical cases.

**Prerequisite: Students must have successfully completed Principles of Biomedical Sciences with at least an average of 80. Enrollment is limited. One credit.**

***HONORS MEDICAL INTERVENTIONS*** students follow the life of a fictitious family as they investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease. Students explore how to detect and fight infection, screen and evaluate the code in human DNA, evaluate cancer treatment options, and determine when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through real-world cases, students are exposed to a range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Students must have successfully completed Principles of Biomedical Sciences and Human Body Systems with a minimum average of 85. Enrollment is limited. Requires approval of the instructor.**

***HONORS BIOMEDICAL INNOVATION*** is the final course of the PLTW Biomedical Science sequence, students build on the knowledge and skills gained from previous courses to design innovative solutions for the most pressing health challenges of the 21st century. Students address topics ranging from public health and biomedical engineering to clinical medicine and physiology. They have the opportunity to work on an independent project with a mentor or advisor from a university, medical facility, or research institution.

**Prerequisite: Student must have an 85 (B) or better in each of the first three PLTW courses.**

# Science Pathway

## Biomedical Science Elective

Freshmen

Sophomore

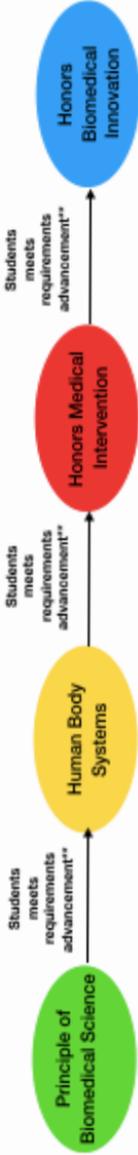
Junior

Senior

Junior / Senior

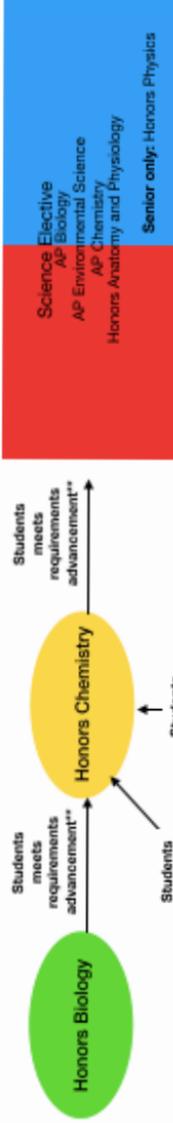
\*\* Please See Course Catalog for requirements plus Approval by the Department

PLTW Path

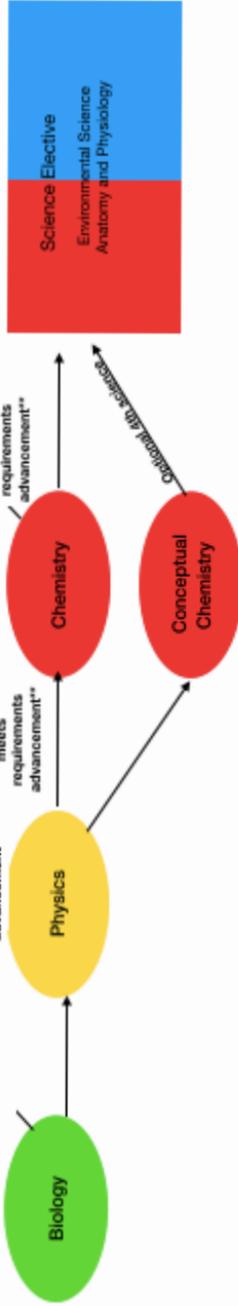


## Required 3 credit required 4 credit recommended

Honors/AP Path



Regular Path



\*\* Please See Course Catalog for requirements plus Approval by the Department

# **SOCIAL SCIENCES**

***UNITED STATES HISTORY*** students will, acquire the basic factual knowledge necessary to understand US history and citizenship through the traditional chronological survey approach. Coverage begins with the Age of Exploration and proceeds to the 21st century. Students develop critical thinking skills, as well as the ability to relate past history to current events. A research project is required for course completion. **This course is required for all sophomores, unless the student is enrolled in Honors US History or Advanced Placement US History. One credit.**

***HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY*** is the same as the traditional US History course with additional focus on scholarly attitude, advanced historical skills, and a faster pace. Students in honors will be expected to cover the content with greater breadth and academic rigor. Furthermore, skills such as critical reading and writing, analyzing documents, historical research, and historiography, define the course.

**Prerequisites: The student must have (1) excellent attendance and conduct records for the entire preceding school year (2) a minimum grade average of at least an 88 (B+) in freshman English for each semester's average, and (3) approval of the student's freshman year English teacher. One credit.**

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY*** is designed around the standards required by the College Board. Advanced Placement United States History is a high-level, college survey equivalent course that moves very fast and with great detail; therefore, students are expected to be consistent and committed throughout the year. The curriculum of Advanced Placement United States History covers content from early pre-colonial America through today. Core skills, such as working with documents, research, critical thinking, and writing, are essential to the mastery of Advanced Placement United States History. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam in May.

**Prerequisites: In order to be eligible, students must meet the following criteria: (1) excellent attendance and conduct records for the entire preceding school year (2) the student must be enrolled in Honors English and the student must have a 90 (A-) for each semester's average and approval of the Honors English teacher. One credit.**

***WORLD HISTORY*** Students expand their cultural literacy as they explore the history of nations, civilizations, ethnic, and religious groups, as well as the differences and similarities between them. The study of world history prepares one to be an educated citizen in an ever-increasingly global society. A global citizen can understand, process, and evaluate contemporary issues facing our world today. The investigation of world history also provides moral understanding, a sense of human identity, and good citizenship. Learning the history of the world combats against ethnocentrism and generates fair-minded citizens that are necessary to compete and reside in an ever-changing world climate. Students examine a broad scope of key events, turning points, and trends in World History from 1200 CE. to the modern era in order to meet these objectives. Required for all Juniors. **One credit.**

***HONORS WORLD HISTORY*** is a more rigorous version of World History but will follow the same content objectives of standard World History. Honors World History students focus more intensely on primary readings, historical research, and analysis. Although the topics are similar to World History, the coverage is more in-depth with a faster pace and larger amounts of reading requirements. Through studies in Honors World History, students understand how people and societies have changed over time, which provides a better understanding of today's world. This course examines key events, turning points, and trends in world history from 1200 CE. to modern times. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites: The student must have (1) excellent attendance and conduct records for the entire preceding school year (2) a minimum grade average of at least a 93 (A-) for each semester's average in Honors United States History or a 90 (A-) Advanced Placement United States History or a 92 (A-) for each semester's average in United States History and (3) approval of the student's previous year history teacher.**

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT MODERN WORLD HISTORY*** is a course in which students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes from 1200 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course is arranged around six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. Students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Exam at the completion of the course.

**Prerequisites: The student must have (1) excellent attendance and conduct records for the entire preceding school year (2) a minimum grade average of at least a 90 (A-) for each semester's average in Honors United States History or Advanced Placement United States History or a 95 (A) for each semester's average in United States History and (3) approval of the student's previous year history teacher. One credit.**

***ECONOMICS/PERSONAL FINANCE*** is intended to provide students knowledge and skills for making good financial decisions. The course materials used will be based on Dave Ramsey's, *Foundation in Personal Finance*. This curriculum is designed to inform students how individual choices directly influence occupational goals and future earnings potential. Real world topics are covered, and include income, money management, spending and credit, as well as saving and investing. **Required for graduation for the Class of 2022 and for those applying to state schools in Mississippi. Open to juniors and seniors only. One-half credit.**

## *Elective Courses*

***FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES: MEMBERSHIP AND RACE IN AMERICA*** offers a wide variety of texts, videos, and lessons for students interested in the history of race and racism. While this course is focused on the story of race in our country, students will examine histories of immigration and belonging as well as civil rights. This course also provides students with the opportunity to discuss citizenship and democracy in the United States today. Over the course of the semester, students examine the relationship between the individual and society, reflect on the way that humans divide themselves into “in groups” and “out groups” throughout history, explore the way that history is remembered and its various legacies in contemporary society, and address questions of freedom, justice, equality, and citizenship. This course was developed using Facing History and Ourselves materials. Facing History is a worldwide organization that provides students with resources that promote learning to choose knowledge over misinformation, compassion over prejudice or bullying, and participation over indifference or resignation. **Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors. One-half credit.**

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS*** introduces students to United States Government and Politics topics which would be found in a college-level course. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like constitutionalism, liberty and order, civic participation in a representative democracy, competing policy-making interests, and methods of political analysis. Students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Exam at the completion of the course. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:** The student must have (1) excellent attendance and conduct records for the entire preceding school year (2) a minimum grade average of at least a 90 (A-) for each semester’s average and (3) approval of the student’s previous year social sciences teacher. **Open to seniors only.**

***INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY*** presents a broad survey of the various areas of psychology, such as social, abnormal, developmental, behavioral, and the psychology of personality. The student is introduced to a body of knowledge which is the foundation for developing an understanding of behavior. **Open to juniors and seniors only. One-half credit.**

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY*** students will study the nature of personality development including the environmental, cognitive, and biological influences on personality and behavior. This course presents a broad survey of the various disciplines of psychology including research, brain anatomy and physiology, abnormal psychology, child development, social psychology, and states of consciousness. Advanced Placement Psychology emphasizes such skills as reading, writing, and analysis of psychological research. Students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Exam at the completion of the course. **One credit. Open to juniors and seniors only.**

**Prerequisites:** In order to be eligible for this course students must have excellent attendance and conduct records for the entire preceding school year and approval of the current year’s history teacher.

**In order for a rising junior to be eligible to take AP Psychology, the student must have a minimum of a 92 (A-) in United States History or a 90 (A-) in Honors United States History or an 88 (B+) in Advanced Placement United States History average for each semester.**

**In order for a rising senior to be eligible to take AP Psychology, the student must have a minimum of a 92 (A-) in World History or a 90 (A-) in Honors World History or an 88 (B+) in Advanced Placement World History average of each semester. Students who show commitment, consistency, and academic growth will be considered as good candidates for Advanced Placement Psychology.**

**INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS** This course is designed to provide students opportunities to learn about a variety of topics in the field of business. The goal of this course is to survey all aspects of in preparation for a business major at the collegiate level. Students will be exposed to numerous topics that include finance, economics, ethics, entrepreneurship, management, marketing, and many more. Students leave this class with a solid foundation of concepts and skills that will help them transition into a business major in college. **One-half Credit. Open to juniors and seniors.**

# **TECHNOLOGY**

With technology embedded in all coursework throughout our campus, the elective course offerings are tailored to the shifting needs/interests of our students. Any additional assistance needed by the students is also provided through video tutorials, as well as individual and small-group sessions held before and after school.

## **Elective Courses**

***MEDIA ARTS 1*** is a one semester, project-based course in which students are exposed to various types of media and digital arts, such as photography, videography, sound, Photoshop techniques, and design. Projects stress the elements and principles of design, working with equipment to manage lighting and sound, as well as the technical skills involved in editing media files in various MacBook, Adobe Creative Suite, and sound editing applications. **One-half credit. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

***MEDIA ARTS 2*** is a one semester, project-based course in which students expand upon their Media Arts 1 experience. This course is taught in a more independent style, allowing students to explore areas of interest suited to personal goals. Projects stress more additional advanced techniques and exposure to various types of media applications utilized in Media Arts 1, some of which include: Photoshop, videography (Adobe Premier CC), sound/voice over, and animation. **One-half credit. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**Prerequisite: Media Arts 1.**

***3D DESIGN PRINCIPLES*** explores the principles of 3D design in this one semester, project-based course. This course introduces basic three-dimensional processes and materials. Students become familiar with the tools, design techniques, and principles necessary to create and print 3D forms and functional objects using various programs. No prior 3D experience is necessary. **One-half credit. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

***VIDEO/BROADCAST JOURNALISM*** Music videos, commercials, athletic promotions, theatre trailers, life, and All the Buzz at the Academy... Have you ever wanted to produce the SAA News? This semester course provides students with the opportunity to create a series of short broadcasting segments to air to the SAA Upper School through several "Live from the Academy" news broadcasts. Students will work as a team to brainstorm, research, write, and produce the broadcast, as well as to create public service announcements for the high school. We are looking for: Reporters/Anchors, Writers, Videographers, Graphic and Animation Designers.

**One-half credit. Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

# **THEOLOGY**

Each year-long Theology course is divided into two semesters of thematic study. One-half credit is earned each semester. The course of study follows the guidelines of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

## **THEOLOGY 1**

***The Holy Catholic Church: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church*** provides students with an overview of the Catholic Church. The students learn that they encounter the living Jesus Christ through the Church. The students explore how the Church was founded by Jesus Christ, and they investigate the images of the Church, the Four Marks of the Church, and the role of the Church in the modern world. This course engenders a deeper understanding of and appreciation for Catholic beliefs, rituals, and practices. A significant component of this course involves ***Altaration: The Mystery of the Mass Revealed***, a powerful cinematography on the Mass and priesthood which inspires students to grow a deep and lasting love for the Mass.

***The Living Word: The Revelation of God's Love*** provides an introduction to Sacred Scripture, with a particular focus on Jesus Christ as the fulfillment of salvation history. Revelation, both Divine and natural, is explored, as are inspiration, interpretation, and exegesis. The students encounter the people of salvation history, including the early leaders of Israel; the judges, kings, and the prophets; and the history of salvation as revealed in the New Testament. Students also learn about the role of Scripture in the life of faith of the individual as well as the life of the Church.

## **THEOLOGY 2**

***The Sacraments: Encounters with Christ*** This course is designed to lead the students toward a deeper understanding of how the liturgy and the Sacraments relate to our everyday encounters with Christ. The course advances foundational concepts from Theology 1: expanding the definition of liturgy, the liturgical year, and liturgical celebration. The Seven Sacraments are introduced through an exploration of symbols and rituals, followed by a presentation of the Sacraments as signs and encounters with Christ in our lives. The study of each sacrament includes an examination of Old Testament prefigurations, New Testament fulfillments, its history, names for the sacrament, associated symbols and graces, as well as the rite for celebrating the sacrament.

***Christian Morality*** invites students to delve into what it means to be human, what their purpose in life is, and how these understandings affect their choices. Using John Paul II's *Theology of the Body*, this course will challenge students to examine their relationships with others through the lens of the Christian worldview and will give them practical guides in living out their purpose as humans created in the image and likeness of God.

### **THEOLOGY 3**

***The Paschal Mystery: Christ's Mission of Salvation*** leads students toward a deeper understanding of our need for redemption and how Jesus fulfills God's promise of redemption. Through an intensive study of the Gospels, the course explores how, through His Passion, Death, Resurrection, and Ascension, Christ makes our redemption possible. The course addresses how we continually experience the Paschal Mystery in our lives and in the liturgy of the Church. This course provides students with an extensive understanding of Christology.

***Church History: Apostolic Times to Today*** leads the students toward a deeper understanding of the history of the Church from the time of Christ to the present day, starting with the origin of the Church and its growth and persecution during Apostolic times. The course provides insight into the development of the Church in its first four hundred years and examines challenges facing the Church after the Fall of the Roman Empire. After reviewing the growth of the Church during the Middle Ages, this course introduces students to the renewal and reform of the Church during the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation, and beyond. Students will learn about the Church's efforts to spread the Gospel to the New World. Additional units guide the students through the Enlightenment and its effects on the Church. The course concludes with a study of the Church of the 20th and 21st centuries, including the Second Vatican Council.

### **THEOLOGY 4**

***(Required 1st Semester) Catholic Social Teaching: Christian Life in Society and the Advocacy Project*** guides students in exploring and understanding the social teachings of the Church. It addresses the major themes of Catholic social teaching and how they express God's plan for all people, with a goal toward inspiring students to a life of service for the Kingdom of God. The students explore injustices in today's society through completing a group Advocacy project. Through this opportunity, they apply Catholic social teaching to current social issues, such as protecting human life and dignity, defending human rights, promoting peace, advocating for economic justice, and safeguarding God's creation.

### **SENIOR ELECTIVES: CHOOSE ONE.**

***(Elective 2nd Semester) World Religions: Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues*** helps students understand how the Catholic Church relates to Christian faiths and to other world religions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism and Islam. The course is intended to help students be prepared to go out into the world and relate with people of other faiths and beliefs. Through a comparative approach, the course helps students to recognize ways that important spiritual truths are shared. From this course, students gain a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith and a stronger ability to defend its teachings.

***(Elective 2nd Semester) Sacred Scripture: Divine Revelation*** gives an overview of Sacred Scripture with a focus of understanding and interpreting the Bible. The course scope cannot cover the entire content of the Bible; it focuses on God's presence and divine plan for our salvation. Readings from both the Old and New Testaments emphasize God's mercy and never ending love for us, and our need for Jesus Christ as Savior.

## **SERVICE REQUIREMENT**

St. Agnes Academy believes that religion is lived as well as learned. In order to help students become aware of the needs of others, to help them develop an appreciation for service to others and to introduce them to the types of community service available and the people who provide them in our community, service hours are required of all students in the Upper School.

A list of suggested service opportunities is available for each student's reference. The hours for each year must be earned in two or more of the following four categories: neighborhood, school, church, and non-profit organizations.

Each freshman and sophomore is required to complete at least 20 hours of service per year. Each junior and senior is required to complete at least 30 service hours per year. At graduation, therefore, each student will have completed a minimum of 100 hours. Faculty in the Theology Department provide information concerning deadlines for the recording of service hours.

Awards are presented to students who perform more than 100 hours of service in any given year.

# **WORLD LANGUAGES**

Starting with the class of 2023, students are required to complete two years of the same language. The choices are French, Latin, or Spanish. **Note: Oral Examinations are required in French and Spanish.**

## **Dual Enrollment Program**

St. Agnes Academy participates in a dual enrollment program to offer college credit for high school students who qualify in selected World Language classes. The offerings included in this program are Honors Spanish 3 and 4. Note that dual enrollment is not available for Advanced Placement Spanish. As far as St. Agnes Academy is concerned, equal demands will be made of participants and non-participants in the classroom. Upon successful completion of each semester, the student will receive three credit hours. There is a registration fee and a fee per credit hour. If students meet the State of Tennessee requirements, families will be reimbursed through the HOPE Lottery Scholarship Program for the fees for credit hours.

\*Designates optional dual enrollment.

***FRENCH 1*** is designed to provide a solid working knowledge of basic oral and written French and to create an interest in and admiration for the French culture and civilization. **One credit.**

***FRENCH 2*** is the second course of the French sequence. It is designed to enable the student to speak simple French with reasonable proficiency and a pronunciation understandable to the native speaker. It provides a basic knowledge of French grammar, develops writing skills, and provides a better understanding and knowledge of France and the French people. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of French 1.**

***HONORS FRENCH 3*** is the third course of the French sequence and is designed to further develop the student's ability to express herself in French using advanced vocabulary and structures, to perfect pronunciation, to improve and develop the ability to write French, to provide the student with a detailed and extensive knowledge of French culture and civilization, and to broaden the student's taste for French literature. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of French 2 with a minimum grade of 88 (B+), or French teacher recommendation based on proficiency in four areas: oral proficiency, aural proficiency, reading comprehension, and written expression.**

***HONORS FRENCH 4*** is the fourth course of the French sequence and is designed to perfect the student's ability to express herself in French, to further develop and polish writing skills in the language, to provide a knowledge of French history, civilization and culture, and to acquaint the student with select works of French literature. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites: Satisfactory completion of French 3 with both a minimum grade of 90 (A-) and French teacher recommendation based on proficiency in four areas: oral proficiency, aural proficiency, reading comprehension, and written expression.**

*LATIN 1* focuses on basic vocabulary and grammar. Online activities and dramatizations enhance the student's ability to comprehend written and spoken Latin, as well as the ability to relate Latin to English. Roman history, culture, and mythology are covered, with an emphasis on Pompeii and Roman Egypt. **One credit.**

*LATIN 2* focuses on further developing the student's knowledge of Latin vocabulary and grammar. Students will read with increasing fluency and learn to relate Latin to English grammar. Roman history and culture will also be explored, with a focus on the Roman military and its feats of engineering. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin 1.**

*HONORS LATIN 3* focuses on the Golden Age of Roman literature. Through the writings of Cicero and Sallust, students explore Catiline's conspiracy, and they complete projects that expand their knowledge of Roman history, politics, and oratory. The year concludes with an introduction to poetry and mythology, via the works of Ovid and Virgil. **One credit. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin 2.**

*HONORS LATIN 4* focuses on the Silver Age of Roman literature. The main topic of study is poetry, with readings from Lucan, Martial, and Juvenal. Attention is given to the letters of Pliny and the histories of Tacitus and Josephus, with a special focus on these writers' attitudes toward Christianity. Students also complete projects that expand understanding of the history and culture of the Roman Empire. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Latin 3.**

*AP LATIN* focuses on the in-depth study of selections from two of the greatest works in Latin literature: Vergil's Aeneid and Caesar's Gallic War. The course requires students to prepare and translate the readings and place these texts in a meaningful context, which helps develop critical, historical, and literary sensitivities. Throughout the course, students consider themes in the context of ancient literature and bring these works to life through classroom discussions, debates, and presentations. Additional English readings from both of these works help place the Latin readings in a significant context. **One credit. Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors Latin 3.**

*SPANISH 1* is an introductory course designed to provide a good working basis in oral and written Spanish and to create an interest in and appreciation of Spanish culture and civilization. **One credit.**

*SPANISH 2* is the second course in the Spanish sequence and is designed to develop and reinforce a sound working basis in all four of the skills required in language learning. Primary objectives are the completion of the grammar rules necessary for basic communication and the development of self sufficiency in expressing the oral language, as well as the development of an interest in the culture of the Spanish speaking world. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Satisfactory completion of Spanish 1.**

***HONORS SPANISH 3*** This course is designed to immerse the students in the language, culture, and history of the Spanish speaking world, all while using Spanish as the sole language of communication by both teacher and students. More advanced grammar topics are introduced along with higher register vocabulary and thorough study of the culture and history of Spanish-speaking countries. The students continue to be fully engaged while further perfecting the four language skills: speaking, listening, writing, and reading. In addition to using the textbook, students complete projects, watch Spanish films, read novels, short stories, and authentic materials such as newspaper and magazine articles, and participate in class discussions of current issues. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:** Students must complete Spanish 2 with a minimum of an 85 (B) and/or have teacher recommendation based on performance in four areas: oral and aural proficiency, reading comprehension, and written expression.

***HONORS SPANISH 4*** is a continuation of Honors Spanish 3 and is designed to perfect the student's ability to express herself both in oral and written communication, all while continuing to explore the culture and history of Spanish-speaking countries. Students continue to study advanced grammar and vocabulary. In addition to using the textbook, students complete projects, watch Spanish films, read short stories and authentic materials such as newspaper and magazine articles, and participate in class discussions on a series of current issues. Students are introduced to representative works of Spanish literature. **One Credit.**

**Prerequisites:** Students must complete Honors Spanish 3 with a minimum of 85 (B) and/or be recommended by the Spanish teacher.

***ADVANCED PLACEMENT SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE*** students will be exposed to complex grammatical concepts through a variety of activities based on the four skills necessary for the acquisition of a foreign language: writing, listening, speaking, and reading. Students are exposed to several genres of Spanish reading material from various Spanish speaking countries. Students will be able to speak for 20 minutes on an advanced level on a wide variety of topics and are able to converse with a high degree of ease. Upon completion of this course, students must take the Advanced Placement Examination and may be eligible for college credit.

**Prerequisites:** Students must have completed Honors Spanish 3 with a grade of 90 (A-) or better, demonstrate a commitment to high quality work, as well as a mature and scholarly attitude, and have approval of the Spanish teacher.

## **SEEK**

**(Students Exploring and Enhancing Knowledge)**

To add to the preparation of our 21st Century learners, St. Agnes Academy offers an independent study opportunity, SEEK. Through SEEK, the students have the opportunity to study outside the formal class structure. Such a program involves further, in-depth study of a topic of interest already studied in a formal course, a topic related to a formal course, or a topic entirely new to the student. The research project culminates in a presentation before a committee of faculty members. Upon successful completion of the project, the student receives an A and a half credit that will be placed in the box “Other” on the school transcript. This grade will not be part of the cumulative grade point average.



*The Upper School Counseling Center  
Saint Agnes Academy  
4830 Walnut Grove Road  
Memphis, Tennessee 38117  
(901)767-1377*

Revised *March, 2021*