



# **Upper School Course Catalog 2023-2024**

# **Saint Agnes Academy Upper School**

## **Program of Study 2023-2024**

**This program of study reflects the tentative course offerings for the 2023-2024 school year as of July 1, 2023. Finalized course offerings will be based on any of the following: graduation requirements, resources available, and student interest. St. Agnes Academy reserves the right to modify this program of study at any time and in its sole discretion.**

### **Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2024**

#### **25.5 credits including the following:**

English	4	credits
Fine Arts	1	credits
Freshman Leadership	.5	credit
Mathematics	4	credits
Physical Education and Health	1	credit
Science	3	credits
Social Sciences	3	credits
Theology	4	credits
World Languages (same)	2	credits
Electives	3	credits

### **Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2025-2027**

#### **26 credits including the following:**

English	4	credits
Fine Arts	1.5	credits
Freshman Leadership	.5	credit
Mathematics	4	credits
Physical Education and Health	1	credit
Science	3	credits
Social Sciences	3	credits
Theology	4	credits
World Languages (same)	2	credits
Electives	3	credits

**Notes:**

1. **Required credits per semester: 3.5**
2. **25.5 total credits are required for graduation for the Class of 2024.**
3. **The class of 2024 is only required to have 1 credit for Fine Arts. Beginning with the Class of 2025, all classes are required to have 1.5 credits for Fine Arts.**
4. **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.**
10. **Course Placement for the upcoming year is based on semester 1 grades**

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

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# **National Honor Societies**

## **National Beta Club**

Name of the Society: National Beta Club

Criteria: Students must have at least a 3.25 GPA after the first semester at St. Agnes to join, and then maintain a 3.25 yearly GPA to maintain membership.

Years eligible: 9-12

Sponsor: Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Kilkenny

## **National Honor Society**

Name of the Society: National Honor Society Aquinas Chapter

Criteria: St. Agnes Academy inducts members with a demonstrated commitment to scholarship, leadership, character, and service. There is a GPA requirement.

Year eligible: 12

Sponsor: Dr. Elizabeth McIngvale

*\*Please note that the following Honor Societies' induction requirements are located within the Course Catalog at the end of the Honor Societies' subject category.*

International Thespian Society

National English Honor Society

National Junior Classical League Latin Honor Society

Société Honoraire de Français

Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica

Mu Alpha Theta

Rho Kappa Social Sciences Honor Society

# **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 completed in sequence. Each course provides a survey of the specific type of literature while requiring more in-depth study of significant authors and relevant classics. 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. This course introduces students to fiction and drama, with an emphasis on reading comprehension and literary analysis. Course work includes a review of grammar, usage, and mechanics. Composition of essays focuses on writing as a process. Students will write multiple drafts, honing revision and proofreading skills. Vocabulary study evolves from the literature.

**One credit.**

***HONORS ENGLISH 1*** presupposes a strong foundation in grammar and writing. This course 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 the English Department Chair; and assessment of the St. Agnes Entrance Exam.**

***ENGLISH 2*** English 2 provides a survey of American Literature from the Colonial Period to the Modern Age. Students are introduced to American authors and the literary movements that define their eras. As they examine common themes, literary terms, and textual structures, they build skills in comprehension and analysis. Through frequent compositions, students practice writing paragraphs and essays that support claims with appropriate evidence. Students also write descriptive and compare/contrast pieces. Grammar study focuses on sentence parts and allows students to avoid common errors and to compose more sophisticated patterns. Vocabulary study arises from the readings and topics. **One credit.**

**HONORS ENGLISH 2** encounter an in-depth study of American Literature from the Colonial Period to the Modern Age. The objectives and general procedures of the course are similar to those of English 2 classes. However, greater emphasis on timed writing, passage analysis, and literary research define the course. Students are expected to demonstrate skills and sophistication as readers and writers as they cover a greater volume of texts than the students of English 2. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:**

- an 86 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 the 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 also as practice for ACT. A research paper on an assigned literary topic is required during the second semester. Preparation for standardized tests includes vocabulary and grammar review, as well as practice testing. **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 in the 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 86 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 the 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. The four major 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 significant 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 86 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.*

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION** students read selected works of world literature. The four 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 significant 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 92 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;
- approval of the current English teacher and the English Department Chair.

## **Elective Courses**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION** follows the outline of an introductory college-level composition course focused on rhetoric. Students cultivate their understanding of rhetorical arguments through reading, analyzing, and responding to nonfiction texts as they explore topics including rhetorical situations, claims and evidence, reasoning and organization, and argumentative style. Students should be able to read complex texts with understanding and write in a manner that explores ideas, reconsiders strategies, and emphasizes revision. Brief, in class assignments will involve mentor texts, individual journaling, and collaborative writing. Major assignments will involve drafting and revising 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. Recommended for juniors. One Credit.**

**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;
- Assessment of scores on the English and Reading sections of the Pre-ACT;
- a recommendation by the student's current English teacher;
- approval of the current English teacher and the English Department Chair.

**GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION** is a semester course for those sophomores who need reinforcement of their understanding of sentence and paragraph organization. Through reading of high interest short stories and nonfiction texts, students examine the functions of phrases and clauses and write sentences of all types and of clear, correct, and sophisticated patterns. Appropriate punctuation and diction are emphasized as well so that students emerge from the course as more competent and more confident writers. **One-half credit.**

**National English Honor Society:**

Name of Society: National English Honor Society (St. Francis de Sales Chapter)

Criteria: Sophomores qualify if they have earned a final grade of 90 or higher over three consecutive semesters of Honors English. Juniors and seniors may qualify if they have earned final grades that average to 90 (A-) or higher over three consecutive semesters of standard or Honors English.

Years Eligible: 10-12

Sponsor: Dr. Elizabeth McIngvale

## **FINE ARTS**

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** Oral Communications students understand and apply the techniques used in formal public speaking, including listening skills, research methods, and speech preparation. Activities involve preparing and delivering speeches to inform, to entertain, and to persuade as well as participating in panel discussions. Students will present before an audience. Required Course. **One-half credit.**

**ART 1** is designed for students to explore visual art in form, content, and technique. Emphasis is placed on understanding the Elements of Art and Principles of Design as a basis for composition. Students will explore a variety of artists, art processes, and materials such as drawing, painting, two and three-dimensional design, as well as photography and digital art. Student projects will enable students to problem solve and make art while reflecting on aesthetics & cultural and historical contexts. Students also participate in classroom critiques of their work and learn how to analyze and discuss historical and contemporary art images. **One-half credit.**

## **Elective Courses**

**INQUIRY INTO THE HUMANITIES** is a 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-half 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 intensively on concept, expression, and composition. Students produce drawings and paintings in many 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 approval by the art teacher and the Fine Arts Department Chair.**

**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. 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 is entered in local, regional, and national contests. Students are required to furnish some supplies. **One credit.**

**Prerequisite: Art 1 and 2. Requires approval by the art teacher and the Fine Arts Department chair.**

***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 requires approval by the art teacher and the Fine Arts Department Chair.**

***INTERMEDIATE THEATRE ARTS*** This class covers all aspects of play production. Students participate in hands-on activities that give them a basic knowledge of technical and performance theatre. 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 theatre. **One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite: Approval by the Fine Arts Department Chair.**

***ADVANCED THEATRE ARTS*** a performance intensive workshop class. Students spend the semester working on monologue writing, play-writing, and performance for live audiences. **One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Intermediate Theatre Arts and approval by the Fine Arts Department chair.**

***JOURNALISM*** will focus on the various skills required to create flyers, magazines, and other publications, including the school yearbook. Coursework will include principles of design, photography and photo editing, creative writing, working with layouts, choosing fonts and character styles, as well as illustration. In addition to these specific skills, students will be engaged in active project planning, collaboration, and execution while mastering time management and both the giving and receiving of constructive feedback as part of the design process.

**One credit. Open to rising seniors.**

**Prerequisites: Media Arts 1, Art 2, or with teacher approval**

***VOCAL MUSIC 1*** is a semester course open to all sophomores, juniors, and seniors. This is a vocal music training class with emphasis on choral ensemble singing. The students will learn

basic music theory and proper singing techniques. The main focus of the course is preparation for the concert at the end of the semester. **One-half credit.**

***VOCAL MUSIC 2*** is a semester course open to juniors and seniors. With a small class size of 12 students, emphasis is placed on music history, such as musical genres, activism in music, and how music impacted significant historical events. Also, the class focuses on 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 music teacher and the Fine Arts Department chair through a vocal audition.**

***VOCAL MUSIC 3*** focuses on the development of singing, listening, reading, writing and creating music in small class sizes of less than 12 students. The course provides opportunities for growth in understanding the following musical elements: rhythm, melody, form, tempo, dynamics, timbre or tone color, and harmony. Students continue to practice making informed judgments about music heard or performed and to identify connections between music and other content areas, with an end of the semester choral performance. Only juniors and seniors are eligible. **One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite: Vocal Music 1 & 2 and approval by music teacher and the Fine Arts Department chair through a vocal audition.**

### **Theatre Honor Society:**

Name of Society: International Thespian Society

Criteria: In order to be considered for acceptance into the International Thespian Society, a student must have participated in at least three St. Agnes Upper School productions and have logged at least 100 hours in the theatre.

Years Eligible: 10-12

Sponsor: Mrs. Ann Neal

# **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 one basic truth: leadership skills can—and should—be taught and practiced. Colleges and businesses are looking for young leaders who understand their own strengths, demonstrate effective interpersonal skills, and embrace core values that will serve as the moral compass and inspiration for their leadership. Students learn to appreciate the unique challenge of female leadership—and will learn to leverage their strengths as they navigate their college careers and life experiences. All students take “Freshman Leadership,” which serves as their foundational course. Students can later choose to take the junior/senior elective if they want to further their understanding and practice of leadership.

**FRESHMAN LEADERSHIP** 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 understand 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.**

## **Elective Courses**

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

This expanded leadership course focuses on one essential question: how can every student become a better leader in her school, church, team, family, community, and peer group? Students will reflect on their core beliefs and identify their own strengths as leaders. They will also focus on the theory and practice of team-building and collaboration, which include hands-on activities. Since all leaders need practice and feedback, this course focuses on collaborative activities: students will create, execute, and debrief projects and group tasks. **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 visit the Learning Lab, which is offered to any Upper School student who seeks extra help or practice.

***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 St. Agnes Entrance Exam;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of the Mathematics Department Chair.

***CONCEPTS OF MATHEMATICS*** is a course designed to support students in their mathematical journey while also deepening their understanding of previous and future algebra topics. This semester course is for sophomores. There will be a concentration on vocabulary, mathematical practices, foundations, problem solving, and skill building. **One-half credit.**

**Prerequisite:**

- Recommendation from freshman math teacher

***GEOMETRY*** is the traditional math course offered to sophomore students 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 St. Agnes Entrance Exam;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of the Mathematics Department Chair.

**Prerequisites for rising 10th graders:**

- An 85 (B) or better in Honors Algebra 1
- a 96 (A) or better in Algebra 1;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of the Mathematics Department Chair.

***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 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:**

- a 96 (A) or better in Geometry or
- an 85 (B) or better in Honors Geometry;
- favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;
- approval of the Mathematics 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:**

- **An 85 (B) or better in Advanced Algebra and Trigonometry**
- **An 85 (B) or better in Algebra 2 and any other math class taken that year;**
- **approval of the Mathematics 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:**

- **A 96 (A) or better in Algebra 2 or**
- **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 Mathematics Department Chair.**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PRE-CALCULUS** students explore everyday situations and phenomena using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. They will learn how to observe, explore, and build mathematical meaning from dynamic systems, an important practice for thriving in an ever- changing world. **This class is aimed for advanced rising Juniors and Seniors (preference to juniors). All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Exam at the end of the year. One Credit.**

**Prerequisite:**

- **93 (A) or better in Honors Algebra 2 and any other math class taken the previous year;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher.**
- **approval of the Mathematics Department Chair**

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

***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 Honors Algebra 2 or Honors Pre-Calculus;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Mathematics 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 Honors Pre-Calculus with an 85 (B) or better, AP Pre-Calculus with an 85 (B) or better, or Honors Algebra 2 with an 85 (B) or better;**
- **favorable recommendation from previous math teacher concerning scholarly attitude, attendance, participation, and behavior;**
- **approval of the Mathematics Department Chair.**

***COLLEGE MATH*** is a senior level math course designed to help students prepare for everyday life, as well as future mathematics 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 Mathematics Department Chair.**

***Note: Previous courses may not include Honors Algebra 2.***

**HONORS CALCULUS** covers the traditional calculus curriculum: limits, derivatives, indefinite integrals, and definite integrals. The course content is much the same as that of Advanced Placement Calculus; however, the schedule is more flexible. One credit.

**Prerequisites:**

- **successful completion of Pre-Calculus with a 96 (A) or Honors Pre-Calculus with an 85 (B) or better**
- **approval of the Mathematics Department.**

**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 AP Pre-Calculus with an 85 (B) 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 Mathematics 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:**

- **A 96 (A) or better in Honors Pre-Calculus with completion of summer work or a 90 (A) or better in AP Pre-Calculus;**

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

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

**Mathematics Honor Society:**

Name of Society: Mu Alpha Theta

Criteria: Members must have completed the equivalent of two years of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra and/or geometry, and have completed or are enrolled in a third year of college preparatory mathematics.

At least two of the courses must be completed at the Honors Level.

At least one full year of the two required years must be completed at St. Agnes Academy.

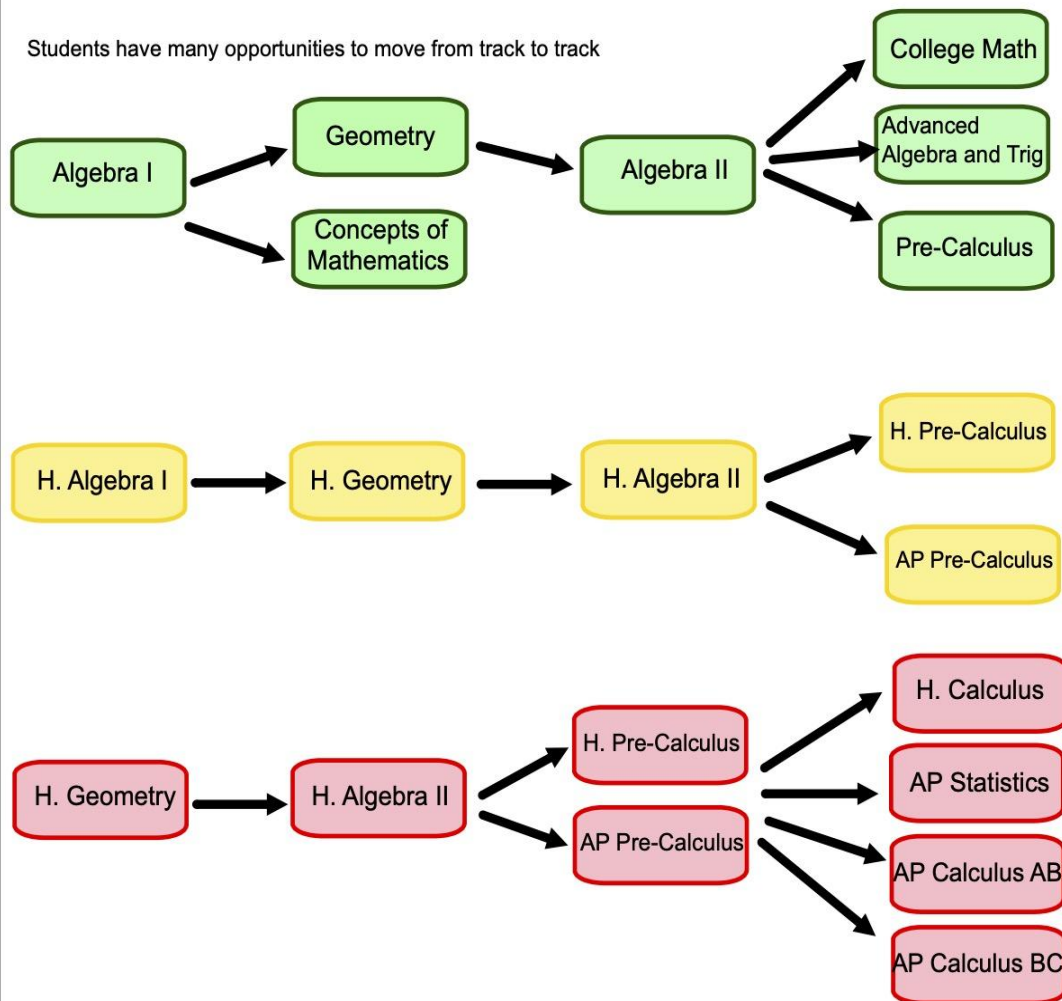
Students must have 90 or above math GPA.

Years Eligible: 10-12

Sponsor: Mr. Juan Monserrat

# 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 or SAA sponsored sports may receive credit for P. E. only (not Health): Basketball, Bowling, Cheer, Cross Country, Golf, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, or Volleyball.*

**Students must meet the following requirements:**

1. **Complete two seasons of a sport (does not have to be consecutive);**
2. **Meet the specific requirements of the head coach of the individual sport.**
3. **Complete two seasons by the end of the second semester of Sophomore year.**

*Note:*

*Students must participate for two seasons (start to finish) by the end of the second semester of sophomore year. They must meet the specific requirements for participation as outlined by the head coach of the individual sport. The two seasons can include two different sports and do not have to be consecutive. After verification, one half-credit of "Pass" is noted on the academic transcript.*

**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 (rather than a Pass/Fail) applies.**

*Note: Students will be assessed approximately \$40.00 for outside activities such as bowling, spin class, outdoor education, etc. The 40.00 will be deducted from each student's FACTS account.*

**HEALTH** is a 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 to 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 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 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 which will be deducted from the student's FACTS account in August.***

# **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 Science Department Chair.**

**BIOLOGY** provides an introduction to the major concepts of biology including molecular and cell biology, chemistry, 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. **One credit.**

**HONORS BIOLOGY** is an accelerated survey of major biological concepts, including molecular and cell 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 St. Agnes Entrance Exam. In addition, students must be enrolled in Honors Algebra 1 or Honors Geometry.**

**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 daily life. **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 demonstrated 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: This course is open to students with a 90 (A) average or better in Honors Biology or a 98 (A+) or better in Biology or Physics.**



**PHYSICS** is a qualitative study of the central concepts of physics, including motion, sound, light, thermodynamics, and electricity. 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. **One credit. Required for sophomores who are enrolled in Geometry.**

## **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. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:** This course is open to any junior or senior who has completed Biology and Chemistry.

**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. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:** This course is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their biology and chemistry requirements with an 88 (B+) or better in Honors Chemistry or a 93(A) or better in Chemistry.

**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. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites:** This course is open to juniors or seniors who have earned a 90 or better in Honors Chemistry or a 95(A) or better in Chemistry.

**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 90 (A) or better for the year in Honors Chemistry or a 98 (A+) or better in Chemistry. Must be enrolled in either Pre-Calculus or Honors Calculus.**

***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. **One credit.**

**Prerequisites: This course is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their biology and chemistry requirements. Requires an 85 (B) or better for the year in AP Biology or Honors Chemistry or a 93 (A) or better for the year in Chemistry.**

***ENGINEERING THE FUTURE*** is a set of four design-based project modules, which introduces students to the world of technology and engineering and helps them understand the ways in which engineers directly share the world of the future. **One Credit.**

**This year-long elective course is open to juniors and seniors who have completed or are enrolled in Chemistry.**

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

***HONORS PRINCIPLES OF THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES (PBS)*** students explore concepts of biology and medicine as they take on the roles of different medical professionals to solve real-world problems. Throughout the year, students are challenged in various scenarios, including investigating a crime scene, diagnosing and proposing treatment to patients, containing a medical outbreak, stabilizing a patient during an emergency, and collaborating with others to design solutions to local and global medical problems. **Requirements: This class is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors who have earned an 85 (B) or better in an Honors Science course or a 90 (A) or better in a standard course. One credit.**

***HONORS 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 manikin, 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 85 (B). 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 (B). Enrollment is limited.**

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



# **SOCIAL SCIENCES**

***FOUNDATIONS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE*** introduces students to fundamental concepts in American Government and Civics as well as elements of United States History, World Geography, and current events. Students will be working with foundational documents and other prominent writings that are the basis for the American political tradition. Students will study the relevant historical eras surrounding the development of those traditions and how they have been interpreted through the Supreme Court over time. In addition, students will work with elements of world geography, map interpretation, country and continent identification and basic understanding of how geography affects the development of human systems in different parts of the world. Additionally, students will study current events as they occur during the school year. **One-half credit. This course is required for all freshmen.**

***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 not enrolled in Honors US History or Advanced Placement US History. One credit.**

***HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY*** enriches the traditional US History course through its additional focus on scholarly attitude, advanced historical skills, and a faster pace. Honors level students are 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 Honors English 1 for each semester's average or a 93 (A) in English 1, (3) a minimum grade average of at least a 93 (A) in Foundations of Social Sciences, and (4) approval of the student's freshman year English teacher. Students must receive approval from the Social Science Department Chair. **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 or be enrolled in English 1 with an average grade of a 97 (A+) for each semester and (3) approval of the English teacher and (4) approval of the Foundations of Social Science teacher. Students must receive approval from the Social Science Department Chair. One credit.**

***WORLD HISTORY*** Students expand their cultural literacy as they explore the history of civilizations and nations as well as ethnic and religious groups. The study of world history prepares one to be an educated citizen in a global society. The investigation of world history also provides moral understanding, a sense of human identity, and good global citizenship. Studying the history of the world combats against ethnocentrism and generates fair-minded citizens that are necessary to reside in an ever-changing world climate. Students examine a broad scope of key events, turning points, and trends in World History from ancient civilizations 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 an 88 (B+) 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.

## **Elective Courses**

***HISTORY THROUGH FILM*** curriculum offers a unique opportunity to view history through the Hollywood lens. Students will view films and participate in related research and study that will allow them to analyze and evaluate the historical accuracy (and sometimes inaccuracy) portrayed in film. The students will gain a new insight into the historical events that occurred from the American Revolution through recent U.S. History. Students will learn to analyze films critically in an attempt to understand the filmmaking process and to evaluate film as a cultural and historical artifact. The students will gain a deeper understanding of how present events, cultures, and attitudes shape our view of the past. **Open to juniors and seniors who have taken U.S. History. One-half credit.**

***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. **Open to juniors and seniors only. 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 science teacher. **Open to seniors only.**

***INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY*** presents a broad survey of the various areas of psychology, such as social, abnormal, developmental, behavioral, brain anatomy, child development, states of consciousness, memory, 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. 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. Due to the nature of this course, a maximum class size is 22. **One credit. Open to juniors and seniors**

**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.

**Social Sciences Honor Society:**

Name of Society: Rho Kappa Social Sciences Honor Society

Criteria: Four semesters of Honors and/or AP Social Science classes or 5 semesters of Standard Social Science classes. GPA requirements for each semester of the respective classes are as follows: 90 (A-) for Honors classes, 88 (B+) for AP classes, and 95 (A) for Standard classes.

Years Eligible: 11-12

Sponsor: Mrs. Julie Patterson



# **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 semester-long, project-based course in which students are exposed to various types of media and digital arts, such as photography, Photoshop techniques, and design. Projects stress the elements and principles of design, working with programs specific to the technical skills involved in editing media files in various MacBook, Adobe Creative Suite, and other applications. Students both give and receive constructive feedback as part of the design process. **One-half credit.**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**MEDIA ARTS 2** is a semester-long, 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 additional advanced techniques and exposure to various types of media applications utilized in Media Arts 1, some of which include: Photoshop, videography, Adobe CC Suite apps, sound/voice-over, and animation. Students both give and receive constructive feedback as part of the design process.

**Prerequisite: Media Arts 1.**

**One-half credit.**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**3D DESIGN PRINCIPLES** explores the principles of 3D design in this semester-long, 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. Students both give and receive constructive feedback as part of the design process.

**One-half credit.**

**Open to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.**

**VIDEO/BROADCAST JOURNALISM** students have the opportunity to learn many aspects of the news media, with a central focus on video production, broadcast journalism, voice-overs, and music mixes. Additionally, in this semester-long course, students learn the various phases of video production and gain hands-on experience with professional equipment, mobile technology, the process of scriptwriting, storytelling, editing, and how to capture the images that tell a story viewers will remember. Students use the cutting-edge video editing program Premiere Pro to edit and create their videos, and they have access to various Adobe CC Suite Apps. The goal of this course is to present an overview of video techniques with hands-on projects. Students both give and receive constructive feedback as part of the video/media creation process.

**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. **One-half credit.**

***The Living Word: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture*** 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. **One-half credit.**

## **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. **One-half credit.**

***Christian Morality: Life in Jesus Christ*** 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. **One-half credit.**

### 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. **One-half credit.**

***History of the Catholic Church: 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. **One-half credit.**

### THEOLOGY 4

***Catholic Social Teaching: Christian Life in Society and the "Path to Caritas" 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 project gives our seniors a chance to explore injustices in our society, connect with local non-profit organizations, and utilize their learning of the Circle of Social Action. 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. **One-half credit.**

***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. **One-half credit.**

## **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.

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.

Each student is expected to enter their service hours on the website, [x2Vol.com](http://x2Vol.com). On this site, students must give both a description of service and a reflection on their faith in action through this service. The focus of the reflection should be based on the Works of Mercy and/or Gospel values. Their service must also be verified by a contact given. Theology teachers will approve service hours based on the completion of this process, and students will be given a grade at the end of each semester that reflects both the completion of the service and the explanation afterwards.

Any student eligible for exam exemption must have completed the minimum hours of service required by the deadline that semester. The student must get verification from their Theology teacher that she has completed the hours before exam exemption is granted.

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 World Language choices beginning with the Class of 2027 are French or Spanish. At St. Agnes Academy, we desire that our students are introduced to a new language that is not their native language. **Note: Semester 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 French 3 and 4 as well as Honors Spanish 3 and 4. Note that dual enrollment is not available for Advanced Placement French and 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 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 Francophonie. **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 Francophone culture and civilization, and to broaden the student's taste for French literature. **One credit.**

**\*This course is also available as a Dual-Enrollment (college credit) course for juniors and seniors. Your teacher will provide further information.**

**Prerequisites:** Satisfactory completion of French 2 with a minimum grade of 85 (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 and Francophone history, civilization and culture, and to acquaint the student with select works of French literature. **One credit.**

**\*This course is also available as a Dual-Enrollment (college credit) course for juniors and seniors. Ask your teacher for further information.**

**Prerequisites:** Satisfactory completion of French 3 with both a minimum grade of 88 (B+) and French teacher recommendation based on proficiency in four areas: oral proficiency, aural proficiency, reading comprehension, and written expression.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT FRENCH** 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 French reading material from various French-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. **Upon completion of this course, students must take the Advanced Placement Examination and may be eligible for college credit. One Credit.**

**Prerequisites:** Students must have completed Honors French 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 French teacher.

**French Honor Society:**

Name of the Society: Société Honoraire de Français

Chapter: Jeanne d' Arc

Criteria: Three consecutive semesters of French at St. Agnes Academy Upper School with an 90 (A-) or better average. Inductees are also required to have good conduct and a scholarly attitude.

Years eligible: 10-12

Sponsor: Dr. Kyra Sanchez Clapper

***LATIN 1*** focuses on learning grammar and building reading ability. Exercises will include translation and composition, as well as speaking Latin. Roman mythology and history are also covered. ***One credit.***

***LATIN 2*** builds on the concepts learned in Latin 1. Students will continue to develop their translation and composition ability. Students will learn about Roman mythology and history. This year will conclude with the student's first experience with authentic Latin texts. ***One credit.***

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

***HONORS LATIN 3*** will see students make the leap from learning in the textbook to authentic Latin texts. Students will read Cicero's orations and Livy's history or the founding of Rome. Students will experience Latin poetry for the first time through Virgil's *Aeneid*. The year will conclude with a unit on Christian Latin, reading selections from St. Augustine's *Confessions* and *The Martyrdom of Perpetua and Felicity*. ***One credit. Prerequisite: Students must have completed Latin 2 with a grade of 85 (B) or better, demonstrate a commitment to high quality work, as well as a mature and scholarly attitude, and have approval of the Latin teacher World Languages Department Chair.***

***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: Students must have completed Latin 3 with a grade of 85 (B) or better, demonstrate a commitment to high quality work, as well as a mature and scholarly attitude, and have approval of the Latin teacher World Languages Department Chair.***

### **Latin Honor Society:**

Name: National Junior Classical League Latin Honor Society

Chapter: Betty Luttmann

Criteria: Three consecutive semesters of Latin at St. Agnes Academy Upper School with a 90 (A-) or better average. Inductees are also required to have good conduct and a scholarly attitude.

Years Eligible: 10-12

Sponsor: Mr. Thomas Smith



***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. 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.**

**\*This course is also available as a Dual-Enrollment (college credit) course for juniors and seniors. Ask your teacher for further information.**

**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. Students must also have approval of the Spanish teacher World Languages Department Chair.**

***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.**

**\*This course is also available as a Dual-Enrollment (college credit) course for juniors and seniors. Ask your teacher for further information.**

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

***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 and the World Languages Department Chair.

**Spanish Honor Society:**

Name of Society: Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica

Capítulo: Santa Teresa de Jesús

Criteria: Three consecutive semesters of Spanish at St. Agnes Academy Upper School with a 90 (A-) or better average. Inductees are also required to have good conduct and a scholarly attitude.

Years Eligible: 10-12

Sponsors: Mrs. Dani Avery & Mrs. Kueilan Barnes

# **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 does not factor into the cumulative grade point average.

*The Upper School Counseling Center  
St. Agnes Academy  
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(901)767-1377*

*Revised January 2023*