

RAPID CITY CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

ST. THOMAS MORE HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

updated February 2018



Official school records are kept in the protection of the school unless a student transfers to another school and an official transfer slip, signed by a parent, is submitted to release records. The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 guarantees parents and guardians of students under the age of 18, and all students 18 years or older, the right to view records at any time in the Administrative Office. Parents are asked to make an appointment prior to such a visit.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

School Board Policies pertaining to course registration	
Grading Scale (BP STM-2000-003)	2
High School Graduation Requirements (BP STM-2000-006).....	2-3
Course Schedule Requirements (BP STM-2000-007).....	3
Students taking College Level Courses (BP STM-2000-008).....	3
Senior Bridging (BP STM-2000-009)	3-4
Dual Enrollment / Credit (BP STM-2000-010)	4
South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship (BP STM-2000-014).....	5
Drop/Add Policy (BP STM-3000-001).....	5
Student Academic Standing Sheet	6-7
Academic Planning Worksheet.....	8-9
Religion.....	10-12
English Language Arts.....	13-16
Social Studies.....	17-19
Mathematics.....	20-23
Science	24-28
World Language.....	29-31
Career and Technical Education	32-33
Physical Education.....	34
Fine Arts.....	35-37

SCHOOL BOARD POLICIES

Grading Scale (BP STM-2000-003)

Letter grades are used in each course to denote student progress, attitude, and ability to work to capacity. The grading scale is as follows:

A+	100	C+	84 – 85
A	95 – 99	C	79 – 83
A-	93 – 94	C-	77 – 78
B+	91 – 92	D+	75 – 76
B	88 – 90	D	71 – 74
B-	86 – 87	D-	69 – 70
		F	68 and below

An “I” for a grading period indicates that the student has not completed required work for the course. The work must be completed within a time frame agreed upon by the teacher and the student. An “F” for semester grade results in no credit earned. If the failure is in a course required by St. Thomas More for graduation, the student must make up the credit before graduation.

High School Graduation Requirements (BP STM-2000-006)

Twenty-six (26) units are required for graduation from St. Thomas More High School. St. Thomas More students are required to register for seven courses each semester, except seniors, who may engage in a flexible afternoon schedule. A student must have a minimum of six units to be considered a sophomore; a minimum of twelve units to be considered a junior, and a minimum of eighteen units to be considered a senior. Individual consideration is given to transfer students concerning St. Thomas More required units and courses.

The following are the specific number of units and courses required by St. Thomas More for graduation. Any failure of a required course (i.e., religion, English, math, etc.) must be made up in order for the student to graduate from St. Thomas More.

Graduation Requirements

4 units of religion
(40 hrs min. senior service proj.)
4 units of English
4 units of social science
3 units of mathematics
3 units of laboratory science
2 units of a foreign language
1 unit of technology
1 unit of fine arts
3 or more units of electives
1 unit of Physical Education/Health
.5 Credit of Personal Finance/Econ

STM Recommendations

4 units of religion
(40 hrs min. for senior service proj.)
4 units of English
4 units of social science
4 units of mathematics
4 units of laboratory science
3 units of foreign language
1 unit of technology
1 unit of fine arts
3 units of electives
1 unit of Physical Education/Health
.5 Credit of Personal Finance/Econ

Students must be in “Good Standing” to graduate from St. Thomas More. In order to be in “good standing,” seniors must meet all academic requirements and the following stipulations:

- Pass all courses during the senior year
- Complete all financial/tuition obligations
- Pay all fees/fines/assessments
- Successfully complete the senior service project
- Fulfill all discipline obligations
- Maintain a satisfactory attendance/tardy record

Course Schedule Requirements (BP STM-2000-007)

St. Thomas More students are required to take a full load of classes as described by the following:

- Freshmen – Minimum of 7 Classes and Study Hall or 8 Classes
- Sophomores – Minimum of 7 Classes and Study Hall or 8 Classes
- Juniors – Minimum of 7 Classes and Study Hall or 8 Classes
- Seniors – Minimum of 4 Classes and an Internship or 5 Classes

Students taking College Level Courses (BP STM-2000-008)

Students that are interested in taking college classes must see the Administration and Guidance Department. These will be handled on an individual basis.

Senior Bridging (BP STM-2000-009)

The Catholic School Board has approved that the administration implement the Senior Bridging plan on a year-to-year basis. Senior bridging provides an opportunity to build academic accountability; enhance community between student, family and school; and encourage student responsibility.

This plan has been developed in order to help provide St. Thomas More seniors with a wide range of opportunity for growth while assuring that our school vision of rigorous academics and value-based formation of students is being maintained. The administration is required to monitor and evaluate the plan on an ongoing basis to assure that it meets the following expectations:

- ◆ Students will invest their time fruitfully and productively in the Flex-block
- ◆ Students will provide regular accountability for their use of that time
- ◆ Communication will be maintained on a regular basis between family and school

All seniors are required to take a morning block of classes consisting of English, Government/Economics, Religion and an elective. This morning block is scheduled from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Seniors are also required to: Schedule appointments during any afternoon free time, attend overnight senior retreat and meet the 30-hour minimum service requirement, maintain status of “student in good standing.”

Although a full schedule of St. Thomas More classes is offered in the afternoon, seniors are provided the opportunity to invest their afternoon time in a flexible manner, with discussion and approval of the school and their family.

Dual Enrollment/ Dual Credit (BP STM-2000-010)

Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Policy

Dual Enrollment refers to students being enrolled concurrently in two distinct academic programs or educational institutions.

Dual Credit refers to students who have the opportunity to receive academic credit at one or both institutions.

Due to the demanding nature and the maturity level that is required beyond normal academic standards and course load requirements, St. Thomas More High School will allow dual enrollment and/or dual credit courses based upon the following criteria:

1. Students must be a junior or senior in good academic standing having passed all classes from the previous semester.
2. Classes offered at STM including core classes and/or required classes for STM graduation are not eligible.
3. Enrollment requires a pre-approval process by administration and completion of a Student Contract with parental/guardian signature.
4. Courses may be taken on-line or on-campus of another institution.
5. High school credit will be awarded based upon STM grading standards on a 4.0 scale and will factor into GPA and class ranking.
6. Students may earn AP Weighted GPA points for college level courses that are vertically stacked above the AP classes offered at STM.
7. Dual credit courses will be considered into a student's eligibility for school activities.
8. All expenses and resources for the course are the responsibility of the student/parents/guardians.

Qualifying factors for dual credit vary from year to year and school to school; please refer to SDMyLife for the most current eligibility factors. Additional information can be found online and with the school counselor.

South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship (BP STM-2000-014)

The South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship is a program that awards a \$6,500 scholarship over four years to a qualifying high school graduate, who attends an eligible higher education institution in South Dakota. Recipients may participate in the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship program for the equivalent of four academic years (eight consecutive fall and spring terms), or until attaining a baccalaureate degree. During each academic year, one-half of the annual scholarship award will be distributed at the beginning of the fall semester and the other half distributed at the beginning of the spring semester:

Eligibility is based on an application submitted to the South Dakota postsecondary institution by the student, along with an official high school transcript and verification of a minimum ACT score of 24 (or a SAT score where the sum of the verbal and mathematics scores is at least 1090) and with no grade below a “C” and a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better. Effective for those students entering into postsecondary education for the first time on or after August 2013, the curriculum requirements listed below are not required for any student who has received a composite score on the ACT of at least 28 and meets the ACT college readiness benchmarks scores equaling or exceeding 18 for English, 22 for Reading, 22 for Math, and 23 for Science.

- ◆ 4 years of Science (3 must be approved lab)
- ◆ 4 years of Math (Algebra or higher)
- ◆ 4 years of English
- ◆ 3 years of Social Studies
- ◆ 2 units of either of the following or combination of the two
 - Approved Career and Technical Education Courses (CTE)
 - Modern or Classical Language (All units must be in the same language)
- ◆ 1 year of Fine Arts
- ◆ ½ Personal Finance or Econ
- ◆ ½ year of Health
- ◆ ½ year of PE

For updated eligibility, please go to: <https://sdos.sdbor.edu/require/require.html>

Drop/Add Policy (BP STM-3000-001)

Any course change should be made, if at all possible, prior to the start of school. The only changes that will be made once school starts will be those deemed necessary by the principal. Changes will be made only with administrator approval. If this occurs the student will bring a note signed by the parents to drop or add a class if it is possible to work it into the student’s schedule and the change does not disrupt the student’s career goals. All changes must be made during the first five days of the semester. If a student drops after five class days, they will then receive a “W/F” on their report card and it will be figured into their Grade Point Average (GPA).

Students enrolled in yearlong courses must complete the full year in order to receive credit. If a student withdraws from the class at any time before the end of a semester, he/she will receive a “WF” (Withdrawal-F). This will be placed on the transcript and figured into GPA. If a student drops a yearlong course at semester time, he/she will not receive credit or the grade received for the semester completed. The full year must be completed to receive credit and to have the grade count towards the student’s GPA. If the student drops the class at the end of the first semester, there will be a “W” (Withdrawn from class) placed on the transcript for both semesters.

Administration discretion may be used in extreme circumstances.

STUDENT ACADEMIC STANDING

STM Graduation Requirements = 26 Credits As Follows

page two

Consult current *Course Description Book* for course available each academic year

<u>CAREER & TECHNICAL ED. *1.5 Credits Required</u>			<u>FINE ARTS *1 Credit Required</u>		
*10009	Intro to Information Technology	1 credit	05151	Art Appreciation	1 credit
*22210	Personal Finance	.5 credit	05154	Creative Art Comprehensive	1 credit
11051	Audio/Visual Prod. (Broadcasting) -Elective-	1 credit	05154	Creative Art Comprehensive	1 credit
10011	AP Computer Science	1 credit	05154	Creative Art Comprehensive	1 credit
			05170	Art Portfolio	1 credit
			05170	Art Portfolio	1 credit
			05120	Symphonic Band	1 credit
			05120	Symphonic Band	1 credit
			05120	Symphonic Band	1 credit
			05120	Symphonic Band	1 credit
			05054	Explorations in Drama	1 credit
			05054	Explorations in Drama	1 credit
			05123	Jazz Band Full Year	.5 credit
			05123	Jazz Band Full Year	.5 credit
			05123	Jazz Band Full Year	.5 credit
			05123	Jazz Band Full Year	.5 credit
			05104	Orchestra-General	1 credit
			05104	Orchestra-General	1 credit
			05104	Orchestra-General	1 credit
			05104	Orchestra-General	1 credit
			05110	Chorus-Mixed	1 credit
			05110	Chorus-Mixed	1 credit
			05110	Chorus-Mixed	1 credit
			05110	Chorus-Mixed	1 credit

*** Indicates STM Graduation Requirement**

All of the requirement courses will total 23 credits.

You must select three more credits, of your choice, to equal the 26 credits required for graduation.

See the school counselor about requirements for the SD Opportunity Scholarship.

This worksheet serve as a guide to help determine the courses you are interested in taking and the courses needed to meet the graduation requirements. Refer to the *Course Description Book* and the *Student Academic Sheet* for courses available and course names. Not all classes are offered every year. Freshman-Junior years:—a student must have eight classes or seven classes with a study hall. Senior year—a student must have five credits or four credits with an internship.

Academic Planning Worksheet

STM Graduation Requirement = 26 Credits

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| *4 credits of Religion | *1 credit of Technology |
| *4 credits of English | *1 credit of Fine Arts |
| *4 credits of Social Science | *1 credit of PE/Health |
| *3 credits of Mathematics | *.5 credit Personal Finance/Econ |
| *3 credits of Laboratory Science | *2.5 or more credits of Electives |
| *2 credits of a Foreign Language | |

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
FRESHMAN YEAR	1. Intro to Catholicism/Sacramental Theology	
	2. Intro. to Literature/Composition OR Advanced Intro to Literature/Composition	
	3. Math: See Mathematics Course Sequencing on page 23	
	4. Biology	
	5. World Geography	
	6. Foreign Language (French or Spanish)	
	7.	
	8.	

	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
SOPHOMOR YEAR	1. Theology of the Body/Moral Theology	
	2. Speech/World Lit OR Advanced Speech/Advanced World Lit	
	3. Math: See Mathematics Course Sequencing on page 23	
	4. Science: See Science Course Sequencing on page 28	
	5. World History Overview	
	6. Foreign Language (French II or Spanish II) - <i>Must be same language as 9th grade</i>	

	7.	
	8.	

JUNIOR YEAR	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
	1. Sacramental Theology/Church History	
	2. American Lit/American Lit Composition OR AP Eng Lang Comp	
	3. Math: See Mathematics Course Sequencing on page 23	
	4. Science: See Science Course Sequencing on page 28	
5. US History Modern OR AP US History		
	6.	
	7.	
	8.	

SENIOR YEAR	Fall Semester	Spring Semester
	1. Introduction to Philosophy and Logic/Advanced Logic & Inter-Religion Issues	
	2. Brit Lit & Composition OR AP English Lit/Comp	
	3. Math: See Mathematics Course Sequencing on page 23	
	4. Science: See Science Course Sequencing on page 28 (Not required-Highly Recommended)	
5. Personal Finance/Economic (.5 credit) Required for ALL Students	US Government (.5 Credit) OR	
AP US Government- (1 Credit)		
	6.	
	7.	
	8.	

RELIGION

Introduction to Catholicism/Sacramental Theology - 07006

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Introduction to Catholicism (1st Semester)

Study of the key doctrinal, sacramental, and moral elements of the Catholic teaching authority of the Church. Particular attention will be paid to the Trinity, the person of Christ, the nature and authority of the Church, the Sacraments, prayer, liturgy, our Blessed Mother, Divine Revelation, the teachings of Jesus, and the communion of Saints. A solid understanding and love of the principles of the Catholic Faith will establish a foundation upon which the student can build a spiritual life and respond to the call to the fullness of Christian life and the perfection of charity.

Sacramental Theology (2nd Semester)

The course offers an opportunity to explore the rich tradition of sacramental theology and practice that is fundamental to Catholicism. It establishes within the students an understanding of the sacraments as privileged places to encounter Christ throughout life.

Theology of the Body / Moral Theology - 07001

Grade: 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Theology of the Body (9 week seminar)

Explanation of the beauty and purpose of God's plan for human love as revealed through human body. Students will understand chastity as a way of life through which they become a gift of self to others.

Moral Theology (1st/2nd semester)

Study of principles and actions revealed by Jesus Christ and taught by the Catholic Church that will guide humans to a life of holiness and eternal salvation. Students will spend time developing a comprehensive moral decision-making process based on the principles of Catholic teaching. Students will then apply this knowledge and process to specific moral situations and cases

Sacramental Theology / The Church History - 07002

Grade: 11

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Sacramental Theology (1st semester)

The course offers an opportunity to explore the rich tradition of sacramental theology and practice that is fundamental to Catholicism. It establishes within the students an understanding of the sacraments as privileged places to encounter Christ throughout life.

The Church History (2nd semester)

This course equips the students with a general knowledge of the Church's history from apostolic times to the present. Through study of the Bible, Tradition, writings of Church Fathers, and decisions of early Church Councils, students explore the story of God's intervention into human history and how the Church has developed through the course of history

Intro to Philosophy and Logic/ Advanced Logic & Inter-Religion Issues-07015

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Intro to Philosophy

This course will introduce fundamental language and concepts to provide an overview of philosophy. It will equip students in rudimentary logic.

Advanced Logic & Inter-Religion Issues

This course looks to continue the previous semester of philosophy/logic by considering philosophy in greater depth. It will incorporate Socratic Method, current issues, and age-old questions. It examines the universal call to holiness and God's particular plan for each person by cultivating a life of prayer and discipleship. In addition the course aims to inspire students to see the beauty, truth and goodness of the Catholic Church and to equip them to authentically articulate, engage, and share their faith with others. This course is an examination of the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians and those of other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God's Revelation, this portion of the course will help students recognize important spiritual truths that can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches, ecclesial communities and non-Christian religions. Students will recognize ways other systems of belief and practices differ from the Catholic faith.

SERVICE PROGRAM

Service is required during each year of high school. In addition to the service described below, there will be an academic requirement which will include research, an end report, writing a paper, or a class presentation.

9th grade

Service Focus: Students will complete a 40 hours of community service, of which 10 hours must be outside of their personal community. Students should seek opportunities to serve larger Rapid City community (a list of ideas will be provided to the students).

10th grade

Service focus: The Sophomore Project revolves around developing one whole-class, large-scale service project that serves unmet need in a chosen community. Sophomore students also play a leadership role in the annual Packing Hope Project. Both projects involve the students in all aspects of project management: research and investigation, design and proposal, organization and implementation, fundraising and community outreach, and reflection and evaluation. In addition to the in-class work, ten hours of work outside of the classroom is required.

11th, 12th grade

Service focus: Develop a two year relationship with a service site (administration/instructor helps to identify solid service opportunities; students can develop their own under the supervision of the instructor). Each student meets with a site service coordinator and/or a mentor bi-monthly (4 times per year). Students donate an average of 2 hours per week to the site. This will total 40 unpaid hours per year. Students will develop a two-year relationship with a service site. This service project is relationship based (i.e., normally one-on-one).

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Intro to Literature/Composition - 01001

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will read the major forms of writing, including the short story, the novel, poetry, drama, and learn the corresponding terminology. Students will practice writing the essay, using descriptive examples from experience and compare it to characters from fiction read in class. Revision and editing in multiple drafts, journalizing, and class discussion and one-on-one conferences will facilitate student growth. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. Assignments will include reading, homework, annotating, projects, book reports, speeches, essays, and a research paper. Class participation is required. All study units include reading, annotating, deciphering literary terms with text(s), writing, speaking, vocabulary, grammar review/application, and listening opportunities. *Summer reading is required.*

Advanced Intro to Literature/Composition - 01001

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course introduces the major forms of literature and develops writing skills. It includes the Intro to Literature and Composition elements outlined above, but will go more in depth with writing and include additional pieces of literature to prepare students for Advanced Placement courses. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. All study units include reading, annotating, writing, speaking, vocabulary, grammar review/application, deciphering literary terms within text(s), and listening opportunities. *Summer reading is required.*

Speech/World Literature - 01151

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in Intro to Literature/Composition or Advanced Intro to Lit/Comp

Grade: 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course extends and develops the language arts skills introduced in Intro to Literature/Composition. This course's first semester emphasizes the study of literature and social history from the Ancients through the Medieval periods from around the world. The

second semester emphasizes the Renaissance period through the Modern Age. It includes review of grammar and usage as well. Through this study, students interpret literature and identify literary techniques. Novels, poetry, essays, short stories, editorials, and drama are the means for student discussion and growth. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. Vocabulary study, a cross-curricular research paper practicing the APA research style, and outside reading are also part of the course. Intertwined in their study of literature, students also learn the fundamentals of speech and develop confidence in oral communication. They present persuasive, informative, and extemporaneous speeches, and practice verbal and nonverbal techniques in formal and informal situations. All study units include reading, writing, speaking, vocabulary, grammar review/application, and listening opportunities. Students are encouraged to keep a journal. *Summer reading is required.*

Advanced Speech/World Literature - 01151/01106

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in Intro to Literature/Composition or Advanced Intro Lit/Comp

Grade: 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course extends and develops the language arts skills introduced in Advanced Intro. to Literature/Composition. It includes the Speech/World Literature course curriculum but contains more depth and additional readings and writing to prepare students for advanced placement courses. It also places more emphasis on the art of rhetoric. Writing assignments incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. All study units include reading, writing, speaking, and listening opportunities; and students are encouraged to keep a journal. *Summer reading is required.*

American Literature/Composition - 01054

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in World Literature/Speech or Advanced Speech/World Lit

Grade: 11

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This year-long course follows the literature and historical development of American literature from the colonial period to the twenty-first century. All genres are covered including short story, poetry, drama, novels, and essays of major authors, representative of their time periods. Spelling/vocabulary and extensive grammar review will be utilized for development of writing skills including various types of essays: narrative, descriptive, expository, persuasive, comparison/contrast, and imitative literary analysis. Term paper will utilize MLA style. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. All study units include reading, annotating, deciphering literary terms within text(s), writing, speaking, and listening opportunities; students are encouraged to keep a journal. *Summer reading is required.*

AP English Language & Composition - 01005

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in World Literature/Speech or World Lit/Advanced Speech
Instructor Approval

Grade: 11

Course Length: Two semesters

Credit: one (1)

This year-long course follows a recommended advanced-placement curriculum and surveys works of major American authors of representative time periods. It covers a broad range of materials associated with reading analysis and writing expected in a college-level freshman composition course. Emphasis will be upon improving composition skills, annotating, deciphering literary terms within text(s), weekly outside writing assignments, quarterly project(s) as directed, writing style; in addition, daily class participation is mandatory. Through frequent timed-writing practices, one research paper, and several formal essays, students cultivate a mature use of effective writing and college-level voices. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. This course includes also spelling/vocabulary building, language (sentences, paragraphs, and larger rhetorical structures such as style and persuasive techniques). All study units include reading, writing, speaking, and listening opportunities; students are encouraged to keep a journal. Throughout this course, students prepare for the AP Exam administered by the College Board in May. College credit may be earned and is dependent upon the AP test scores and the standards set by the Board of Regents of the particular college/university selected by the student. *Summer reading is required.*

British Literature - 01056

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in American Literature or AP English Language & Comp

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course's first semester will include a study of life and literature from the Modern & Postmodern to Romantic Eras. Second semester focus will be from the Restoration period through Anglo-Saxon times. Vocabulary study, grammar, and usage are emphasized. Students prepare one research paper practicing the MLA research style and shorter assignments utilizing APA and CMS formats of citation. They will complete outside reading requirements and practice essays, creative writing, and performance assignments. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. All study units include reading, writing, grammar review/application, speaking, and listening opportunities; and students are encouraged to keep a journal. *Summer reading is required.*

AP English Literature & Composition (American Literature) – 01006

Prerequisite: Passing Grade in American Literature or AP Eng Language/Comp
Instructor Approval

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This year-long course follows a recommended advanced-placement curriculum and surveys works of major authors of representative time periods, focusing on the impact of those time periods upon the works of art. Students will cover a broad range of materials associated with reading analysis and writing expected in a college-level freshman literature course. They utilize methods and language of literary criticism in composition and do close reading of novels, short stories, drama, and poetry by critically acclaimed authors. Students continue to study grammar, usage, and vocabulary, and complete a cross-curricular research paper using the MLA style. They will also complete writing pieces employing various format styles. All study units include reading, writing, speaking, and listening opportunities; students are encouraged to keep a journal. Writing guidelines incorporate on-going development of 6+1 Writing Traits paradigm. Throughout this course, students prepare for the AP Exam administered by the College Board in May. College credit may be earned and is dependent upon the AP test scores and the standards set by the Board of Regents of the particular college/university selected by the student. Taking the AP exam is a required part of completing the course. *Summer reading is required.*

LANGUAGE ARTS ELECTIVE COURSES

Any student may enroll in these courses for graduation credit, but they must be taken
IN ADDITION to the four required Language Arts credits above

Debate 01152 - Debate is an elective and a performance course developing research, critical thinking, and speaking skills. Students will focus on debate as practiced as a competitive event within the South Dakota Activities Association and as Conducted under the National Forensic League guidelines and rules. Student numbers in each class will dictate additional areas of speech development also using competitive guidelines. The course will also include basic work in Socratic logic.

SOCIAL STUDIES

World Geography - 04001

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

World Geography is a yearlong course designed to give students an understanding of both the Eastern and Western hemispheres with an emphasis on political, physical, and cultural geography. This includes special interest in current global events.

World History-Overview - 04051

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Historical happenings from the Renaissance to modern times will be explored, with special emphasis given to facilitate understanding of the cause and effect of historical events. The relationship between historical events and modern day happenings/current events in the world will also be explored.

United States History-Modern - 04103

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 11

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

US History is a yearlong survey course covering the age of exploration to present events in American History with emphasis on political and social history. There is a special emphasis on diversity in American History. A research paper linking American literature and history is required.

AP United States History - 04104

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

Grade: 11

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

AP US History is a two-semester survey course covering the age of exploration and discovery to the present. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study are required to succeed. Students will evaluate original documents, write essays, and learn to think critically in preparation for the AP Exam administered by College Board in May. A summer reading assignment is required.

U.S. Government-Comprehensive - 04151

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Semester

Credit: Half (0.5)

This course examines the foundations of American democracy established by the Constitution. The roots and fundamentals of the American political system will also be explored. Students will experience the vital role individual involvement and participation plays in maintaining American government.

AP United States Government and Politics - 04157

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

Grade: 12

Course length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course will provide students with an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. It includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. Students successfully completing this course will know important facts, concepts, and theories pertaining to U.S. government and politics, understand typical patterns of political processes and behavior and their consequences, and be able to interpret basic data relevant to U.S. government and politics. Throughout this course, students prepare for the AP Exam administered by College Board in May. A summer reading assignment is required.

SOCIAL SCIENCE ELECTIVE COURSES

Any student may enroll in these courses for graduation credit, but they must be taken
IN ADDITION to the four required Social Science credits above
(See asterisked courses or AP substitutes).

Psychology - 04254

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One semester

Credit: Half (0.5)—Elective

Psychology is the study of human behavior and the mental processes, by which humans observe, describe, explain and predict human behavior. Human development and its effect on learning, thinking, personality, and social relationships are examined. Advanced work emphasizes emotions, mental disorders and their treatment, personality theories, therapies and testing.

Economics/Personal Finance - 22210

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Semester

Credit: Half (0.5)—Elective

Students learn how economies and markets operate and how the United States economy is interconnected with the global economy. Additionally they learn how to navigate the financial decisions they must face and to make informed decisions relating to career exploration, budgeting, banking, credit, insurance spending, financing post secondary education, taxes, saving and investing, buying/leasing a vehicle, and living independently. They also learn the importance of investing in themselves in order to gain the knowledge and skills valued in the marketplace. Development of financial literacy skills and an understanding of economic principles will provide the basis for responsible citizenship, more effective participation in the workforces, and career success.

Sociology - 04258

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Semester

Credit: Half (0.5)—Elective

Sociology is the study of group behavior with emphasis on how it affects the individual. It includes the activities, habits and beliefs of various groups of people and of the individuals within these groups. Methods for understanding individuals and their relationship to society, cultures, institutions and groups are examined.

MATHEMATICS

The STM Graduation Requirements for Mathematics include the courses of Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. Students are strongly encouraged to take four years of mathematics. Please note that the SD Opportunity Scholarship requires four years of mathematics.

Refer to the latest *RCCSS Mathematics Course Sequencing* document for suggested pathways through the mathematics curriculum.

Algebra I-02052

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 8, 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: one (1)

Algebra I is a study of the structure of the real number system and the basic concepts: algebraic terminology, characteristics of numbers, variables, polynomials, factorization, linear equations, inequalities, problem solving, linear graphs, and quadratic equations. Calculators not allowed or needed.

Geometry-02072

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grade: 9, 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: one (1)

Geometry introduces students to aspects of coordinate geometry and three-dimensional perspective. Students study plane geometry, logic, and deductive reasoning. Areas of emphasis will be terminology, postulates, theorems, and formulas. Geometric concepts include points, planes, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles, circles, constructions, area and volume of solids. In addition, students will learn how to write two-column proofs and find dimensions of geometric figures using limited trigonometric relationships. Calculators not allowed first semester, instructor's permission required

Algebra II-02056

Prerequisite: Algebra I and Geometry or double enrollment in Geometry (*see policy)

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: one (1)

Algebra II reviews and looks at concepts mastered in Algebra I in more depth. Course content includes linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions, conic sections, and matrices. Basic calculator required with trigonometric and logarithmic functions. Graphing calculator encouraged for advanced students.

Algebra III -02057

Prerequisite: completion of Algebra II

*Recommended for Seniors with passing grade in Algebra II
or a C average or lower in Pre-Calculus or Trigonometry*

Recommended for Juniors who passed Algebra II with a C average or lower

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course is designed to help high school seniors meet the college readiness standards needed for college mathematics, and to help high school juniors to improve fundamental skills prior to enrolling in PreCalculus and Trigonometry. The goals for all students who complete this course are to demonstrate college readiness in math, be exempt from remediation in college, and be placed directly into a college course where credit can be earned towards a degree. Topics covered include basic properties of real numbers, exponents, radicals, rectangular coordinate geometry, solutions to linear and quadratic equations, systems of equations, inequalities, polynomials, factoring, rational expressions and equations, radical expressions and equations, complex numbers, matrixes, and a review of functions and their systems as they apply to real life. This course is not eligible for the SD Opportunity Scholarship.

Trigonometry-02103

Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II

Recommended for students with an average of B or higher in Algebra II

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One semester

Credit: Half (0.5)

Trigonometry is devoted to the study of the six trigonometric ratios and their inverses. Topics include identities and formulas, oblique triangles, graphing functions, polar coordinates and complex numbers. Basic calculator with trigonometric and logarithmic functions required.

Pre-Calculus-02110

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Recommended for students with an average of B or higher in Algebra II

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One semester

Credit: Half (0.5)

Pre-Calculus reviews concepts presented in Algebra II, and also include limits, probability and introductory concepts of Calculus. Full function calculator required; graphing calculator is suggested.

AP Calculus-02124

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus, Trigonometry,

Recommended for students with a B average or above in all high school math courses

Course Length: One Year

Credit: one (1)

AP Calculus is designed for students who have a thorough knowledge of college prep mathematics including Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry, and Pre-Calculus. This is an introductory study of differential and integral Calculus including applications in the physical, natural, and social sciences. Topic studies include functions and their graphs, limits and continuity, the derivative and applications, the integral and applications. Students are required to take the AP Calculus exam at the conclusion of the course, at their expense. Graphing utility calculator required.

***Mathematics Double Enrollment Policy:**

St. Thomas More offers AP Calculus to advanced mathematics students who have a passion for the subject and are interested in continuing the study of mathematics during their senior year. This is a college level course following the curriculum of the Advanced Placement program. In order to enroll in AP Calculus at STM, students must have completed four credits of high school mathematics (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry & Pre-Calculus) prior to their senior year. Students would need to be enrolled in Algebra II as a sophomore in order to complete the course prerequisites for AP Calculus. If a student wishes to have double enrollment in Geometry and Algebra II during sophomore year to accomplish this end, recommendation from the department must be obtained. A student should have a minimum 3.75 GPA in Algebra I and an overall 3.5 GPA to consider double enrollment. A student meeting the GPA qualifications is not guaranteed a recommendation for double enrollment. A student interested in double enrollment needs to fill out an application. The Mathematics Department will determine the recommendation prior to the course registration date. Final recommendation will be determined upon the completion of Algebra.

MATHEMATICS COURSE SEQUENCING FORM

The following course sequencing provides an opportunity for the students in grades 6-12 to enroll in a mathematics class in which they can be most successful.

- St. Thomas More High School **STRONGLY** encourages students to take a mathematics course **EVERY** year of high school. Most Colleges and Universities prefer four credits of mathematics.
- St. Thomas More High School requires three credits for graduation—Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II.
- The South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship requires four eligible credits of high school mathematics. (STM’s Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, PreCalculus, Trigonometry, and AP Calculus course are all eligible courses.)
- Contact a member of the mathematics faculty, school principal, or the school counselor with any questions.

	6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Standard	Math 6	Math 7	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	PreCalc & Trig # or Algebra III @ #
	Math 6	Math 7	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I	Geometry <u>and*</u> Algebra II	PreCalc & Trig #	AP Calculus #
	Math 6	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I (no HS credit earned)	Algebra I	Either of the two pathways shown above		
Advanced	Math 6	Pre-Algebra	Algebra I (HS credit earned)	Geometry	Algebra II	PreCalc & Trig #	AP Calculus # or Algebra III @ #
						Algebra III @ #	PreCalc & Trig #

* Special Permission from the department must be obtained to double enroll in Geometry and Algebra II during Sophomore Year

@ Algebra III is not eligible for the SD Opportunity Scholarship

See *STM Course Description Book* for minimum grade recommendations for these courses

last updated: 01/24/2018

SCIENCE

Biology I - 03051

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is a general biology course in which the two main themes in modern biology are studied. The first theme is a general familiarization with cell biology. This includes understandings of the roles of the various cell organelles, the cytoplasm, and the nucleus. Modern advances in cell biology and their ethical implications are considered. The second major theme is an overview of the major elements of ecology and man's impact upon the environment. Other elements touched upon in the course include taxonomy, nomenclature, evolution and basic chemistry of living things. This course is an excellent preparation for all students for life in a modern society.

Chemistry - 03101

Prerequisites: Algebra I

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is a project-based survey class of general chemistry. Through scenarios and unit challenges, students will explore matter and energy, atomic structure and theory, the periodic table and properties, simple stoichiometry, aqueous solution chemistry, thermochemistry, bonding, states of matter, and acid/base chemistry. This course will use Active Chemistry[®], a course developed in conjunction with the American Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Advanced Studies Chemistry - 03102

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry* Algebra II, or Concurrently with Algebra II** or C Average in Chemistry (03101)

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is general chemistry course is designed for students interested in STEM. Students will learn the principles of chemistry including matter and energy, atomic structure and theory, the periodic table and properties, stoichiometry, aqueous solution chemistry, thermochemistry, bonding, states of matter, acid/base chemistry, kinetics, and equilibrium. If time permits electrochemistry and organic chemistry will be explored. Regular laboratory experiments will reinforce the material covered in the course and also present basic laboratory techniques and practice. This course will require strong math skills.

*Students need a B average in Geometry. **Students may take chemistry concurrently with Algebra II, if they have earned a grade of B⁺ or above in Algebra I; these students' enrollment will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

AP Chemistry - 03106

Prerequisite: Chemistry, Algebra I, Algebra II.

Completion of Pre-Calculus is Recommended*

Instructor Approval

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course presents an in-depth study of general chemistry and is equivalent to a first-year college chemistry course. It is designed for students who are interested in careers in medicine, science and engineering. It is recommended that students have a strong background in mathematics, especially Algebra. The topics covered in this course include atomic theory, stoichiometry, chemical reactions, and states of matter, thermo chemistry, atomic periodicity, solution chemistry, kinetics, equilibrium, acid/base chemistry, thermodynamics, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory time will reinforce the course material and AP laboratory content. For enrollment in the class, students must have completed Advanced Studies Chemistry with a minimum B⁺ average. Students enrolled in this class will take the AP Chemistry examination. *There will be a summer assignment for this course.*

*Students concurrently registered for Pre-Calculus should have earned a B average in Algebra II. Recommendations from current math and science teachers are also required.

Forensic Science - 15054

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is an introduction to the application of science to criminalistics. Forensic Science will explore the history of forensic science, methods of investigating a crime scene, types of evidence, forensic laboratories, and agencies that offer forensic services. Students will complete many labs and activities to gain a better understanding of the concepts of forensic science and the roles forensic scientists play in helping to solve criminal cases. Students will also be able to design their own labs to test topics like arson accelerants and document examination. This course will be considered a lab science.

Biology II-Anatomy and Physiology - 03053

Prerequisite: Biology

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course presents the human body and biological systems in more detail. In order to understand the structure of the human body and its functions, students learn anatomical terminology, study cells & tissues, and explore functional systems (skeletal, muscular, circulatory, nervous, etc.). This course involves the use of lectures, group work, and projects to help with the memorization of body structures as well as fundamental understandings of body processes. Students are able to give presentations on research of body systems and new medical advancements, design labs to test concepts, use microscopes to view tissues and structures from the body, and dissect a major mammal as a model for understanding the human body. This course is excellent preparation for those considering the health and medical professions.

AP Environmental Science - 03207

Prerequisite: Completion of Biology and Algebra I

Instructor Approval

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Yet there are several major unifying constructs, or themes, that cut across the many topics included in the study of environmental science. The following themes provide a foundation for the structure of the AP Environmental Science course.

1. Science is a process.
2. Energy conversions underlie all ecological processes.
3. The Earth itself is one interconnected system.
4. Humans alter natural systems.
5. Environmental problems have a cultural and social context.
6. Human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems.

Physics-03151

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This year-long course presents an introduction to the principles and problems of physics. Students will study and investigate in the laboratory physical phenomena including motion and forces, momentum and conservation laws, energy, work, thermal energy, states of matter, sound and light waves, mirrors and lenses, electricity, magnetism, electromagnetism, and nuclear physics. This course requires strong math skills. This class will include oral work, written work, group projects, outside assignments, laboratory experiences and tests.

*Students concurrently registered for Algebra II should have earned a B average in Geometry.

Physics-Advanced Studies - 03152

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Algebra II, Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus*

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This Algebra-based physics course presents an in-depth study of general physics with significant lab work. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits. It is recommended that students have a strong background in mathematics, especially trigonometry. Physics problem solving will be emphasized within this course and the laboratory will require very strong math skills. *There will be a summer assignment for this course.*

*Students concurrently registered for trigonometry and pre-calculus should have earned a B⁺ average in Algebra II and a B average in Geometry.

Projected STM HS Science Sequence (Typical)

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
Path 1: Standard (Non-STEM)	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	AP [®] Environmental Science*
	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Forensics*
		Anatomy and Physiology*	AP [®] Environmental Science*	Anatomy and Physiology*
		Forensics*	Forensics*	Algebra III*
		AP [®] Environmental Science*	Anatomy and Physiology*	
Path 2: Double-up Math (STEM)	Biology	Chemistry	Advanced-Studies Chemistry*	Advanced Studies Physics*
	Algebra I	Geometry	Pre-Cal & Trig	AP [®] Calculus
		Algebra II	AP [®] Environmental Science*	AP [®] Environmental Science*
		Forensics*	Forensics*	Forensics*
		Anatomy and Physiology*	Anatomy and Physiology*	Anatomy and Physiology*
Path 3: Advanced (STEM)	Biology	Advanced-Studies Chemistry	AP [®] Chemistry*	Advanced Studies Physics*
	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Cal & Trig	AP [®] Calculus*
		AP [®] Environmental Science*	Physics	AP [®] Chemistry*
		Forensics*	AP [®] Environmental Science*	AP [®] Environmental Science*
		Anatomy and Physiology*	Forensics*	Forensics*
			Anatomy and Physiology*	Anatomy and Physiology*
Key	Science Mandatory		Math Mandatory	
	Science Optional*		Math Optional*	

WORLD LANGUAGE

French I - 06121

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Through exposure to comprehensible input, students will develop skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing French; however the initial focus will be on receptive language. They will use these skills to communicate in French, to gain knowledge and understanding of French and other Francophone cultures, to make connections with other disciplines, to compare their own language and culture with French language and cultures, and to become part of a multilingual community. In addition to short readings and simple novels, students will learn through exposure to various authentic documents such as movies, music videos, children's books and magazines.

French II - 06122

Prerequisite: none

Grade: 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will continue to improve on the skills begun in French I, through a continuation of comprehensible input. They will develop a more advanced level in each of the five areas listed above. Reading and listening materials will be more advanced and students should be more able to express themselves in speaking and writing in French.

Honors French III - 06123

Prerequisite: Grade of C or Higher in French II

Grade: 11

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will continue to improve on the skills begun in French I and II. They will develop a more advanced level in each of the five areas listed above. More authentic materials from French-speaking countries will be used. Students will read novels with more complex grammar concepts. Many selective colleges recommend three years of the same language for admission and some, such as Stanford, require three.

Honors French IV-06124

Prerequisite: Grade of C or Higher in French III

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will continue to improve on the skills begun in French I, II and III. They will develop a more advanced level in each of the five areas listed above. Reading and listening materials will include more authentic French materials. Students will begin to study original works by French and Francophone authors. Several movies will be included throughout the year. Completing French IV should prepare students to do well in language study at the college level and will also prepare them to function in a French-speaking culture.

Spanish I - 06101

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will learn how to communicate in writing and speaking using the correct grammar and pronunciation at a basic level. Students will be introduced to different aspects of the Spanish speaking countries' culture through exposure to Spanish books, magazines, videos, pictures and other media.

Spanish II - 06102

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 10

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will expand their knowledge and communication skills by using more complex structures in writing, speaking, reading, and culture. There will be more usage of the Spanish language when reading and speaking, projects, presentations role plays and in the general class dialogs.

Honors Spanish III - 06103

Prerequisite: Grade of C+ or Higher in Spanish II

Grade: 11

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will develop better communication skills in both written and spoken curriculum. Spanish will be spoken during class time. Students will be introduced to Spanish literature and poetry. Students will expand their vocabulary and knowledge of Spanish Culture. In addition, students will demonstrate and share knowledge in the community by completing communication projects.

Honors Spanish IV- 06104

Prerequisite: Grade of C+ or Higher in Spanish III

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

Students will continue to improve on the skills begun in Spanish I, II and III. This course is an upper level course that requires students to communicate in Spanish only. Students will work in mastering their writing, speaking, conversational, and cultural skills. Students will focus on Spanish literature and poetry. Completing Spanish IV should prepare students to do well in language study at the college level and will also prepare them to function in a Spanish-speaking culture.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Introduction to Information Technology-10009

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

The Computer Science Program is a course designed to teach students basic facts, principles, concepts and terminology to better integrate students into today's highly technological society. Students will be encouraged to develop critical thinking skills, problem solving, and analysis and organization of data. Students will be introduced to Microsoft Office and integrate other programs in the Microsoft Office software suite using practical application of the various programs in Microsoft Office as well as learn alternative office software. Students will be introduced to the basic principles in the history of computers and their affects on society now and into the future. This course will discuss the hazards associated with using the Internet, including various social media platforms, and other electronic communications. The course will also discuss different types of viruses, online scams, and computer hacking as a means to foster an awareness and understanding of the negative aspects of technology in today's global world. Students will also be introduced to computer hardware, discuss the internal components and how they work. In addition, students will be introduced to computer programming or 'coding' to ensure students are prepared to complete a global technology market.

AP Computer Science Principles-10011

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

The purpose of the Advanced Placement Computer Science Course is to provide a college level course in computer science and prepare students to seek credit and/or appropriate placement in college computer science courses. This class will use the Mobile CSP as the primary source for the classes. Mobile CSP uses the App Inventor software developed by MIT to develop mobile apps on the Android platform. The course emphasizes hands-on activities, creativity, collaboration, and connections to real-world applications as students write socially useful apps. This course also provides classroom tested and paced lessons that cover all the curriculum specifications of the *AP Computer Science Principles Curriculum Framework* at a free and open Google Course Builder site. The course is presented in two complementary pages: a student-facing page and a teacher-facing page. Mobile CSP recommends either a tablets or smartphone for students use in the classroom.

Personal Finance/Economics-22210

Prerequisite: Senior Level

Grade: 12

Course Length: One Semester

Credit: Half (.5)

Students will learn sound money management skills and the financial planning process. Emphasis will be placed on developing the positive behaviors that are necessary to attain financial maturity and achieve a secure future. In addition, fundamental economic concepts will be explored.

Audiovisual Production-11051

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Level

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)—Elective

Students will learn writing styles for electronic media, basic news writing and reporting, videography for electronic media. In addition, students will learn how to anchor and produce a newscast, how to utilize various online programs and media to produce an e-newspaper. Students will write and produce both print and video public service announcements. These skills will also address the use, and the ethical challenges, of today's global media.

Students will produce a monthly news program that recaps the previous month's activities at STM; students will produce, film, write and edit the stories. In addition to the monthly broadcast, students would produce an e-newspaper that covers current STM events and how these events tie into the local community and the greater global arena.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical Education/Health-08051

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: Two Semesters

Credit: One (1)

Students will work to maximize physical fitness while learning the benefits of maximum effort. Sportsmanship and teamwork are stressed. The fundamentals of lifetime sports are emphasized so as to give a foundation for future activity. (Health concepts will be taught throughout the year, these concepts are in line with the common core standards.)

Sports Medicine-08018

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Level

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)—Elective

This Introduction to Sports Medicine Class is designed for students interested in fields such as athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, fitness, exercise physiology, kinesiology, nutrition and other sports medicine related fields. This class includes both classroom work as well as hands-on application, in order to provide students with an avenue to explore these fields. This course will provide an overview of the measures for the prevention, management, and rehabilitation of athletic related injuries. Students will study basic anatomy as it applies to athletic injuries, protective equipment, taping and bracing to protect the injured area and different theories of evaluation and treatment techniques as they apply to athletic injuries. Problems such as nutrition, physical examination, wound care, environmental conditions, therapeutic modalities.

FINE ARTS

Art Appreciation-05151

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is an elective survey course covering drawing, painting, design, color, graphics, printmaking, three dimensional construction, and arts and crafts. Aesthetics, criticism, art movements and artists will be studied.

Creative Art Comprehensive-05154

Prerequisite: Art I and Art Instructors Approval

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course is designed to give serious art students further opportunity to express themselves in the studio arts. Students will be presented with a variety of ideas, methods and projects that develop and enhance thinking processes integral to visual problems solving. Visual problems are designed to challenge and engage students in higher-level thinking and to foster creativity. Lessons encourage independent decision making and risk taking with very diverse solutions.

Art Portfolio-05170

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Level, Creative Art Comprehensive, and Art Instructors Approval

Grade: 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is an independent art study course for serious art students. First semester will include traditional drawings done with various mediums. Also, watercolor, acrylic and oil paintings will be part of the curriculum. Expect to spend long periods of time on projects. Additional art supplies will be purchased by you such as oil paints etc. Second semester will include three dimensional sculptures. You will have options that include creating a full body sculpture, a clay bust, totem pole, wire sculpture or found object sculpture. The teacher will design a curriculum along with you that fits your interests and style of art. Other requirements for this class include uploading your own art work onto the Artsonia website and an individual art show at the end of the school year. Attending several artists' openings at area galleries will also be part of your experience with this class. The objective of this class is increase students' skill levels and to help students to connect artistic techniques with personal expression.

Symphonic Band-05120

Prerequisite: One Year of Instrumental Music

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course is designed as a continuance of a student's musical education from the elementary and middle school levels. Rehearsal techniques and performance skills will be expanded. All members will participate in concert and pep bands and must attend scheduled performances including concerts and all other arranged performing opportunities. Opportunities for solos and ensembles playing, festivals and All-State Band are also available. Students will be instructed in music history and music appreciations.

Jazz Band-05123

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: Half (0.5)

This course consists of performing the various styles of jazz music, including improvisation, in a small group. Emphasis is also placed on recognizing and learning about various jazz styles. This course is designed to provide opportunities for students to devote more time to music. Extra performing and festivals are available. All members must attend scheduled performances and concerts.

Chorus-Mixed-05110

Prerequisite: None

Course Length: One Year

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: One (1)

Vocal Music is open to students interested in learning the fundamentals of music through participation in the vocal ensemble choir. Elements of music theory, notation, expression, sight singing, terminology and history are included in this class. Choir members are taught the elements of good vocal technique/production and apply them in performances throughout the year. A variety of choral styles are offered to the students – from Chant to Classical to Contemporary, including Jazz, Pop and Broadway. All students in High School Choir must attend scheduled performances including concerts, contests and festivals, as well as other performance opportunities which come up during the year.

Explorations in Drama-05054

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This is an introductory course emphasizing the use of creative dramatics as a teaching tool—characterization, improvisation, pantomime, and storytelling. An outline of theatre history will be emphasized, giving students a firm foundation in the origin of drama. A number of plays will be read/performed/studied throughout the school year from Greek drama to Shakespeare's greats to the modern hits. Students will also be introduced to the basics of technical theatre, including makeup, lighting, set design, and the many backstage roles in a performance. Students will also have the opportunity to write their own skits and one-act plays. Participation in the fall and spring plays, be it acting, lighting, sound, makeup, set building, etc. is required of all drama students.

Orchestra-General-05104

Prerequisite: One Year of Orchestra

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Course Length: One Year

Credit: One (1)

This course is designed as a continuance of a student's musical education from the elementary and middle school levels. Rehearsal techniques and performance skills will be expanded. All members must attend scheduled performances including concerts and all other arranged performing opportunities. Opportunities for solos and ensembles playing, festivals and All-State Orchestra are also available.