

# MOUNT MERCY ACADEMY



## COURSE SELECTION CATALOG **2017-2018**

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## GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

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### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

The academic program at Mount Mercy Academy aims to meet the needs, interests, and aptitudes of every student. The college preparatory curriculum includes advanced placement and college-level courses. It stresses mastery of analytical and critical thinking, problem solving, and the ability to communicate ideas effectively.

### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

The number of units of credit required to earn a diploma from Mount Mercy Academy is 29. This includes (and exceeds) the 22 credits required by the New York State Education Department.

Four of those credits will be earned by completing the Academy's Theology requirement. Please see page 5 for a list of credits required. A unit of credit is earned by studying a subject for one full school year. A semester course earns ½ unit of credit. An elective is a subject chosen beyond the basic core courses of English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and LOTE.

### GRADING AND PROMOTION PRACTICES

Report cards are issued quarterly and immediately directed to parents. Students are promoted on an average of four (4) quarters, and the final assessment marks. A student must have a promotion mark of at least 65%, and at least a 55% on the final examination, to receive school credit for a course. In order to continue in a required subject, a student must meet the prerequisites of the department.

**It is expected that if a student has failed any course, she will retake the course in summer school. If the course is not offered or should she fail the course in summer school, she will need to repeat the course in the next academic year. This especially holds true for sequence subjects (Math, Science, etc.)**

A student must attain at least 7 credits to become a sophomore; 13 ½ credits to become a junior and 20 credits to be a senior. **A student lacking units of credit may be asked to leave Mount Mercy.**

### COURSE SELECTION POLICIES

Each spring, students, with the assistance of their school counselor, will complete their course selection for the following year. This course selection must be approved by parent signature before it is finalized. For each elective, a student will choose an alternative course in the event that her first choice does not run. Students are expected to register for at least 7.5 credits per year. Students will take six (6) courses per day. **No schedule changes may be made after June 30th.** To assist students in achieving their fullest potential, emphasis in course selection will be focused on completing four or five years in the core areas of English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and LOTE.

### COURSE OFFERINGS

Any particular course or selection of a course will be offered provided that a sufficient number of applications are received and accepted. The school reserves the right to withdraw a course or any section of a course and reserves the right to modify the course description or general requirements.

### PLACEMENT

Placement is the sole responsibility and determination of the school. A student's initial placement is based on a careful study of her academic performance (based on report cards and/or transcripts) and her academic potential (based on the placement examination and/or standardized achievement test scores). A student's initial placement and course selections are to be approved by the parent(s). After the recommendation of the school is made and if a student and her parent(s) elect not to follow the recommendation, the parent and student must sign a waiver indicating they have chosen not to follow the school's recommendation. In selecting courses for the following academic year, the student is responsible for obtaining approval and meeting all prerequisites as stated in the Course Selection Catalog.

### ACADEMIC ACCELERATION

Students who wish to accelerate in a subject area in order to advance to the next level must indicate their desire to do so by the prescribed date. Students must score an 85% or better on both the school final exam and the Regents exam (if applicable) for that course and then successfully complete a project for that course. Students will be granted course credit and allowed to register for the next level course. Procedure: A student who wishes to challenge a course must indicate by March 1 of the preceding school year of their intent to challenge that course. The student will be

administered the final exam in that course during the last week of June. The student will be notified of their result on the exam within one week of taking the exam. The student who receives a score of 85% or better on the exam will then be given a comprehensive project to be completed no later than August 1<sup>st</sup>. If a student successfully completes the project with a grade of 85% or better, the student will be registered for the next level course. **Students may not challenge Living Environment, Earth Science, Regents Chemistry or Regents Physics because of lab requirements for New York State.**

### **POLICY ON TRANSFER STUDENTS**

Students who wish to transfer to Mt. Mercy Academy may do so by applying through the Admissions Office. Student transcripts must be supplied by the school the student is currently attending. Only students in good academic, attendance, and disciplinary standing will be considered for transfer. A committee composed of the Admissions Director, a Counselor, and an Administrator will be convened to review the application and interview the potential transfer student and parent(s) or guardians. Transfer students will be accepted conditionally for a semester. If the transfer student maintains good academic standing and disciplinary standing, permanent acceptance will be granted. A transfer student's grades from her previous high school(s) in addition to her Mt. Mercy grades will be used to calculate averages that will result in an overall GPA for transcript and college application purposes. Only students who attend Mt. Mercy for all four years of high school are eligible to be named valedictorian or salutatorian.

### **REQUIRED READING LISTS**

In June, parents and students will receive a list of mandatory summer readings for each grade level along with an explanation of the expectations set by the English department. All students will be required to take a test on the summer reading and complete related essay assignments during September and the marks will be averaged into the students' first quarter English grade. Students must successfully complete the summer reading work before advancing to the next level.

### **ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH TROCAIRE COLLEGE**

These Mt. Mercy Academy courses may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College:

- Statistics
- Introduction to Sociology
- Modern Creative Expression
- The following AP courses: Studio in Art, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Statistics, Biology, World History, US History, and Psychology.

A final average of 85% or better must be earned. Eligible students have the option of paying a fee to have up to 12 college credits transcribed by Trocaire College. Seniors who will be attending Trocaire College after graduation from MMA do *not* need to pay the course fee! These students still need to arrange to have the course(s) transcribed by the college (free of charge). Students who attend college elsewhere can request to have their Trocaire College transcript sent to that institution. It is then left to the discretion of *that* college as to whether or not they accept the transfer credits, as well as how they might apply to the student's degree. Upon successful completion of the course, the *student* must contact the Trocaire College Registrar's Office to have the course transcribed. Please see your Counselor for more information.

### **ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH NIAGARA UNIVERSITY**

The following courses may be eligible for college credit through Niagara University:

- AP Biology – BIO 102
- Human Anatomy and Physiology

**ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH HILBERT COLLEGE**

The following courses may be eligible for college credit through Hilbert College:

- Spanish V

Please see your School Counselor for more information.

**ARTICULATION AGREEMENT WITH SUNY ALBANY**

The following courses may be eligible for college credit through SUNY Albany:

- Latin IV

Please see your School Counselor for more information.

**2017-2018**

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

**REQUIRED CREDITS**

English	4 units
Social Studies	4 units
Math	4 units
Science	3 units
LOTE	3 units
Theology	4 units
Art/Music	1 unit
Health	.5 unit
Phys. Ed	2 units
Electives	3.5 units

**Total Credits** 29 units

\*It is Mount Mercy’s expectation that all students will complete the Leadership Academy before graduation. See page 31 for additional details\*

**REQUIRED REGENTS**

**EXAMS**

**Regents Diploma:**

- English
- Global History
- US History
- Algebra 1
- Living Environment

**Regents Diploma with Advanced**

**Designation:**

- English
- Global History
- US History
- Algebra 1

- Geometry
- Algebra 2/Trigonometry
- One Life Science (Living Environment)
- One Physical Science (Earth Sci./Chemistry)
- Foreign Language (LOTE)

\*\* To earn a diploma “with honors” students must earn an average score of 90% or better on all required Regents exams (i.e. 5 exams required for the Regents with honors diploma or 8/9 required exams for Advanced Designation with honors diploma).



# ART

## **501–STUDIO IN ART (ART I)**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

This full year course fulfills the New York State graduation requirement for art and music. This course is required for a three-unit or a five-unit sequence in Art. Students will be introduced to the history, philosophy and techniques of the visual arts through various studio art practices such as drawing, painting, printmaking, ceramics, and sculpture.

*Evaluation: Eight major projects and final assessment project*

*(1 unit)*

## **502–STUDIO IN DRAWING AND PAINTING (ART II)**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art*

This full year course is required for a five-unit sequence in Art. Students develop skills in drawing and painting techniques with media including pastel, charcoal, graphite, watercolor, and acrylic. Study of the history of drawing and painting will be incorporated into studio activities. This class is a prerequisite for Studio in Portfolio Preparation (Art III) and AP Studio in Art.

*Evaluation: Eight major projects, sketchbook, and final assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## **504–STUDIO IN ADVANCED DRAWING AND PAINTING**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisite: Studio in Art and Drawing and Painting*

This full year course involves advanced drawing and painting techniques. Students will have the opportunity to experiment with a variety of traditional and newer art materials, including water-based oils, encaustic, oil and chalk pastel, mixed media and others. Study of the history of drawing and painting with an emphasis on women artists will be incorporated into studio projects.

*Evaluation: Eight major projects, sketchbook, and final assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## **506–STUDIO IN PORTFOLIO PREPARATION (ART III)**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Studio in Art and one other Art course*

Either this course or AP Studio in Art is required as the last course in the three-unit or five-unit sequence in Art. This full year course focuses on the development of each student's portfolio for presentation to colleges. Students will explore a variety of media and art techniques and participate in group critiques and self-evaluations. They will investigate career opportunities in the Arts and various colleges and universities. Drawing from life is emphasized in this class as are advanced levels of craftsmanship and presentation. Student's needs and personal choices for their portfolio work are considered on an individual basis. All students will create an electronic portfolio of their original artworks.

Students may challenge the Advanced Placement Studio in Art Portfolio through Art III.

*Evaluation: Portfolio of work, sketchbook, and final assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## **512–STUDIO IN ART HISTORY**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Art or non-Art majors (no Art prerequisite required)*

This half-year course takes the student from cave painting to Renaissance painting through related art projects with tangential exploration into various artists who are working today. Field trips to local art galleries and museums enrich the student's art experience.

*Evaluation: Art projects, sketchbook/journal, and final assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **513–STUDIO IN 3D DESIGN/CERAMICS**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Studio in Art*

This ½ year course includes various methods of hand-building and an introduction to the pottery wheel. We will explore the history of ceramics and contemporary uses of clay. This course is required for AP Studio in Art students who choose the 3D Design Portfolio

*Evaluation: 4 major projects, art journal, sketchbook*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **514–STUDIO IN 3D DESIGN/SCULPTURE**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Studio in Art*

This ½ year course includes a variety of sculpture techniques and media including plaster, fibers, wood, stone and found objects. This course is required for AP Studio in Art students who choose the 3D Design Portfolio.

*Evaluation: 4 major projects, art journal, sketchbook*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **515–STUDIO IN DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: none; maximum class size is 10 students*

This half-year course is an introduction to the basics of digital photography as an art form and as a technological tool. Students will learn how to operate a digital camera, scanner, computer software and printer in hands-on photography projects. Students will use Adobe Photoshop in order to work with layers of digital images. The history of photography and major modern artists will be studied.

*Evaluation: Major projects, homework, class blog, and final portfolio*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **518–STUDIO IN ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY & MEDIA**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisite: Studio in Digital Photography; maximum class size is 10 students*

Studio in Advanced Photography & Media is a course that will reinforce and further develop the basics taught in Studio in Digital Photography. Students will expand upon the skills necessary to properly operate a digital camera, scanner, computer software, and printer for digital photography. Students will utilize Adobe Photoshop, Adobe In Design, and Windows Movie Maker to edit photos, create digital artworks, and create short videos and slide shows. Students will examine the history of photography, graphic art and design, and typography.

*Evaluation: Major projects, homework, class blog, and final portfolio*

*(1 unit)*

### **517–STUDIO IN DESIGN/FIBER ARTS**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisite: Studio Art I*

Studio in Design – Fiber Arts includes experimentation with various methods of working with fibers including loom weaving, rug hooking, batik, sewing with and without a pattern, quilting, basic crochet and/or knitting techniques and embroidery. Projects involve both two dimensional and three dimensional formats. Students explore the history of Fiber Arts and their place in contemporary art.

This course is helpful for those students who wish to take either the Portfolio Preparation course or the AP Studio in Art course.

*Evaluation: Major projects, homework, and final portfolio*

*(1 unit)*

## 526–AP STUDIO IN ART

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Studio in Art and Studio in Drawing and Painting, 90% art average, recommendation of art department and guidance counselor, application by student and attendance by student at meeting for course candidates*

Either this course or Portfolio Preparation is required as the last course in the three-unit or five-unit sequence in Art. In this full year course students may earn college art credit while working on a drawing, 2D design or 3D design portfolio. Students use a variety of media of their choice to develop a series of works based on one theme as well as other projects that show mastery of concept, process, and material. They gain experience in formal, technical, and expressive methods of working in art and share experiences and ideas in group critiques.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement examination (portfolio) in May is required of all students enrolled in this course; career artist interview, local art gallery research, twelve major projects*

*(1 unit)*





# CAREER & COMPUTER DEVELOPMENT

## **602-FRESHMAN SEMINAR**

(Grade 9)

This course provides freshmen with a foundation in fundamental skills. Topics include, assessing current study skills, habits, learning styles, organization, preparation, time management, listening, and note taking. Freshmen will integrate these skills with the academic courses they are taking. Freshmen will maintain portfolios containing practice skills to which they can refer throughout high school.

*Evaluation: Portfolio and a reflective essay.*

*(1/4 unit)*

## **603–CAREER SEMINAR**

(Grade 9)

Students will take an extensive look into their personal qualities to discover where their aptitudes, abilities, and career goals lie. They will learn how to effectively use the decision making process in dealing with their career selections. The course will be held one class period per cycle for one semester. Students will create a portfolio which they can refer to throughout high school.

*Evaluation: Portfolio*

*(1/4 unit)*

## **613–PERSONAL FINANCE**

(Grades 10, 11, 12) *\*This course is a Mount Mercy graduation requirement as of the 2015-2016 school-year.*

Students will develop skills in money management: budgeting, income taxes, checking and savings accounts, and other banking services. Students will learn how to manage credit purchasing, buying insurance, and the skills necessary to make sound financial decisions. Job exploration and the interview process is an integral part of the course.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Bryant and Stratton College. Please see page 5 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1/2 unit)*

## **616–ACCOUNTING**

(Grades 11, 12)

Accounting is a semester course, which covers three types of businesses – proprietorship, partnership and corporation. Each business type will be covered in a complete accounting cycle covering analyzing transactions, journalizing, posting, petty cash, financial statements, and adjusting and closing entries.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1/2 unit)*

## **630–BUSINESS AND PERSONAL LAW**

(Grades 11, 12)

This course emphasizes the relationship of business law to an individual's personal life as well as occupational life. Topics covered include: the court system, law enforcement, contracts, buying and selling goods, employer-employee relations, bailment, buying services, renting, owning and transferring real property and current legal issues.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **633-QUANTITATIVE BUSINESS MATH**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Successfully passed Algebra I exam.*

This course is designed to prepare students for both college level business programs and to understand the complex financial world they will encounter during their lives. This course can be used to fulfill one of the four units of mathematics required for a Mount Mercy diploma.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

## 636–MARKETING AND ADVERTISING

(Grades 11, 12)

This course will introduce students to the fundamental principles involved in the fields of marketing and advertising. Major aspects of the course will cover consumer research, product development, advertising to influence consumers, pricing and distribution of products. The course is “hands on” with the completion of several projects. Integral to this course will be the use of computers, Microsoft Office and desktop publishing programs.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1/2 unit)*

## 660 - INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTER CODING

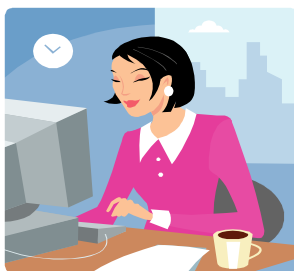
(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: A final grade of 80% or higher in Algebra I and Geometry.*

This course aims to provide students with an understanding of the role computation can play in solving problems. It also aims to help students to feel justifiably confident of their ability to write small programs that allow them to accomplish useful goals. The course uses the Python programming language. This course is aimed at students with little or no prior programming experience, but a desire to understand computational approaches to problem solving. Since computer programming involves computational modes of thinking, it will help to have some mathematical and logical aptitude. Students should be confident with math skills in algebra and geometry. Student learning outcomes will be assessed through a variety of activities including the following: Hands-on projects which will assess critical thinking skills. These projects will also assess reading and comprehension of standard coding principles. Quizzes will assess the ability to identify the principles of coding. A final team project will assess well-written presentation material/documentation and a proficiency in a variety of coding tasks. An oral presentation of the final project will assess oral communications.

*Evaluation: Group project and presentation.*

*(1/2 unit)*



# ENGLISH

## **001–ENGLISH I**

(Grade 9)

In this Regents course, students will learn to write well-constructed expository, persuasive and descriptive compositions. Students will practice listening skills, reading comprehension and the writing of compositions in the styles required for the Regents examination. Study of the novel, play, short story, and poem challenge students in elements of figurative language and fiction. Research skills, public speaking skills, and grammar are also stressed. Students make use of the process approach to writing and work in cooperative groups to edit and revise their work.

*Evaluation: Local exam modeled on Regents exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **007 –ENGLISH I HONORS**

(Grade 9)

*Prerequisite: An average of 94 in English in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade as well as qualifying scores on the High School Entrance Exam*

Honors English I is an introductory course to the study of literature that meets the requirements of English I at an accelerated pace. Self-responsibility is stressed with class discussions and assignments. Independent thinking is encouraged with writing and the analysis of literature. Students will learn to write well-constructed, stylized expository, persuasive and descriptive compositions. Study of the novel, play, short story and poem challenges students in elements of figurative language and fiction. The study and expression of literary analysis will also figure into the curriculum of study. Research skills, letter writing, public speaking skills and grammar are also stressed. This course is preparation for future Honors level courses.

*Evaluation: Local exam modeled on Regents exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **002–ENGLISH II**

(Grade 10)

*Prerequisite: English I*

Students will master listening skills, nonfiction reading comprehension, and the writing of compositions in the styles required for the New York State Regents examination. Well-supported analyses of issues, ideas and arguments will be practiced in written and oral presentations. Research skills are reinforced and required for a paper with in-text citations and works cited. The novel, short story, drama, and poetry are studied in depth. In this writing intensive course, students will build on writing process skills by examining more sophisticated persuasive, comparative, and critical essay techniques and structures in preparation for the NYS Regents examination.

*Evaluation: Local examination modeled on the NYS Regents exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **008–ENGLISH II HONORS**

(Grade 10)

*Prerequisite: Eligible students include McAuley Scholars (required course) and sophomores with a high average in English I or English I Honors, recommendation of English I teacher and Guidance Counselor, and the completion of an application.*

Honors English II is an accelerated course that meets the graduation requirement for sophomore English. A primary goal of this class is to prepare students for the Comprehensive English Regents. This includes listening skills, literary analysis and analytical essay writing. Students who take AP Language and Composition as juniors must take the English Regents exam in June of their sophomore year. The study of literature includes world literary works and extended reading. Students deepen their understanding of various literary genres through intensive study. In addition, oral presentations and a variety of writing types are discussed and utilized for various purpose and audiences. A research paper with in paper citations and works cited page will be completed as well.

*Evaluation: Local final exam or Regents exam for AP students*

*(1 unit)*

### **003–ENGLISH III**

(Grade 11)

*Prerequisite: English II*

In preparation for the New York State Regents examination, listening skills and analytical, expository and persuasive essays are studied. The skills necessary to produce a research paper containing references and a works cited list are reinforced. In addition, students will prepare for the SAT verbal and essay sections, including appropriate vocabulary. An historical survey of American literature includes the study of at least two American novels, drama, several short stories and poems.

*Evaluation: Regents exam and final assessment*

*(1 unit)*

### **015–ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**

(Grade 11)

*Prerequisites: English II, 94% or above English average, passing the English Regents exam in June of Sophomore year, the recommendation of English department and Guidance Counselor, application by student, attendance by student at meeting for course candidates*

This college level course emphasizes the analysis and close reading of nonfiction works. Students develop composition skills by writing essays in various rhetorical modes. Research skills are an important element of this course and a full length research paper is required of all students.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this course; final assessment*

*(1 unit)*

### **004–ENGLISH IV**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: English III*

English IV is a course designed to offer students the opportunity to reinforce, practice, strengthen, and develop the skills necessary to be prepared for college-level work. Students will reinforce skills in grammar and punctuation to improve their skills in writing a coherent and informed essay. Through reading, debate, and writing, students will develop writing strategies for different types of assignments, as well as hone oral presentation skills. Through careful exploration of a variety of literary and visual media, students will develop methods for identifying and critically evaluating subject matter. Students will practice the skills required to complete college assignments productively and reinforce research skills.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

### **016–ADVANCED PLACEMENT LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: English III; with a minimum 94% average; recommendation of English Department and Guidance Counselor, application by student, attendance by student at meeting for course candidates*

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition is an in-depth study of literature at an analytical and theoretical level consistent with that of any introductory college course. In this course students will explore literature spanning different genres and time periods while engaging in diverse methods of analysis. Students will study works of the literary canon primarily from British and American literature. In addition to preparing for the specific demands of the AP exam, students will spend much time developing their writing skills toward producing a college level research paper and critical analyses. Class participation and discussion are key elements of this course.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this course / final assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## ENGLISH ELECTIVES

**PLEASE NOTE:** THE FOLLOWING COURSES DO NOT REPLACE ANY REQUIRED ENGLISH COURSES. STUDENTS TAKING THESE COURSES ARE EXPECTED TO FULFILL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGULAR ENGLISH PROGRAM.

### **017 -- MODERN CREATIVE EXPRESSION**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: None*

This course is an exploration in self-expression through writing in all the methods of expression utilized today. Various forms of writing will be discussed, with students then venturing into their own creative writing processes. Some of the areas of writing that will be explored include poetry, short stories, personal and fictional narratives, character sketches, journalistic writing, blogging, you tube, and dialogue. Students will have time to conference with both the teacher and other students about their writing. Students will compile a portfolio of their written works, turning in a final portfolio of their best works.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Writing portfolio and final project/exam*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **019- FILM LITERACY**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: None*

This course will be a comprehensive study of film from various viewpoints that requires students go beyond being just a movie fan. The class will focus on elements of film such as mise en scene and cinematography, as well as spotlighting genre and director. Students will study the history of film and visual media from silent films to digital media. Part of the requirements for this course will be participation in a student designed production.

*Evaluation: Final student project*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **024 -- READERS**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: None*

This course will focus on one genre, time period, author, or theme. The class will be discussion and project based. Students will participate in group and class discussions that analyze the elements of literature through a particular lens. They will determine author's purpose, share opinions, and conduct necessary research with their peers. To demonstrate their understanding of the class's lens, students will conduct projects throughout the unit and a final project will serve as the final assessment.

*Evaluation: Final student project*

*(1/2 unit)*



# LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

## (LOTE)

### **PLEASE NOTE:**

**ALL MOUNT MERCY ACADEMY STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE THREE YEARS OF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH. WE ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO STUDY A FOURTH OR FIFTH YEAR OF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH FOR PROFICIENCY.**

**ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR THE SECOND LEVEL OF ANY LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH IS BASED ON SUCCESSFULLY PASSING THE FIRST LEVEL EXAMINATION OF THE TARGET LANGUAGE (LATIN I OR SPANISH I). MOUNT MERCY DOES NOT ACCEPT THE NEW YORK STATE PROFICIENCY EXAMINATION AS A CRITERIA FOR PLACEMENT IN THE SECOND LEVEL OF A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH.**

### **409- LATIN: ROOT WORDS I**

(Grade 9)

Students will study Latin prefixes, suffixes, and the roots of common vocabulary words in English. This course will aid students in cross-curricular reading comprehension and writing skills. Students will also see the influence of classical civilizations in the world around them.

*Evaluation: local exam or final project*

*(1/4 unit)*

### **411-LATIN I**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

In Latin I, students begin the fundamentals of Latin grammar and learn about Roman culture. The Latin language and the English language are compared. Students learn about Rome and read stories about ancient mythology and gods. Latin vocabulary is studied for the purpose of building English vocabulary.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

### **412-LATIN II**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisite: Latin I or a passing grade on the Mount Mercy Latin I placement exam for entering ninth grade students.*

Latin II strengthens the grammar concepts learned in Latin I and introduces more complex sentence structures. There are readings about heroes and adventures and Roman family life. There is further study of English Latin derivatives.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

### **413-LATIN III**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Latin II*

Latin III emphasizes the building of reading comprehension skills through various selections of Latin literature. Special emphasis is placed on Roman history. The life and times of famous Romans, as well as Roman politics and government are studied. The fundamentals of Latin grammar and syntax are reviewed. The study of English words derived from Latin roots continues throughout the year.

*Evaluation: Final exam*

#### **414–LATIN IV**

(Grade 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Latin III*

Latin IV introduces students to original, unmodified Latin Literature from Ovid, Virgil, Catullus and Horace. Students will translate, scan, and analyze these texts. The course covers the history of the time period of the Golden Age of Latin Literature. Additionally, students will be able to focus more on the art and culture of Rome.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

#### **418–LATIN: ROOT WORDS II**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: none*

This course is created for students to gain a familiarity with Latin root words without learning the language itself. The curriculum is designed for college and career readiness, especially for students interested in pre-law or pre-medical careers, and those wanting to improve their verbal SAT scores.

*Evaluation: local exam or final project*

*(1/2 unit)*

#### **421–SPANISH I**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

Spanish I is the first course in a three year sequence in which students learn to communicate on a daily basis in Spanish. Communication in speaking, listening, reading and writing in Spanish is accomplished through careful organization and pacing of material. Students experience a true sense of satisfaction and success as they learn to use the language. Simple, straightforward vocabulary, grammar explanations, and cultural material are all presented in real life situations.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

#### **422–SPANISH II**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Spanish I or a passing grade on the Mount Mercy Spanish I placement exam for entering ninth grade students.*

The second course of the three year sequence increases student skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing Spanish. Emphasis is on learning vocabulary, grammar, and on conversation in order to communicate in real life situations. Study, awareness and appreciation of Hispanic culture are broadened.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

#### **423–SPANISH III**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Spanish II*

This course completes the three year sequence. Students perfect their speaking skills through extensive oral practice. Vocabulary and use of grammar are studied. Composition in the Spanish language is stressed and listening skills are emphasized. Study of Hispanic culture is woven into the lessons throughout the course.

*Evaluation: Final exam*

*(1 unit)*

#### **424–SPANISH IV: SPANISH LITERATURE AND CONVERSATION I**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of the Spanish III Regents examination and teacher recommendation.*

Works of Spanish literature, especially short stories, are studied. Reading and writing skills are emphasized. Students will demonstrate advanced knowledge of the language through projects and written analyses of the literature. There is a continuing emphasis on advanced Spanish grammar. Conversations and discussions are conducted in Spanish and presentations in Spanish are a continuing part of the use of the language.

*Evaluation: Final Project*

*(1 unit)*

## 425–SPANISH V-ADVANCED SPANISH COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE-HILBERT COLLEGE ADVANCED HIGH SCHOOL SPANISH 104\*

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Juniors who have completed the application as well as Spanish III and received 85% or better on the Final exam and teacher and counselor recommendation OR completion of Spanish IV and teacher recommendation.*

This is an advanced Spanish course for high school students who have completed 4 high school units of study. As such, the course will emphasize advanced communication and listening skills. Reading at an advanced level will introduce some literature and stress comprehension. Writing skills will be practiced through composition in connection to the literature and personal cultural reflection. Grammar will be an integral part of the course. Previously learned structures will be reviewed and reinforced while advanced grammatical structure will be introduced for mastery. Students will add to their vocabulary through study of the literature and vocabulary learned to enhance their communication abilities. The culture of Spain and Spanish America will be an integral part of studies. Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Hilbert College. Please see page 5 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Hilbert College Performance-Based exam*

*(1 unit)*





# MATHEMATICS

**PLEASE NOTE:** ALL MOUNT MERCY ACADEMY STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE FOUR YEARS OF MATHEMATICS COURSES WHILE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE ACADEMY.

## **216 - PRE-ALGEBRA**

(Grade 9)

*Prerequisites: Recommendation of the Acceptance Committee and teacher based on entrance exam scores/8<sup>th</sup> grade math scores.*

This course is for students who require extra time to master the key ideas and prepare to take the Common Core Algebra assessment in June of their sophomore year. The course will focus on basic math skills, review material from 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade common core, and introduce/pre-teach major concepts for Algebra I. The course will build skills necessary for being successful in future math and science courses.

*Evaluation: Local Assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## **217 –ALGEBRA I**

(Grade 9, 10)

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of 8<sup>th</sup> grade math or Pre-Algebra.*

The focus of this yearlong common core course is algebra. Topics will focus on reasoning with equations and expressions. Students will use a broad spectrum of problem solving strategies, including: solving equations and inequalities, graphing linear and quadratic functions and inequalities, and modeling real world situation and data with functions. Other topics studied include: operations with algebraic expressions and fractions, systems of equations and inequalities, ratios and proportions, factoring, radicals, quadratics, and statistics. Students will take the Integrated Algebra Regents examination at the end of the course. A TI-84 Graphing Calculator (or better) is required for this course. Math lab is available for this course for additional review. Students are subject to being placed in lab based on entrance exam scores/8<sup>th</sup> grade math scores or at the request of the teacher.

*Evaluation: Local Assessment and Regents Exam in June*

*(1 unit)*

## **260 – GEOMETRY**

### **261- GEOMETRY HONORS**

(Grade 9, 10, 11)

*Prerequisites: Algebra I; Placement in Honors is dependent on teacher recommendation.*

This is the second of three courses required to receive a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. The core of this year long course is Geometry. Main topics include geometric relationships, transformational and coordinate geometry, constructions, similar triangles, formal and informal proofs, and probability. A TI-84 Graphing Calculator (or better) is required. Math lab is available for this course for additional review. Students are subject to being placed in lab at the request of the teacher.

*Evaluation: Local Assessment and Regents Exam in June*

*(1 unit)*

## **256- CORE ALGEBRA II/TRIGNOMETRY**

(Grade 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, and recommendation of Math Department*

This is the third of three courses required to receive a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation. Students in this course will take a concentrated version of Algebra II/ Trig with focus on passing the June A2T Regents exam. This course will cover all major topics required for the A2T Regents exam as well as test taking strategies. Math lab is available for this course for additional review. Students are subject to being placed in lab at the request of the teacher. Students who pass this course and the Regents exam will be placed in Business Math, Pre-Calculus or Statistics senior year. A TI-84 (or better) Graphing Calculator is required for this course.

*Evaluation: Local Assessment and Regents Exam in June*

*(1 unit)*

## 265–ALGEBRA II/TRIGONOMETRY

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Regents Geometry*

This is the third of three courses required to receive a Regents Diploma with Advance Designation. Topics will include a review and extension of algebraic techniques, imaginary numbers, families of functions, direct and indirect variation, systems of equations, data analysis, sequences, probability, and trigonometry. A TI-84 (or better) Graphing Calculator is required for this course. Math lab is available for this course for additional review. Students are subject to being placed in lab at the request of the teacher.

*Evaluation: Local assessment and Regents exam in June*

*(1 unit)*

## 235 – PRE-CALCULUS

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Algebra II/Trigonometry and teacher recommendation*

This course is designed for students who will be taking calculus either at Mount Mercy or at the college level. Pre calculus mathematics, including families of functions, matrices, vectors, conic sections, and polar equations, will be covered. Important algebra skills will be reviewed and extended. The course content will be investigated using both algebraic techniques and a graphing calculator. The TI-84 (or better) Graphing Calculator is required for this course.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

## 220–STATISTICS

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra II/Trigonometry or Pre Calculus and teacher recommendation*

This course covers both methods of descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics will include measures of central tendency, dispersion and position, the normal and binomial distributions, estimation, hypothesis testing, correlation, regression and contingency tables. Students will use the TI-84 (or better) Graphing Calculator and Microsoft Excel software packages. This course is designed for students considering careers in business, education, or the social sciences. Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

## 221–AP STATISTICS

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra2/Trigonometry or Pre Calculus, recommendation of Math Department and School Counselor, application by student, attendance by student at meeting for course candidates*

The purpose of AP Statistics is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, planning a study, anticipating patterns, and statistical inferences. A TI-84 (or better) Graphing Calculator is required for this course.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement examination required of all students enrolled in this course*

*(1 unit)*

## 231–CALCULUS

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre Calculus or Algebra II/Trigonometry, 85% or above math average, recommendation of Mathematics Department and School Counselor.*

In this course students will learn much of the material covered in one-semester of college-level calculus. Topics include limits, differentiation, integration, and differential equations. A TI-84 (or better) Graphing Calculator is required for this course.

*Evaluation: local assessment. \*Note: Students in this course may challenge the AP Calculus AB exam if they choose. Please see your school counselor regarding this option.*

*(1 unit)*

# MUSIC

## **540–CHORUS I**

(Grade 9)

Designed for the student interested in music, this full year course focuses on basic vocal production including posture, breath control, vowel formation and tone. Students also study the elements of music, music history, rhythm patterns, sight singing, and basic theory. This course satisfies the New York State Fine Arts Requirement for graduation.

*Evaluation: Written tests, performance examination, and participation in Christmas and spring concerts* (1 unit)

## **WOMEN’S CHOIR**

### **567–CHORUS II**

### **568–CHORUS III**

### **569–CHORUS IV**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

In Chorus II, III and IV the principles of singing are further refined. Three part harmony, blend, balance, proper diction and dynamics are emphasized. Students also learn to differentiate tonalities, perform rhythm patterns, and practice sight singing. Participation in a national music festival is an option.

*Evaluation: Performance examination and participation in Christmas and spring concerts.* (1 unit)

**N.B. STUDENTS IN CHORUS MAY AUDITION FOR PARTICIPATION IN ALL-COUNTY CHORUS.**

## **560– BEGINNING HANDBELL CHOIR**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

This one semester course is an introduction to the art of handbell ringing. It is a performance course involving reading rhythm patterns as well as perfecting handbell techniques. Although previous instrumental instruction is helpful, it is not essential.

*Evaluation: Participation in Christmas and spring concerts and liturgical celebrations* (1/2 unit)

## **MAGIC BELLES HANDBELL CHOIR**

### **557–ADVANCED HANDBELL CHOIR I**

### **558— ADVANCED HANDBELL CHOIR II**

### **559— ADVANCED HANDBELL CHOIR III**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Audition during January of previous school year; acceptance is based on rhythm pattern reading ability.*

Advanced Handbell Choir offers refinement of the art of handbell ringing. The group also competes annually in a national music festival and performs extensively in the local area. The course involves reading more complex rhythm patterns and ringing more difficult pieces.

*Evaluation: Performance ability and participation in concerts and competition* (1 unit)

## **570–MUSIC THEORY I**

(Grade 10, 11, 12)

In this one semester course, students will study major and minor scale construction, intervals, triads, 7<sup>th</sup> chords, the circle of fifths, harmonic progression, and melodic/harmonic dictation.

*Evaluation: Quizzes, tests, final project* (1/2 unit)

## 565 – INTRODUCTION TO PIANO/KEYBOARD I

## 564 - INTRODUCTION TO PIANO/KEYBOARD II

(Grade 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Introduction to Piano/Keyboard I must be taken prior to Introduction to Piano/Keyboard II.*

These one semester courses are designed for student with no prior piano or keyboard experience. The basics of pianistic technique and rhythmic counting will be utilized when learning to play basic music using standard piano methods books. Some simple sight reading will also be integrated into each lesson.

*Evaluation: Basic playing exam, short written test*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **Additional Music Option:**

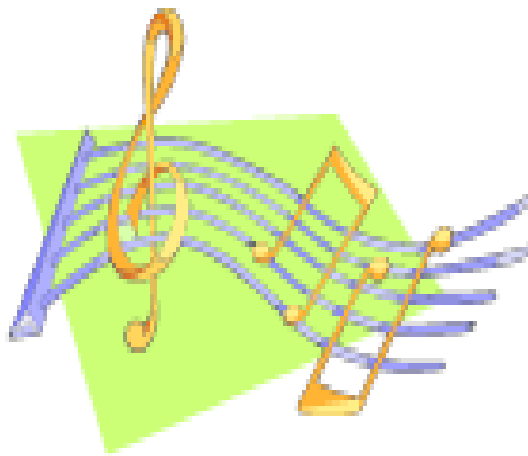
#### **“PURE MAGIC” SHOW CHOIR**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Audition during May of previous school year; Must also be enrolled in Chorus.*

This is a select, choreographed singing group which competes annually in a national music festival and performs extensively in the local area. Students learn to coordinate dance techniques with vocal techniques and master 12 to 16 pieces in pop, swing, show and Christmas idioms. Rehearsals are held Sundays during the school year, and Monday through Thursday evenings during the last two weeks of August. All students must also register for chorus.

*(non-credit bearing)*



# PHYSICAL EDUCATION / HEALTH

## **806/808–PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

The physical education curriculum focuses on fitness and wellness for young woman. Basic skills in individual and team sports take place in order to encourage lifetime participation in leisure activities. Interscholastic competition is also available at Mount Mercy. Basketball, soccer, softball, lacrosse, swimming, volleyball, tennis, track and field, golf, and cross-country are presently part of the athletic department. Opportunities are available for downhill skiing as a club activity.

*Evaluation: Preparation, participation, homework and written tests on selected topics*

*(1/2 unit)*

## **811–HEALTH**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

Health is a pro-active educational strategy to help improve the wellness of students. This course is required for New York State high school graduation. The course is designed to develop attitudes, knowledge and critical thinking skills which will serve the students now and in the future. Students will also be required to participate in class discussions, prevention projects, role plays, problem solving activities, actively engage with guest speakers and research community resources that are available to assist students in developing their personal wellness plan.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1/2 unit)*



# SCIENCE

**PLEASE NOTE: THE THREE CREDITS IN LABORATORY SCIENCE REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION MUST INCLUDE 2 REGENTS COURSES WITH A LAB (LIVING ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL SETTING: EARTH SCIENCE, CHEMISTRY, PHYSICS) AND A THIRD SCIENCE WITH A LAB. A FOURTH CREDIT IN SCIENCE IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.**

## **300–LIVING ENVIRONMENT**

(Grade 9)

This course satisfies graduation requirement in science. This course is designed to develop understanding and appreciation of the fundamental principles of biology, the study of living things. Concentration will be on these themes: energy, matter and organization, maintaining a dynamic equilibrium, interaction and interdependence, reproduction, growth and development, genetic and molecular biology and evolution. The course requires one block of laboratory and research experience per cycle.

*Evaluation: Regents exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **303–LIVING ENVIRONMENT HONORS**

(Grade 9)

*Prerequisites: strong science grades in middle school, teacher recommendation*

This course satisfies graduation requirement in science. All topics from the NYS Regents Core Curriculum for Living Environment will be covered as in Regents, but with more depth and an emphasis on current and relevant findings in the field. Students will acquire an understanding of the study of life maintained in animals and plants, reproduction and development, transmission of traits from generation to generation, modern genetics, evolution and diversity, ecology, and human physiology. Students will be required to communicate their knowledge using both qualitative and quantitative means. This course provides an excellent foundation for students with an interest and ability in science who plan to pursue advanced science courses. This class meets 3 times a cycle, with an additional lab meeting time once a cycle.

*Evaluation: Regents exam, projects, tests, and quizzes*

*(1 unit)*

## **312–PHYSICAL SETTING: EARTH SCIENCE**

(Grade 10)

Earth Science is a New York State Regents laboratory course aimed at the examination of the earth and its natural processes. Climate, weather, atmospheric phenomena and energy exchange are topics studied with a focus on the geological history of New York State, its landscape and environmental change. One block of laboratory activities per cycle is required. A long-term investigative project is required as part of the local assessment.

*Evaluation: Regents exam, local assessment and lab practical*

*(1 unit)*

## **321–PHYSICAL SETTING: CHEMISTRY**

(Grades 10, 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Physical Setting Earth Science with overall average of 80%*

*Sophomore Prerequisites: 90% overall average in Living Environment, 85% overall average in Math, and teacher recommendation*

This course is designed to follow the new Regents Chemistry curriculum. Emphasis will be on the applications of chemistry in the world. Topics will include: Energy and Matter, Atomic Structure, Bonding, Periodic Table, Math in Chemistry, Kinetics, Acids and Bases, and Redox and Organic Chemistry. One block per cycle of laboratory activities is required.

*Evaluation: Regents exam and/or local assessment*

*(1 unit)*

### **314–CONCEPTUAL PHYSICS**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Passing grade in Algebra and Geometry, completion of three lab science courses and teacher recommendation required*

This course is designed for non-science majors to give them a better understanding of the physical aspects of the world. It covers the topics of mechanics, wave phenomena, heat, electricity, light, sound and atomic physics. The course includes laboratory hours integrated into the curriculum. This course does not require separate lab class.

*Evaluation: Local exam* (1 unit)

### **324–PHYSICAL SETTING: PHYSICS**

(Grade 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Passing grade in Algebra and Geometry.*

This course is a continuation of the core courses in the science program with a focus on understanding how the physical world works. Topics of mechanics, wave phenomena, electricity, atomic and nuclear physics are discussed. One block of laboratory work per cycle is required. This course will familiarize students with concepts required for entering engineering, physical therapy and health science college majors.

*Evaluation: Regents exam and/or local assessment* (1 unit)

### **346 –AP BIOLOGY**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Living Environment and Regents Chemistry with grades of 85% or better on the Living Environment Regents exam and 80% or better on the Chemistry Regents exam, 90% or above science average, recommendation of the Science Department, application by student, attendance of student at a meeting for course candidates. Physics is strongly encouraged for AP Bio applicants. Physics can be taken concurrently or in a separate year of study.*

This one year course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. It includes the study of biological chemistry, cells, genetics and evolution, organisms and populations. A substantial laboratory component is an integral part of the course.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Niagara University. Please see page 5 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this course* (1 unit)

### **348– AP CHEMISTRY**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Living Environment and Regents Chemistry; minimum of 80% on the Chemistry Regents exam, 90% or above science average, recommendation of the Science Department, Math Department, and Guidance Counselor, application by student, attendance of student at a meeting for course candidates.*

This one year course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory chemistry course for engineering and science majors. It includes the study of atomic structure and bonding, stoichiometry, reaction equilibrium and kinetics, gas laws, thermochemistry, and electrochemistry. Students will apply mathematical knowledge and understanding of algebra, logarithms, and exponential equations.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this course* (1 unit)

**PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING COURSES ARE DESIGNED AS ELECTIVES FOR THOSE STUDENTS WHO HAVE A PERSONAL DESIRE TO FURTHER EXPLORE THE WORLD OF SCIENCE. THE ELECTIVES ARE OFFERED TO STUDENTS WHO WILL BE SIMULTANEOUSLY COMPLETING A THREE UNIT SEQUENCE IN SCIENCE. THEY DO NOT FULFILL LAB REQUIREMENTS IN SCIENCE FOR GRADUATION.**

### **329–MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Grade of 82 or better in three Regents Science courses, one English course and one History course.*

Medical language teaches you how doctors and medical professionals express themselves in the healthcare field. This course will teach you prefixes, root words and suffixes and how they are put together to make medical words. For instance, hypokalemia and hypothermia will use the same suffix, “hypo.” If you know that “hypo” means deficient or under, then you know that both those words are talking about being under or deficient in something. Medical terminology will also teach you how to pronounce medical terms correctly. Learning medical terminology can be very useful for anyone who wishes to pursue a career in the medical field.

*Evaluation: Local assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **333–PRINCIPLES OF SPORTS MEDICINE**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: none*

The following topics will be presented and discussed in an introductory method: anatomy and physiology as related to athletics; applied kinesiology; facilitated stretching; conditioning and training; principles of exercise physiology; sports nutrition, first aid and sports related injuries, the use of therapeutic modalities with taping and wrapping; role of an athletic trainer and legal issues involving athletics; and sports psychology.

*Evaluation: Local assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

### **361 – HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY**

(Grade 11, 12)

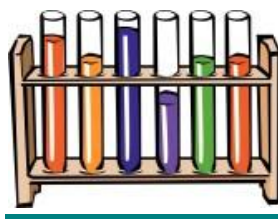
*Prerequisites: Successful completion of Living Environment and Physical Setting: Chemistry with a grade of 80% or better on the Living Environment Regents exam and a 75% or better on the Chemistry Regents exam, 80% or above Science Average, recommendation of the Science Department, application by student, attendance of student at a meeting for course candidates.*

This course is geared toward students who are considering pursuing a career in any of the science or health-related fields. The course content will provide an integrated view of how the human body and different body systems work. The systems covered in this course include: an introduction to the body, integument, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, reproductive, circulatory, respiratory, digestive and excretory systems. All physiological concepts are tied to some level of body structure and organization. Laboratory activities and dissections are a required part of the course.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Niagara University’s NUSTEP Program. Please see page 5 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Local assessment*

*(1 unit)*





# SOCIAL STUDIES

## **100–GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY I**

(Grade 9)

The curriculum of Global History and Geography I will focus on the major ideas, eras, themes, developments and turning points in world history. The course is a chronological study of world history up to 1750. Emphasis is placed on the impact of geography on the development of world civilizations. Students will examine the broad sweep of history and geography from a variety of perspectives.

*Evaluation: Local exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **125–GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY I HONORS**

(Grade 9)

*Prerequisites: Strong Social Studies grades in middle school, teacher recommendation, Counselor approval*

Honors Global History and Geography I follows the curriculum of the Global I Regents course which focuses on geography, as well as the major eras, ideas, themes, developments, and turning points in world history. The course is a chronological study of history up to 1750. However, Honors Global I is more rigorous and detailed in its approach. Special emphasis will be placed on primary source readings, extensive writing assignments, and outside class readings. Assessments, due at specific times during the summer and regular school year, will be required. Honors Global I is intended to prepare students for the Advanced Placement World History course. Acceptance into Honors Global I is determined by the Social Studies department and the School Counselors.

*Evaluation: a separate, honors-level Global History and Geography I final exam will be administered in June.*

*(1 unit)*

## **102–GLOBAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY II**

(Grade 10)

This course continues the chronological study of world history and geography from 1750 to the present. Students will examine the development and interaction of social, political, economic, cultural and religious systems in different regions of the world. Students will take the New York State Regents Exam in Global History and Geography, which will evaluate their knowledge and understanding of the subject matter covered during the past two years (Grades 9 & 10).

*Evaluation: Regents exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **109—AP WORLD HISTORY**

(Grade 10)

*Prerequisites: Eligible students include McAuley Scholars (required course) and sophomores with a 90% or better Social Studies average, recommendation of Social Studies Department and Guidance Counselor, application by student, attendance by student at meeting for course candidates*

Advanced Placement World History covers the time frame from the beginning of civilization to the present day. The purpose of the course is to allow students to develop a greater understanding about human societies and how they grow and interact. The course covers the broad spectrum of history with emphasis placed on the understanding of cultural, institutional, technological, and geographic experiences. Students will be introduced to college level work and must take the Advanced Placement exam in May in addition to the Global History and Geography Regents examination.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information. Students will also take the New York State Regents Exam in Global History and Geography, which will evaluate their knowledge and understanding of the subject matter covered during the past two years (Grades 9 & 10).

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this course; Regents exam in June* (1 unit)

## **103–U.S. HISTORY AND GOVERNMENT**

(Grade 11)

This course begins with the colonial and constitutional foundations of the United States and explores the government structure and functions written in the Constitution. The development of the nation and the political, social, and economic factors that led to the challenges our nation faced in the Civil War are addressed. Industrialization, urbanization, and the accompanying problems are examined, along with America's emergence as a world power, the two world wars of the 20th century, and the Cold War. Students explore the expansion of the federal government, the threat of terrorism, and the place of the United States in an increasingly globalized and interconnected world.

*Evaluation: Regents exam*

*(1 unit)*

## **111–AP UNITED STATES HISTORY**

(Grade 11)

*Prerequisites: Global History and Geography I and II, 90% or above Social Studies average, recommendation of Global History and Geography I and II teachers and Guidance Counselor, application by student, attendance by student at meeting for course candidates*

This one year course is a chronological study of U.S. history from colonial time to the present. Emphasis is placed on primary sources and interpretation of differing viewpoints of historians. The purpose of the course is to provide students with an opportunity to study history on a college level. The course involves extensive reading and writing assignments.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 3 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this course; Regents exam in June* (1 unit)

## **104–PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Global History and Geography I and II, U.S. History and Government*

This one semester course is designed to provide students with opportunities to become engaged in the political process by acquiring the knowledge and practicing the skills necessary for active citizenship. Students will study the Constitutional foundations of American democracy, political participation, civil rights and liberties, duties of citizenship, and public policy issues.

*Evaluation: Local exam or alternative assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

## **105–ECONOMICS**

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Global History and Geography I and II, U.S. History and Government*

This one semester course emphasizes economics and economic decision making. The course includes basic economic concepts and understandings which all persons need to function effectively and intelligently as citizens and participants in the economy of the United States and the world. Content presents a rational decision making process which can be applied to all economic decisions. Microeconomic and macroeconomic topics will be discussed.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Bryant and Stratton College. Please see page 5 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Local exam or alternative assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

## **120–INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY**

(Grades 11, 12)

This one semester course is an introduction to basic concepts, theories, and methods of the discipline of psychology. The major topics to be studied include history of psychology and contemporary perspectives, personality theories, human development throughout the life span, the biological basis of behavior, theories of learning, memory, intelligence, psychological disorders, and methods of treatment.

*Evaluation: Local exam or alternative assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

## 116–AP PSYCHOLOGY

(Grade 12)

*Prerequisites: Global Studies I and II, US. History and Government, 90% overall average, recommendation of Social Studies Department and Guidance Counselor, student application, attendance by student at a meeting for course candidates*

A survey of the scientific study of human behavior that includes as major topics: the brain, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning and memory, development, emotion, personality, abnormal psychology and social psychology. This course is especially recommended for students who wish to pursue careers in the social sciences or medical fields.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Advanced Placement exam in May is required of all students enrolled in this class*

*(1 unit)*

## 121–INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY

(Grades 11, 12)

This one semester course will introduce the basic concepts of sociology, the study of social life, social change, and the social causes and consequences of human behavior. Topics of study will include culture and socialization, social structure, social groups, deviance, social stratification, and social institutions.

Note: This course may be eligible for college credit through Trocaire College. Please see page 4 and your School Counselor for more information.

*Evaluation: Local exam or alternative assessment*

*(1/2 unit)*

## 128 – THE HOLOCAUST

(Grade 11 and 12)

*Prerequisites: Global History and Geography I & II*

This one-semester course is an interdisciplinary study of the historical, social, religious, political and economic forces that led to the Holocaust. This in-depth study will include units of the history of anti-Semitism, the rise of Nazism, early stages of persecution, the ghettos, the “Final Solution”, resistance and rescue, survivors and liberators, and perpetrators, collaborators and bystanders.

*Evaluation: Alternative Assessment or Research Project*

*(1/2 unit)*

## 129 – WOMEN’S RIGHTS/CIVIL RIGHTS

(Grade 11 and 12)

*Prerequisites: Global History and Geography I & II*

This one-semester course will begin with the Women’s Rights Movement in American society, promoting an understanding of the historical development of the women’s movement in the United States as well as understanding feminism and feminist perspectives. The second half of the course will focus on the history of American Civil Rights Movement, emphasizing the ways in which Americans challenged their government to live up to the principles of equality and justice.

*Evaluation: Alternative Assessment or Research Project*

*(1/2 unit)*



# THEOLOGY

**THE THEOLOGY CURRICULUM AT MOUNT MERCY ACADEMY IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE EDUCATION NOT ONLY ON THE DOCTRINES OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH, BUT ALSO TO DEVELOP THE PRACTICE OF FAITH THROUGH LIVED EXPERIENCE.**

**INSPIRED BY THE WORK OF CATHERINE MCAULEY AND ANIMATED BY THE CALL OF THE GOSPEL, WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR CHRISTIAN RESPONSIBILITY TO PROMOTE PEACE AND LIVE JUSTICE. THROUGHOUT THE CURRICULUM, ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO ISSUES RELATED TO WOMEN AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS AS WITNESSES OF THE GOSPEL AND INSTRUMENTS OF MERCY.**

**THE CHARISM OF MERCY, CHRISTIAN SEXUALITY FROM A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE, ONGOING EXPERIENCE IN PRAYER, LITURGY, AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS ARE INTEGRATED THROUGHOUT THE THEOLOGY CURRICULUM.**

**PARTICIPATION IN SERVICE EXPERIENCES IS DEFINITIVE OF WHO WE ARE AS A MERCY COMMUNITY. THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF SERVICE HOURS AT EVERY GRADE LEVEL IS NECESSARY FOR GRADUATING FROM MMA; PUTTING INTO PRACTICE THE SPIRITUAL AND CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY.**

## **740–THEOLOGY I**

(Grade 9)

The course is intended to help the students to gain a better understanding of the Catholic Christian tradition in greater depth. It offers the opportunity for students to understand the Catholic Heritage. Through the study of Faith and the Paschal Mystery, Prayer, The Liturgical Year and the Mass, students will understand their faith on a personal and affective level.

*Evaluation: Exam and/or alternative assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## **741–THEOLOGY II**

(Grade 10)

Sophomore year focuses on Sacred Scriptures. Students will explore the **Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)** with particular attention to the first five books of the Bible, examination of the Creation Accounts, the Exodus and the history of the Jewish nation, as well as discovering our Jewish roots.

Students will then move on to explore **Christian Scriptures (New Testament)** with a focus on getting to know Jesus better through the study of the Gospels, studying the Paschal Mystery, and Jesus revealing God in humanity.

Particular attention will be given to Jesus' relationship with the oppressed and marginalized people and his message of love and compassion for all. They will learn to apply this knowledge to life experiences and the practice of our faith in building the Kingdom of God here on earth.

Special attention will be given to the voices of Women in Scripture.

*Evaluation: Alternative assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## **742–THEOLOGY III**

(Grade 11)

Juniors will explore two separate topics in Theology III: Critical Thinking & Catholic Social Teaching:

**Critical Thinking** is a brief introductory course (approximately a month and a half) in the principles of good reasoning. The course will involve class work that will help develop your skills in evaluating and making arguments as well as writing argumentative essays. We will cover common missteps (or fallacies) that people often make in everyday reasoning and learn how we can avoid such illogical thinking. The overall purpose of this introductory course

is to narrow the gap in your own life between thinking and critical thinking so that the more thinking you do, the more logical and critical you become.

**Catholic Social Teaching** has been called the "Best Kept Secret of the Catholic Church." Building upon the foundation of Sacred Scripture Juniors will discover how being a follower of Christ calls us to be witnesses to the world. Beginning with respect and dignity of the human person, students will be able to identify key terms and concepts and apply them to specific topics including issues of life, prejudice, racism, poverty, peace, work, and the environment. The goal of this course is to empower students to take their place in the world as young women of "Mercy" with principles for reflection, criteria for judgment, and guidance for action.

*Evaluation: Alternative Assessment*

*(1 unit)*

## 743–THEOLOGY IV

(Grade 12)

Seniors will explore two separate topics in Theology IV: World Religions and Problems of Suffering

**World Religions:** In today's global world, understanding of faith, religion and spirituality are necessary aspects of understanding the world around us. The basic dimensions of the World's Religions (other than Judaism and Christianity\*): Primal Religion, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam will be studied in depth to help students explore the questions various religions seek to answer. The main objective is to show how ALL religions have their basis in peace, justice and love.

\*Judaism and Christianity are covered in Theology I and II

**Problems of Suffering:** The world is a confusing place. Young people have many experiences with which they may not be equipped to handle. The purpose of this course is to explore the losses which occur in our lives and how we respond to them individually as well as communally. This will be explored through self disclosure; a personal inventory of one's experiences with loss from going to school, leaving home, illness to the ultimate loss, the death of a loved one. We will explore the physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual responses to loss and how religion and spirituality can give us a way to cope, heal and transform through suffering.

*Evaluation: Alternative assessment*

*(1 unit)*

**A Service Component is required for all grade levels in order to pass Theology for the year. A total of 100 required hours must be completed in order to graduate from Mount Mercy Academy. A portfolio of the service along with the theological reflections written by the student will be held in reserve by her theology teacher each year.**

**Students also receive instruction on Mother Catherine McAuley, the Foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, and the life's work of Sr. Frances Ward. They will also use the book Praying with Catherine McAuley throughout the four years of Theology.**



# ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES

## **670–CAREER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: a junior or senior in good academic standing, availability of internship site, application and interview*

Mount Mercy’s Career Internship Program allows a student to experience an occupation first hand. A student will have the opportunity to interact with a professional in a field of the student’s choice. Over a period of time she will view the skills, both academic and interpersonal, that are needed to succeed at the job site.

*Evaluation: 30 hours of non-paid work at an approved site, a log of participation and of activities observed at the work site, a search of colleges and major courses of study for the career observed, a post-interview on the internship experience (1/2 unit)*

## **675–HEALTH CARE/ SCIENCE CAREER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM**

(Grades 11, 12)

*Prerequisites: a junior or senior in good academic standing, availability of internship site, an interview and application and acceptance to the Academy of Science and Health Care*

The Academy of Science and Health Care at Mount Mercy Academy, in conjunction with the Catholic Health System and Alumni in health/science related fields, allows a student to experience a health/science related careers first hand. She will be given the opportunity to work alongside a professional and experience the career firsthand. The student will be given the opportunity to develop skills needed to help them succeed in the workplace and enhance those interpersonal relationships needed to be successful.

*Evaluation: 30 hours of non-paid work at an approved site, a log of participation and of activities observed at the work site, a search of colleges and major courses of study for the career observed, a post-interview on the internship experience (1/2 unit)*



# ACADEMIES

## **LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

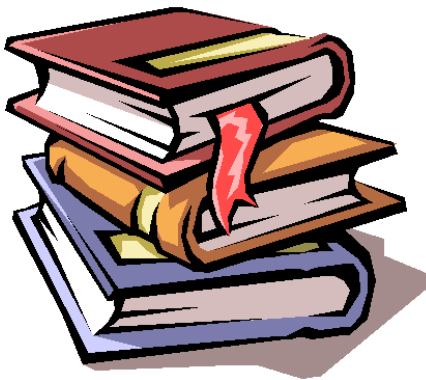
(Grades 9, 10, 11, 12)

Every student has leadership potential and qualities that Mt. Mercy Academy would like to help the students recognize and enhance. The Leadership Academy at Mt. Mercy Academy is a collaboration between faculty and students to help students record and succeed at becoming successful young women and to document all of their efforts during their four years at Mt. Mercy Academy. The Hallmarks of a Mercy Education include Christian Values, Academic Excellence, Service, and Leadership. Students will be given the opportunity to complete a portfolio of her leadership achievements in the classroom as well as her achievements in extracurricular activities. The student will be given the opportunity to develop skills needed to help them succeed in the workplace and enhance those interpersonal relationships needed to be successful leaders in the community. The Leadership portfolio can help a Mt. Mercy Academy graduate stand out in college interviews, scholarship considerations and job interviews.

## **THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH CARE**

(Grades 11, 12)

The Academy of Science and Health Care at Mount Mercy Academy integrates academics and technology and includes a variety of course selections with materials relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The program emphasizes the importance of project, service, and work based learning experiences. The Academy of Science and Health Care provides opportunities for students to learn skills necessary for a career path in health sciences and research. Students will be given every opportunity available to learn and develop through Mount Mercy's curriculum and partnership with the Catholic Health System and the community.



# MERCY LEARNING ONLINE

## Mercy Online Learning - Summer Classes

Registration Begins on April 25, 2017

### Dates for Summer 2017

**Credit Courses:** June 12, 2017 – July 14, 2017

**Credit Recovery (First Semester):** June 12, 2017-June 30, 2017

**Credit Recovery (Second Semester):** July 3, 2017 – July 21, 2017

**Skills Courses:** July 3, 2017 – July 21, 2017

**Cost: \$350.00 per Course**

**Registration:** Please see Mrs. Burvid in the Counseling Center for a registration form. Please return to Mrs. Burvid with the online fee. Please make check payable to Mount Mercy Academy. You will be registered for classes through the counseling center using the Mercy online system.

### COURSES OFFERED

#### Credit Courses

N-A01 - Art History  
N-P01 – Fitness  
N-SP01 – Health  
N-SS01 – American Government  
N-SS02 – Economics  
N-SS03 – Intro to Psychology  
N-SS05 – Sociology  
N-A03 – Speech  
A-S02 – Anatomy  
N-S03 – Exploring Our Universe  
N-SS08 – World Geography  
N-AM01- Music Appreciation (New)

#### Credit Recovery Courses Semester 1

N-E02-A –English 9  
N-E03-A - English I0  
N-E04-A- English 11-12  
N-M01-A – Algebra  
N-M03-A – Geometry  
N-S01-A – Biology  
N-T01-A – Theology 9-10  
N-T03-A - Theology 11-12  
N-SS06-A - World History  
N-L01-A – Spanish I  
N-SS07-A – US History  
N-M04-A – Alg/Trig  
N-S04-A- Chemistry

#### Credit Recovery Courses Semester 2

N-E02-B – English 9  
N-E03-B - English I0  
N-E04-B- English 11-12  
N-M01-B - Algebra  
N-M03-B - Geometry  
N-S01-B - Biology  
N-T01-B – Theology 9-10  
N-T03-B - Theology 11-12  
N-SS06-B - World History  
N-L01-B – Spanish I  
N-SS07-B – US History  
N-M04-B - Alg/Trig  
N-S04-B - Chemistry

#### Non-Credit Skills Courses

N-M02 – Developing Algebra Skills  
N-E10 – Fundamental Writing Skills

