



SAN JUAN DIEGO
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

2013/14
COURSE CATALOG

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THEOLOGY

Theology I (1.0 credit)

Fall: Christian Growth-Introduction to Catholicism

Fall semester is an introduction to the fundamental tenets of Christianity, in general, and Catholicism, in particular, as well as a survey of the topics covered in the overall four-year Theology curriculum. Topics include: How God Relates to His Creation, Similarities and Differences between the Beliefs of Catholic and Protestant Christianity, the Catholic Understanding of Scripture and Tradition as Dual Sources of a Single Revelation, the Life and Salvific Role of Jesus, and the Seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church.

Spring: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (Old Testament)

Spring semester is an introduction to Israelite history and the story of God's love for His chosen people throughout time as revealed in the Old Testament, with a special focus on the ways in which the sacred scriptures of the Hebrew people are fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. Topics include: Creation Stories in Genesis, Old Testament Covenants, the Exodus of the Israelites from Captivity in Egypt, the Quest for the "Promised Land," the Establishment of the Nation of Israel, the Role of the Prophets, Israelites in Exile, Literary Styles of the Old Testament, and the Old Testament through the Lens of the New Testament.

Prerequisite: None

Theology II (1.0 credit)

Fall: The Mission of Jesus Christ (New Testament)

Fall semester is an introduction to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, with a concentration on the redemptive and unitive nature of the Paschal Mystery as revealed in the New Testament. Topics include: Christology, Messianic Secret of Mark, Jesus the Suffering Servant, Jesus the Prophet, Jesus the King, Jesus the High Priest, the Paschal Mystery, Jesus the Redeemer, Early Christian Communities, and Disciple of Christ.

Spring: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church (Church History)

Spring semester is an introduction to Church History, with a special focus on Christ's presence in the Church. Topics include: Foundation and Institution of the Church, The Early Church, Church as a Mystery, Church of People, Church as a Teacher, Church as a Sacrament, Church as a Servant, Council of Trent, Church as the Communion of Saints, the Second Vatican Council, Christ in the Church, and the Church Today.

Prerequisite: None

Theology III (1.0 credit)

Fall: Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ (Creeds and Sacraments)

Fall semester is an introduction to the foundational beliefs and worship practices of the Catholic Church through an exploration of creedal statements of the Church and the theology and liturgical practice behind the Sacraments. Topics include: the Nicene Creed, the Apostles' Creed, the Blessed Trinity, the Catholic Conception of God, and the Theology and Liturgical Practice of the Seven Sacraments.

Theology III (continued)

Spring: Life in Jesus Christ (Introduction to Catholic Morality)

Spring semester is an introduction to the fundamental concerns and methodology of moral thought from a Catholic perspective. Topics include: Current Moral Issues in Society, the Distinctiveness of Catholic Morality, Historical Moralists, the Human Person as a Moral Agent, Free Will, Conscience, Sources of Moral Reflection, and Moral Decision-making.

Prerequisite: None

Theology IV (1.0 credit)

Fall: Sacred Scripture (Scripture in Depth)

Fall semester is an examination of Sacred Scripture, with a concentration on God's Covenant with humanity and Salvation History. Topics include: Scripture as God Revealing Himself to Humanity, Our Place in Creation, Covenantal Structure, Salvation History, Covenant with Adam and the Fall, Covenant with Noah, Covenant with Abraham, Mosaic Covenant, Davidic Covenant, Christ the Fulfillment of Previous Covenants, and Our Place in the Covenant in Christ.

Spring: Living as a Disciple of Christ in Society (Catholic Social Teaching)

Spring semester is an introduction to taking our Catholic faith into the world and living as a disciple of Christ, proclaiming the Word of God with our actions. Topics include: Scripture and Justice, Catholic Social Teaching, Faith in Action, Dignity of the Human Being, Strengthening the Body of Christ, Service to the Poor, Advocating for the Oppressed, Care for God's Creation, Discipleship at Work, and Christ in the Family.

Prerequisite: None

ENGLISH

English I (1.0 credit)

English I is a general introduction to the study of fiction, drama, poetry, and nonfiction. Composition includes reviewing the writing of effective sentences, the building of these sentences into paragraphs, and the writing of essays. Appropriate use of grammar is stressed through writing and exercises, and development of vocabulary skills is ongoing. Summer reading assignment is required of all students.

Prerequisite: None

English II (1.0 credit)

English II is a World Literature survey focused on the intense study of genres - short stories, novels, myths, poetry, drama, and nonfiction – from a variety of major cultures and from a variety of time periods. While works vary from year to year, representative works include Yann Martel's *Life of Pi*, Elie Wiesel's *Night*, Paulo Coelho's *The Alchemist*, Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, and Rudolfo Anaya's *Bless Me, Ultima*. The diverse selections are studied in their historical and geographic contexts. In addition to focusing on reading comprehension and analytical skills, students continue to develop their writing skills through analytic writing activities and a research project. English II students use the foundations of paragraph development learned in English I to extend their writing into multi-paragraph comparison/contrast and analysis essays. Ongoing development of grammar and vocabulary skills is also emphasized. Summer reading assignments are required of all students.

Prerequisite: English I

English III (1.0 credit)

English III is an American literature survey course presented in a historical perspective and context, beginning with Puritan literature and ending with the contemporary period. Students are introduced to the evolving themes and styles of American literature and are given opportunities to read, analyze, and discuss various prose selections, poetry, drama, and novels. Students continue to develop critical thinking skills and improve writing skills with a variety of assignments. Grammar is reviewed on a regular basis, and the development of vocabulary skills is ongoing. Students practice these skills in a variety of writing assignments leading up to and including the research process in preparation for the required research paper. Summer Reading assignments are required.

Prerequisites: English II

English IV (1.0 credit)

English IV is a British Literature survey course presented in a historical perspective and context beginning with the Anglo-Saxon period and ending with the contemporary period. Students are introduced to the themes and styles of British literature and are given opportunities to read, analyze, and discuss prose, poetry, and drama. Students continue to develop critical thinking skills and improve writing skills in a variety of ways: by writing literary analyses, by imitating poetry, and by writing a research paper, for example. Grammar is reviewed on a regular basis, and students are expected to apply correct grammar to their writing. Students develop logic in argumentative essays and review the research process in preparation for the required research paper. Summer reading assignments are required.

Prerequisites: English III

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition (1.0 credit)*

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition is a rigorous college-level class with challenging reading and frequent writing. Students will formally analyze approximately 50 non-fiction essays and paintings, read significant literary works, write many short essays (many of them timed, in-class exercises), and craft “Extended Writing” essays, generally 5 pages in length, that culminate in highly revised, edited, and polished documents. These Extended Writing projects include a Narrative Essay and an AP Synthesis Prompt Creation Project. The purpose of the course is “to enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers.” “Students choosing AP English Language and Composition should be interested in studying and writing various kinds of analytic or persuasive essays on nonliterary topics, and students choosing AP English Literature and Composition should be interested in studying literature of various periods and genres.”¹

Prerequisites: English II; AP approval

**Course may not be offered every academic year.*

¹ AP English Language and Composition Course Home Page. “English Language and Composition Course Description: May 2009 May 2010.” College Board AP Central. <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/sub_englang.html?englang>. 27 August 2007. p. 14.

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition (1.0 credit)

Advanced Placement English Literature challenges high-school students to undertake college-level work in Literature. The course requires students to read a wide variety of novels, poems and plays from the 16th to 21st centuries, and those are supplemented with other classics of the Western canon. While the coursework varies from year to year, representative authors include more canonical authors such as Homer, Shakespeare, Dante, Dickens, Wharton and Hemingway, as well as lesser-known voices such as Richard Wright, Zadie Smith and Par Lagerkvist. The course also requires accelerated reading; four to six hours of outside reading per week is the general expectation. Students are expected to select an independent work each quarter and write a review of its literary quality. Summer reading assignments are required of all students.

In writing, students are expected to produce three to four page literary analyses regularly in class and one longer-length research-based analysis paper of four to six pages. Out-of-class writing assignments are supplemented by in-class writing assignments which target specific preparation for the AP test. Students' research skills are also emphasized in order to prepare them for the rigors of college-level writing and research.

Prerequisites: English III; AP approval

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I (1.0 credit)

Algebra I is the bridge from the concrete to the abstract study of mathematics. The course is designed to develop students' proficiency with mathematical skill using the real number system, to enlarge their mathematical vocabulary, to acquire the facility to apply algebraic concepts and skills for use in deductive reasoning and problem solving. Topics include simplifying expressions, evaluating and solving equations and inequalities, and graphing linear functions. Real world applications are presented within the course content and a function's approach is emphasized.

Prerequisite: 8th grade mathematics or Pre-Algebra

Geometry (1.0 credit)

Geometry is designed to provide students with knowledge of the basic principles, postulates, and theorems of Euclidean geometry. Students learn how to write proofs, read figures, draw three-dimensional shapes, and apply algebraic concepts to geometric problems. The course includes plane, spatial, coordinate, and transform geometry. Students also learn how to apply the concepts learned to real life applications and problems.

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Algebra II (1.0 credit)

Algebra II focuses on the structure of the real number and the complex number systems. The concepts of functions are further developed, including linear, quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students will understand and represent the named function as well as analyze function behavior. Stress is placed on developing deductive reasoning abilities and precision of language in communications. Students are given a foundation for future studies in mathematical, scientific, business, and technical fields.

Prerequisites: Algebra I; Geometry

Pre-Calculus (1.0 credit)

Pre-Calculus provides a foundation in problem-solving to prepare students for college level mathematics. This course includes a review of algebra and right angle trigonometry, as well as an introduction to exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions, sequences and series, conic sections, and vectors. In order to grasp mathematical concepts more easily, students work with the concepts in the context of a wide variety of real-life situations, many using current data. Graphing calculators are used as an alternative for solving and checking problems.

Prerequisites: Algebra II; Geometry

Advanced Placement Calculus AB (1.0 credit) *

Advanced Placement Calculus AB covers a pre-calculus review, limits and continuity, derivatives, and integration, and will be represented in four ways---graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Students will understand what calculus is, how it compares to pre-calculus, and that the tangent line and area problem are basic to calculus. The requirements of the College Board are followed and students take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

Prerequisites: Algebra I & II; Geometry; Pre-Calculus; AP approval

**Course may not be offered every academic year.*

SCIENCE

Biology (1.0 credit)

Biology is a laboratory science course that covers the study of living things. It focuses on the study of life by examining the five fundamental concepts of ecology, cellular biology, genetics, evolution and physiology. Studies in these areas emphasize the relationship between structure and function, biotic and abiotic factors, and that all life functions are systemic. The scientific process and laboratory skills used in this course promote scientific thinking, problem solving, and encourage curiosity and careful inquiry. Students learn scientific writing skills, examine current biological issues, and find connections to other scientific disciplines.

Prerequisite: None

Chemistry (1.0 credit)

Chemistry is an introduction to the concepts of general inorganic chemistry, including atomic structure, properties of matter, the periodic table, bonding and nomenclature, stoichiometry, chemical reactions, solutions, and thermochemistry. Exploration of fundamental concepts is achieved through practical applications, demonstrations and laboratory investigations.

Prerequisite: Biology

Environmental Systems (1.0 credit)

As citizens of the twenty-first century, students have many opportunities and challenges ahead of them. Environmental Systems is designed to introduce students to major ecological concepts, scientific opportunities, and the environmental problems that affect the world in which we live. This course outlines the interactions of people and their environment by focusing on real-life issues. It promotes awareness and understanding of practical everyday problems that affect our lives and the lives of our families. The course places emphasis on scientific principles, concepts and methodologies. Lab investigations and field experiences are emphasized to expand students' understanding of the ever-changing world.

Prerequisites: Biology; Chemistry

Physics (1.0 credit)

Physics is the science of matter and energy—the basic components of everything in our world—and of interactions between the two. Study of these concepts is traditionally grouped into the fields of acoustics, optics, mechanics, thermodynamics, and electromagnetism, as well as in modern extensions, including atomic and nuclear physics, cryogenics, solid-state physics, particle physics, and plasma physics. An understanding of physics provides students with the basis to be successful in future scientific studies, problem-solving skills, many college courses, and future careers. This course immerses students in the fundamentals of physics and further develops their scientific and physical literacy through focused lectures, analytical problem-solving, hands-on physical demonstrations (including computer-aided lab work), and guided computer simulations. Topics studied include the physical properties of motion, forces, energy, matter, heat, sound, light, and the composition of atoms.

Prerequisites: Biology; Chemistry; Environment Systems

Advanced Placement Environmental Science (1.0 credit)*

The goal of the Advanced Placement 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 risks associated with these problems; and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them.

As an interdisciplinary course, AP Environmental Science embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study. Yet there are several major unifying constructs, or themes, that provide a foundation for the structure of the course: that science is a process; that energy conversions underlie all ecological processes; that the Earth itself is one interconnected system; that humans alter natural systems; that environmental problems have a cultural and social context; and that human survival depends on developing practices that will achieve sustainable systems.

Prerequisites: Biology; Chemistry; AP approval

**Course may not be offered every academic year.*

SOCIAL STUDIES

World Geography (1.0 credit)

World Geography is a voyage of discovery about the world. This course focuses on the many physical and cultural features of the Earth in a spatial context. Students examine the “why” and “where” of these features on the surface of the Earth. Since maps are the language of geography, the Nystrom atlas map program is used extensively. Special emphasis is given to the Five Themes of Geography: Location, Place, Movement, Human-Environment Interaction, and Region.

Prerequisite: None

World History (1.0 credit)

World History focuses on the major events in the history of the world, with emphasis on certain themes: art, literature, continuity and change, diversity and similarity, geography, global interaction, political and economic systems, religions and value systems, and the impact of individuals on history.

Prerequisite: World Geography

United States History (1.0 credit)

United States History is a comprehensive survey of America from pre-Columbian times to the present, with primary emphasis on the development of the Republic onward and the emergence of the United States as a world power. Attention is given to American social and cultural history, as well as to the political and economic development of America. Throughout the course, international events that have an effect on America are considered. Appropriate emphasis is placed on the development and application of basic social studies skills.

Prerequisite: World History

AP United States History (1.0 credit)

AP United States History course provides a two-semester chronological survey of American History. The course commences with the Columbian exchanges and concludes with the study of the complex issues of our day. The student will explore the concepts that have made our nation great, such as the pertinent political, economic, social, and cultural themes of the American past. We will read and analyze primary documents. The students will be expected to master the writing of persuasive essays.

Prerequisite: World History

Government (.5 credit)

Government is the institution through which a society makes and enforces its public policy. This semester course focuses on the structures of our government at the national, state, and local levels. Students study the three governmental branches of government: executive, legislative, and judicial. A key concept is federalism. Vocabulary development is extensive.

Prerequisite: US History or AP US History

Economics (FES) (.5 credit)

Economics is a semester course that gives a basic introduction to micro and macro economics. Topics include: scarcity, supply and demand, choices, economic systems, trade, markets, market structures, competition, prices, money, banking finance, business organization, labor economic performance, taxes, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and the emerging global economy.

Prerequisite: US History or AP US History

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I (1.0 credit)

Spanish I aims to equip students with communication skills such as basic speaking, writing, listening, and reading. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject area. Students are able to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions, and to get others to adopt a course of action at a basic level.

Prerequisite: None

Spanish II (1.0 credit)

Spanish II aims to expand the students' ability to perform basic tasks and develop their ability to perform the tasks of the intermediate language learner with communication skills such as intermediate speaking, writing, listening, and reading. Students develop these communication skills by using knowledge of the language, including grammar, culture, communication and learning strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas. Students participate in face-to-face communication, cope successfully in straightforward social and survival situations, increase accuracy of oral and written expression, understand main ideas and some details of material on familiar topics when listening and reading, and create statements and questions to communicate independently when speaking and writing.

Prerequisite: Spanish I or placement

Spanish III (1.0 credit)

Spanish III continues the study of culture, as well as the development of skills in all four areas of language, and prepares students for achievement tests used for advanced placement in college.

Prerequisite: Spanish II

FINE ARTS

Art I (1.0 credit)

Art I fulfills the fine arts credit required for graduation and is offered to seniors with no prerequisites. Students are given the opportunity to create original artwork through a variety of media and seven projects which emphasize discipline-based skills. Students develop skills in drawing and color theory, while enhancing aesthetic judgment through exposure to art history.

Prerequisite: None

COMMUNICATION APPLICATIONS (.5 credit)

Communication Applications (formerly known as Speech) is a required semester course that challenges students to improve their public speaking style, as well as their composition skills. Students write speeches for a variety of purposes and audiences. Students deliver these speeches, which range from the impromptu to the rehearsed, in order to practice poise, tone, posture, and gesture.

Prerequisite: None

TECHNOLOGY (.5 credit)

Technology is a required semester course for first-year students. Students develop skills in software applications such as Word, Excel, and Power Point so as to be able to produce professional-caliber letters, resumes, research papers, spreadsheets (with an emphasis on formulas and calculations), charts, and presentations. Students learn to use the Internet ethically as a valuable research tool. Students review the history of information technology, as well as its fundamental hardware and software elements, thereby gaining contextual understanding of the tools they are employing in both their academic and professional careers. Students explore the fundamentals of webpage design using HTML. *Prerequisite: None*

TEST PREP (.5 credit)

Test Prep is designed for juniors during their spring semester to explore college and career options and to prepare themselves for the higher education application process, with an emphasis on the college admissions exams, the ACT and the SAT. Students will investigate career options based on their interests and aptitudes and will learn about the educational requirements for many careers. They will examine the many types of higher education institutions and attend college fairs and admissions presentations. Students will complete pre-tests for the ACT and SAT and create personal goals for improvement. They will learn about the exams; including tips for success; review exam content; and practice to improve their performance. Students will register for and take the SAT and ACT exams in preparation of their senior year college application process.

Prerequisite: None

SENIOR SEMINAR (.5 credit)

Senior Seminar is a hands-on course that prepares students for life after high school graduation. Students examine their goals and aptitudes in order to create lists of colleges to which they will apply. They prepare and submit materials necessary for college admissions and scholarship applications, including application forms, résumés, essays, and requests for transcripts and recommendation letters. Students receive guidance and advice from guest speakers such as college representatives and former San Juan Diego students. Students learn how to apply for financial aid and how to fund a college education with grants, loans, and scholarships. Finally, students explore various aspects of college life, i.e., freshman orientation, housing, purchasing college textbooks, transferring from a 2-yr to a 4-yr school, etc.

Prerequisite: None

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

Physical Education (.5 credit)

Physical Education provides students with the knowledge and skills to be physically active as part of a healthy lifestyle. Students are able to describe and apply proper principles related to exercise, including warm-ups, cool-downs, frequency, progression, variety, and rest; explain the benefits of proper exercise and nutrition; demonstrate competency in a variety of aerobic exercises and team sports; and develop life and team work skills.

Prerequisite: None

Health (.5 credit)

Health is a one-semester required course that assists students in obtaining accurate information, developing lifelong positive attitudes and behaviors, and making wise decisions related to their personal health. Study includes personal and community health; mental, emotional, and social health; injury prevention and safety; nutrition and physical activity; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs, and human growth and development. Central themes are the acceptance of personal responsibility for lifelong health, respect for and promotion of the health of others, an understanding of the process of growth and development, and informed use of health-related information, products and services.

Prerequisite: None

CORPORATE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM (.25 credit)

The Corporate Internship Program (CIP) of San Juan Diego provides students with professional experience and subsequent career possibilities while offering the opportunity to earn part of the tuition for their college preparatory education. Each student is part of a team of four students who share a full-time, entry-level position in the corporate world. Every student works five 8-hour days per month. They develop practical job skills and experience in a variety of industries, including law, health care, technology, education, real estate, finance and non-profit services. Students are formally reviewed on their performance four times per year. In addition, students are supported in the program through an intensive summer training program and personal coaching administered by CIP staff. Teamwork, time management, personal responsibility, organizational skills, computer applications, written and verbal communications, and basic business concepts are integral components of the learning experience provided by this program.