



**SACRED HEART  
A C A D E M Y**

Est. 1889

Sacred Heart Academy  
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### **Mission Statement**

*Sacred Heart Academy, a Catholic school founded in 1889, is committed to the mission of Jesus Christ. With our families and faith community, we provide a balanced curriculum, to strengthen mind, body, and spirit in order to fulfill God's purpose.*

“Through your joyful witness and service, help to build a civilization of love. Show, by your life, that it is worth giving your time and talents in order to attain high ideals, it is worth recognizing the dignity of each human person, and it is worth taking risks for Christ and his Gospel.”

*Pope Francis, I  
(7/28/13, Farewell)*

## **Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching**

### **Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. The value of human life is being threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

### **Call to Family, Community, and Participation**

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society -- in economics and politics, in law and policy -- directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and the family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

### **Rights and Responsibilities**

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities--to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

### **Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

### **The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

### **Solidarity**

We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that if you want peace, work for justice. The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

### **Care for God's Creation**

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

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Dear Parents of Sacred Heart Academy 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders,

We are pleased to present this booklet detailing the curriculum that is offered to our students at Sacred Heart Academy. Our goal is for all students to have a well-rounded education so that they are well prepared for college, a career, and life. No matter what vocation they may choose, we want them to look back and say that Sacred Heart Academy prepared them well for the future.

Our world is constantly changing and the opportunities for our students are many. It is no longer enough to memorize facts and dates; our students need to be strategic thinkers, who can apply concepts, design, connect, analyze, create, prove, and synthesize information. They learn about Catholicism so that they know where to turn in times of joy and sorrow. A faith and moral foundation will guide them throughout their life.

All students must master content in English, math, science, social studies, world languages, physical education and health, and visual, performing, or applied arts. They must have one online experience before they graduate.

Career-technical education courses are available at both Mt. Pleasant and Alma High Schools. Students may also take classes through Mid-Michigan Community College both on our campus and on their campus. Dual-enrollment courses may be taken at any Michigan college or university.

Our guidance counselor is available to meet with you and your child if you have questions about selecting classes for next year. Thank you for making Sacred Heart Academy your school of choice.

Yours Truly,

Mary Kay Yonker, Principal

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# PART ONE

## Academic Departmental Course Offerings

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

### English Department Offerings:

#### CORE

English 9  
English 10  
English 11  
English 12

#### ELECTIVES

Communications  
Creative Writing  
Mythology

English 9

09ENG

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirement: Online Learning Experience. English is designed to continue the development of students' composition and communication skills. Areas of study include thematic units of diverse multicultural literature (that represents all genres), a Shakespearean play, and a novel. Listening, speaking, and writing skills are also stressed. In addition, the use of technology and digital publishing tools are embedded and integrated into the class curriculum.

English 10

10ENG

**Course Description:** Introduction to Literary Analysis – Sophomore English is designed to challenge previously developed skills by introducing the concept of literary analysis. The course will specialize in major literary movements and the major ideals, themes, and works that arose from them in order to better understand literature, history, and social developments. For the first half of the semester, the course will be focused on discussing each movement and reading non-fiction texts and essays regarding selected literary movements. The second semester will focus on the literary aspect of these movements focusing on poetry, short stories, dramas, and novels. Academic writing and oral presentations will be the major assignments of this course.

English 11

11ENG

**Course Description:** American Literature-Junior English explores American literature organized into thematically related units. Areas of study include vocabulary, grammar, literary elements, reading strategies, as well as speaking and listening skills. Students learn how to write various essays – from summary response to synthesis – and how to incorporate source materials into their own writing. Both an American novel and a play are studied.

English 12

12ENG

**Course Description:** This year long, research-based course for all seniors encapsulates the history of the western world in its literature from Greece 500 B.C. through the British literary tradition up to the present day. Through class lecture and discussion of the history, religions, philosophy and literature of the western world, students will find and analyze both primary and secondary sources in order to research and write a paper for six different historical periods. The culmination of the course will be the synthesis of these papers into a 25-30-page collegiate level research project on the history and literary traditions of the western world.



## FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

### Fine Arts Department Offerings:

#### VISUAL ARTS

Beginning Art 2D/3D  
Intermediate Art 2D/3D  
Advanced Art 2D/3D

#### PERFORMING ARTS

Combined Choir  
Performing Arts  
Symphony Band  
Communications

**Beginning Art 2-D**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**  
**Prerequisite: None**

**ARTI**

**Course Description:** Beginning Art 2-D is designed for students with limited art experience. They will work with 2-d medias such as drawing, painting, block printing, graphics and collage. This course will be held during the first semester.

**Beginning Art 3-D**

**Course Description:** Beginning Art 3-D is designed for students with limited art experience. They will work with 3-D medias such as ceramics, sculpture and fibers. This course will be held during the second semester.

**Intermediate Art 2-D**  
**Open to Grades: 10-12**  
**Prerequisite: Beginning Art**

**ARTII**

**Course Description:** Intermediate Art 2-D is designed for students who have taken Beginning Art 2-D. They continue their study of 2-D medias and expand it with the inclusion of charcoal, pen and ink, pastels, silk screen, block printing, watercolor and some graphic techniques. This course will be held during the first semester.

**Intermediate Art 3-D**

**Course Description:** Intermediate Art 3-D is designed for students who have taken Beginning Art 3-D. They will continue their study of 3-D medias and expand it with more challenging assignments using ceramic hand building and wheel throwing techniques. In addition, the students will explore multi-media sculptures and installations. This course will be held during the second semester.

**Advanced Art 2-D**  
**Open to Grades: 11-12**  
**Prerequisites: Beginning and Intermediate Art**

**ARTIII**

**Course Description:** Advanced Art: The Human Body and Face. Students who are interested should have completed Beginning and Intermediate Art. The class will be one semester and will involve learning how to draw the human face and body using pencil, charcoal, pen and ink and maybe some paint.

**Advanced Art 3-D**

**Course Description:** This semester course will involve working with the wheel and ceramics on ever more advanced projects.

**Combined Choir**  
**Open to grades: 7-12**  
**Prerequisite: None**

**CHOR**

**Course Description:** This class would engage students in grades 7-12 in learning the fundamentals of music theory, vocal technique, vocal health and performance. Students would perform at a variety of venues throughout the year, including special events, athletic contests and school masses. Music history, cultural appreciation, stage presence, and communication skills would also be emphasized as a part of the course. After completing this course, students should be able to read vocal music, perform with proficiency as a member of an ensemble, have a deeper understanding of music and culture, and be increasingly confident in public-speaking or performance settings.

**Performing Arts**  
**Open to grades: 9-12**  
**Prerequisite: None**

**PERFARTS**

**Course Description:** The primary objective of this course is to present a theatrical performance towards the end of the spring semester. In preparing for this performance, students will learn acting techniques, blocking strategies, and develop an understanding of stagecraft and lighting.

**Symphony Band**  
**Open to Grades: 7-12**  
**Prerequisite: None**

**BAND**

**Course Description:** Symphonic band, a year-long course, continues to build upon the solid foundation of music education established in the elementary music program and/or previous years of band. As a performance-based class, students will participate in a concert approximately 3-4 times throughout the year. The primary goal of this course is to provide each member with a working foundation of musical knowledge so that he/she may independently participate, enjoy, and understand the experience of music-making in an ensemble and as an individual. Band students learn skills such as organization, cooperative learning, and teamwork, which can be applied to other curricular content. Music is also a language that can break down many barriers, both socially and culturally. All students, no matter their ability, may join band. Please note, in addition to school rehearsal, students are expected to practice 10-15 minutes a day at home.

**Communications**  
**Open to grades: 9-12**  
**\*Required: Beginning with Class of 2018**

**COMM**

**Course Description:** In this one semester course students will explore the world of public speaking, including the writing and delivery of informative, persuasive, impromptu, and extemporaneous speeches as well as the research, writing, memorization and delivery of an oration. Students will also study speeches of oral interpretation: poetry readings, dramatic monologues, dramatic dialogue and multiple reading. Students will also participate in written communication through completion of school publications including the yearbook and weekly school online newsletter.

**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

*Math Department Flowchart*

*Recommended Course of Study*

\*Exceptions will be handled on an individual basis

**Students who did not completed Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Algebra I

10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Geometry

11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Algebra II

12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
PreCalculus  
or  
Financial Algebra

**Students who completed Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (Placement/MAP Testing)**

9<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Geometry

10<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Algebra II

11<sup>th</sup> Grade  
PreCalculus

12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Calculus

**Mathematics Department Offerings:**

**Algebra I  
Geometry  
Algebra II**

**PreCalculus  
Calculus  
Financial Algebra  
Statistics  
Robotics**

**Algebra I  
Open to Grades: 8-9  
Prerequisite: 8<sup>th</sup> grade math  
Placement Testing**

**ALGI**

**Course Description:** Topics include an Introduction to Algebra, working with real numbers, solving equations, polynomials, and problem solving, factoring polynomials, fractions, linear equations, rational and irrational numbers and quadratic functions.

**Geometry  
Open to Grades: 9-10  
Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**GEOM**

**Course Description:** Students must have a graphing calculator (blue TI-83plus/TI-nspire). This is a one year course designed to help students appreciate the basic structure of geometry. Topics include points, lines, planes, angles, reasoning and proof, parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles and relationships, proportions and similarity, right triangles and trigonometry, quadrilaterals, transformations, circles, areas of polygons and circles, surface area and volume.

**Algebra II  
Open to Grades: 10-11  
Prerequisites: Algebra I  
Geometry**

**ALGII**

**Course Description:** Students must have a graphing calculator (TI-83plus or TI-84). This is a one year course which takes a function-based approach to the world of Algebra. Topics include real numbers, first-degree equations and inequalities, linear functions and inequalities in two variables, systems of equations and inequalities, polynomials and exponents, rational expressions, rational exponents and functions, quadratic equations and inequalities, functions and relations, exponential and logarithmic functions.

**PreCalculus**  
**Open to Grades: 11-12**  
**Prerequisites: Algebra I**  
**Geometry**  
**Algebra II**

**PRECALC**

**Course Description:** Students must have a graphing calculator (TI-83plus or TI-84). This is a one year course covering both trigonometric concepts as well as advanced topics in mathematics. This course will prepare students to take a calculus course the following year. Topics include exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometric functions and identities, solutions of general triangles, inverse trigonometric functions and equations, sequences, series and matrices.

**Calculus**  
**Open to Grades: 11-12**  
**Prerequisites: Algebra I**  
**Geometry**  
**Algebra II**  
**PreCalculus**

**CALC**

**Course Description:** Students must have a graphing calculator (TI-83plus or TI-84). This class is designed to cover a semester and a half of a typical college calculus curriculum. Topics include limits, derivatives, and integrals of every family of functions.

**Financial Algebra**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**  
**\*Required: Beginning with Class of 2019**

**FINALG**

**Course Description:** This course features six financial umbrellas: investing, banking, credit, income taxes, insurance and household budgeting. It reviews and strengthens your algebraic mechanics and problem-solving skills while at the same time teaches selected advanced mathematics topics.

**Statistics**  
**Open to Grades: 10-12**

**STATS**

**Course Description:** Topics to include the basic statistical ideas, including but not limited to measures of central tendency, 5-point summaries, plots and histograms. Students will also explore the concepts of variance and standard deviation. Probability ideas will include experimental and theoretical probability, as well as calculating the probability of compound events.

box

**Robotics**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**

**ROBO**

**Course Description:** From the *FIRST* web site: "Under strict rules, limited resources, and an intense six-week time limit, teams of students are challenged to raise funds, design a team "brand," hone teamwork skills, and build and program industrial-size robots to play a difficult field game against like-minded competitors. It's as close to real-world engineering as a student can get. Volunteer professional mentors lend their time and talents to guide each team. Each season ends with an exciting *FIRST* Championship."

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**Physical Education Department Offerings:**

**High School Physical Education**

**Advanced Strength Training**

**Health Education**

**High School Physical Education**

**HSPE**

**Course Description:** A one semester course stressing lifelong individual and team sporting activities. Emphasis will be placed on physical fitness, teamwork, sportsmanship, fundamentals and rules of the game.

**Advanced Strength Training**

**Open to Grades: 10-12**

**Pre-requisite: Must intend to participate in Varsity Athletics**

**ADVPE**

**Course Description:** This is a one semester course that is designed to teach proper weight training techniques in some of the more advanced movements such as Squats, Cleans, and Snatches. In correlation with the student athlete's individualized weight training program, students will learn to develop safe and effective mechanics in weight training.

**Health Education**

**Open to Grades: 9-12**

**HEAL**

**Course Description:** A one-semester course used to help students appreciate the value of physical, mental, and social health and acquire knowledge to achieve and maintain wellness.

**RELIGION DEPARTMENT**

**Religion Department Offerings:**

**CORE**

**Religion 9  
Religion 10  
Religion 11  
Religion 12**

**ELECTIVES**

**Gospel Studies  
Faith in Action: A Service Learning Course**

**Religion 9**

**REL09**

**Course Description:** We will examine how mankind's understanding of God has changed throughout the Jewish and Christian experience. As we venture through the Hebrew Scriptures, we see the plan of our salvation through Christ revealed. Many theological topics will be covered throughout the course of the year, including Original Sin, Free Will, Natural Law, and the Proofs of God. The history applied throughout the course includes the history of the Kingdoms of Israel, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome.

**Religion 10**

**REL10**

**Course Description:** *The Mystery of Redemption and Christian Discipleship* and *The Church: Sacrament of Salvation*. In this semester course we will review how to read scripture and then delve into Salvation History, looking at how God redeemed man and learning more about Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. Our second semester will focus on how the Church continues the ministry of Christ today, guided by the Holy Spirit. These texts are part of the Didache Series from Midwest Theological Forum, which are used in grades 9-12.

**Religion 11**

**REL11**

**Course Description:** The course begins with the study of God's grace which will be applied to each of the seven sacraments. With each sacrament, background history, theology, and scriptural foundation will be consistent as we begin to see that the sacraments offer a complete life of grace. In addition to the sacraments, we will also be learning the fundamentals of morality and the development of conscience. This will lead to an application of many moral issues within the field of bioethics.

**Religion 12**

**REL12**

**Course Description:** This course will cover *The Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church* and *Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue*. In the first course, we will delve into the foundations of the Church's social doctrine and then study significant documents and people who have shaped this doctrine and/or lived it in extraordinary ways. The second course will focus on the Catholic Church's relationship with many other Christian traditions as well as different religions. The course is designed to help students appreciate the commonalities and differences that exist. We will conclude the year with a final reflective project designed to help students articulate what it is they believe and the impact their faith has had on their lives.

**Gospel Studies  
Open to Grades: 9-12**

**GOSP**

**Course Description:** This semester elective course concentrates on each of the canonical gospels. We will study each gospel in depth for its individual themes, message, historical purpose, and literary value. We will also use a comparative method (with respect to the synoptic problem) to reveal both the purpose and history behind each of the gospels.

**Faith in Action:  
A Service Learning Course  
Open to Grades: 9-12**

**FIA**

**Course Description:** This course will be a combination of action, reflection and prayer. Students will spend approximately 2/5 of their time in a community service placement, including planning and implement school wide faith-based initiatives. During the remaining 3/5 of class time we will read, pray with and reflect upon related scriptures and texts, discussing the connection between faith and our world and considering how and why people of faith are compelled to respond.

## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

### Science Department Offerings:

#### Life Sciences

Biology  
Anatomy & Physiology  
Anatomical Drawing  
Botany

#### Physical Sciences

Chemistry  
Physics  
Interactive Physics  
Forensic Science  
Astronomy

### LIFE SCIENCES

**Biology**  
**Open to Grade: 9**  
**Prerequisite: None**

**BIO**

**Course Description:** This one-year laboratory course investigates five major biological themes including cellular biology, genetics, evolution, biochemistry, and ecology. The course also incorporates the tools of proper experimental design and other real-world applications that all biologists use today.

**Anatomy & Physiology**  
**Open to Grades: 11, 12**  
**Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry**

**ANAM**

**Course Description:** This rigorous college-preparatory elective science course includes a detailed study of many human body systems. Homeostatic balance, the relationship between structure and function, and the interrelationships between body systems are a focus throughout the course. This course is recommended for students interested in a health-related career, especially those students who plan to study medicine, nursing, physical therapy, and athletic training. The course may also be helpful for those students who plan to enter education as either a life-science or physical education teacher. Laboratory activities will include several microscopic analyses of tissue specimens as well as several dissections to accompany the subject matter.

**Anatomical Drawing**  
**Open to Grades: 10-12**  
**Prerequisite: Biology**

**ANDR**

**Course Description:** Students can complete this course as a semester or year long course. Throughout this course, students will create charcoal and color pencil drawings of anatomical structures from microscopic organisms, cellular structures, and tissues to macroscopic bones and whole organism. Organism focus will be determined by the student's interest.

**Botany**  
**Open to Grades: 10-12**  
**Prerequisite: Biology**

**BOT**

**Course Description:** This semester course is a study of the evolution and anatomy of plants, and the divisions within Kingdom Plantae with a special focus on angiosperms and the classifications of flowers, fruits, nuts, and vegetables.

## PHYSICAL SCIENCES

**Chemistry**  
**Open to Grades: 10-12**

**CHEM**

**Course Description:** This is a one year course designed to help students interpret everyday events in terms of chemical concepts and principles, and to prepare them for college work in science and related fields.

**Physics**  
**Open to grades 10-12**

**PHYS**

**Course Description:** This course studies the basic scientific laws that can be applied to all of the sciences. In the course, we try to build a solid foundation in mechanics and then apply that foundation to each of the principle areas of physics.

**Interactive Physics**  
**Open to Grades: 11-12**  
**Prerequisite: Physics**

**INTPHY**

**Course Description:** Interactive Physics is a one-semester course designed to acquaint you with topics of physics, including motion and forces, conservation of energy and momentum, heat and thermodynamics. Class activities will include discussions, problem-solving, online lab simulations and other interactive activities, and lab reports. Students will not only follow prepared labs, but will also create and write original investigations.

**Forensic Science**  
**Open to Grades: 11-12**

**FORSCI**

**Course Description:** Forensic Science is a one semester class. The class is designed around authentic performance assessments with students working in teams to solve crimes using scientific knowledge and reasoning. It involves all areas of science including biology, anatomy, chemistry, physics, and earth science with an emphasis in complex reasoning and critical thinking. In addition, students must incorporate the use of technology, communication skills, language arts, art, mathematics and social studies.

**Astronomy**  
**Open to Grades: 10-12**

**ASTRON**

**Course Description:** This semester course consists of the study of celestial motion, the Earth's rotational path, the solar system, our moon, traditional star attributes, variable star attributes, and structures of galaxies.

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

**Social Studies Department Offerings:**

**CORE**

**U.S. History  
Government  
Economics  
World History**

**ELECTIVES**

**History of Sport  
Law & Ethics  
Wars in American History  
American Civil Disobedience and Protest**

**United States History  
Open to Grade: 9**

**USHIST**

**Course Description:** This ninth-grade social studies course examines the history of the U.S. from the industrial age to the present day. The course divides the twentieth century chronologically into eras. Within their historical study of the twentieth century America, students deepen their understanding of major geographical themes and basic economic concepts, and study the significant changes in American government.

**Government  
Open to Grade: 10**

**GOVT**

**Course Description:** This one semester tenth grade course introduces students to the structure of American government. It also examines the role of the political process, issues, and public policy. It encourages students to make informed choices about governing their communities. Knowledge of government enables students to understand the role of citizens in a representative democracy. In addition, students learn about and compare other forms of government.

**Economics  
Open to Grade: 10**

**ECON**

**Course Description:** This one semester tenth grade social studies course introduces the study of economics. The overarching problem of scarcity, unlimited wants pursuing limited resources, is a focal point of the course. Students deepen their understanding of basic economic concepts and apply them to national and international problems. In addition to their study of macro-economics, students study personal finance and business in a free market economy. They learn about the banking system, stock market, taxation, productivity, marketing, and advertising. Using a variety of media, they compile, analyze, and present statistical data pertinent to economic problems. Students use their economic knowledge to make informed decisions as consumers and to participate as citizens in deciding matters of economic policy.

**World History**  
**Open to Grade: 11**

**WHIST**

**Course Description:** This course for juniors explores major eras and issues that have shaped the modern world. Students study ancient civilizations such as Mesopotamia and Egypt, the classical civilizations of Greece and Rome, Christian Europe during the medieval period, and the rise of Islam. In addition, students explore the early modern period of European Exploration, the Renaissance, Reformation, and Industrial Revolution with emphasis on how issues and events from those eras have affected the modern world. The course concludes with an examination of the twentieth century including imperialism, the world wars, holocaust, cold war, and the age of terrorism.

**History of Sport**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**

**HSS**

**Course Description:** This semester course covers the beginnings of sport (Olympics) and allows students to study international and American sports heroes. Some of the athletes who will be studied in depth are Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali, and Jesse Owens. Also, the good, bad and ugly of sports will be discussed including sports dynasties, gambling, sport fixing, etc.

**Law & Ethics**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**

**LAW**

**Course Description:** This semester course is designed for students who are interested in studying law and want to learn more about the legal profession. American law and the United States legal system will be major areas of study for this course. Supreme Court cases will be analyzed including their place in U.S. History. Lawyers will give presentations to educate students on the different types of law and students will research precedents to build and argue their own case. Similar to the legal profession, this is a reading and intensive course that will require nightly reading assignments of significant volume.

**Wars in American History**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**

**WAR**

**Course Description:** This semester course covers wars that have transpired throughout United States history in greater depth. Conflicts ranging from the American Revolution through the War on Terror may be covered.

**American Civil Disobedience and Protest**  
**Open to Grades: 9-12**

**PROT**

**Course Description:** This semester course will explore America's history of engaging civil disobedience and protest allowed for under the First Amendment. Examples of topics covered in depth will include the Civil Rights Movement and the Women's Suffrage Movement.

**WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

**World Language Department Offerings:**

**Spanish I  
Spanish II  
Spanish III  
Spanish IV**

**\*See the Academic Advisor if interested in non-Spanish foreign language course options**

**Spanish I  
Open to Grades: 8-12  
Prerequisite: Counselor Approval (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**SPANI**

**Course Description:** This class is designed to give students the opportunity to attain an acceptable level of proficiency in the four world language skill areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Spanish I includes the thematic study of vocabulary for school life, diversions, foods, clothing, travel, and family, as well as the relevant grammatical concepts of the present, progressive, near future, and basic past verb tenses. Presented in a communicative and cultural context, this course will focus on purposeful activities, active participation, and the meaningful use of Spanish at the introductory level. Approval of the academic advisor is required to enroll in this course.

**Spanish II  
Open to Grades: 9-12  
Prerequisite: Spanish I**

**SPANII**

**Course Description:** In this intermediate Spanish course, designed to follow and complement Spanish I, students will advance their communicative proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing within a culturally relevant context. The vocabulary topics include hobbies, travel, illness, entertainment, and the world around us. By the end of the second year, students will have a strong grasp of most verb tenses and other grammatical concepts necessary for effective communication.

**Spanish III  
Open to Grades: 10-12  
Prerequisites: Spanish I and Spanish II**

**SPANIII**

**Course Description:** In Spanish III, students will be able to carry out all functions of Spanish I and II, as well as advance their communicative skills and knowledge of grammatical, cultural, and content vocabulary concepts. Emphasis is on communication and self-expression of external events of the past, present, and future. Besides the prerequisite of a B grade or better in Spanish II, students must be willing to immerse themselves in the language and attempt to use it at all times in the classroom. Spanish III may be scheduled concurrently with Spanish IV.

**Spanish IV****Open to Grades: 11-12****Prerequisite: Spanish I, Spanish II, Spanish III****SPANIV**

**Course Description:** In Spanish IV, students will continue to carry out all functions of Spanish I-III, and use the language to communicate ideas and facts. They will advance their abilities in the areas of reading and writing. They will work on perfecting their skills in the areas of grammar and self-expression and be able to communicate in past, present, future, conditional tenses, as well as subjunctive moods. Students will focus on the history, geography, and culture of Spain and the origins of the Spanish language. They will spend time reading selections of Spanish literature and writing their own compositions. They will also spend most of the class speaking and listening to the Spanish language. Students in levels 4 and 5 will have progressively more detailed and lengthy writing, reading, and grammar studies.



**Course Description:** This 3-credit course is a basic course in interpersonal communication and public speaking. Through observation, presentation, games, role play, valuing, and personal encounter, the student learns to encode and decode messages, verbal and nonverbal, with confidence and empathy. Skills in perception and concentration are emphasized.

**MOUNT PLEASANT HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES**

Students can take AP courses through Mount Pleasant High School (schedule and space in the class permitting) or through an approved online educational service. Students are encouraged, but not required to take the AP Exam offered by the College Board. Students who did not take an AP course are still eligible to take the AP Exam at SHA. Students are responsible for all AP Exam fees. Grades earned in AP classes are not weighted more heavily on the SHA grading scale. Mount Pleasant High School may offer the following AP courses:

- American Government and Politics
- Biology
- Calculus A/B
- Chemistry
- English Literature and Composition
- Macroeconomics
- Music Theory
- Spanish Language and Culture
- U.S. History

**GRATIOT-ISABELLA TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER COURSES**

Students in grades 11 and 12 have the opportunity to enroll in classes at the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center. Classes held at the Mount Pleasant GI-TEC campus must be scheduled in a block format for SHA periods 6-7. Classes in Alma will require a block format of periods 5-7. Rare exceptions requiring that the student complete his/her course in the morning would need to be approved by administration. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the school, although busing to and from Alma may be available. The only cost would be for any fees associated with field trips and certification exams.

**GI-TECH Courses**

**BUSINESS**

- Accounting
- Business Management
- Business Management
- Digital Media
- Marketing

**FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE**

- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary
- Educational Careers
- Health Careers

**TRADE & INDUSTRY**

- Agriscience
- Auto-Technology
- Construction Trades
- Electronics/Computer Repair and Programming
- Graphics/Printing Technology
- Interior Design
- Machine Trades
- Mechanical Drafting
- Pre-Engineering
- Radio/TV Broadcasting Technology
- Small Engines Technology
- Welding

**BUSINESS**

- Accounting

**ACCT**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Online learning experience. Accounting is a career-oriented course designed for students who plan to enter any area of business after graduation or attend college. This curriculum is project based with an emphasis on problem-solving. Topics covered include the accounting cycles of service organizations and merchandisers focusing on the recording of business transactions and the preparation of financial statements. Advanced topics include corporate accounting, managerial accounting, cost accounting, tax accounting, and auditing. Students participate in a number of team building activities, such as auditing and simulating real work experience. Completion of this course will prepare students for job entry and/or articulated course credits at several Michigan colleges.

## **Business Management**

### **BUSM**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. Business Management and Administration (BMA) is an advanced level business course that focuses on the opportunities and challenges of managing a business in the free enterprise system. This curriculum is project based with an emphasis on teamwork, problem-solving and communications. BMA will also focus on management theory, human resource management and behavior, finance, purchasing, logistics, and production. A team of students creates a student company. The student company allows team members to become shareholders, gain leadership skills, become project managers, and to share in risk-taking, decision-making, problem solving, accounting, production, human resources, marketing, and other experiences that take place in operating a successful business. A career in BMA encompasses planning, organizing, directing, and evaluating business functions essential to efficient and productive business operations. Opportunities to participate in service projects will be emphasized. Completion of this course will prepare students for job entry and/or articulated course credits at several Michigan colleges.

## **Digital Media**

### **DIGI**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. The Digital Media/Web Productions program is taught using a “hands-on” project-based approach to the world of information technology for business applications and multimedia design (2D, 3D, animation, motion graphics, video production and web site design and development will be explored). The program provides comprehensive skills in the design and use of information technology and prepares for successful completion of the Strata IT Certification Exam. Industry standard software such as: Adobe Photoshop, Flash, Fireworks, Dreamweaver, Premiere, Soundbooth, After Effects, etc. will be used to complete real-world projects.

## **Marketing**

### **MARK**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. In the Marketing program, students develop practical skills that can be applied to a broad variety of businesses. Class projects require students to apply marketing concepts such as product design, distribution, purchasing, merchandising, logistics, market research, pricing, quality service, advertising, and promotion. A hands-on approach is utilized as students operate “The School Store” and organize special events. Students are challenged to act as organizational business leaders, taking on supervisory and management roles.

## FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE

### Cosmetology

### COSM

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirement: Visual, Performing and Applied Arts. The Cosmetology program provides high school students with the training, classroom knowledge and hands-on experience in styling, cutting, chemical treatments, facial treatment, application of cosmetics and nail care and design. Science concepts including human anatomy, physiology, histology, and bacteriology are covered and heavily relied upon throughout the course. This course prepares students to take the State of Michigan Board of Cosmetology exam. Students begin this two-year program with the completion of a ten-week summer session after their sophomore year. The first-year program continues during the school year for three hours per day. The second summer will be from six to ten weeks with three hours per day required during the second school year until program completion. Students also have the option to start the summer after their junior year and finish the program as an MJ Murphy student after graduating from high school. Students become eligible to work with patrons in the beauty college after satisfactory completion of 500 clock hours. In order to be licensed by the State, the student must complete 1500 clock attendance hours. At the time of completion, the student will be eligible to take the State Board Examination. This course is taught at the MJ Murphy Beauty College in Mt. Pleasant.

### Criminal Justice

### CJ

**Course Description:** This program explores the basic concepts and potential career opportunities in Criminal Justice. The program provides instruction in the areas of law enforcement, the courts, and corrections. Criminal Justice is primarily an academic program with some hands-on activities such as pressure points, take downs, handcuffing, Teen Court and firearms safety throughout the semester. Frequent guest speakers give information about what it is like to be a police officer, corrections officer or juvenile worker. This course will be offered and taught through Mid Michigan Community College where the student may earn college credits if college level work is attained, and required reading/writing placement levels are met.

### Culinary Arts

### CULN

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirement: Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts. The Culinary Arts program offers students a hands-on experience in the food service industry. Students are taught the key components in food preparation and restaurant management. The students will participate in menu planning, food inventory (ordering and stock rotation) and safe food preparation. Students also learn basic preparation of a variety of ethnic food styles. Real world experience is gained by working in an on-campus, full-service restaurant. Culinary students are responsible for customer service, dining room and business management. This course prepares students for entry-level employment or a college degree focused on food design, preparation and restaurant management.

## **Educational Careers**

### **EDUCAR**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. The Educational Careers course provides students an understanding of teaching as a career. Each student will have an opportunity to observe a teacher and learn teaching skills in a real-world setting. Students will be placed in their home communities with an assigned mentor teacher. Through classroom activities, students will also become more aware of current trends relating to children, families, and the work place. Students must have good attendance and be able to pass a background check.

## **Health Careers**

### **HCARE**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit and Online learning experience. The Health Careers program offers students the opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that are applicable to many health careers. This a two-year program for juniors and seniors. As a junior, students will complete core curriculum related to the Health Science Program. Topics include, but are not limited to, Medical Terminology, Medical Math, Anatomy and Physiology, Health Facility Safety, CPR and First Aid training. Students will also explore different Health Careers and participate in work-based learning experiences. Seniors select a curriculum path focused on becoming a CENA or another health-related career. Students will learn the skills and knowledge base associated with their chosen path. Hands-on clinical experience will be completed by each student. There is an opportunity for seniors to participate in an accelerated one-year course. At the end of the year, CENA students will have the opportunity to become State Certified. Students in this program must be able to pass a background check.

## **TRADE & INDUSTRY SCIENCE**

### **Agriscience**

### **AGRSCI**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirement: Senior year math credit. Ag Sci prepares students for a wide variety of careers in agriculture and animal science. Specific areas of study include Plant/Soil Science, Veterinary Science, Agricultural Business Management, Farm Mechanics, Leadership in Agriculture, and Greenhouse/Landscape Management. Class work is supplemented by hands-on experience in on-site laboratories and greenhouses as well as field trips to area farms and businesses.

**Auto Technology****AUTO**

**Course Description:** The Auto program follows the curriculum defined by the National Automotive Technician's Education Foundation (NATEF). The following areas are covered in the two-year program (two areas per year): Steering and Suspension and Electrical (2014-2015) Brakes and Electrical (2015-2016). The steering and suspension portion of the curriculum covers steering systems. Skill development will focus on steering, suspension, and four wheel alignment. Skill development in the brakes segment area will focus on drum, disc, hydraulic, power assist, and anti-lock brake systems. In the electrical component of the program, students will learn fundamentals and applications in automotive electrical, electronics, voltage, current, resistance, series and parallel circuits, magnetism, application of Ohm's Law, and wiring diagrams. Lighting systems, instruments, warning devices, horn, and other accessory circuits using wiring diagrams are covered, as well as skills in diagnosis, adjustment and repair of accessory and convenience circuits. The service area lab, used by the students, is equipped with up-to-date tools and equipment. This lab provides a real world setting where students practice technical skills used in an automotive repair facility.

**Construction Trades****CONST**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit and Visual, Performing and Applied Arts. The Construction Trades course provides students a hands-on experience in the residential construction field. It will focus on the following areas: safety, tool use, methods of construction, foundation layout, wall and floor framing, roofing, stair construction, insulation, drywall, trim work, siding, door and window installation, shingling, and deck building. This class will address codes and inspections, blueprint reading, masonry, and other areas of construction. The hands-on building of the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center school house project gives students the skills to become employable in the construction field and/or continue in post-secondary education.

**Electronics and Computer Repair and Programming****ELEC**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. Electronics' students learn system installation, maintenance, operation and repair of car stereos, computers, industrial robots, electronics and test equipment. Students practice circuit construction, residential wiring, computer hardware, troubleshooting, and system design in an industrial lab. Standard equipment repair includes electric guitars, amplifiers, gaming consoles, music devices, power tools, headphones, appliances. Additional complex equipment, such as, amplifier repair, robotics, computer interfacing, customization, digital and linear circuits, and industrial controls are also explored. The career focus of this course is preparation for an entry-level electronics technician and for post-secondary education. Advanced students serve as project leaders for group projects.

## Graphics/Printing Technology

### GRAPH

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. This Graphics program is a dynamic opportunity to study the various methods of reproducing images by printing, duplicating, screen printing, and photography. This includes computer copy preparation encompassing the use of desktop publishing software, scanners and laser printers, laser engraving, bindery, and the operation of various color offset presses. This course is designed for students who have a career interest in graphic arts, brochure design, printing fields, commercial design, advertising layout, and packaging design. Skills in customer service, estimation, and production are developed in the student-run printing lab.

## Interior Design

### INTDES

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math, Visual, performing, and applied arts credit; Online learning experience. The Interior Design program is a creative outlet for students interested in all aspects of design. Students demonstrate creativity in many types of design projects such as hotels, restaurants studio apartments, kitchens, beach houses, living rooms, and nursery schools. Students develop skills in drafting, presentation techniques, barrier free design, specifications and material selection. Students apply the skills learned in the classroom with hands-on experience in a real world setting. Painting, hanging wallpaper and ceramic tiling are a few of the entry level skills students will master preparing them to work in various aspects of a career in interior design. Students prepare portfolios showcasing their design strengths and abilities.

## Machine Trades

### MACH

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Visual, performing, and applied arts credit. Machine Trades' students learn safety, manufacturing skills, and good work habits as they relate to the machine trades industry. Metal working theory and a variety of hand tools will be covered. Students will learn to operate engine lathes, vertical milling machines, drill presses, saws, and surface grinders. Other areas covered will be print reading, layout, measurement, math applications, and basic computer aided machining (CAM). Projects are designed to develop skills needed in the machine trades industry. Advanced students learn manufacturing processes, print reading, Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerance (GD&T), precision measurement, set ups, electrical discharge machine operations, tool and cutter grinding, maintenance of computer aided machining (CAM), computer-aided design (CAD), lock out/tag out, jig and fixture building, basic working of a die, and plastic mold building.

## Technical Drafting

### TECHD

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Visual, performing, and applied arts credit. In Mechanical Drafting students will create plans that visually communicate how something functions or is to be constructed. This course utilizes visual problem solving and project planning for product development and other mechanical projects such as reverse engineering, product improvement, and mechanical assemblies. This course gives entry level job skills and preparation for a career in Engineering or the manufacturing industry.

**Pre-Engineering****PRENG**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit; Visual, performing, and applied arts credit. Pre-Engineering is a combination of Design Software (CAD), Electronics, Electricity, Robotics, Pneumatics, and Machining. Students will complete hands-on projects to learn automated manufacturing processes and prepare for various industrial careers and post-secondary options. This STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) program will give students an introduction to manufacturing and the opportunity to design, develop, build, and test devices.

**Radio/TV Broadcasting Technology****BROAD**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirement(s): Visual, performing, and applied arts credit. The Radio/TV Broadcasting course introduces students to the many aspects of Radio and Television Production. The class focuses on equipment operation, studio procedures, lighting, audio, digital editing, special effects, and pictorial composition. Student projects include newscasts, commercials, public service announcements, interviews, variety shows and dramatic presentations. Students are encouraged to develop their own ideas as well as work on team projects.

**Small Engines Technology****SMENG**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirement: Senior year math credit. In the Small Engines course, students learn to repair small engines and train for entry level employment in the field. Students learn to repair two-stroke and four-stroke engines, including ignition, carburetor, and exhaust systems. In addition, this class explores two and four-cycle high-performance modifications. Students build team-working skills by collaborating on projects and develop troubleshooting techniques and excellent customer service.

**Welding****WELD**

**Course Description:** \*Fulfills the following graduation requirements: Senior year math credit and Visual, performing, and applied arts. This Welding class is designed for the student who has a genuine interest in learning welding for their future occupation. Many areas of welding, including oxyacetylene, electric arc, mig, and tig, manual and automatic flame cutting is taught. This program provides students with hands on experience in a real-world lab. Students learn the fundamentals of welding theory, use of related hand tools and equipment and perform a variety of welding techniques. Class projects include fabrication and repair work. Welding students are involved in layout, inspection, measurement and design.

## JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS

### CORE

English 7  
English 8  
Math 7  
Math 8  
Algebra I  
Science 7  
Science 8  
Global Studies  
US History 8  
Religion 7  
Religion 8

### ELECTIVES

Technology I  
Study Skills  
Junior High Physical Education  
DOING Science  
Family Living (Home Economics)  
Creative Writing  
JH Communications  
Combined Choir  
Symphony Band  
Art 7  
Art 8  
Spanish I (8<sup>th</sup> Grade only)

English 7

ENG7

**Course Description:** This class will address the basic parts of speech, sentence structure, building an increased vocabulary, and the overall mechanics of the English language. Students will be asked to incorporate these skills through a variety of writing styles and verbal communication based on theme-related units from their literature book. Literary efforts will focus on comprehension and critical thinking. As a class, students will also study at least one class novel, a play, create a 3-dimensional project based on a novel, and “publish” a poem, short story, or a storybook. Listening comprehension will also be stressed throughout the year.

English 8

ENG8

**Course Description:** This class will review the basic parts of speech, sentence structure, and the overall mechanics vocabulary will continue. Students will be asked to apply these skills through a variety of writing styles and verbal communication, which will be based on theme-related units from their literature book in order to develop practical approaches to organization and style. An emphasis will be placed on learning what makes an accomplished essay. All literary elements will focus on critical thinking skills. As a class, students will also study a class novel, play, and “publish” a poem, short story, or research paper.

Math 7

MATH7

**Course Description:** This program reflects the increased expectation of what students should know and be able to do by introducing algebra early and offering test preparation at the lesson and chapter levels. We will reinforce the basic skills involving whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percentages, and introduce new skills and concepts to aid in the transition to advanced mathematics. With the help of the Singapore Math Program, students will be challenged to learn and practice new and complex algebraic and geometric concepts.

<b>Math 8</b>	<b>MATH8</b>	<b>Course Description:</b> This course consolidates the arithmetic of the previous grades and at the same time prepares students for algebra and geometry. Topics covered include decimal notation, measurement, use of variables, solving word problems, solving equations and the use of formulas.
<b>Algebra I</b> <b>Open to grade: 8,9</b> <b>Prerequisite: Placement Testing</b>	<b>ALGI</b>	<b>Course Description:</b> Topics include an Introduction to Algebra, working with real numbers, solving equations, polynomials, and problem solving, factoring polynomials, fractions, linear equations, rational and irrational numbers, and quadratic functions.
<b>Science 7</b>	<b>SCI7</b>	<b>Course Description:</b> Seventh grade science consists of the life sciences concentrating on interactions of organisms, the energy flow in nature, classification, and successions in ecosystems. Plants and seed dispersal methods are covered. The physical science portion deals with energy, forces, motion, and machines. Units on sounds and light are also explored.
<b>Science 8</b>	<b>SCI8</b>	<b>Course Description:</b> Earth Science is a two-semester course covering a variety of topics related to Earth systems. Topics covered include: weather and climates, geologic time, rocks and minerals, plate tectonics, the Earth's resources, and astronomy. Our reliance on non-renewable energy resources and the importance of alternative fuels will be stressed in the unit covering Earth's resources.
<b>Global Studies</b>	<b>GS07</b>	<b>Course Description:</b> The seventh grade social studies course introduces students to cultures of the Eastern hemisphere, with emphasis on the contemporary geography of Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and Oceania. Through the study of geography, students learn locations of significant places in each of these world regions, explore cultural and natural features that characterize each region, trace movement of people, ideas, and products within the regions, and discover ways that regions can be divided into sub-regions. Historical background is provided to enable students to understand how a region developed from the past to the present. Differences in governments and economies are examined. Students examine public issues of global significance in these regions.

**United States History 8**

**USHIST8**

**Course Description:** This eighth-grade social studies course introduces students to the history of the United States from the writing of the constitution through Reconstruction. The course is divided chronologically into eras where students place major events on a timeline and analyze their cause and effects. They deepen their understanding of major geographic themes and basic economic concepts. They also build their understanding of American government from in-depth study of the U.S. Constitution and the evolution of the government it created during its first century. A review of America's history from its beginning is included to help students appreciate the need for the constitution.

**Religion 7**

**REL07**

**Course Description:** This course uses the text, Catholic Connections, to introduce Catholic young adolescents to Jesus Christ in a new way and inspires them to follow Him. Fostering the faith of young adolescents involves helping them to make connections between the Catholic faith and everyday life. It also means helping young people to strengthen their connection to the faith community. Catholic Connections aims to strengthen the participants' Catholic identity and inspire them to participate more fully in the Church's mission.

**Religion 8**

**REL08**

**Course Description:** This course takes students through the methods and teachings of Jesus including Parables, Prayer, The Kingdom of God, and his miraculous signs. With Christ as our foundation, we will then examine the history of the first century church through Acts and the letters of Paul.

**Technology I  
Open to Grades: 7-8**

**TECHI**

**Course Description:** In this semester course, students will learn to keyboard correctly and build keying skills. They will gain basic proficiency in Microsoft Office programs (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher, etc.) Students will be required to give presentations utilizing their technology projects.

**Study Skills  
Open to Grades: 7-8**

**STSKI**

**Course Description:** This course is designed to aid junior high students who need extra assistance in their organization and who have shown the need for additional support regarding their study habits. Students have the opportunity to learn about their personal learning styles and how to translate that into efficient ways to prepare for class. Topics styles of note-taking techniques, study strategies, organizational strategies and support is available to students who struggle in particular subjects to get assistance. Course can be taken for a semester or a whole year.

**Junior High Physical Education**  
**Open to Grades: 7-8**

**JHPE**

**Course Description:** During physical education class, students will gain knowledge and skills that will better enable participation in individual and team sports. Students will learn the importance of physical fitness for life and be able to apply sportsmanship in sports and recreational activities. Course can be taken for a semester or a whole year.

**DOING Science**  
**Open to Grades: 7, 8**  
**Prerequisite: Must participate in Science Olympiad**

**DOS**

**Course Description:** This course is designed for students who love science and want to create original experiments to study intriguing hypotheses. You will be expected think deeply and critically as you investigate relevant problems--DOING science! Students in this class are required to participate in Science Olympiad as a prerequisite, because class time will be given during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester to work on Science Olympiad events/projects.

**Creative Writing**  
**Open to Grades: 7-8**

**CWRI**

**Course Description:** Students will have a great time expressing themselves creatively through a variety of literary ways. Not only will they have fun exploring their imagination through picture books, poetry, skits, demonstrations and fun writing pieces, students will also improve their writing skills. This semester class will focus on the following main topics: narratives, voice, nonfiction, fiction and poetry.

**Junior High Communications**  
**Open to Grades: 7-8**

**JHPUB**

**Course Description:** Students in this class will be responsible for developing the middle school pages in the SHA yearbook. The course is designed to teach the students about topics such as gathering data, photography, layout, design, journalism and editing. In addition to the yearbook, students may also have an opportunity to work on creating and distributing school publications. There will also be oral communication exercises to prepare students for professional and educational experiences. This is a semester course with a limited number of seats available.

**Combined Choir**  
**Open to Grades: 7-8**

**JHCHOR**

**Course Description:** This elective course will give the students the basic skills to develop as great choral performers. Music history, ear training, vocal technique and study of choral and liturgical pieces of music are a few of the topics that will be covered during the semester. A public performance will be performed at the end of the semester. Enrolled students are required to participate.

**Symphony Band**  
**Open to Grades: 7-12**

**BAND**

**Course Description:** Symphonic band, a year-long course, continues to build upon the solid foundation of music education established in the elementary music program and/or previous years of band. As a performance-based class, students will participate in a concert approximately 3-4 times throughout the year. The primary goal of this course is to provide each member with a working foundation of musical knowledge so that he/she may independently participate, enjoy, and understand the experience of music-making in an ensemble and as an individual. Band students learn skills such as organization, cooperative learning, and teamwork, which can be applied to other curricular content. Music is also a language that can break down many barriers, both socially and culturally. All students, no matter their ability, may join band. Please note, in addition to school rehearsal, students are expected to practice 10-15 minutes a day at home.

**Art 7**  
**Open to Grade: 7**

**ART07**

**Course Description:** The student will experiment with a variety of materials and processes creating art that follows a historical timeline, beginning with Prehistoric art and ending with the 16th century, known as the Renaissance. It is a very hands-on semester class with a lot of different techniques for students to explore and enjoy.

**Art 8**  
**Open to Grade: 8**

**ART08**

**Course Description:** This class continues the historical timeline introduced in 7th grade. Students will be creating art which reflects the ideas and concerns from the 17th century up to the present day. Students will have the opportunity to build on skills and knowledge gathered from their 7th grade art class, but 7th grade art is not a necessary prerequisite for this semester course.

**Spanish I**  
**Open to Grade: 8**  
**Prerequisite: Counselor Approval**

**SPANI**

**Course Description:** This class is designed to give students the opportunity to attain an acceptable level of proficiency in the four world language skill areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Spanish I includes the thematic study of vocabulary for school life, diversions, foods, clothing, travel, and family, as well as the relevant grammatical concepts of the present, progressive, near future, and basic past verb tenses. Presented in a communicative and cultural context, this course will focus on purposeful activities, active participation, and the meaningful use of Spanish at the introductory level. Approval of the academic advisor is required to enroll in this course.

**Family Living**  
**Open to Grades: 7-8**

**FAMLIV**

**Course Description:** In this semester course, students will learn various life skills including safety procedures for food preparation, the importance of nutrients for body maintenance, how to cook different types of meals and learn basic clothing care and repair.

# PART TWO

## General Information

# Sacred Heart Academy

## Vision Statement

At Sacred Heart Academy, we are committed to the development of the whole person in order for each individual to fulfill God's purpose and to do God's will. We model high moral values and maintain high expectations for positive behavior. Encouraging moral and spiritual development is prioritized along with cognitive development. With our staff, students, and families, we celebrate our faith and share the Gospel message within the Church and greater community. We provide a variety of opportunities for personal and academic growth, where the individual learning needs of each student are an important part of the educational planning process. Sacred Heart Academy prepares children and young people to succeed and thrive in an ever-changing world.

## Belief Statements:

1. The theological virtues of faith, hope, and love are integrated in everything we do.
2. As a school family, we put faith into action by participating in sacramental opportunities and stewardship within the Church and the community.
3. Working together with parents, our role is to develop students who reflect God's will.
4. We expect and model high moral standards and integrity.
5. We provide a safe and accepting family atmosphere.
6. We share a commitment to prepare all students with a high quality education which meets the needs of each student's college and career endeavors.
7. We foster community involvement and leadership through service.

**ACADEMICS**  
**(Academic Policies from SHA Student-Parent Handbook)**

**A. GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

In compliance with the requirements set by the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools and the Michigan Merit Curriculum, Sacred Heart Academy requires the following credits for graduation. One credit is one full year of successful work in a course or subject.

**Minimum of 24 Credits**

Religion	4 Credits
English	4 Credits
Mathematics	4 Credits
Science	3 Credits
Social Studies	3 Credits
World Language	2 Credits
Phys. Ed/Health	1 Credit
Visual, Performing, Applied Arts	1 Credit
Online Learning Experience	Completion
Communications	0.5 Credit
Financial Algebra (Class of 2019)	0.5 Credit

\*Students may waive the one semester of the required Physical Education requirement by successfully completing three Sacred Heart Academy athletic seasons during their high school career. Credit for physical education will be listed on the student’s transcript, but a grade for this course will not be factored into the student’s GPA.

\*\*Students must have an approved math class both semesters during his/her senior year to fulfill the senior year math requirement, even if the student has already completed four credits of math prior to his/her final year of high school.

\*\*\*Students may obtain credit for the required online learning experience requirement in various ways. Students beginning with the class of 2022 will automatically earn this credit by successfully completing English 9. Various courses that have been previously offered at SHA will cover this requirement including Technology II and Digital Publications. Certain technical education classes will fulfill this requirement as well as any high school or college online courses. Counselor approval is required for any additional courses to be approved for this credit requirement.

**B. GRADING PROCESS**

**Grading Scale**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Minimum</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>GPA</u>
A		96-100	4.0
A-		90-95	3.8
B+		87-89	3.5
B		83-86	3.0
B-		80-82	2.8
C+		77-79	2.5
C		73-76	2.0
C-		70-72	1.8
D+		67-69	1.5
D		65-66	1.0
D-		63-64	0.8
F		62 and below	0.0

1. **Report cards** are compiled four times a year and are posted on RenWeb. Parents requesting that a printed report card be mailed home should contact the main office of the secondary building. The expectation is for teachers to update grades weekly with the capability of emailing progress reports to parents upon request. Please note that RenWeb generates a weekly progress report, which is emailed to parents automatically.
  - a. Quarter grades are not posted to the permanent record. They are intended to inform students and parents about student progress. Each quarter grade in core classes (math, English, science, social studies, and religion) for grades

7-8 represents 45% of the semester grade (high school quarter grades such as Spanish I receive the high school weight) and 42.5% of the semester grade for grades 9-12.

- b. First and second semester grades consist of two quarter grades and the grade from the final exam which counts for 10% for grades 7-8 and 15% for grades 9-12. Junior high elective classes are not required to have an exam, so each quarter is factored into the semester grade as 50%. Only the semester grade is recorded on the student's permanent transcript and used to calculate the cumulative grade point average.
2. **Incompletes-** A student who receives an incomplete in a class is responsible for working with the teacher to determine what is missing. Generally, an incomplete grade must be made up within ONE week of the end of the marking period. Extensions may be given with the approval of the teacher and administration. When students are missing grades due to excused absences, the teacher will set a reasonable date by which all make-up work must be completed. If a student does not make up the work by the assigned date, the teacher is to record a zero for all work not completed.

### C. ACADEMIC CREDIT

1. A **transcript** is the record of grades earned by a high school student and is sent to colleges and institutions when applying for admission. An official transcript is one delivered directly, by request of the student and/or parent, to a college or institution with the school seal or sent electronically through Parchment (online transcript service). An unofficial transcript is one delivered by request to the student and/or parent. Transcripts submitted by the Counselor through the Common Application are considered to be official.
2. **AP Courses** – Students are able to take AP courses through Mount Pleasant High School (schedule and space permitting) or through an approved online educational service. Students are encouraged, but not required to take the AP Exam offered by the College Board. Students who did not take an AP course are still eligible to take the AP Exam at SHA. Students are responsible for all AP Exam fees. Grades earned in AP classes are not weighted more heavily on the SHA transcript.
3. **Dual Enrollment** - Students may dual enroll in courses at any college or university in Michigan. Students may dual enroll on-campus, online, and off-campus. **Student enrollment and course selection must be approved by the academic advisor.** In order for students to receive state funding from the Michigan Treasury Department and high school credit for a college course, it must be a course that SHA does not offer. Payment for the course and all required fees, including books and course materials, are the responsibility of the student. If a student does not pass the course, the student is responsible for payment for the entire cost of the class. Release time will be granted for students in grades 10-12 attending off-campus college courses during the regular school day. Courses scheduled outside the regularly scheduled school day will not warrant release time from school. Students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade may dual enroll, but must do so outside of the school day unless the course fulfills their foreign language requirement with a language we do not offer. Scheduling conflicts may require that an exception be made to SHA's dual enrollment policies, which would require the approval of SHA administration. Students who dual enroll are considered college students by the post-secondary institution they attend and thus must follow the schedule, rules, and procedures for the college as it pertains to their course. Upon completion of the course, students must request an official transcript be sent from the college or university to their counselor if they intend to have the course counted for high school credit.
4. **Online/Non-SHA Courses** – To earn a diploma from Sacred Heart Academy, students are expected to complete their courses through SHA. When a course is offered by SHA, students are required to complete it within our institution with the only exception to this being credit recovery courses and foreign language courses not offered at SHA. Any additional exceptions would need to be approved by administration and would require a written request stating the reason for this request. Students who are approved to take alternative courses must have the educational institution and course approved and would be responsible for any costs associated. Letter grades earned in the course will be applied to the student's SHA transcript, while percentage grades will be converted to the equivalent on the SHA grading scale. No more than one hour allotted for online classes within the school day will be allowed. Online course work completed during the school day must be completed using SHA technology.
5. **Independent Study** – when a student is enrolled on a full-time basis at Sacred Heart Academy:
  - a. To be considered for an independent study, a student must have at least a 3.3 grade point average in the department under whose management the independent study would take place.
  - b. Approval from the participating teacher, guidance counselor, and the Advisor is required before starting an independent study.
  - c. A maximum of one course (0.5 credit) per semester is allowed as an independent study for a student.
  - d. To qualify for an independent study during the regular school year, a student must be enrolled in at least five courses (2.5 credits) in the regular program.
  - e. An independent study must be supervised by a SHA teacher or a GI-TEC instructor if the course is a technical education course.
  - f. Depending on the type of independent study, families may incur an additional cost.
6. **Credit Recovery** - Students who fail a required course or do not have sufficient credits for graduation may earn back credits in either summer school, by taking an approved online credit recovery course, or by repeating the failed course. Information about credit recovery options, including Summer School, is available in the Guidance Office. The student will assume all fees required for credit recovery courses. Students must complete the required credit recovery course before the next semester that

the course is offered at SHA, otherwise students will automatically be reenrolled in the SHA course. The original failing grade will be included on the transcript along with the passing grade earned in the same course and both grades will be calculated into the cumulative grade point average. Seniors who do not receive a diploma upon graduation due to failed required courses have one year from the date of graduation to recover the needed credit(s).

7. **Foreign Exchange Programs** - Foreign exchange students who are enrolled in 12<sup>th</sup> grade will be granted an honorary diploma, unless they can meet SHA's graduation requirements. U.S. History and/or government, religion and English courses are required for exchange students regardless of grade level. SHA will determine the grade level in which to enroll the student. SHA students are permitted to participate in foreign exchange programs with the approval of administration.

#### **D. ACADEMIC RECOGNITION**

1. **Honor Roll:** Students will be on the Honor Roll if they have earned a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for the semester.
2. **Class Rank:** Rank in class is based on cumulative grade point average beginning with the first semester of freshmen year (high school courses taken during junior high will be factored into ranking). The grade point average is accumulated and the rank is recalculated following each semester.
3. **GPA:** A student's unweighted grade point average will be determined using a 4-point scale (Example: A = 4.0; B = 3.0).
4. **Awards Distribution:** Students may be recognized for academic achievement through membership in the National Honor Society (see the SHA Student-Parent Handbook for requirements), National Technical Honor Society (students are nominated by GI-TEC faculty), and/or the annual awards ceremonies held for each grade level.
5. **Criteria for Valedictorian/Salutatorian:** Students will have attained the top two cumulative GPAs of the senior class at the conclusion of seven semesters. Students who share the top ranking will share the recognition of Valedictorian and the student next in the rankings will be recognized as the Salutatorian. The majority of credits must be earned at SHA to be recognized for these distinctions.

#### **E. CURRICULUM INFORMATION/ENROLLMENT**

1. Each student must have seven blocks utilized for approved coursework. Students with courses that require two scheduling blocks (Example: off-campus dual enrollment, MPHS AP courses, tech center courses) are allowed to carry less than seven courses due to necessary extended class time. All students must remain in the school building through the 7<sup>th</sup> period of the day, unless approved by administration. **A student must complete his/her required courses at Sacred Heart Academy.** A "required course" is one designated as mandatory for graduation and must be successfully completed to receive a Sacred Heart Academy diploma.
2. Four years of daily attendance in a **religion class** and respectful participation in religious activities offered at Sacred Heart Academy is required of all students who attend Sacred Heart Academy.
3. **Schedule changes will be limited to one per year.** Class changes can cause serious disruptions to the operation of the school. Teacher hiring and assignment decisions as well as course offerings are made on the basis of course selections in the spring. Changes will only be made for very serious reasons. If a schedule is not complete, required subjects are not included, or if a class a student already completed or does not have the prerequisites needed to take was inadvertently assigned, a request should be made to correct the situation. Students must remain in currently assigned classes until they receive written add/drop notification. Final decisions regarding students' schedules are made by administration.
4. **Community Service** - Jesus called all of us to serve others. This program is a requirement of SHA for graduation. A total of 100 hours from grades 7-12 is required. Student hours may be served in the community, parish or other service areas approved by the program coordinator. Students must complete and turn in a reflection sheet for each experience within 30 days of completion with the exception of summer hours, which are due within 30 days after the start of school in the fall. Seniors must have the required hours turned in and verified by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period. Junior high students are required to serve 10 hours/year while high school students will serve 20 hours/year. Students who arrive at SHA after 7<sup>th</sup> grade are responsible for the remaining hour requirements allotted for each grade level as mentioned above. Students who earn 150 or more hours of community service will receive a service cord at Jr./Sr. Awards night.
5. **College Athletics:** Student-athletes must register with the NCAA clearinghouse prior to or during their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. Specific coursework is required to be eligible. Visit the Guidance Office for more information about SHA's approved courses, NCAA Eligibility requirements, and requesting transcripts/test scores. The SHA Athletic Director can provide more information about NCAA recruitment and policies.

- 6. Withdrawal from School:** Students who withdraw from school must do so through the Sacred Heart Parish Business Office. They must do so in person. Before a transcript of records can be released, the student must not have outstanding obligations in classes (books, computers, materials to be turned in), athletic department, or any other place where school materials have been used. All tuition and fees must be paid in full. A transcript request form must be signed by the parent and administrative representative.

## **F. EXAMINATION POLICIES**

1. Exams will be given at the end of each semester and must be taken to complete the course. Students who have missed exams due to pre-arranged or non-pre-arranged absence must arrange a make-up exam with their instructor(s).
2. **Exam Accommodations:** Students without preapproved accommodation plans who are requesting alternative test arrangements must receive approval from course instructor and/or Administration. Extended time and other accommodations will be granted according to the regular academic accommodations procedures.
3. **Cancellation of Exams:** In the event exams have to be cancelled on a regularly scheduled exam day, they will be made up the next school day. Usually a day is scheduled for make-up exams. The schedule pushes back one day (Example: If exams were scheduled for Wednesday, but are cancelled due to weather, these exams would be given on Thursday).

## **G. ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS**

### **Fall**

*Language Arts:* Consists of three events. Each school sends 12 members to the event where they are given two hours to complete their writing assignments. These include may include a position paper, a fictionalized journal, etc. Each team must submit at least two, but no more than four entries, which are then judged and scored. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

*Quiz Bowl:* A team competition with a format similar to Jeopardy. It is a game of questions and answer based on a variety of subjects including sports, science, history, math and literature. The Quiz Bowl season may extend into the spring depending on the success of the team at competitions. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

*Model UN:* The Model United Nations is a competitive simulation of a session of the United Nations General Assembly. Teams are required to research a variety of political, economic and diplomatic issues as part of drafting resolutions to be introduced into the general session. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

### **Winter**

*Religious Quiz Bowl:* Similar to regular Quiz Bowl, but students will compete during Catholic School's Week to answer religion-based questions. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

*Spaghetti Bridge Building:* Students design and present a bridge constructed completely from spaghetti noodles. This competition is held at Ferris State University. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

*The Brain Bee:* Students compete against other schools in a trivia competition that measures the neurological knowledge of students. The local competition is held at Central Michigan University. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

*Geography Bee:* Students complete a written Geography exam within their classes to qualify for the school-wide competition. Two students from each grade level, grades 4-8, qualify for the school Geography Bee. The winner completes an additional assessment to determine if he/she will move onto the state competition.

### **Spring**

*Forensics:* Forensics offers students an opportunity to compete in a variety of categories. Forensics explores individual speech events building on voice and diction. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

*Science Olympiad:* Consists of test-taking, engineering, technology and problem-solving events that cover all areas of science. Students in grades 7-12 are invited to participate.

*Spelling Bee:* Students in grades 6-8 are eligible to compete. Classroom winners and runner ups qualify for the school-wide competition. The school winner moves onto the county bee and depending on his/her results there may move onto further competitions.

*Technology Competition:* Students produce different technological products to use to compete against other schools in response to various challenges. Students in grades 9-12 may participate.

## **TESTING PROGRAM AT SACRED HEART ACADEMY**

All seventh-grade students take the Algebra I Aptitude test to determine their readiness to take Algebra I as an eighth-grade student. Along with their performance in 7<sup>th</sup> grade math, teacher recommendation and MAP scores, this test will help determine which students will be recommended for Algebra I as an eighth-grade student.

Students in grade 7 will participate in NWEA MAP testing three times per year (fall, winter, and spring). The MAP test is an adaptive assessment in the areas of Reading, Mathematics, Language Usage, and Science. Students, teachers, parents, and administration will use the results to gauge student progress, assess college readiness, and develop plans of support for learners.

Juniors are required to take the PSAT/NMSQT, the Pre-SAT offered at SHA in October. For juniors, it is used as a qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship Competition. This test measures academic knowledge in the areas of evidence-based reading and writing and mathematics. It also serves as a practice for the SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test). Students in grades 8-10 will be completing the PSAT 8/9 and PSAT 10 in the fall and spring (as part of the state testing program sponsored by the Michigan Department of Education).

In April, SHA will be offering at no cost the SAT exam for juniors, which measures a student's literacy and mathematical skills. Students are also encouraged to take the ACT (American College Test) as either set of scores will be accepted by almost any college or university in the United States. College admissions personnel use the scores along with the student's transcript to determine acceptance into college. Students can register to take the ACT at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org). Central Michigan University is the closest host site for ACT testing. Some colleges require students to take the SAT II or SAT Subject tests. Any test in the SAT series can be registered for at [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org). Students may take the SAT or ACT more than once as many students improve their scores by taking the exam multiple times; however, some selective school prefer that a student limit the number of times they take these exams.

Fee waivers for the ACT and SAT are available to families whose children receive free or reduced lunch. Students with a written accommodations plan on file at the school may qualify for testing accommodations for the SAT and/or ACT. Guidance Counselor should be contacted to assist with applying for accommodations.

Juniors will also complete the ACT Work Keys assessment to determine their work skills and potentially provide them with work readiness certification. Additionally, eleventh graders will complete the M-Step exam administered by the Michigan Department of Education. This online exam will measure student progress in the subjects of social studies and science.

The design and continuity of the testing program are such that all results will be utilized in the educational planning and post-secondary placement. All students are required to participate in the program.

## **EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

Beginning in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, every SHA student completes an Educational Development Plan (EDP) to assist with the formulation of each student's college and career plans. The EDP not only ensures that students are on track to meet all graduation requirements, but also serves as a guide for selecting courses that will best fit the Career Pathways of each student. In grades 8-11, students will annually update their EDPs so that it accurately reflects their college and career interests. EDPs will be compiled and updated through Career Cruising, which is easily accessible to students through their student Google accounts found on their Chromebooks. Students can also login to their Career Cruising accounts at [careercruising.com](http://careercruising.com).