

**HIGH SCHOOL
HANDBOOK
&
COURSE CATALOG**

2017 - 2018



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN ACADEMY

Your Child, Your Choice, Their Future

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy (HCLA) is a Christ-centered school in which all academic subjects, moral values, discipline, and extra-curricular activities are taught from a Christian point of view.

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy has its foundation firmly established in the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, HCLA offers to all children the highest quality Christian education. This allows each child to reach his/her fullest spiritual, intellectual, moral, physical, emotional, and social development.

The quality of Holy Cross Lutheran Academy lies to a great extent with consecrated and dedicated teachers and equally consecrated and dedicated parents working together to love and nurture each child.

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is an outgrowth of the Early Childhood program of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, which began as a preschool story time in 1984. Since then Holy Cross has developed a full range of early childhood programs with classes for one year olds through Pre-Kindergarten, an excellent elementary education program (K-4th grade) an outstanding middle school serving 5th through 8th grade, and a College Board Certified Capstone HS program for students in grades 9-12.

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is part of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, which Lutheran Schools in the United States can be traced back to the 1600's. Today with over 3400 schools and early childhood centers, the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod operates the second largest parochial school system in the nation. Because of their nature, Lutheran schools are not in competition with public schools, but rather offer parents an alternative where there is an emphasis on educating the whole child. Holy Cross Lutheran Academy follows the directive of our Lord and making Him the focal point of our educational process, "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I will be with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

The purpose of this handbook is to acquaint the parents and students of Holy Cross Lutheran Academy with our policies and practices enabling HCLA to offer a quality Christian Education. It is presented with a prayer that it may serve for a better understanding of our school program. Policy and procedures described in this handbook are subject to change; however, a notice will be given in the event of any such changes. We fully understand that not all situations or topics may be addressed by these guidelines and these will be handled on an individual basis by HCLA's Administration. It is important for parents to discuss the various items with their students so that all may know the policies and procedures of the school. Also, we encourage you to ask any questions you may have after reading this handbook directly with HCLA's Administration (front desk, admissions personnel, principal or director/s).

OUR ORGANIZATION

HCLA is a non-profit organization operated by The Central Florida Cross Network under the auspices of the Holy Cross Board of Directors.

MISSION STATEMENT

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is a Christ centered community helping students and families to LIVE, LOVE, and LEARN.

Live: Empower the school community to grow and live as responsible Christian citizens.

Love: Nurture the faith of the school community to courageously show the love of Jesus in a changing world.

Learn: Educate the whole child while providing excellent academics.

ACCREDITATION

HCLA is fully accredited through the Association of Independent Schools of Florida (AISF), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), AdvancEd, and the National Council of Private School Accreditation. HCLA High School is a recognized member of the College Board's AP Capstone Program.

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN ACADEMY STATEMENT OF FAITH

"Go and make disciples of all nations . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you" Matt. 28:19. Holy Cross Lutheran Academy, a ministry of the Central Florida Cross Network, follows this directive of our Lord by strengthening students and their families to lead a transformed life through Christ. Our school is known for academic rigor and for our ability to aid our students in sound Christian, moral development serving the people of Seminole, Volusia, and Lake counties. As a Christian school, our curriculum includes in-class daily teachings from God's Holy Word. We integrate our Christian beliefs into everything we teach, grounding students in the living Christian faith as taught by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We teach about the Bible, faith and salvation. We believe that:

- The Bible is the source and basis for all our beliefs (2 Tim. 3)
- The Bible is the inspired Word of God. (2 Tim. 3)
- Only through faith in Jesus Christ can people be saved. (John 3:16)

We teach about God. We believe that:

- God is the Almighty, loving creator of everything and everyone. (Genesis 1:1)
- God is one God, but three equal persons (Triune). He is God the Father, God the Son (Jesus) and God the Holy Spirit. Not three gods, but one God (Matt. 28:19)
- God is a Savior (Jesus) who died for our sins and arose from the dead. (Acts 4:11 - 12)
- God is Love. He loves all people perfectly and completely. (I John 4:9 - 10)

We teach about people. We believe that:

- People are created individually and specially by God. (Psalm 139:13-16)
- People are loved always and completely by God. (John 3:16)
- People are expected by God to live lives of holiness and perfection (Matt.5:48)
- People are unable to obey God perfectly (everyone sins) (Ecclesiastes 7:20)

CHILD / STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

For a child to learn in the way HCLA has designed the curriculum, the expectation is that the child:

- Is to love God above all else and allow that love to order their actions.
- Is to respect the rights, and property of others.
- Is to be responsible for his/her own actions.
- Is to work hard, be on time for school, and complete all work to the best of his/her ability in a timely manner.
 - Is to develop a unity with, and a concern for the community and recognition of the needs of those less fortunate than himself/herself.
- Is to take pride in his/her school, community, state, and nation
- Is to adhere to the school discipline policy.

CRUSADER CODE OF CONDUCT

- C – come prepared for academic success
- R - respect differences in others
- U – use the JOY model (Jesus – Others – You)
- S - show God's love to everyone I meet
- A – accept responsibility for my words and actions
- D – demonstrate kindness
- E – exercise my gifts and talents for God
- R – recognize the blessings of others

The Crusader Code of Conduct is a set of expectations for our students to work towards that instill the values of Christ – like behavior. Our discipline policy is designed to reflect those values of Christ found in the Crusader Code of Conduct.

Our goal at HCLA is to work together with families to encourage positive growth in the area of discipline.

- We believe that a student is responsible for his or her own actions.
- We believe that students have choices about their behavior.
- We believe that by working as a team with families we can recognize positive behavior and redirect negative behavior.
- We believe students will learn to recognize that their consequences are a result of their choices.

NON - DISCRIMINATION POLICY

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy admits students of any race, color, nationality, and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. The school does not discriminate on the basis of any race, nationality, and ethnic origin in the administration of its policies or other school-administered programs.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Maintaining academic integrity is of vital importance of Holy Cross Lutheran Academy. Students must play an active role in maintaining their own personal integrity as well as the integrity of the school. Holy Cross Lutheran expects all students to be honest and lead lives of integrity.

Cheating - Cheating is the deliberate or attempted use of unauthorized materials, information, technology, study aides, or unauthorized group work on assignments, projects, test, or other academic exercises during class or outside class. The student is responsible for consulting with the teacher concerning whether group work may be permissible. Any attempt to give or receive improper assistance is cheating. Representing or attempting to represent oneself as another or having or attempting to have oneself represented by another in the taking of a test, preparation of an assignment, or other similar activity constitutes cheating.

Plagiarism - "Plagiarism" comes from the Greek root word "kidnapping" and is the theft of someone else's ideas, words, or other work without clearly acknowledging the creator and using that material as one's own. Plagiarism includes an exact copying of another's work, or a rewording, paraphrasing, partial quotation or summarization of another's work without properly acknowledging the creator of the original work. Plagiarism includes copying presentation, programs, class assignments, lab reports, graphs, charts, essays, compositions, and term papers.

Plagiarism is a form of intellectual and academic dishonesty that can be done intentionally or unintentionally. Intentional plagiarism is the deliberate presentation of another's work or ideas as one's own. Unintentional plagiarism is the inadvertent presentation of another's work or ideas without proper acknowledgement because of poor or inadequate practices. Unintentional plagiarism is a failure of scholarship; intentional plagiarism is an act of deceit.

Consequences for Academic Misconduct - When it is suspected that an act of academic misconduct may have occurred, the classroom teacher will notify the student of the incident in person. It is recommended that a third party be present whenever possible. The student will be given the opportunity to respond to the allegation. The teacher's professional judgement will then be used to determine whether an infraction has occurred.

Upon determination that misconduct has occurred, the classroom teacher will require the student to redo the work involved (a test, paper, essay, quiz, homework assignment, etc.) receive a reduction of credit for the work involved, and/or receive a zero for the work involved. The student's parent/guardian and the administration will be notified, and the incident will be recorded in the school data system. Repeated infractions will result in loss of credit for the class, and may include expulsion.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

The admissions process is used to determine whether enrollment at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is a good fit for the student and the school. HCLA accepts and reviews applications from any students who have met the criteria for enrollment. If circumstances exist that would significantly prevent the student from being successful at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy, admission may be denied.

MORALS CLAUSE

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to refuse admission of an applicant and/or to discontinue enrollment of a current student participating in, promoting, supporting and/or condoning: pornography, sexual immorality, homosexual activity, or bisexual activity; or displaying an inability or resistance to support the qualities and characteristics of an inability or resistance to support the qualities and characteristics of a Biblically-based and Christ-like lifestyle.

ACCELERATION

HCLA students may enroll in summer acceleration courses. These courses can be used to complete a credit and free up a schedule or “get back on track” with a subject area. All offerings are optional.

ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES

The Lord teaches us in His Word that sexuality is a gift granted by God. At HCLA we hold the Biblical teaching that homosexuality, gender dysphoria, etc. are deviations from God’s perfect design. Student who struggle with feelings of homosexuality should feel safe and welcome at our school while simultaneously understanding that their lifestyle is contrary to our teaching and God Word. The student is encouraged to seek guidance and counseling from our staff regarding these issues. Publicly demonstrating an alternative lifestyle is not allowed at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy High School.

ATHLETICS

Crusader Athletics are growing on a yearly basis. HCLA competes in the YMCA League and the Lutheran School Leagues. High School volleyball, basketball, flag football, soccer, track and field and cross-country are available for all high school students.

ATTENDANCE

Consistent attendance is of prime importance for the educational development of each student. State law requires that students be in attendance 90% of classes in a semester to earn credit for a course. A student should never be absent unless is absolutely necessary. Nine (9) absences in a semester and the student will not earn credit for the class. When a student is not present in class the absence will be coded at “Absent”, “School Activity”, or Administrative Permission”. Examples of absences that fall into these 3 categories include: Absent: Illness, Appointments, Truancy, class periods missed for suspension, Vacation, Time away from school to rectify a dress code issue, DMV commitments, Court appearance.

School Activity: HCLA co-curricular activity/competition, approved college visits (per prior approval) school sponsored field trips. Service Learning or other school sponsored service, representing HCLA at community functions

Administrative Permission: Extenuating situations where HCLA is working with an academic liaison elsewhere, Funerals, Mission trips, Worship services on religious holy days, extenuating services understood by the Administration

TARDIES

In order to maintain a proper atmosphere for learning, Holy Cross Lutheran Academy expects punctuality for its students. It is also a preparation for students' future where tardiness continues to be the primary reason for employee termination. Tardiness is unacceptable. It is the desire that families partner with HCLA to encourage punctuality.

Tardies due to traffic, trains, oversleeping, and undocumented medical appointments/excuses will be considered unexcused.

Students are expected to be on time to their classes. The teacher determines what is considered "tardy" in his/her classroom (i.e. not inside the classroom, not seated and working on the bell ringer activity, etc.) Three (3) tardies to any one class will result in an unexcused absence for that class. If a student arrives more than 20 minutes late to any class, the student is considered absent for that period and the parent must call the Office to excuse the absence.

CELL PHONES

Students should at no time have personal cell phone in their possession while on campus. If a cell phone is brought to school., it must be kept in their backpack in their locker and be turned off. Photos, video, audio recording, or text-messaging is prohibited. Student cell phones must not be visible or audible from the start of the school day until the end of the school day.

Students must turn off all cell phones and place in locker for the day. Students carrying or using cell phones during the academic day will have the cell phone confiscated. The cell phone will only be returned to the parent.

Cell phones may never be used (before, during, or after school) in a locker room, restroom, or other places where privacy is expected.

The only time a student may use their cell phones is following an after-school activity and with the permission and in the presence of an adult. Parents/guardians are asked to not contact/text their child, they should contact the front office. In the case of illness, and emergency, or disciplinary action, and administrator or member of the faculty/staff will notify parents.

School administrator may observe cell phone history including voicemail, text messages, photographs, video, social media accounts, etc. in cases of suspicious activity. In instances of serious disregard of school policy another students' cell phone may be confiscated and searched. Student are responsible for all content on their phones. Violations will be dealt with according to school policy and may involve legal authorities.

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken cell phones.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INFORMATION

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is a testing site for PSAT, SAT and AP exams. Our High School Code is: 102701. We are also designated to receive copies of PSAT, AP and SAT score reports.

COMMUNITY SERVICE/ BRIGHT FUTURES

Rationale

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy requires community service of all students as part of our commitment to their spiritual and social growth. Each student is required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of community service in order to graduate.

- All students are required to perform community service work with non-profit organizations or agencies. Service that benefits family members (parents, grandparents, sisters,

brothers, cousins, etc.) or private businesses will not be accepted. Suggested schedule is for students to complete 25 hours per year.

- All documents will be located on the HCLA High School Website.
- Senior deadline for submitting hours is April 1 of the senior year.

DRESS CODE/UNIFORMS

The High School dress code policy has been developed in order to promote an environment that focuses on academics. Standard dress reduces the competition of keeping up with the latest fashion trends. It frees families from the challenge that some face each morning over what is, or is not appropriate to wear to school. This policy is designed explicitly to restrict the use of clothing that may be intended to express arrogance, rebelliousness, disrespect, sexuality, or profanity.

More importantly, we see that today's society exerts many pressures on Christians to act, look and be the same as everyone around them. This striving to conform to the world can cause problems for God's people. God's Word has many references as to how we are to see ourselves in relation to the world at large. In 1st Peter 2:9 we are called a special type of people chosen to declare praises to God. Romans 12:2 and Colossians 2:20 refer to not loving, conforming or submitting to the world. Rather, God would have us be salt, and light to the world (Matthew 5:13-15). Our actions do affect our environment, and one way that we are able to be different is in our appearance.

The following standard dress guidelines describe proper dress while attending Holy Cross Lutheran Academy. The Administration and staff of HCLA feel that high expectations regarding modest and tastefully appropriate dress is a significant aspect of overall training in Christian living.

All students should wear shirts tucked into pants/shorts with an appropriate belt. Sweatshirts must be one color, and no writing except for HCLA logo. Only HCLA uniform sweaters and jackets can be worn.

Ordering Uniforms - To order uniforms visit holycross-skoolstyle.com.

Guidelines

Boys:

Black or khaki slacks or walking shorts.

Short or long sleeve shirts purchased through Skool Style.

Athletic shoes/ deck shoes

Brown or black belt

Girls:

Black or khaki walking shorts, slacks, skorts or skirts.

Short or long sleeve shirts purchased through Skool Style

Athletic shoes/ deck shoes

P.E. Uniforms

Red short-sleeve T-shirt (with school logo)

Spirit Store PE shirt

Black shorts

Hair, Makeup and Accessories

Hair should be well groomed, of natural color and should not be in their face or eyes. Makeup should be nonexistent, no lipstick or noticeable eyeliner. Jewelry and other accessories should be kept to a minimum and not distracting to the student or others.

Not Permitted

Visible tattoos (including stickers)

Sandals, light-up (led), sparkly shoes, clogs or sliders

Denim clothing (including jeans unless specified)

Tights, leggings, yoga pants

Excessive jewelry and makeup

Body piercing(s), with the exception of earrings

Unnaturally colored/dyed hair

Clothing with any kind of lettering, characters or advertising (including jackets and sweatshirts). Except in the case of a small, outside label, or HCLA logo

Dress Code Violations

All students are expected to be in accord with the Dress Code on a daily basis. Students will be referred to the office and parents will be requested to bring in appropriate dress. Repeated violations of Dress Code would necessitate more severe action in keeping with discipline policies.

At the beginning of each school year we offer families the opportunity to purchase school-theme t-shirts. The shirts are a wonderful way for the students to be a part of the spirit day each Friday

DUAL ENROLLMENT

HCLA has entered into an agreement with Seminole State College to offer dual enrollment. The purpose of this agreement is to provide students access to classes not currently available on campus. (Example: advanced technology courses, career choices) This partnership is not designed to replace a high school required course. Guidelines for GPA and admissions are listed on the Seminole State College website under dual enrollment, private schools.

EXAMS

Most students will take semester and final exams in all courses except for students enrolled in an AP class. AP (Advanced Placement) Exams will serve as a substitute for final exams in the second semester. Students are expected to be in school for all exam days. Students may be required to take an exam on the first day they return to school after an absence. Absences on the day of a semester/final exam are excused only when the proper medical documentation is presented.

FIELD TRIPS

HCLA encourages all students to engage in activities supplementing the academics and college preparation. Students will take part in courses at Walt Disney Institute, tour various colleges, attend retreats and travel overseas. Interested students may attend the yearly literature conference in South Carolina.

FLORIDA SHINES (FloridaShines.org)

The Florida Department of Education provides all high school students and their parents with a personalized High School Academic Evaluation on how the student stands in relation to Bright Futures eligibility requirements and the State University System course admissions requirements. The evaluations are accessible through the Internet on FloridaShines.org, Florida's official statewide student advising system. The High School Academic Evaluation function allows high school students to create a LOGIN ID and PASSWORD, and using transcripts provided by their high school, receive an evaluation of their progress towards meeting the Bright Futures Scholarship program eligibility requirements and the State University System course requirements for admission.

GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy provides a comprehensive student services program which is designed to meet the developmental needs of all students. It is an integral part of the educational program. The guidance program reinforces the philosophy of HCLA in promoting spiritual, person, educational and social development of each child.

Each adult in the school community at HCLA has opportunities to influence and facilitate student growth; therefore, student services personnel are consultants not only to students but also to parents. The student services provide assistance to students in making appropriate social, educational, college and career choices.

The Principal will meet each semester with every student, providing guidance, proper course enrollment and constant monitoring of credits and grades.

HCLA provide Pastoral services every Wednesday and youth services every Thursday.

HCLA provides access to a counselor from the Lutheran Counseling Services free of charge.

This counselor can provide assistance for a student transitioning through an event in his/her life. Permission packets may be obtained from the office.

HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH

Students are given freedom during lunch. They are to remain on campus, but have the freedom to play basketball in the gym. Sit outside and enjoy the fresh air or just study while they enjoy a break from the building.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

(NHS) is a national academic honor club. The Holy Cross Lutheran Academy faculty selects students eligible for membership. In the first semester of the sophomore year students are selected based on a 3.5 or higher cumulative weighted grade point average, community service, membership in school organizations, character, and leadership. For more information, contact the faculty sponsor or Principal.

LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a locker for safekeeping of personal items and textbooks. The assigned locker is the property of HCLA. Inspection of lockers may be conducted at any time, without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

The locker is intended to be a place where your property will be safe. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen articles from your locker.

Lockers should be kept neat and clean. Only magnets may be used to hang items in your locker. Materials that are deemed to be offensive and/or inappropriate for a Christian educational setting may not be in or affixed to lockers.

Costs to clean or repair damaged, scratched, or defaced lockers will be charged to the student.

MAKE-UP AND LATE WORK

HCLA recognizes the need for students to develop punctuality and responsibility as two life-long skills and stresses the need for all work to be submitted on time. **Late work** will not be accepted.

Make-Up Work for Absences

- A student with a absence on the day of a test, quiz or other in-class assessment must be prepared to make-up the work on the day he/she returns to class.
- Other previously announced and posted assessments that involve substantial work outside of class are due the date posted in Sycamore, as most work can be submitted electronically. In the event that an assignment is a poster or other 3D project, the student can take a picture of the work and submit it electronically. The work can then be submitted when the student returns to class.
- In exceptional circumstances, such as extensive absences resulting in multiple make-up work assessments and assignments, the teacher may extend these deadlines.

PUBLIC AFFECTION

The showing of public affection between boyfriend and girlfriend sometimes goes beyond moderation and causes offense to others. The display of affection in schools such as kissing, hugging, caressing, etc. should be avoided. Whether an action is appropriate or not is at the discretion of the school staff.

STUDENT PARKING

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy students who wish to enjoy the privilege of driving a car or motorcycle to school must complete the Student Parking Application and park in the designated area.

TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRONICS

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy recognizes the technology is a part of our culture and the lives of our students. It also understands that the benefits of technology devices and the value they can provide to students and educators. The policies surrounding technology use in our buildings are intended to promote acceptable, educationally-focused use of technology and ban social use for students. In all situations, these devices are in a manner that enhances education and brings Glory to God.

Any improper use of an electronic device, including but not limited to taking photos or filming of any situation without permission, any be subject to suspension or expulsion.

OTHER ELECTRONICS

Student are permitted to use Holy Cross Lutheran Academy (HCLA) technology resources at school under the authorization and supervision of the faculty and staff to enhance their learning. The student will utilize an HCLA issued devices, or their personal device to enhance their learning and provide a stronger and broader foundation for a more effective and dynamic method of curriculum instruction- one which extends learning beyond the physical boundaries of the classroom.

All student must adhere to the following guidelines for use of technology at HCLA: Technology is defined as all the equipment, support sources (i.e. internet) and activities that will enhance students' learning through:

Providing a wealth of additional resources for reference, research, and presentation.

Consulting with experts in a variety of fields.

Communicating with other students and individuals in areas or situations they are studying learning to conduct searches, evaluate resources and locate relevant materials.

To assist students in learning to use their devices and the internet correctly, HCLA will do everything it can to ensure that students access the resources appropriately. This includes providing:

A reliable wireless connection that is protected by an internet filtering system that blocks sites that are objectionable for content, language, and viruses based on HCLA Administration's guidelines.

Supervision of students while they are using the internet.

Training for students that clearly spells out the utilization of on-line books and materials and what is appropriate and inappropriate in terms of content search, reliable resources/data and proper use of copyrighted material.

The use and capabilities of the student's device including all training is the responsibility of the student/parent. Please note any damage to the device by the student or another HCLA is not responsible for repairing any physical damage or downloading, fixing or updating any software on the student's computer.

It is understood that technology use for students is a privilege, not a right. All users of HCLA's technology resources are prohibited from using these resources or accounts for the following:

In any manner that would violate policy outlined in HCLA's handbook.

To access, upload, download, distribute, transmit or receive obscene, abusive, or other inappropriate language or material.

To engage in any act of cyberbullying (using technology to deliberately harass, threaten, or intimidate someone).

To violate any local, state, federal statute or copyright laws.

To vandalize, damage or disable the property of school, another person or organization directly or through attempting to harm by infecting with a virus or program.

To access another person's materials, information or files without the implied or direct permission of that person.

Lending, borrowing, or sharing of devices with another person or HCLA student is prohibited. Each student is responsible for their own device and sharing of devices even if personal is prohibited.

Administrative/Guidance Team

Betty Hoyer.....Director of Education

Shirley Geiss..... Upper School/Principal

Sue Stark.....Admissions Counselor

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy COURSE CATALOG

This catalog contains brief descriptions of courses offered at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy for students in grades 9-12. We offer a strong preparatory curriculum. Some courses are mandatory for graduation, some require pre-requisites, and others are electives. Electives are offered on a rotating basis depending on the number of students requesting that course each semester. Carefully consider academic decisions that affect your future, both personally and professionally. Students are free to select a variety of courses, so consider your future plans and pursue courses that are necessary and interesting. Remember, your actions today set the direction for your future tomorrow.

Also listed are ***Honors*** and ***Advanced Placement*** courses. Students must be recommended by previous teachers and qualify for placement in these classes. ***Honors*** classes are designed to cover the state requirements for credit and content in a subject area but also provide extra academic challenges requiring additional responsibility and work on the part of the enrolled students. ***Advanced Placement*** courses are accelerated curriculum programs offered within certain content areas.



Students must pass at least 28 credits of the appropriate mix of classes, complete one online course and have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 to graduate. Students are advised to choose courses carefully to meet both state and college requirements. Students entering HCLA after their freshman year will have credits evaluated on an individual basis. State of Florida requires 24 credits.

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy Recommended Academic Plans for College

NOTE: Students seeking admission to selective universities should maximize the number of courses at the advanced and AP level	HCLA Minimum Graduation Requirements	For Admission to Most Colleges and Universities	For Admission to Selective Colleges and Universities
Theology (one semester required each year)	2	2	2
English	4	4	4
Mathematics	4	3	4
Science	4	3	3-4
Social Science	3	3	3-4
Foreign Language	2	2	3-4
PE/Health (one semester of health; one semester of PE)	1	1.5	1.5
Capstone	3	0	0
Fine Art	1	1	1
Electives (one year required Latin)	4	8.5	2.5-4.5
Total Units	28	28	28

PREFACE

Students and parents are encouraged to read and review this course catalog. In addition, it is wise to consult with the Guidance Office and content area teachers to better understand each student's strengths and aptitudes when planning course selections and sequences. It is our goal at Holy Cross to guide each student to reach his or her highest potential academically, spiritually, physically and emotionally. Working together as a student, parent and school team we can insure correct course selection, effective work habits, and the development of perseverance and tenacity. The inclusion of balanced extra-curricular involvement is another key to a successful preparation for post-secondary education.

General Information

Awards for Academic Excellence

All students, grades 9-12, may be recognized yearly for academic excellence by one or more of the following:

Crusader Silver Academic in Excellence - using all course quarter grades, certificates are presented to students earning a GPA of 3.50 to 3.99

Principal's Gold Honor Roll - using all course quarter grades, Principal's Honor Roll certificates are presented to students earning a GPA of 4.00 and above.

National Merit Scholarship Awards – based on PSAT score in 11th grade

AP Scholar Awards – based on criteria set by College Board

Valedictorian – The student(s) with the highest unweighted GPA at the end of seven semesters will be designated as valedictorian(s). Only students who have attended HCLA for all eight semesters of upper school and have completed all requirements for graduation are eligible. If more than two students share the highest unweighted GPS, the Upper School faculty will vote by secret ballot for two of the students to give graduation addresses as representatives of the entire group. The Principal will count the ballots and announce the graduation speakers. If only one student has the highest GPA, those students sharing the second highest GPA will share the distinction of being salutatorians. The Upper School faculty would then vote for one student to represent the salutatorians in giving a graduation speech; votes would again be counted by the Principal.

Diploma Options

Crusader Diploma

Completion of all required course credits requirements:

Theology	4 semesters
English	4 credits
Math	4 credits
Science	4 credits
Social Science	3 credits
Foreign Language	2 credits
PE/Health	2 semesters (one semester must be Health and Wellness)
Crusader Capstone	3 credits (.5 freshmen year, .5 sophomore year, 1 junior and 1 senior)
Fine Art	1 credit (2 semester courses)
Electives	4

credits (we strongly recommend 1 credit in Latin)

Crusader Scholar's Diploma

Completion of required courses listed above, plus:

- Foreign Language total of 4 years
- Crusader Capstone passes both AP course exams
- AP Courses completion of 2 courses and passes AP exams

Crusader Scholar's Diploma with Distinction

Students who meet the Crusader Scholar's Diploma requirements listed above, in addition to meeting all requirements listed below will be designated a scholar with distinction.

- Cumulative weighted 3.75 GPA
- Completion of 2 additional for a total of 6 credits in Advanced Placement classes with "A" and "B" grades

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Cumulative Grade Point Averages (GPA) are based on final grades and determined by dividing the total number of courses attempted into the total number of quality points earned.

Unweighted (4.0 scale)	A	B	C	D	F
	4	3	2	1	0
Weighted	A	B	C	D	F
Honors	4.5	3.5	2.5	1	0
Advanced Placement	5	4	3	1	0
Grading Scale	A	B	C	D	F
	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-0

AP Capstone

Research, Academic Rigor, Distinction

What is the Capstone Program?

“The AP Capstone program will help students to develop critical thinking skills that allow them to think independently, to analyze issues from different perspectives, to communicate clearly, and to conduct independent research. These are exactly the types of skills that they will be expected to utilize in college, and the AP Capstone program will give them a terrific head start.” - Zina Evans, Associate Provost, University of Florida

“AP Seminar and AP Research are terrific classes that prepare students to think in non-formulaic ways.” - Stuart Schmill, Dean of Admissions, MIT

“Through this program, you get students turned on to higher education in a way they are not currently, and they enter university with a different kind of attitude.” - Susan Roth, Provost, Duke University

This program was developed in response to feedback from the College Board’s Higher Education membership. The courses, with their associated performance tasks, assessments, and application of research methodology, complement the rigor of AP courses and exams by challenging students to:

- Think critically and creatively to construct meaning or gain understanding
- Plan and conduct a study or investigation
- Propose solutions to real-world problems
- Plan and produce communication in various forms
- Collaborate to solve a problem
- Integrate, synthesize, and make cross curricular connections

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy has developed a 4-year program that provides students with two years of support, leadership habits and attitudes, followed in year 3 by the AP Seminar and year 4 concludes with the AP Research course. Following successful completion of the AP courses, and exams students will receive the **AP Capstone Diploma** (trademark). This signifies their outstanding academic achievement and attainment of college level academic and research skills.

NCAA College Athletics

NCAA Eligibility Center

To be certified by the Eligibility Center, you must:

- 1. Graduate from High School.** You should apply for certification at the end of your junior year if you wish to participate in athletics as a freshman at the college to which you will be admitted. The Eligibility Center will issue a preliminary certification report when you have had all your materials submitted. After you graduate, the Eligibility Center will review your final transcript to make a final certification decision according to NCAA standards.
- 2. Earn a grade point average of at least 2.00 (on a 4.00 scale), 2.3 beginning for the class of 2015 in a core curriculum of at least 16 academic courses which were successfully completed during grades 9-12.** Only courses that satisfy NCAA definition of a core course can be used to calculate your NCAA GPA. No special values are allowed for "+" or "-" grades. The chart below shows what your core courses must include as a minimum. Division I and II uses a sliding scale to match test scores and core grade point averages.
- 3. Earn a sum of scores of at least 68 on the ACT or a combined score of at least 820 on the SAT on a national test date.**

Core Units Required for NCAA Certification (see #2 above)

	Division 1	Division II
English Core	4 years	3 years
Math Core Algebra 1 or higher	3 years	2 years
Science Core	2 years	2 years
Social Science Core	2 years	2 years
From English, Math, or Science	1 year	3 years
Additional Core (Eng., Math, Science, SS, World Language, Computer Science, Philosophy, Non-Doctrinal religion)	4 years	4 years
Total Core Units Required	16	16

For more information visit the NCAA Eligibility Center at www.eligibilitycenter.org

Florida's Bright Futures Scholarship Program

All State Scholarships, eligibility requirements and award amounts are subject to change pending legislative action.

The Office of Student Financial Assistance (OFSA) within the Florida Department of Education administers the renewal and disbursement activities for the Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program, which includes the Florida Academic Scholars Award (FSA), the Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS) and the Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars Award (FGS). Academic criteria for eligibility and award amounts are described below. For additional information, visit the website at www.floridastudentfinancialaid.org, call 1-888-827-2004, or see your guidance counselor.

Florida Academic Scholars Award (FSA)

Award Level:

All students will receive the specified (cost per credit hour) award amounts established by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act. Specific Award amounts will be available in the summer after the legislature session.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

3.5 weighted GPS (based on the Statewide Scholarship Weighting System) using the 16 credits listed below, combined with test scores and community service hours. May use up to 2 additional credits in subject areas below to raise GPA.

Required Credits *for details on requirements, visit the Bright Futures website at www.FloridaStudentFinanciaAid.org/SSFAD/bf

- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 math (Algebra 1 and higher)
- 3 natural sciences (2 with substantial lab)
- 3 social sciences
- 2 world languages (in the same language)
- Community Service - 100 hours

Test Scores

- 1290 SAT
- 29 ACT

Florida Medallion Scholars Award (FMS)

Award Level:

All students will receive the specified (cost per credit hour) award amounts established by the Florida Legislature in the General Appropriations Act. Specific Award amounts will be available in the summer after the legislature session. **Grade Point Average (GPA)**

3.0 weighted GPA(based on the Statewide Scholarship Weighting System) using the 16 credits listed below and test scores listed below. May use up to 2 additional credits in subject areas listed to raise GPA.

Required Credits *for details on requirements, visit the Bright Futures website at www.FloridaStudentFinancialAid.org/SSFAD/bf

- 4 English (3 with substantial writing)
- 4 Math (Algebra 1 and higher)
- 3 natural science (2 with substantial labs)
- 3 social sciences
- 2 world languages (in the same language)
- Community Service - 75 hours

Test Scores

- 1170 SAT
- 26 ACT

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

What is Advanced Placement?

AP represents college level academic challenges. AP classes are college level courses offered in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language and Art. The work you do in AP will help you develop skills and study habits that will be vital in college. Colleges recognize that applicants with AP experiences are much better prepared for the demand of college courses. After completing an AP course, you may elect to take the AP exam for that course and possibly receive college credit. Admissions officers are aware of the difficulty of AP courses and exams, and sending them your AP Exam scores can only be a positive step toward potential admission into competitive colleges. Based on the results of the AP exam, college credit may be awarded by participating colleges and universities.

What do I need to succeed in AP?

You need to be willing and able. "Willing" means motivated to study and learn on the college level. If you are committed to participating actively in an AP class and doing the out-of-class assignments, you have met a major prerequisite for success.

How difficult are AP courses?

Compared with regular high school courses, AP courses are more demanding. Depending on the subject, you may read and write more, analyze material, synthesize ideas, solve problems, and evaluate. Your investment in any AP course is sure to provide many returns as well as lifelong learning.

Should I take an AP course and risk getting a lower grade?

The grade you receive may be as good as or better than one you would have earned in an honors course, because the weight given to grades in AP courses compensates for the increased difficulty. Secondly, colleges know that all courses are not equal. Their evaluation of student grades focuses as much on the quality of the courses as the grades received. Finally, an AP course gives you an opportunity to learn a subject in greater depth.



STUDENT 4 YEAR PLAN

Credits Required for Graduation					
Subject	Credits	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Theology	2	Theology I	Theology II	Theology III	Theology IV
English	4	English I	English II	English III AP Lang	English IV AP Literature
Mathematics	4	Algebra I Geometry Algebra II	Geometry Algebra II Pre- Calc	Algebra II Pre-Calc AP Calc AB	Pre-Calc/College AP Calc AB AP Calc BC
Science	4	Environmental Biology*	Biology* Chemistry*	Chemistry* AP Chemistry Physics	Anatomy/Physiology Florida Ecology AP Physics
Social Studies	3	Econ/Gov*	World History	US History	European History
			AP World History, AP US History, AP European History History AP classes can be taken in any order 10/11/12		
Foreign Language Must have 2 consecutive of the same language	2	Spanish I Spanish II	Spanish I Spanish II Latin I	Spanish I Spanish II AP Span Lang Latin I Latin II	Spanish II AP Span Lit Latin I Latin II
PE/Health	1	.5 Physical Education or .5 Personal Fitness PLUS .5 Health and Wellness Can be completed in any order over the 4 years based on availability			
Capstone	3	Freshman Capstone	Sophomore Capstone	AP Capstone Seminar	AP Capstone Research
Fine Arts	1	Student Choice: Art, Music, Drama/Theater, Public Speaking			
Electives	4	Student Choice based on availability and schedule availability			

In keeping with our academic standards, all our non-AP classes are taught at the honors level

* Required

9/2017

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

Registration must be considered as only a small part of your overall high school plan. You are urged to work with your parents and the Principal to complete the planning tool on this page. Plan ahead and be rewarded with a successful high school experience that prepares you for whatever your future may hold.

Note:

Students seeking admission to selective universities should maximize the number of courses at the advanced and AP level.

Credits required for High School Graduation		9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
Theology (one semester required each year)	2				
English	4				
Mathematics	4				
Science	4				
Social Studies	3				
Foreign Language	2				
PE/Health	1				
Capstone	3				
Fine Arts	1				
Electives	4				

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Religious instruction at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy has at its core the goal of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ. To that end, study includes both the Old and New Testaments of the Holy Bible and a clear understanding of what we as Christians believe. Christian Worldview and application of Biblical morality and thought to all life and choices are strong components of discussion. All students at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy are required to take one year of religion for each year attended. Courses are usually taught in a specific sequence, however, that is not necessarily required.

Religion I:

Introduction to Christianity

Usually the first course taken in high school religion, this introductory course meets students where they are in their faith experience. A clear overview of the Bible, core Christian beliefs, the history of the Christian reformed church and Christian World View are presented. Students are required to become familiar with the teachings of the Bible as well as what one believes relates to life choices and character.

- Semester Course (½ Credit) (Honors)

Religion II:

History of the Church

In this course students will become acquainted with the history of the Christian Church from the time of Jesus to the present day. Students will develop skills in close reading and note-taking; and they will demonstrate the ability to summarize broad concepts in written and oral formats.

- Semester Course (½ Credit) (Honors)

Religion III:

Comparative Religions

This course provides a broad overview of 5 major religions in the world. This study includes Judaism, Hinduism, Muslim, Taoism and Buddhism. Through the study of these religions within a Christian setting, students will develop a clear understanding of the differences and the relationship to Christianity.

- Semester Course (½ Credit) (Honors)

Religion IV:

Practical Christian Living

Practical Christian Living is a course designed to help the student connect Biblical truth with the genuine issues of life. We will look at how God's Word should shape our choices in relationships

(including dating and marriage), finances, career choice, ethics, faith and education.

- Semester Course (½ Credit) (Honors)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The Holy Cross English Department is committed to offering students a strong college preparatory curriculum in language arts. We believe that effective and intelligent communication is a vital skill for all students. To that end, we provide integrated instruction in reading, thinking, speaking and writing in the four required English courses. Additionally, all students must complete required reading yearly from the Independent Reading List. Electives offer diverse opportunity for reinforcement and/or enrichment learning. Honors activities and weighted credit in the four required courses are offered to eligible students.

English I / English I-Honors

This comprehensive course is designed to reinforce and enhance writing skills and the grammar, mechanics and usage learned throughout elementary and middle school. The writing portion of this class covers all elements of the writing process, practices writing the diverse types of essays, and culminates with a research paper. All writing is evaluated by both peers and the teacher.

- Required of all Freshmen
- Honors credit and weighted grade when enrolled in Honors Course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

English II / English II-Honors

The focus of this course includes critical thinking and reading as well as oral and written communications skills. Literature components include fiction and non-fiction. The writing process is emphasized through a variety of writing experiences both formal and informal. Vocabulary development and spelling are also included.

- Required of all Sophomores
- Prerequisite: English I
- Honors credit and weighted grade when enrolled in Honors Course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

English III / English III-Honors:

American Literature

This course focuses on various genres within American Literature from the Colonial Period through the Romantics, Transcendentalists, Realists and the Modern Era. Throughout the course, students will look at the history of the nation and the backgrounds of the authors to understand both what influenced these writers and in turn, the impact their works had on society. In conjunction with the literature, students will produce a writing portfolio including compositions, critical essays and creative pieces. Vocabulary study is also included.

- Required of all Juniors except those taking AP Language
- Prerequisite: English II
- Honors credit and weighted grade when enrolled in Honors Course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition

The AP English Language and Composition course aligns to introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Additionally, students read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction text, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods.

- Prerequisites: A or B in previous Honors English course, teacher recommendation, score 90th percentile or above on achievement test, and commitment to the goals of the AP program
- AP credit and weighted grade when enrolled in an AP Course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

English IV / English IV-Honors: British and Western Literature

This course focuses on English Literature from the Anglo-Saxon Period through the Modern Period. Emphasis is given to major writers. Students also study the history of each period to more fully appreciate the context of the literature. Vocabulary development and writing are included on a regular basis to develop composition skills.

- Required of all Seniors except those taking AP Literature
- Prerequisite: English III
- Honors credit and weighted grade when enrolled in Honors Course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition

This course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone, writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

May be taken in place of the English IV course required for Seniors

- Prerequisites: A or B in previous Honors or Advanced Placement English course, teacher recommendation, score 90th percentile or above on achievement test and commitment to the goals of the AP program
- AP credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)





English Department Electives

Journalism

This course applies the skills of writing, editing and production for a secondary newspaper publication. Students are required to conduct interviews, write a variety of articles, and learn newspaper design layout. Students must have good handwriting skills, be able to work independently and meet deadlines.

- Prerequisite: Students selected by application only.
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Public Speaking

Throughout this course the student will focus on a variety of interpersonal communication skills. The student will learn how to prepare and present impromptu, informative, persuasive and demonstrate speeches as well as participate in a group presentation. The student will also learn the elements of good speaking, how to critique another's presentation and how to be an active member of an audience.

- Fulfills ½ of the Fine Arts requirement
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Yearbook

This course involves the production of the Holy Cross Lutheran Academy yearbook for all students and families, grades PreK through 12. Students are involved in selling ads, photography, copy writing, page layout, theme and design. The yearbook staff members learn the importance of proficient writing and organizational skills. Furthermore, students experience working under pressure to meet deadlines and real-life opportunities in public relations, publishing and editing. Yearbook may be taken more than one year if approved by teacher.

- Prerequisites: A-B academic course average, English teacher approval, teacher recommendation
- Semester Course (.5 Credit)

SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The Social Sciences Department offers not only courses required by the state of Florida for graduation, but a curriculum that prepares citizens for today's world. A solid foundation in history, comparative cultures, worldview and government operations as well as economics round out a student's perception of the world and prepare him or her to fully participate in society. Electives are offered to round out the curriculum for the student with special interest in exploring additional social studies courses.

Economics with Financial Literacy/ Economics with Financial Literacy - Honors

This course consists of the following content area strands: Economics and Geography. The primary content emphasis for this course pertains to the study of the concepts and processes of the national and international economic systems. Content includes, but is not limited to, currency, banking, and monetary policy, the fundamental concepts relevant to the major economic systems, the global market and economy, the role and influence of the government and fiscal policies, economic measurements, tools, financial and investment markets, and the business cycle. The course includes the study of the United States Constitution and the American governments on the national, state and local levels. Honors students will explore all areas in more depth.

- Required of all Freshmen
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course at Honors Level
- Semester Course (.5 credit)

US Government/ US Government- Honors

This course provides students the opportunity to acquire an understanding of American government and political behavior. Content will include an analysis of documents which shape our political traditions, a comparison of the roles of the three branches of government at the local, state and national levels, a study of Florida government, an understanding of the evolving role of political parties and interest groups in determining government policy, how the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democratic state have evolved and been interpreted, and the importance of civic participation in the democratic political process. This course meets graduation requirements for American Government.

- Required of all Freshmen
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded at Honors Level
- Semester Course (.5 credit)

World History/ World History- Honors

World History is a survey course which begins with the early civilizations and carries through to the 20th century. Themes for the course include the Classical Period, the Middle Ages, Renaissance and the Reformation as well as more modern topics including the Industrial Age, Imperialism, and the World Wars. Students will utilize primary and secondary sources and be required to do outside reading. Students can expect to write from three to four critical essays.

- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course at Honors Level
- Full year course (1 credit)

Advanced Placement World History

This course focuses on developing students' abilities to think conceptually about world history from approximately 8000 BCE to the present and apply historical thinking skills as they learn about the past. Five themes of equal importance - focusing on the environment, cultures, state-building, economic systems, and social structures - provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation throughout the course. AP World History encompasses the history of the five major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania with special focus on historical developments and processes that cross multiple regions.

- Prerequisites: Grades of A or B in previous Social Science and English courses, teacher recommendation, plus a commitment to the Advanced Placement program
- Honors credit and weighted grade are awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

Advanced Placement European History

This course focuses on developing students' abilities to think conceptually about European history from approximately 1450 to the present and apply historical thinking skills as they learn about the past. Five themes of equal importance - Interaction of Europe and the World, Poverty and Prosperity, Objective Knowledge and Subjective Visions, States and Other Institutions of Power, and Individual and Society- provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation throughout the course. These require students to reason historically about continuity and change over time and make comparisons among various historical developments in various times and places. Challenging readings and regular essay writing is included.

- Course goal is the preparation for the AP Examination given for college credit in May.
- Prerequisites: Grades of A or B in previous Social Science courses, teacher recommendation, plus a commitment to the Advanced Placement program
- AP credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Year course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP Exam)

U.S. History / U.S. History Honors

This course is an in-depth study of the American people, their government and events that influence our history from early exploration to the present time. Economic, social, political and religious impacts will be studied as forces that shaped our nation. Students will do readings, projects for presentation and current events.

- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for Honors Level Course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Advanced Placement U.S. History

A comprehensive survey of United States History from before European discovery through the present, this course covers social, political, economic and ideological topics in our history. The curriculum stresses a factual knowledge of history, analysis of the implications of historical events, comparisons to happenings today, and written composition. The course is meant for students with good writing and excellent study skills as well as an interest in social science.

Course goal will be preparation for the AP examination for college credit.

- Prerequisites: Grades of A or B in previous Social Science and English courses, teacher recommendation, plus a commitment to the Advanced Placement program
- *May be taken in place of the U.S. History course required for Juniors*
- AP credit and weighted grade are awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

AP Macroeconomics

This course is an introductory college-level course that focuses on the principles that apply to an economic system. The course places emphasis on the study of national income and price-level determination; it also develops students' familiarity with economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

- Prerequisites: Grades of A or B in previous Social Science and English courses, teacher recommendation, basic math and graphing skills, plus a commitment to the Advanced Placement program
- AP credit and weighted grade will be awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)



Social Science Department Electives

Psychology

This course offers a basic introduction to psychology, including the study of human development, behavior, and the process of learning and thinking.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Humanities

An exploration of the nature of mankind, primarily as reflected in the disciplines of philosophy, history literature and religious studies. Examination of the significant myths, legends and folktales of world cultures with an emphasis upon the many ways in which they function in culture. Students will explore their own personal, moral and ethical values within a historical framework.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Business Studies

This course will provide students with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge and skill necessary for general business as well as a comprehensive education within the realm of the general business world. Our program will challenge students but also give the support and tools to meet the challenges for an ever-changing world of business. Students will develop skills in decision making, marketing, finance as well as leadership.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The Math Department offers courses ranging from integrated mathematics to advanced calculus, fully meeting the need of any college bound student regardless of his/her aptitude for mathematics of choice of field for future study. Courses must be taken in sequence, and prerequisite skills must be mastered to insure success at each level of the curriculum. Students are encouraged to take four years (courses) in math to guarantee eligibility to the college of their choice.

Math is different for every student; with we encourage each student to sit down with the Principal and math instructor each year before selecting a course. We have listed several options, but these are just a small sample of possibilities. First thing, plan with the end in mind. What are my area/areas of college study? I need 4 math credits, but which ones are the best match for me?

All course sequences will be suggested during 8th grade. Student will meet with math department and develop the sequence best meeting the needs of the student.

Algebra I/Algebra I-Honors

In this course, students will study the properties and rules of operations of equations and inequalities, exponents, factoring of polynomials, graphing, radicals and techniques of word problem solving. The honors level course involves a study of direct and indirect variation and methods to solve and graph the quadratic equation.

- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra and achievement test score above the 35th percentile
- Prerequisite for Honors: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra with a grade of A or B and teacher recommendation plus commitment to the Honors program
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Geometry

This course includes a study of the various geometric figures such as lines, planes, angles, polygons and circles. Both formal and indirect proofs, plus deductive and inductive reasoning are used. Concepts of space and plane geometry, construction and loci, coordinate geometry, and transformations and introduction to trigonometry are also included. Algebraic skills are reviewed and strengthened through application to problem solving in geometry.

- Prerequisite: Algebra I
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Algebra II

In this course, students learn advanced properties, language and symbols of algebra to solve equations and inequalities with two or more variables, word problems, matrix operations and solutions of right triangles using right triangles. More emphasis will be placed on trigonometric functions and rational expressions.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra I and Geometry
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Pre-Calculus-Honors

This course is offered to students who are proficient in math and plan to go on to calculus during high school. This course emphasizes reasoning and logical thinking. It connects geometry to algebra, data analysis, probability, trigonometry and discrete mathematics. It incorporates two column, paragraph, flow and coordinate proofs.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and 2 Honors with an A or B, teacher recommendation, plus commitment to the Honors program
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Liberal Arts Math

This course offers, but is not limited to, mortgage calculations, deferred payments with interest, net worth, remainder theorem, dividing polynomials, solving quadratic equations and systems of linear and nonlinear functions, finite geometric series, real-world linear and exponential models, simplify radical and rational expressions, two-way table and conditional probabilities, experimental design, margin of error.

- Prerequisites: geometry
- Course designed for college entry, but non-math or science majors
- Full year course (1 credit)

Analysis of Functions

This course will provide students with knowledge and understanding that will enable them to make appropriate decisions in fiscal management. Topics will include, linear equations, inequalities, systems of linear equations, exponential growth and decay, simple and compound interest, future value, finance charges, deferred payments, fees associated with a mortgage, balloon mortgage, points, personal budget, federal income tax, insurance options, retirement plans, diversification in investments, stocks and bonds.

The second semester follow-up is designed to prepare students to be successful in a pre-calculus course. Studying circular and trigonometric functions and their applications. Topics covered are identities, graphing, solutions of trigonometric equations, and between algebra, geometry and trigonometry. Topics are straight lines, graphs, curves, sketching, vectors, conic sections, equations and graphs of curves in polar form, analytic proofs, and parametric equations.

- Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II
- Course is designed for college entry, but non-math or science majors
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Calculus

The study of calculus provides a foundation for the study of advanced mathematics. This course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of geometry and elementary functions in addition to college preparatory algebra. This course includes a study of elementary functions, limits and continuity, derivatives, differentiation, applications of derivatives, integration and applications of the integral. Graphing calculators are heavily used in this course.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry, Algebra II & Pre-Calculus with an B or C and recommendation of their Algebra II instructor
- Full Year Course

Advanced Placement Calculus AB

The study of calculus provides a foundation for the study of advanced mathematics. This course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of analytic geometry and elementary functions in addition to college preparatory algebra, geometry and trigonometry, and who plan on taking university calculus in preparation for a career in mathematics, the sciences, engineering or medicine. This course includes a study of elementary functions, limits and continuity, derivatives, differentiation, applications of derivatives, integration and applications of the integral. Students in this course may take the AP exam, but they are not required to do so. Graphing calculators are heavily used in this course.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry, Algebra II & Pre-Calculus with an A or B and recommendation of their Algebra II instructor
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

Advanced Placement Calculus BC

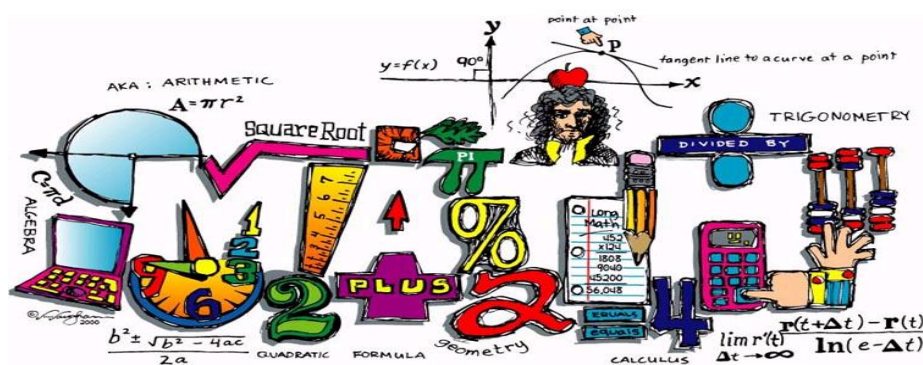
This course is roughly equivalent to both first and second semester college calculus courses and extends the content learned in AB. This course covers topics in differential and integral calculus, including concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, and series. Students will learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. Graphing calculators are heavily used in this course.

- Prerequisite: Successful completion of AP Calculus AB
- AP credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

Advanced Placement Statistics

AP Statistics is a college-level, non-calculus based course in introductory statistics. This course is designed to present strategies for collecting, organizing, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students will work on projects involving the hands-on gathering and analysis of real world data. They will learn to interpret and judge the statistical information in the world around them. Computers and calculators will allow students to investigate and explore statistical concepts. Effective communication skills will be developed through regular written analysis of real data. The Texas Instruments TI-83 Plus graphing calculator will be used for demonstrations and assigned work. **The TI-83 Plus is, therefore, required.** Students should have ready access to computers and the Internet for assignments and homework.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra II & Pre-Calculus with an A or a B and recommendation from their Algebra II instructor
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)



SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Holy Cross Lutheran Academy offers a comprehensive and expanding science curriculum that is taught within the framework of our Christian beliefs and includes both classroom lecture and laboratory components. Our graduates find themselves well prepared for the rigors of pursuing careers in the sciences, medicine and engineering. Some of the courses are presented on regular, honors and advanced placement levels. Even though the state accepts for graduation successful completion of three courses of science, Holy Cross students are encouraged to take four credits.

Environmental Science

This course will help students strengthen their skills in academic performance, learning strategies and critical thinking as they study the interactions between organisms and the environment, biogeochemical cycles, life on this Earth and energy flow. Environmental science is the first year of a 2-course sequence intended to prepare the identified students for success in Biology 1 (a graduation requirement). In the second year of the sequence, students will be enrolled in Biology 1.

- Full year course (1 credit)

Biology/Biology-Honors

This course forms an integral part of the student's general education. Topics of study include cell structure and function, how selected organisms perform these life functions, taxonomy, genetics, living things, the theory of Evolution is also explained to better prepare the students for future learning experiences. This class offers students a strong laboratory experience as well as developing scientific vocabulary, knowledge and methodology.

- Prerequisite: Placement in Geometry and scoring above the 80th percentile on the 8th grade achievement test in Reading and Mathematics
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Chemistry/Chemistry-Honors

Chemistry is a science that studies the structure of matter and the interactions that occur in matter. This full year course is designed to meet the guidelines of the Florida Department of Education and to prepare the student for the study of chemistry on the university level. Learning is achieved through lecture, discussion, demonstration, homework, lab activities and testing. ***A calculator of the TI-8x family is required for honors; suggested for regular.***

- Prerequisites: Algebra & Biology
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

AP Chemistry

This course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. Twenty-five percent of the course will provide students with opportunities to engage in laboratory investigations. This includes a minimum of 16 hands-on labs, at least six inquiry based.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 2 and a general high school chemistry course
- AP credit and weighted grade will be awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

Advanced Placement Biology

The AP Biology course is equivalent in content, depth and complexity to an introductory biology course taken by biology majors during their first year at the college level. This course is designed to prepare the student to excel on the AP exam offered in May, and follows the AP curriculum closely. AP Biology is an in-depth, content intensive study of biological principles that allows students the opportunity to engage hands-on in scientific experimentation which will provide a conceptual framework for future collegiate science course. Units of study include cell biology, genetics, DNA technology, enzyme catalysis, photosynthesis, ecology, evolution and physiology. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

- Prerequisites: Geometry & Biology
- AP credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

Anatomy and Physiology

This honors level course consists of a detailed study of human anatomy and physiology and includes dissections. Subjects studied include biochemistry, cytology and a survey of the basic tissue type and their functions. Also included is a review of the various organ systems of the human body and a brief overview of the senses. ***A calculator of the TI-8x family is required.***

- Prerequisites: Chemistry
- Co-requisite: Algebra II
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Physics Honors

Physics is the science that studies the nature of matter, energy, and their relationships. It applies the mathematics learned in previous courses to physical problem-solving techniques. This full year course meets the honors guidelines of the Florida Department of Education and is designed to prepare the student for the study of physics on the university level. Learning is accomplished through lecture, discussion, demonstrations, homework, lab activities and testing.

A calculator of the TI-8x family is required.

- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Advanced Placement Physics

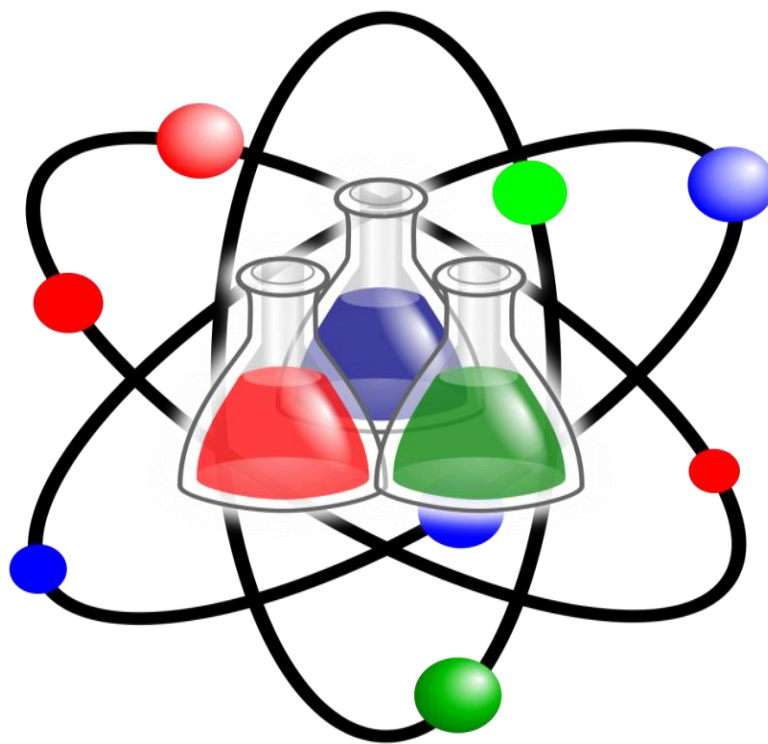
This Advanced Placement course covers the materials presented in a complete physics course at the university level. Its depth of understanding and rigorous schedule will challenge any student. It is designed for students who plan to pursue a career in medicine, engineering or science and gain college credit through successful completion of the AP Physics B exam. Lab activities are an integral part of the curriculum. **A calculator of the TI-8x family is required.**

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-calculus & Chemistry Honors. Completion of physics is recommended but not required
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

Florida Ecology / Florida Ecology - Honors

This course provides students with a study of Florida's diverse terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Included topics are historical formation of the state, basic ecological principles of populations, flora and fauna identification, the conservation movement, endangered species and the impacts of growth on Florida's resources. Some mathematical problem solving is involved in this course. Laboratory activities and safe laboratory techniques are essential components on the course.

- Honors credit awarded for this course



CAPSTONE PROGRAM

Intro to Capstone Program

Students will be introduced to the concept of the Capstone through various modalities. The first course will focus on self-leadership and connecting with others. Who am I? What are my gifts and talents? How do I successfully project a positive image? Successful completion will be based on participation in PSAT, active participation in journaling, design and implementation of portfolio, completion of book 1 and 2 in “Habitudes” course and the full development of 3 to 5 research questions.

- Grade 9
- Second semester (.5 credit)

Capstone and Leadership

The second semester of the Capstone will focus on Leadership. How can I fine tune the art of leading others? What is the art of changing culture? How do I use my gifts and talents to promote positive change? Successful completion will be based on participation of SAT, active participation in journaling, additions to portfolio, completion of book 3 and 4 in “Habitudes” course, completion of DISC evaluation, and full development of original research paper based on one of the questions developed in last course. Paper must include two different perspectives.

- Prerequisite: Intro to Capstone
- Semester course (.5 credit)

AP Capstone Seminar

AP College Capstone course to include the completion of Team Project and Presentation, scored against the College Board Rubric. The completion of the Individual Research Based Essay and Presentation, scored against the College Board Rubric. College credit awarded based on AP exam.

- Prerequisite: Capstone and Leadership
- Full year course (1 credit)

AP Capstone Research

AP College Capstone course to include the completion of AP Research Process Documentation, Academic Thesis Paper, Presentation and Oral defense. College credit awarded based on AP exam.

- Prerequisite: AP Capstone Seminar
- Full year course (1 credit)

Spiritual Gifts:

LEADERSHIP

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Holy Cross currently offers Spanish as our main foreign language choice for students because of its wide range of use across our world and in the business arena, especially in our home state of Florida. Two successful years of foreign language instruction is required for four-year college entrance. Additional years of study are encouraged for entry into some major fields of study.

Spanish I

This course introduces the student to the language and culture of Spanish speaking countries. Oral, written and reading comprehension study skills are stressed. The student should have the ability to memorize and have knowledge of English grammar.

- Prerequisites: At least a grade of C in English plus teacher recommendation
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Spanish II/Spanish II Honors

The second year of Spanish instruction builds on the fundamentals developed in Spanish I. More stress is placed on grammar, composition, reading and auditory skills. The student should have a strong base of skills developed from Spanish I.

- Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish I
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Spanish III Honors

Spanish III takes the student beyond grammar, comprehension, oral expression, listening and reading. Students taking this course have an interest in languages, plus a desire to expand their facility in speaking, reading, writing, translation and grammar/composition. Course will also include study of culture, literature and traditions of Spanish peoples.

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish II with a grade of C or higher plus teacher recommendation
- Honors credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

AP Spanish Literature and Culture

This course uses a thematic approach to introduce students to representative texts (short stories, novels, poetry, and essays) from Peninsular Spanish, Latin America, and United States Hispanic literature. Students develop proficiencies across the full range of communication modes (interpersonal, presentational, and interpretive), thereby honing their critical reading and analytical writing skills. Literature is examined within the context of its time and place, as students reflect on the many voices and cultures present in the required readings. The course also includes a strong focus on cultural connections and comparisons, including exploration of various media (e.g., art, film, articles, literary criticism).

- Prerequisites: Spanish III
- Full Year Course (1 credit, weighted grade) College credits determined by AP exam score

AP Spanish Language and Culture

This course emphasizes communication (understanding and being understood by others) by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in Spanish. The course develops students' awareness and appreciation of cultural products (e.g., tools, books, music, laws, conventions, institutions); practices (patterns of social interactions within a culture); and perspectives (values, attitudes, and assumptions).

- Prerequisites: Students are typically in their fourth year of Spanish language study
- AP credit and weighted grade awarded for this course
- Full year course (1 credit, weighted grader) College credits determined by AP exam score

Latin

This course introduces the student to the language of Latin. Oral, written and reading comprehension study skills are stressed. Skills acquired in Latin will assist every student with unfamiliar vocabulary and word dissection. The student should have the ability to memorize and have knowledge of English grammar.

- Highly recommended course (1 Credit)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH

The Physical Education Department strives to endow students with the knowledge and experiences to live healthy, productive, Godly lives. Knowing that our bodies are a gift from God and that we are to care for them and make good choices based on Scripture and good practice, students learn how to be physically active, participate in sports and follow good health habits.

Physical Education

This course includes a variety of physical fitness activities leading students to understand the importance of exercise to a healthy lifestyle.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Personal Fitness

Students will learn what fitness is, how to achieve it and examine the ways to develop the habit of "Lifelong" fitness. Nutrition, exercise, wellness, the effects of mental attitudes on the body, as well as other topical issues will be discussed. Both textbook and physical activity will be required.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Health and Wellness

This course acquaints students with those aspects of life necessary for their success as they move toward independent living. Emphasis is given to spiritual well-being, maintaining health, dealing with emergencies, food shopping and preparation, planning for use of recreational time, and time management as well as other topics

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

The Art Department at Holy Cross Lutheran Academy is well recognized for both its quality and depth. Student artists display works in a variety of settings including the Heathrow Fine Arts Festival, local exhibitions and school shows. It is the goal of the Art Department to expose students to the variety of art media and formats, art history and genres, as well as develop individual interest, talent and skills.

Art

In this course, students of any high school grade level will develop basic skills needed for drawing, painting, printmaking, and 3D construction. This full year course will also include basic instruction needed for ceramic production and several craft selections which vary from year to year.

- Semester Course (.5 Credit)

Advanced Art

Students taking this course will build on the skills developed in Beginning Art. Students will be encouraged to choose several areas of interest within the art world as the basis for research, experimentation, instruction and art work produced inside and outside the classroom. This course may be taken for one semester or a full year. Portfolio development as well as guidance for art school options will also be made available within this course.

- Prerequisite: Beginning Art
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

Advanced Placement Studio Art - 2D Design

AP2-D Studio Art is a college level course for students who want to further develop mastery in their art making skills. Requirements for the final portfolio are developed by the College Board Advanced Placement Program, including a Quality Concentration, and a Breadth Section that consists of approximately 24 different advanced level artworks. Portfolios are submitted in digital format to the AP Board for scoring as well as five 2-dimensional pieces that are judged for quality and physically submitted in accordance with College Board specifications. 2-D portfolios may include original photography.

- Prerequisite: Advanced Art or teacher approval
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Advanced Placement Studio Art - 3D Design

Explore sculptural issues and understand 3-D design principles as they relate to the integration of depth and space, volume and surface. Demonstrate mastery through any 3D approach, such as figurative or nonfigurative sculpture, architectural models, metal work, ceramics, glass work, installation, assemblage and 3D fabric/fiber arts. Develop technical skills and familiarize yourself with the functions of visual elements as you create an individual portfolio of work for evaluation at the end of the course. The portfolio consists of digital images of your breadth, concentration and quality images submitted in accordance to the College Board specification.

- Prerequisite: Advanced Art
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Chapel Band

The main purpose of this course is to offer students an opportunity to lead musical worship in our weekly chapel services. Students will be responsible for learning new songs, re-working traditional songs, and serving as leaders in worship as well as fellowship settings. Students in the chapel band course are required to already be proficient in an instrument or have choral experience. At Holy Cross, students can elect to take Chapel Band which will satisfy their fine art credit required for a diploma in the state of Florida.

- Prerequisite: Audition
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

Advanced Band/Orchestra

This course will provide the students with the opportunity to polish performing skills. Students will be expected to perform for functions, enter competition, attend after-school practice (when needed) and prepare for the continuation of music in personal or collegial life.

- Prerequisites: completed Band 1 in middle school
- Full year course (1 credit)

Instrumental Techniques (Drumline and Steel Band)

This course will further develop performance skills on selected percussion instruments in small ensemble and solo settings using a varied repertoire of musical literature. Performance techniques, music knowledge, critical analysis and aesthetic response will be emphasized. Students will be expected to perform for functions on and off campus, enter competitions, attend after-school practice (when needed) and prepare for the continuation of music in personal or collegial life.

- Prerequisites: middle school participation
- Full year course (1 credit)

Drama-Theatre

This course is an entry level course that will cover every aspect of drama from beginning acting, theater history, awareness of the stage, to technical production. The production of a short one-act play is part of the curriculum. Memorization of dramatic dialogue is required.

- Prerequisite: none, high school students only
- One Semester course (½ credit)

Improvisation

Like watching - Whose Line is it anyway? Learn how to perform improv. Daily activities include improv games and improv scenes. This course will help develop your ability to do oral presentations. The class will perform for student body; "A Night of Improv."

- Prerequisite: None
- One Semester course (½ credit)

Voice, Diction and Public Speaking

Develop public speaking through the exploration of a wide variety of speech and debate events: including Student Congress, Impromptu Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Oral interpretation of Literature, and the Lincoln Douglas Debate. This Course will consist of some lectures, much discussion, a great deal of individualized and small group work and student presentations.

- Prerequisite: None
- One semester course (½ credit)

Crusader Chorus

This course will focus on building vocal techniques, talent and skills required for a show choir. Students will rehearse and perform more advanced music of varied styles. There will be occasional after school rehearsals and performances.

- Prerequisite: None
- Yearlong course (1 credit)



TECHNOLOGY

Introduction to Information Technology (course one for all areas)

This course is designed to introduce information technology concepts and careers as well as the impact information technology has on the world, people, industry and basic web design concepts. The content includes information technology career research; operating systems and software applications; electronic communications including e-mail and internet services; basic HTML, web commands and design; emerging technologies and Web page design. This course meets elective requirements.

- Prerequisite: None
- One semester (.5 credit)

Microsoft

This course is designed to introduce students to the Microsoft Word, EXCEL and Power Point programs. This semester course will be divided between the 3 areas in one semester to provide expertise in each area for college preparation and work environments.

- One semester (.5 credit)

Digital Media Fundamentals (Honors)

This course introduces students to the essential concepts, components, terminology and knowledge about digital media, software applications and delivery systems. Students will prepare for industry certification in Adobe Premiere Pro.

- Prerequisite: Intro to Information Technology
- Yearlong course (1 credit)

Digital Media Production Systems (Honors)

This is the second-year course for students interested in video production. In this course, students will create computer-generated multimedia images and presentations that communicate ideas through formal, expressive, and conceptual elements. Additionally, students will demonstrate use of collaborative skills to maintain the studio and to offer multimedia presentations in the school, church and/or community. Content includes management aspects of creating, saving and distributing assets.

- Prerequisites: Digital Media Fundamentals
- Yearlong course (1 credit)

Digital Design 2 Honors (Yearbook)

This course continues the development of skills required for careers in digital publishing. Content includes digital publishing operations; layout, design and measurement activities; and digital imaging as well as communication, collaboration and decision-making; critical thinking; and problem solving. Students will work on all aspects of the yearbook including writing, photography and marketing/sales.

- Semester course (.5 credit)

