SAINT MARY'S SCHOOL

Celebrating 175 Years of Excellence in Educating Women

Curriculum Guide

2017-2018

Saint Mary's School Mission

Saint Mary's School, a community dedicated to academic excellence and personal achievement, prepares young women for college and life. To accomplish our mission, Saint Mary's School:

- Challenges each young woman to embrace the habits of an intellectual life, engages her with the past and the emerging future, and empowers her to serve and shape her world
- Fosters in each young woman a spirit of connection to others, guides her in developing her spiritual and ethical integrity, and prepares her to take responsibility for herself and her future

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Contents

Curriculum Goals ……3

Graduation Requirements ……...……4

Course Levels …….7

Understanding Course Numbers …….9

List of Courses ……..11

Course Descriptions by Department …….……12

English Department ...……..…….…14

Humanities and Social Sciences Department ……...17

Mathematics Department …….….20

Science Department ……..23

World Languages Department ……..26

Visual and Performing Arts Department ……..31

Athletics Program …….……39

Special Studies ……..40

Curriculum Goals

Saint Mary's School strives, through its academic curriculum to challenge each student to embrace the habits of an intellectual life. The faculty work to prepare each student to take responsibility for herself and for her future. We intend that graduates of Saint Mary's School develop the Saint Mary's **Habits of Lifelong Learners**, building their skills on a foundation marked by core knowledge of a liberal arts curriculum, with intentional development of clear communication, effective collaboration, intellectual creativity, critical thinking, global awareness, and character. Central to these habits are the "three C's," the foundational tenants upon which each course and the entire educational program is focused.

Critical Thinking

A Saint Mary's School graduate will explore and analyze ideas and issues with perception and creativity, discern the merits of the information available to her, and consider multiple perspectives cognizant of her own assumptions. She will embrace versatility, flexibility, new information and skills, and will create and execute ideas that positively impact society.

Communication

A Saint Mary's School graduate will communicate and collaborate effectively and authentically. She will balance speaking with engaged listening and writing with insightful reading. She will be adept in the non-verbal aspects of communication and expression. Her approach in all forms of communication will reflect confidence in her own perspective and consideration of the values of others.

Character

A Saint Mary's School graduate will demonstrate moral, spiritual, and intellectual character. She will have a clear sense of who she is and will show care and respect for the lives and beliefs of others. She will act with courage and emotional maturity in making ethical decisions and will take ownership of her actions. She will approach life with curiosity, perseverance, resilience, and joy.

Graduation Requirements

Curriculum/Graduation Requirements

In order to qualify for the Saint Mary's School diploma, students must meet the following requirements:

- Complete a total of 20 units with a cumulative weighted grade point average (GPA) of not less than 1.700
- Earn at least four units in the 12th grade at Saint Mary's School
- Complete 20 hours of community service for each year a student is enrolled at Saint Mary's School
- Within 20 units, have the following distribution of subject matter:

English	4 units
(Includes English I, II, III, and IV)	
Social Studies	4 units*
(One unit of World History I, one unit of World History II, one unit of U.S. History, one-half unit of Religion/Philosophy, and one-half unit of Government)	
Science	3 units
(Includes one unit of biology and one unit of a physical science)	
Mathematics	3 units**
(Includes Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II or the equivalent, plus one unit beyond Algebra II)	
World Languages	2 units ***
(Includes two consecutive units of the same language)	
Visual and Performing Arts	1 unit ****
Electives	3 units

*Students entering after 9th grade are required to have completed 4 units of Humanities and Social Sciences; specific named courses will be determined based on transcript.

**Mathematics units must be taken in a high school or college program. A student who enters the 9th grade with math credits for Algebra I or beyond will need 3 units beginning at the next level.

***For students interested in attending a selective college or university, Saint Mary's School recommends 4 units of the same World Language.

****Students entering in the 11th or 12th grade without Visual and Performing Arts credits will be required to take one-half unit of Visual and Performing Arts.

Fulfillment of Requirements

Generally, a candidate for the diploma must be enrolled as a full-time student during her 12th grade year. If there are unusual circumstances, the Dean of Teaching and Learning may give her permission to enroll part-time.

Required Courses
Required courses must be attempted at Saint Mary's School or through school-approved alternates. Normally, credit from summer courses outside of Saint Mary's School is not accepted, but may be used for student placement, remediation, or acceleration. Generally, students must complete graduation requirements in four years and comply with the requirements stated in the Student-Parent Handbook at the time of their graduation. In unusual circumstances, with the prior approval of the Dean of Teaching and Learning, exceptions may be made.

Grading System and Progress Reports
Academic progress reports are made available electronically to all parents at regularly scheduled intervals and posted on the parent portal. Report cards will be available after the end of each semester. Saint Mary's School students earn a numerical grade in each course taken for credit. In addition, faculty provide narrative feedback focused on the Saint Mary's Habits of a Lifelong Learner that details more specific information about a student's proficiency in the curriculum. These narratives address accomplishments and deficiencies, make suggestions for further growth, and are essential to understanding the numerical grade.

The evaluation of all academic work at Saint Mary's School rests with the teacher. Grades will be determined by the means considered to be most appropriate by the faculty member, in consultation with the academic department, and subject to the approval of the department chair and the Dean of Teaching and Learning, to measure accurately, fairly, and consistently the quality of students' academic work. The teacher will explain the grading policy to the class at the beginning of each course. Pluses and minuses are included in the grading scale to distinguish levels of performance and are calculated into the GPA as shown below. A student's cumulative GPA is determined by the grades earned only at Saint Mary's School. Each of the semester grades and a final grade are reported on a student's transcript. If a student's grade is an F in either semester but her year-end grade is passing, credit is earned, but remediation may be required by the school before a student may progress to the next level.

Grade Weighting

Grade	College Preparatory	Honors	Advanced Placement
A	4 grade points per unit	5	6
B	3 grade points per unit	4	5
C	2 grade points per unit	3	4
D	1 grade points per unit	1	1
F	0 grade points per unit	0	0

All academic work will be evaluated according to the following grading system:

Letter	**%**	**Descriptor**
A+ A A-	100-97 96-93 92-90	*Excellent*: The learner consistently demonstrates complete mastery of both the content and skills of the course. The work produced by the student often exceeds the requirements of the course.
B+ B B-	89-87 86-83 82-80	*Proficient*: The learner demonstrates a strong command of content and skills of the course. The work that the student produces meets the primary requirements of the course.
C+ C C-	79-77 76-73 72-70	*Satisfactory*: The learner demonstrates an adequate command of content and skills of the course. This learner creates a foundation to build on to master more complex content and develop deeper skills. The work that the student produces shows evidence of accurately focused and consistent effort even if it does not meet all the requirements of the course.
D	69-65	*Tenuous*: The learner demonstrates an unreliable or weak grasp of the content and skills of the course. She does not have a strong foundation and though credit is earned, she may not be prepared or recommended for further work in the discipline. Remedial work or intervention may be required by the school for a student with a grade of D. The work that the student produces shows some evidence of effort even if it does not meet the requirements of the course.
F	64-below	*Failing*: The learner does not demonstrate a grasp of the content and skills of the course. The work that the student produces may show some evidence of effort yet fails to meet the requirements of the course. No credit is issued. Remedial work or intervention may be required by the school for a student with a grade of F.

WP Withdrawal from a course while passing
WF Withdrawal from a course while failing
WM Withdrawal from a course for medical reasons
INC* Incomplete – Indicates that some part of the class work has not been completed
*The time permitted to erase an incomplete is negotiable between teacher and student, in coordination with the Dean of Teaching and Learning. Any incompletes after the second semester must be resolved by July 1.

Academic Policies
Policies concerning academic matters such as classes, class schedules, grading, academic expectations, and academic support may be found in the Academics section of the Student-Parent Handbook.

Course Levels

Saint Mary's School offers high school courses at three levels: college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement (AP). Placement in honors and Advanced Placement courses is dependent on demonstrated ability in prior coursework rather than preference.

College Preparatory Courses
College preparatory courses generally have an open enrollment and do not require special permission or a particular grade in a previous course. A college preparatory course may require a prerequisite. Students should expect to be challenged in college preparatory courses, which are designed to prepare students for college and which also can be avenues to honors and Advanced Placement courses. Students are expected to work at a high level of effort, to learn and practice critical thinking skills, to learn the content and skills of each subject, and to take responsibility for their work.

Honors Courses
Honors courses are designed for students who have demonstrated both outstanding academic accomplishment and self-direction in previous courses in the academic discipline. Honors courses have expectations significantly greater than college preparatory courses and course content with more breadth and depth. A student is recommended for individual honors courses and for the numbers of honors courses in her schedule on the basis of teacher evaluation, GPA, and standardized test scores. Teacher recommendations are based on the student's prior grades; her firm grasp of the skills and content in the subject; the ability to think critically and synthesize significantly greater material; depth of insight and level of articulation in writing, discussion, and oral presentations; positive engagement with subject material and with others in pursuit of knowledge; self-confidence and respect for others; habits of consistent and independent work; and willingness to meet challenges and accept constructive criticism. Teacher recommendations are based on a student's track record of accomplishment within the subject area rather than unrealized potential. High grades and test scores are an important part of the recommendation process. In addition, teachers consider the student's grasp of required skills within the discipline, demonstrated success in completing out of classroom assignments and level of articulation in writing, discussion, and oral presentation.

Advanced Placement Courses
The Advanced Placement (AP) Program, sponsored by the College Board, is an academic program of college-level courses and examinations for high school students. A typical AP course takes a full academic year, offers a challenging curriculum, and is more rigorous than a college-preparatory or honors course. These courses follow the College Board Advanced Placement course descriptions, and students are required to take the Advanced Placement external exam at the end of the course. A passing score on the AP exam at the end of a course may earn college credit for a student depending on individual college policy. Failure to complete or to make full effort on a national AP exam at the end of the course will result in the loss of AP weighting and may have an impact on a student's enrollment in future AP courses. See the "Grading Procedures" section for full details.

Advanced Placement courses are normally taken in the junior and senior years; juniors may take up to two AP courses, seniors may take up to four AP courses. Exceptions to this policy may be approved by the Dean of Teaching and Learning. Some advanced sophomores may be permitted to take no more than one AP course with the permission of the Dean of Teaching and Learning. The criteria for recommending students for these courses are based on the school's experience with students' success in AP courses and College Board recommendations. The recommendation of the teacher of the prerequisite is an important factor in determining if enrollment in an AP course is appropriate. Teacher recommendations take into

account the student's demonstrated ability to: handle college-level work independently and consistently; be positively engaged with the subject; demonstrate intellectual curiosity; willingly tackle difficult material, rise to challenges, accept criticism, and work through setbacks; have a high level of written and oral discourse; have a high quality of interaction with others in pursuit of knowledge; and have an ability to handle her particular combination of academic and other responsibilities. All Saint Mary's School Advanced Placement courses have prerequisites. Students and parents are responsible for the fee for the AP external exam for each AP course a student takes.

Online Courses

Saint Mary's School is in partnership with the **Online School for Girls**, the premiere provider of online learning courses for girls. All courses offered by the Online School for Girls are taught by experienced teachers from established independent girls schools. Online School for Girls courses are not self-paced. They require daily and weekly assignments that students must complete by assigned due dates similar to a school-based class with specific opportunities for interaction with classmates and the teacher. Courses have assessments in the form of daily assignments/homework, projects, group discussions, essays, and tests.

In addition, Saint Mary's offers limited course work through **Fuel Education**, which is a self-paced program that requires the student to manage her time fully to complete the course.

- Students wishing to take an online course to explore a subject not offered at Saint Mary's in addition to her official course load will be allowed to do so at the family's expense under the following conditions:
  - The Dean of Teaching and Learning must approve any credit earned via online courses. The course must be approved by the school in advance.
  - Courses and grades earned will be listed on the student's transcript but will not be figured into her overall GPA.
- Students may be approved to take an online course in place of a course offered at Saint Mary's under the following conditions:
  - Students wishing to accelerate their academic program may, with the approval of the Dean of Teaching and Learning, be allowed to do so at the family's expense.
  - Students choosing to take an overload in courses may, with the approval of the Dean of Teaching and Learning, be allowed to do so at the family's expense.
  - If a student has exceeded the course offerings at Saint Mary's, she will be allowed to take an online course at the school's expense.
  - Requests to enroll in online courses in place of courses offered at Saint Mary's for other reasons will be considered on an individual basis.
  - Courses and grades earned will be listed on the transcript but will not be figured into her overall GPA.
- If a student is required to repeat a course she previously failed at Saint Mary's School, she may be allowed to re-attempt the class via an approved online course at the family's expense. The online course and grade earned will be listed on the student's transcript but will not be included in the calculation of her GPA. If appropriate, she will be asked to take a placement test upon returning to Saint Mary's in order to ensure that she has the knowledge needed to move on to the next course level.
- Students approved to take online courses will be required to sign a contract indicating their commitment to completing the online course.

Understanding Course Numbers

Example: ENG A40 English IV

Dept. ID	*Required/Elective*	*Grade Level*	*Variant in Grade Level*
ENG	A	4	0

Department ID:

ENG	English	**FLF**	World Languages - French
MAT	Mathematics	**FAM**	Visual and Performing Arts - Music
SCI	Science	**FAS**	Visual and Performing Arts - Studio
HSS	Humanities and Social Sciences	**FAD**	Visual and Performing Arts - Drama
FLL	World Languages - Latin	**MUC-V**	Applied Music, Various

FLS	World Languages - Spanish	**DAN**	Dance

Required/Elective:
A Required
E Elective

Grade level:
1 9th grade
2 10th grade
3 11th grade
4 12th grade
5 Elective open to all grades
6 Elective open to 11th and 12th grades

Sample Four-Year Plan

Minimum graduation requirements are in bold type.

Students must also add electives for a total of 20 credits, with at least four units in the 12th grade.

Subject	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
English	**English I**	**English II** (college prep or honors)	**English III,** (college prep or honors or AP)	**English IV** (honors or AP) or Senior English Elective
Humanities and Social Sciences	**World History I**	**World History II** or Honors World History II	**U.S. History** (college prep or honors or AP) and possibly **Philosophy (1/2)** and/or **Government (1/2)** and electives including AP electives	**Government (1/2)** or AP U.S. Government or Comparative Government and/or **Philosophy (1/2)** if not taken in 11th grade and possibly electives, including AP electives
Mathematics (see math sequence)	*Determined by Placement Test* **Algebra I** or **Geometry** (college prep or honors) or **Algebra II** (honors)	**Geometry** (college prep or honors) or **Algebra II** (college prep or honors) or **Pre-Calculus** (college prep or honors)	**Algebra II** (college prep or honors) or **Pre-Calculus** (college prep or honors) or **AP Calculus** or **Intro to Calculus/Statistics** and/or electives	**Pre-Calculus** (college prep or honors) or AP Calculus or AP Statistics or Introduction to Calculus/Statistics or Introduction to Operations Research and/or electives
Science	**Physics** (honors if co-requisites are met)	**Chemistry** (college prep or honors) and/or electives	**Biology** (college prep or honors or AP) or AP Science and/or electives	AP Science and/or electives
World Language	**First Year** or higher level pending placement exam	**Second Year** or higher level	Honors Intermediate or higher level	Honors Intermediate, Honors Advanced or AP
Visual and Performing Arts	**Dance, Drama, Music, or Visual Art**	Electives	Electives	Electives
Electives			Electives	Electives

List of Courses

English Department

ENG A10	English I: World Voices
ENG A20	English II: Narrative Studies
ENG A20 H	Honors English II: Honors Western Tradition
ENG A30	English III: American Literature
ENG A30 H	Honors English III: Honors American Literature
ENG A30 P	Advanced Placement Language and Composition: American Literature
ENG A40 H	Honors English IV: Honors British Literature
ENG A40 P	Advanced Placement Literature and Composition: British Literature
ENG A42 P	Advanced Placement Language and Composition: British Literature
ENG A55	English: Creative Writing Fiction and Poetry
ENG A55 H	Honors English: Creative Writing: Fiction
ENG B55	English: Creative Writing Non Fiction
ENG B55 H	Honors English: Creative Writing: Non Fiction

Humanities and Social Sciences Department

HSS A18	World History I
HSS A19	World History II
HSS A19 H	Honors World History II
HSS A30	United States History
HSS A30 H	Honors United States History
HSS E42 P	Advanced Placement United States History
HSS A40	United States Government
HSS E44 P	Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics
HSS E46 P	Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics
HSS A61	History and Theology of Christianity (*not offered 2017-18)*
HSS A62	Origins of Western Thought (*not offered 2017-18)*
HSS A63	World Religions
HSS A50	Introduction to Ethics
HSS A51	Biblical Studies
HSS E43 P	Advanced Placement Psychology

Mathematics Department

MAT A10	Algebra I
MAT A20	Geometry
MAT A20 H	Honors Geometry *(not offered 2017-18)*
MAT A30	Algebra II
MAT A30 H	Honors Algebra II
MAT E40	Pre-Calculus
MAT E40 H	Honors Pre-Calculus
MAT E76 H	Honors Combinatorics
MAT E60	Introduction to Calculus
MAT E74	Introduction to Operations Research
MAT E42 P	Advanced Placement Calculus AB
MAT E43 P	Advanced Placement Calculus BC
MAT E63	Introduction to Statistics
MAT E64 P	Advanced Placement Statistics
MAT E45H	Honors Multivariable Calculus

MAT E50	Introduction to Coding

Science Department

SCI A10	Biology
SCI A10 H	Honors Biology I
SCI E71 H	Honors Biology II
SCI E61 P	Advanced Placement Biology
SCI A20	Chemistry
SCI A20 H	Honors Chemistry
SCI E62 P	Advanced Placement Chemistry
SCI A30	Physics
SCI A30 H	Honors Physics
SCI E64 P	Advanced Placement Physics I
SCI E52	Ecology
SCI E60 P	Advanced Placement Environmental Science
SCI E73	Marine Science
SCI E53	Astronomy

World Languages Department

FLF A10	French I
FLF A20	French II
FLF E35H	Honors French III: Composition and Conversation
FLF E45H	Honors French IV: Composition and Conversation
FLF E51 P	Advanced Placement French Language and Culture
FLL A10	Latin I
FLL A20	Latin II
FLL E31 H	Honors Latin III: Composition and Conversation
FLL E51 P	Advanced Placement Latin
FLS A10	Spanish I
FLS A20	Spanish II
FLS E35H	Honors Spanish III: Composition and Conversation
FLS E46H	Honors Spanish IV: Hispanic Cultures and Composition
FLS E51 P	Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture

Visual and Performing Arts Department

FAD E55	Theatre Arts
FAD E55 H	Honors Theatre Arts
FAD E57	Technical Theatre
FAM E50	Chorale
FAM E50 H	Honors Chorale
FAM E52	Chamber Music Program (Instrumental Ensembles)
FAM E61 H	Honors Fundamentals of Music
FAM E64 H	Honors Aural Skills I
FAM E65 H	Honors Chamber Choir
FAM E66 H	Honors Aural Skills II
MUC-V E51-53	Applied Music Instruction
FAS E60	Graphic Design and Digital Photography
FAS E73	Foundation Art I
FAS E74	Foundation Art II

FAS E64 H	Honors Art III
FAS E62 H	Honors Art Portfolio
FAS E75 P	Advanced Placement Portfolio
DAN E60	Elementary Ballet
DAN E70	Elementary Modern
DAN E61	Intermediate Ballet
DAN E71	Intermediate Modern
DAN E62	Advanced Ballet
DAN E72	Advanced Modern
DAN E56	Orchesis Dance Theatre
DAN E56 H	Honors Orchesis Dance Theatre
DAN T51	Stretch and Yoga *(not offered 2017-2018)*
DAN E57	Hip Hop
DAN E58	Jazz
DAN E63	Contemporary Ballet
DAN E64	Dance Composition
DAN E64	Pointe

Athletics Program

PLUS	Physical Lifestyle for Us

Other

ENG E64	Pathways

Course Descriptions By Department

The English Department

The English Department helps students learn to communicate effectively by developing skills in reading, writing, comprehension, and speaking. Courses acquaint students with literary works from a range of periods and cultures beginning in the 9th grade with a broad global focus using interdisciplinary approaches. Students then move to the literature of Western culture in the 10th grade and to the specific study of American and British literature in the 11th and 12th grades.

The goals of the English program in reading, carried out in all course offerings, are to develop students' awareness of the themes and styles of classic literature from around the globe and to make connections among different cultures; to enable students to read any text to determine main ideas, subsidiary points, and supporting evidence; at advanced course levels, to recognize authors' techniques and strategies and begin to incorporate them into their own writing; and to find intellectual and aesthetic pleasure in reading.

The goal in writing is to teach techniques such as precise word choice, effective sentence structure, logical transitions, unified organization of ideas, clarity of thought, and elegance of expression that enable students to become powerful communicators on personal, academic, and public levels.

The English Department also sponsors the literary club and its magazine, "The Muse," the annual Essay Contest and the Shakespeare Competition.

ENG A10 English I: World Voices
World Voices introduces students to the literature of major regions of the world, emphasizing non-Western literature and making connections among cultures by exploring universal themes, symbols, and motifs. Students learn the basic skills of critical reading, analyzing literature, writing essays, using the library, using technology, developing vocabulary, and preparing for the PSAT/SAT. The course introduces students to the basic kinds of literature—poetry, drama, short story, the novel, and nonfiction prose. Students develop oral and written responses to literature, learn the process of writing a formal essay—from prewriting to publishing—build vocabulary, and develop grammar skills. *Credit: one unit.*

ENG A20 English II: Narrative Studies
Narrative Studies explores the fundamental elements of effective storytelling through careful consideration of a variety of narrative forms, including traditional literary texts as well as those that use a multimedia approach. Students engage in exercises, discussions, and projects that ask them to read, understand, analyze, interpret, and synthesize the texts they encounter and to examine them in relation to their own experience and values. Students also continue to practice and sharpen communication skills, learning to analyze and create various narrative forms, to use the stages of the writing process, to gain command of basic sentence structure and standard grammar and mechanics, and to begin to find a voice and style of their own. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: World Voices.*

ENG A20 H Honors English II: Honors Western Traditions
Honors Western Literature asks students to read more broadly and in more depth and to write more extensively at a more sophisticated level than in college preparatory English II. This course introduces students to the major historical periods and works of Western literature. Students deal with major literary genres and engage in exercises and discussions that ask them to read, understand, analyze, interpret, and

synthesize the readings and to examine them in relation to their own experience and values. They continue to sharpen writing skills, learning to use the stages of the writing process, to recognize and produce various forms of the essay, to move beyond a basic command of sentence structure and standard grammar and mechanics, and to learn strategies for refining their writing style.
Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: World Voices.

ENG A30 English III: American Literature
In American Literature, students study the development of the literature of the United States with awareness of historical and cultural background. They examine readings as works of literature and as expressions of the major themes and ideas of American culture. The course includes the study of literature from a variety of periods and genres representing the diversity of the American literary tradition. Students learn to identify and explore common themes in the works studied through writing and discussion. Students continue to practice writing effectively. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: English II.*

ENG A30 H Honors English III: Honors American Literature
In Honors American Literature, students read poetry, plays, novels, short stories, and essays in American literature. They discover meaning in literature by being attentive to language, image, character, action, argument, and the various techniques and strategies authors use. Students learn to justify their interpretation by reference to details and patterns found in the text and to compare their interpretations with those proposed by others. Although the focus is on the literature of the United States, works from other cultures are included. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: English II.*

ENG A30 P Advanced Placement Language and Composition: American Literature
Advanced Placement Language and Composition is a college-level course with college-level requirements. In AP Language and Composition students learn how to read critically and complete rhetorical and stylistic analysis of the texts read. This course also incorporates American Literature, and students are introduced to the major historical periods and works of American literature. Students engage in exercises and discussions that ask them to read, understand, analyze, interpret, and synthesize the readings and to examine them in relation to their own experience and values. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Language and Composition examination. All AP Language and Composition students are required to complete substantial summer work in preparation for this course. This course is open to both 11th and 12th grade students. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: English II.*

ENG A40 H Honors English IV: Honors British Literature
A senior elective, students in Honors English Literature-A study early works from English literary periods. They are encouraged to respond critically and personally to this literature. Students continue to develop their rhetorical skills by writings personal, critical, and analytical essays. They work through the stages of the writing process, including pre-writing exercises; drafting; revising for style; editing for grammar, punctuation, and spelling; and publishing a final draft that follows standard format requirements. Students continue to do research and use library source materials as well as online sources. Students will sharpen their skills in finding, evaluating, and using sources in conjunction with papers and projects. Grammar and vocabulary are addressed in the context of students' reading, individual usages, and revision of compositions. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: an 11th grade Saint Mary's English course.*

ENG A40 P Advanced Placement Literature and Composition: British Literature
Advanced Placement British Literature is a college-level course with college-level requirements. In Advanced Placement British Literature, students learn to recognize and critique literary style in poetry, plays, novels, short stories, and essays. They learn how to discover meaning in literature by being attentive to language, image, character, action, argument, and the various techniques and strategies authors use. Students are expected to justify their interpretation by reference to details and patterns found in the text, to compare their interpretations with those proposed by others, and to be prepared to modify their own interpretations as they learn and think. The focus is on the literature of England, however, other great

literature of the world is included. The course prepares students for the Advanced Placement British Literature and Composition examination. Summer work in for this class helps to prepare students to do extensive writing during the coming year, and a particular kind of writing that focuses on analysis and depth of thought rather than merely superficial summary. AP English IV is not a course for people who only like to read or for people who only read well. The AP English exam in Literature and Composition is designed to identify those students who demonstrate skills of interpretation and, most of all, writing that can exempt them from first-year college writing or composition courses. This course is open to both 11th and 12th grade students. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: English II.*

ENG A42 P Advanced Placement Language and Composition: British Literature

Advanced Placement Language and Composition is a college-level course with college-level requirements. In AP Language and Composition students learn how to read critically and complete rhetorical and stylistic analysis of the texts read. Unlike the 11th grade equivalent, this 12th-grade course incorporates British Literature and students are introduced to the major historical periods and works of British literature. Students engage in exercises and discussions that ask them to read, understand, analyze, interpret, and synthesize the readings and to examine them in relation to their own experience and values. This course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Language and Composition examination. All AP Language and Composition students are required to complete substantial summer work in preparation for this course. This course is open to 12th grade students only. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: English III*.

ENG B55 Creative Writing: Nonfiction

This semester-long course is designed to enhance students' reading and writing skills and to stimulate their critical and creative thinking. This class will identify and explore effective storytelling techniques that may be used in writing a variety of forms of nonfiction. While observation and experience of reality are often used to fuel fiction that "feels" true, common devices used in fiction may also help bring true stories "to life" in a dramatic and compelling way. Journals, memoir, biography, family histories, oral histories, and interviews are some of the mediums that will be studied in this course. Students are expected to share their writing with the class and to keep up with supplementary reading. Students also will be asked to produce a writing portfolio of selected works that they have revised over the course of the semester. They will submit this portfolio for assessment at the end of the semester. Open to 11th and 12th grade students. Honors credit option available to 12th graders only, per teacher approval. Honors credit in this course will require a higher standard level of proficiency in writing mechanics and may also require extra revisions and/or completed assignments in the final portfolio. *Credit: one-half unit. Prerequisite: a 10th grade Saint Mary's English course*.

ENG A55 Creative Writing: Fiction and Poetry

This semester-long course is designed to enhance students' reading and writing skills and to stimulate their critical and creative thinking. Students will study the basic components of storytelling and explore the role of literature in our society. Students will be asked to read works of fiction and poetry; to offer their own evaluations of the works' success; and to create their own original pieces of writing as well. Short stories and poetry will be the main forms of writing focused on in this class. Students will be expected to share their original works with the class, to maintain a class journal, and to keep up with supplementary reading. Students will participate in a weekly workshop that taps into the narrative impulse through imagery and collage. This workshop will lead to the creation of a series of collages and writings inspired by them. Students also will be asked to produce a writing portfolio of selected works that they have revised over the course of the semester. They will submit this portfolio for assessment at the end of the semester. Open to 11th and 12th grade students. Honors credit option available to 12th graders only, per teacher approval. *Credit: one-half unit. Prerequisite: a 10th grade Saint Mary's English course*.

Honors credit in this course will require a higher standard level of proficiency in writing mechanics and may also require extra revisions and/or completed assignments in the final portfolio.

The Humanities and Social Sciences Department

The Humanities and Social Sciences Department encompasses a range of courses that include the study of history, cultures, government, religion, philosophy, and psychology. Through these courses, students have the opportunity to develop a deeper understanding of themselves and their world.

The courses in Humanities and Social Sciences take students from the general view of the world, presented in the World History sequence, to the more familiar and specific, as they move to World History and then to American History. By the time a student is a senior, she is able to select a religion or philosophy course that allows her to concentrate on a subject that interests her. In all of their classes in this department, students build the skills they will need to succeed in college and are prepared to become informed and responsible citizens of the world.

HSS A18 World History I
Foundations in Contemporary History, the first semester of 9th grade in the Humanities and Social Sciences Department, grounds students in the study of history for their high school years. The course uses the *Choices Program*, published by Brown University, as an introduction to the discipline of history and its ongoing impact. Students study topics such as the United Nations, Human Rights, Nuclear Weapons, the Middle East, International trade and the Environment. The course focuses on important skills including geography, critical reading, research, argumentation and format for short and longer written assignments, the use of citations and bibliography, and the identification of reliable sources.

World History to 1000, the second semester of World History I, encourages students to analyze the significant cultural, political, and economic movements and events of World History and their role in shaping the intellect and character of the world from the beginning of history to 1000CE. It includes the study of the ancient Middle East, Greece, India, China, Rome, the Byzantine Empire and the early Muslim world. In addition to the subject-area content, this semester course continues to develop the critical reading, writing, research, and study skills begun in the first semester of 9th grade. *Credit: one unit.*

HSS A19 World History II: 1000-Present
World History 1000-present seeks to build on the foundation laid in the 9th grade courses, with a focus on the more recent past including the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, developments in Africa and East Asia, the Americas, and the modern world. The course utilizes primary documents and emphasizes historical analysis, research and written argumentation. *Credit: one unit.*

HSS A19H Honors World History II: 1000-Present
Honors World History 1000-Present examines the history of the world in the Medieval and Modern periods as it developed in Europe, Asia, and Africa and the Americas. It places emphasis on research and writing in the field of history and focuses on the analysis of primary documents. Students are also expected to draw widely from knowledge they have gained in other courses as they analyze the cultural, political, and economic history of the World since 1000CE. *Credit: one unit.*

HSS A30 United States History
United States History focuses on the people and events in the history of the United States from the pre-Columbian period to the present. Current events are considered in the light of historical experience. *Credit: one unit.*

HSS A30 H Honors United States History
Honors United States History focuses on the people and events in the history of the United States from the pre-Columbian period to the present with an emphasis on research and writing in the field of history. Students read primary and secondary materials that supplement the course text. They are also expected to draw widely from knowledge they have gained in other courses as they analyze United States history and current events. *Credit: one unit.*

HSS E42 P Advanced Placement United States History
Advanced Placement United States History is consistent with the College Entrance Examination Board requirements to prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination in United States History. The course provides a learning experience equivalent to that in a college introductory history course. All AP United States History students are required to complete substantial summer work in preparation for this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: World History.*

HSS A40 United States Government
A one-semester course, United States Government is devoted to the study of the United States government. In addition to formal academic considerations, the course stresses the effect on the individual of political, economic, and geographic factors and of current events. *Credit: one-half unit. Prerequisite: World History.*

HSS E44 P Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics
Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics is equivalent to a college-level survey of United States government. The fundamental principles of the United States government are traced in their evolution through Western civilization to the nation's founders to today's political events in the nation's capital. The course emphasizes analysis of the U.S. political system and concentrates on teaching students how to understand political events by writing about the principles of political science in the context of United States governmental history. All AP United States Government and Politics students are required to complete substantial summer work in preparation for this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: U.S. History.*

HSS E46 P Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics
Advanced Placement Comparative Government and Politics is equivalent to a college-level comparative survey of governments in several countries, including Great Britain, Mexico, Russia, Iran, China, and Nigeria, with the goal of examining some of the diversity of political life around the globe. The course emphasizes analysis of the institutional alternatives, the differences in processes, and the variety of policy outcomes that exist. All AP Comparative Government and Politics students are required to complete substantial summer work in preparation for this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: World History. Co-requisite: U.S. History.*

HSS A61 History and Theology of Christianity (*not offered in 2017-18*)
A one-semester course, History and Theology of Christianity allows students to follow the history of the church as they explore the key forms of religious expression in the Christian tradition. Those forms include theology, philosophy, art, music, architecture, and literature. *Credit: one-half unit.*

HSS A62 Origins of Western Thought (*not offered in 2017-18*)
A one-semester course, Origins of Western Thought allows students to consider issues that define the Western outlook in religion, philosophy, and culture. In particular, students examine the ideals that have developed out of the ancient Hebraic and Greek traditions as they have informed the modern tradition. Some of the issues taken up in the course focus on faith, reason, justice, ethics, theodicy, human control of nature, and the nature of God. *Credit: one-half unit.*

HSS A63 World Religions

A one-semester course, World Religions gives students an understanding of the fundamental beliefs and practices of the major religions in the modern world: Hinduism, Jainism, Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, and Sikhism. The course also presents students an overview of the discipline of the study of religion. *Credit: one-half unit.*

HSS A50 Introduction to Ethics

A one-semester course, Introduction to Ethics considers some of the most influential ethical schools of thought such as Kantian Ethics, natural law and utilitarianism to improve the students' ability to make ethical decisions in a complex world. The course also enhances communication skills, develops character and reasoning skills and written argumentation. *Credit: one-half unit*

HSS A51 Biblical Studies

A one-semester course, Biblical Studies examines the important narratives and key theological concepts in the Protestant Christian Bible from an academic perspective. The students study the Bible in its historical context and the theological beliefs that underline its main narratives and teachings. *Credit: one-half unit*

HSS E43 P Advanced Placement Psychology

Advanced Placement Psychology is equivalent to a college-level comparative survey of Psychology. This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the methods psychologists use in their science and practice. The course prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Psychology examination. For their summer assignment, students read *Three Psychologies: Perspectives from Freud, Skinner, and Rogers.* This slim volume provides an excellent overview of major viewpoints in psychology and prepares students to understand each perspective more fully and readily when discussed throughout the year. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Two units of Humanities and Social Sciences. Prerequisite or co-requisite: Biology.*

The Mathematics Department

The main objective of the mathematics program is to support students as they become mathematically literate citizens who know the appropriate mathematical and technological tools to use and when to use them in various problem-solving settings. Students work in independent, whole-class, and small-group settings to increase their mathematical confidence and their communication skills. The types of problems and the learning environment in the mathematics classrooms foster persistence, critical thinking, and reflection. All courses require students to communicate conceptual understanding (both verbally and in written form), justify and explain results, and apply mathematics to real-world situations.

Students master concepts and work through the mathematics courses through a sequential approach beginning with Algebra I. They develop critical thinking and application skills needed to build a solid foundation for further high school and college work in both mathematics and science. As they progress through the courses, students build a solid foundation for STEM work in college and in life, and they see that the learning of mathematics includes computational fluency, conceptual understanding, and real-world applications. The department recognizes that students are at different levels of mathematical development when they enter Saint Mary's School. The department uses a variety of assessments to place students into appropriate courses for successful experiences.

To meet the various needs and goals of our students, we offer college preparatory, honors, and Advanced Placement courses. The use of a TI-83+ or TI-84+ graphing calculator is required of all students. Other types of technology, such as Geometer's Sketchpad, Desmos, Microsoft Excel, TI-89 calculators, and TI-SmartView may be incorporated into classes. In addition, the mathematics department teaches a Financial Literacy unit as part of the Saint Mary's School COMPASS Leadership Development Program.

MAT A10 Algebra I
Algebra I introduces students to the fundamental concepts and techniques of algebra. Topics include linear relationships, equations and inequalities, systems of equations, statistics, and various types of functions, including linear, absolute value, and quadratic. Statistics and geometry are integrated throughout this course, and students will learn how to utilize a graphing calculator. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra.*

MAT A20 Geometry
Geometry focuses on the study of points, lines, planes, transformations, congruence, and similarity while working with triangles, polygons, circles, and geometric solids. Other topics include algebraic principles, angles, measurement, right triangle trigonometry, probability, and modeling of real-world situations. The course emphasizes the use of constructions, conjectures, justification, explanation, and proof. Hands-on activities and technology are integral parts of the course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Algebra I.*

MAT A30 Algebra II
Algebra II is a continuation of the study of algebra at the intermediate level. Major topics include solving equations and inequalities, systems of equations and inequalities in two and three variables, operations with polynomials and rational expressions, algebraic functions (absolute value, power, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic), statistics, probability, and logarithms. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Geometry.*

MAT A30 H Honors Algebra II
Honors Algebra II is an accelerated course intended to prepare students for advanced mathematics courses. The course emphasizes the properties, applications, and algebra of functions (absolute value, power, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic). Other major topics include solving equations and inequalities, sequences, and statistics. More material will be covered and in greater depth than in the Algebra II course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors Geometry.*

MAT E40 Pre-Calculus
Pre-Calculus is a course that helps develop students' understanding of functions and prepares them for further studies in mathematics, including Calculus. Topics include functions and their graphs (polynomials, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions), and analytic trigonometry. Each topic is approached numerically, symbolically, and graphically. Technology and real-world applications are incorporated throughout this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Algebra II*

MAT E40 H Honors Pre-Calculus
Honors Pre-Calculus is an accelerated course designed for students with strong mathematical aptitude. The course offers a thorough study of advanced algebra, trigonometry, and analytic geometry. Topics include functions (polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric and their graphs), analytic trigonometry, conic sections, and limits. More material will be covered and in greater depth than in the Pre-Calculus course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II.*

MAT E60 Introduction to Calculus
This is a semester course of introductory Calculus designed to prepare students for taking Calculus in college. Students will study selected topics from differential and integral calculus, including the study of algebraic and transcendental functions, limits and continuity, derivatives, and antiderivatives. A main focus of the course is to explore applications of Calculus in other disciplines such as business, science, and psychology. *Credit: one-half unit. Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus.*

MAT E42 P Advanced Placement Calculus AB
AP Calculus AB is designed to prepare students for the College Board AP Calculus AB examination. The course starts with a review of the Cartesian plane and the functions studied in Pre-Calculus. Major topics covered are limits and continuity, differentiation and its applications, integration and its applications, differential equations, and slope fields. This course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts and results expressed numerically, graphically, analytically, and verbally. Summer work consists of a self-review packet of the algebraic and trigonometric functions studied in Pre-Calculus that will be of most importance to Calculus. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus.*

MAT E43 P Advanced Placement Calculus BC
Advanced Placement Calculus BC is designed to prepare students for the College Board AP Calculus BC examination. This course is an extension of Calculus AB and includes additional topics in differential and integral calculus including techniques and applications of integration, parametric functions, polar functions, differential equations, sequences, series, power series, and Taylor's Theorem. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB.*

MAT E63 Introduction to Statistics
This is a semester course of introductory Statistics designed to prepare students for taking Statistics in college. Students will study selected topics from statistics, including graphing and describing one- and two-variable data sets, calculating standardized normal probabilities, performing linear regression, and designing experiments. A main focus of the course is to explore applications of Statistics in other disciplines such as business, science, and psychology. *Credit: one-half unit. Prerequisite: Algebra II.*

MAT E64 P Advanced Placement Statistics
The purpose of Advanced Placement Statistics is to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Statistics examination. This course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data

and describing patterns and departures from established patterns; planning and conducting experiments using proper procedures and sampling techniques; anticipating patterns in random phenomena through the use of probability and simulation; and using statistical inference to estimate population parameters and to test hypotheses. All AP Statistics students are required to complete substantial summer work in preparation for this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus and departmental approval.*

MAT E74 Introduction to Operations Research

This course is designed for seniors who have completed Algebra II and are looking for an alternative mathematics class, in addition to or in replacement of Pre-Calculus or Introduction to Calculus and Statistics. The focus of the course is on using mathematics to solve problems and make decisions involving day-to-day operations as well as long-range issues. The course is divided into two semesters: deterministic and probability. Topics in the deterministic semester include multi-criteria decision making and linear programming. Topics in the probabilistic semester include probability trees, and probability distributions. Microsoft Excel is used extensively in this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Algebra II.*

MAT E45H Honors Multivariable Calculus

Multivariable calculus is the third of three courses in a calculus sequence. The course focuses on (1) vectors, vector algebra, and vector functions; (2) functions of several variables, partial derivatives, gradients, directional derivatives, maxima and minima; (3) multiple integration; and (4) line and surface integrals, Green's Theorem, Divergence Theorems, Stokes' Theorem, and applications. The course relies on the use of handheld calculators and computer algebra systems. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: AP Calculus BC.*

MAT E50 Introduction to Coding

Computing has changed the world in profound ways: it has opened wonderful new ways for people to connect, design, research, play, create, and express themselves. However, using the computer as a tool is just a small part of the power computing brings to society. This survey course offers students a hands-on introduction to computer science, and they will use the Snap! visual programming language to translate their ideas into code. Students will learn about big programming ideas such as variables, lists, algorithms, loops, data structures, recursive functions, and general abstraction. In addition, students will explore various aspects of computing relevant to themselves and to society.

The Science Department

Science plays a major role in human lives and it is vital that students have an understanding of its importance. Science courses make students aware of the vast amount of information being discovered daily about our world. Students gain enough background to be able to read with interest and understanding current literature that deals with scientific and technological topics as well as to continue science study at advanced levels with confidence.

The science program offers courses in both the biological and the physical sciences and aims to stimulate critical thinking and to teach students how to understand and interpret data and to apply the scientific method. Laboratory experiences form a major part of science study. Through them, students explore the world via the microscope, experimentation and observation, and field work, which help them relate the more abstract concepts considered in lecture periods to their immediate experience. Opportunities for individual research programs are available for students who wish to go beyond the required courses.

The Science Department subscribes to the statement on the nature of science adopted by the National Science Teachers Association in 2000, which states that "science, along with its methods, explanations and generalizations, must be the sole focus of instruction in science classes to the exclusion of all non-scientific or pseudoscientific methods, explanations, generalizations and products." "Science is characterized by the systematic gathering of information through various forms of direct and indirect observations and the testing of this information by methods including, but not limited to, experimentation. The principal product of science is knowledge in the form of naturalistic concepts and the laws and theories related to those concepts."

SCI A30 Physics
Physics is an introduction to classical physics. Students are expected to use both their writing skills and their math skills to demonstrate their knowledge of physics during the course. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit. Co-requisite: Algebra I.*

SCI A30 H Honors Physics
Honors Physics is an in-depth introduction to classical physics. Topics covered include Newtonian mechanics, electricity, magnetism, thermodynamics, and sound and light as well as aspects of modern physics. Honors Physics is intended for students who have successfully completed Algebra I and Geometry. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit. Co-requisite: Honors Algebra II.*

SCI A20 Chemistry
Chemistry is an introductory course in chemistry for students who have not yet studied chemistry as a separate subject. It covers the main foundations of inorganic chemistry, both qualitatively and quantitatively. In addition, it introduces organic chemistry primarily in a descriptive fashion. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit.*

SCI A20 H Honors Chemistry
Honors Chemistry is an introductory course in chemistry for students who have not yet studied chemistry as a separate subject. It covers the main foundations of inorganic chemistry, both qualitatively and quantitatively. In addition, it introduces organic chemistry primarily in a descriptive fashion. Honors Chemistry has both greater breadth and greater depth than Chemistry. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Physics.*

SCI A10 Biology
Biology provides an overview of the important principles and methods of the field of biology. It covers such topics as cells, genetics, evolution, microorganisms, plants, invertebrates, human biology, and ecology. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit. Pre-requisite: Physics or Chemistry.*

SCI A10 H Honors Biology I

Honors Biology I provides an overview of the important principles and methods of the field of biology. It covers such topics as cells, genetics, evolution, microorganisms, plants, invertebrates, human biology, and ecology. Honors Biology I has both greater breadth and greater depth than Biology. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Physics and Chemistry.*

SCI E71 H Honors Biology II

Honors Biology II is for students who wish to pursue the specialized areas of human anatomy/physiology and zoology. In the anatomy section of the course, the structure and function of all of the major human systems are covered. In the zoology section, the function, structure, and classification of the major groups of animals are studied. This is a laboratory course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Biology, Honors Biology I, or AP Biology.*

SCI E61 P Advanced Placement Biology

Advanced Placement Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course taken by biology majors during their first year. It covers the following major topics: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and populations. This is a laboratory course. The course prepares students to sit successfully for the Advanced Placement Biology examination. Summer work, reading and answering questions on the first two chapters of the textbook, is designed to introduce the ten unifying themes in biology, which serve as the underlying framework for the course. Most students take this as a second biology course. However, advanced students may be recommended for AP Biology as an initial biology course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry.*

SCI E62 P Advanced Placement Chemistry

Advanced Placement Chemistry is a second year chemistry course and is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory chemistry course taken by chemistry majors during their first year. It covers the following major topics: structure of matter, states of matter, reactions, and descriptive chemistry. This is a laboratory course. The course prepares students to sit successfully for the Advanced Placement Chemistry examination. Summer work involves memorizing specific metric prefixes, polyatomic ions, common oxidation states of a number of elements, and the solubility rules for salts. Students also complete questions that test their knowledge and prepare them to solve AP-like questions during the course. Students are tested for a grade on the second day of AP Chemistry on their understanding acquired by solving the summer work problems. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry; Co-requisite: Pre-Calculus.*

SCI E64 P Advanced Placement Physics I

Advanced Placement Physics is the equivalent of a college introductory physics course taken by physics majors during their first semester. Students explore principles of Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. The course covers both classical and modern physics, including Newtonian mechanics; thermal physics; electricity and magnetism; waves and optics; and atomic and nuclear physics. This is a laboratory course. It prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Physics I examination. For summer work, students read the first chapter of the textbook and complete problems on dimensional analysis and vector algebra. *Credit: one unit. Co-requisite: Pre-Calculus. Prerequisite: Physics and Chemistry.*

SCI E52 Ecology

Ecology is a laboratory-based life science class that focuses on the principles and methods used in the study of ecology. Major topics of study include the structure and function of populations, communities, and ecosystems; the interrelationships between human and non-human organisms and how these relationships evolved; and the impact of environmental changes on the natural world. This class also provides field trip opportunities for first-hand investigation of ecological relationships, identification of native and non-native species, and inquiry-based labs. *This course is offered on a rotational basis. Credit: one unit. Pre-requisite: Biology and one year of a physical science.*

SCI E60 P Advanced Placement Environmental Science

Advanced Placement Environmental Science is equivalent to a one-semester introductory college-level course in environmental science. It is an interdisciplinary course involving elements of geology, biology, chemistry, and physics and prepares students for the Advanced Placement Environmental Science examination. This is a laboratory course. All AP Environmental Science students are required to complete substantial summer work designed to give the students an overall idea of the course content in preparation for this course. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: one unit of biology and one unit of a physical science.*

SCI E73 Marine Science

Combining the study of the biological, physical, and chemical aspects of the marine environment, Marine Science is a laboratory-based course that uses an inter-disciplinary approach to the study of a variety of marine ecosystems, including coastlines, estuaries, coral reefs, and the open ocean. The course also includes an evolutionary survey of marine organisms and a special focus on marine mammal behavior. Multiple field trips provide opportunities to learn analytical techniques and to study the distribution of marine organisms. *This course is offered on a rotational basis. Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Biology and one year of a physical science.*

SCI E53 Astronomy

Astronomy, a year-long course open to 11th and 12th grade students, is designed to be accessible to any student. Topics range from the solar system to stars, galaxies, space travel, and cosmology. In addition to practical investigations, there are nighttime telescopic observations several times during the course. This is a laboratory course. *This course is offered on a rotational basis. Credit: one unit. Pre-requisite: Biology and one year of a physical science.*

The World Languages Department

Learning a world language opens doors to other worlds, and creates links between our students and the cultures that we represent and teach. We believe our students will learn more and develop a deeper commitment to and interest in the language if we actively pursue language instruction from a global, current, interdisciplinary perspective. With this articulated goal, we make no distinction between classical and modern languages. In all three of our World Language offerings, Latin, French and Spanish, we strive for mastery in each and every aspect of language acquisition, integrating reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills.

Entering students choose which language they wish to study and are placed at a level in the study of that language that best reflects their past records and current abilities. To ensure proper placement, all students who request a course beyond the first level are required to take a placement assessment to determine the appropriate course. Subsequent progression through the various levels of study is monitored by the Department.

FLF A10 French I

French I is designed for both students with some background in French and students who are beginning this language. Students strive to achieve an appropriate level of proficiency in four areas: auditory comprehension, oral expression, written expression, and reading comprehension. To achieve the desired level of proficiency, students need to develop good memory techniques and skills. These are constantly reinforced in class. Students are then able to acquire the necessary verb conjugations, vocabulary, and grammar rules to succeed. The course emphasizes high frequency vocabulary, basic syntax, and aspects of daily life in the Francophone world. In aiming to build a strong foundation, teachers and students use French as much as possible in class. *Credit: one unit.*

FLF A20 French II

French II is designed for students who have successfully completed French I. Students review and build upon material covered in French I, as they aim to increase their level of proficiency in the four skills: auditory comprehension, oral expression, written expression, and reading comprehension. More complex grammatical structures and additional vocabulary are introduced, essential in achieving the desired level of proficiency. Greater emphasis is placed on the use of the language in class. Students broaden their appreciation of cultural variety through their reading and exposure to audio-visual material. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: French I.*

FLF E35 H Honors French III: Composition and Conversation

This course includes a review of grammar and vocabulary through the study of a variety of French and Francophone cultures. Students gain an increased understanding of the French-speaking world and its place in an increasingly globalized world. Writing skills are sharpened through discussions and essays based on authentic readings, journal entries and short research papers. The class is conducted primarily in French. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: French II or higher.*

FLF E45 H Honors French IV: Composition and Conversation

Honors Advanced French Conversation and Composition is an intensive course designed to give students a better command of present-day spoken and written French. Speaking activities will include conversations based on real-life situations and discussions of news articles on current events (French and international), including but not limited to politics, education, language, and entertainment. This course

also offers an introduction to narrative writing in French. Emphasis is placed on writing, revision, and an intensive review of grammar rules as they apply to both oral and written communication. Preparation and active participation are essential to improve reading, writing, and speaking skills. The course is conducted primarily in French. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors French III.*

FLF E51 P Advanced Placement French Language and Culture

As the AP French Language and Culture class is an immersion experience, all communication by the teacher will be carried out exclusively in the target language, and by the students, primarily, in the target language; the student class participation grades reflect this. The course will use a variety of methods involving films, music, texts, listening exercises, speaking exercises, discussions (on French culture, daily life, current events, etc.), and other communicative activities. The AP French Language and Culture exam is based on six groups of learning objectives: spoken and written interpersonal communication, audio, visual, and written interpretative communication, and spoken and written presentational communication. These learning objectives will be addressed through the study of six themes: Global Challenges, Science and Technology, Contemporary Life, Personal and Public Identities, Families and Communication, Beauty and Aesthetics. Students will continue to develop vocabulary and refine their grammar skills while focusing on communication. Students enrolling in this course are typically in their fourth or fifth year of language study or they have had experiences with the language. Therefore, they should have a good command in French grammar and vocabulary. They should also be proficient in listening, speaking, reading, writing in French and they accept and are ready for the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors French IV.*

FLL A10 Latin I

The purpose of studying Latin since the fall of the Roman Empire has been both to read Latin literature and to communicate in the language. Students participate actively in this tradition by reading, writing, and speaking Latin every day in class. Skills practiced daily include pronunciation, conversation, grammatical analysis, reading comprehension, and composition. In order to accomplish proficiency, students learn the elements of the Latin verb, noun, and adjective systems, as well as elementary sentence structures. Students also acquire a basic Latin working vocabulary. They receive guidance in developing the memorization skills necessary to the acquisition of grammar and vocabulary. Through the readings in the textbook, Orberg's Lingua Latina, students encounter the history and daily life of the ancient Romans. Students also study English vocabulary derived from Latin. Throughout the course, in addition to tests and quizzes, students complete several projects which require research and creativity. All students participate in the National Latin Exam in March. *Credit: one unit.*

FLL A20 Latin II

Latin II is designed for students who have successfully completed Latin I or its equivalent. The course extends the student's knowledge of the topics covered in Latin I to a higher level of proficiency, both in reading comprehension and in written expression. More complex grammatical structures are introduced as well as additional vocabulary. Students continue to read the lively narrative in Orberg's Lingua Latina. All students participate in the National Latin Exam in March. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Latin I.*

FLL E31 H Honors Latin III: Composition and Conversation

Honors Intermediate Latin is a challenging course which requires a strong foundation of vocabulary and grammar from Latin I and II. Students in this course will be introduced to more sophisticated grammatical structures like indirect discourse and the subjunctive mood. They will be expected to compose more complex sentences, take more risks with oral skills, and complete more thorough research for projects. At the end of this course, students will read some unaltered selections from Latin authors like Catullus, Ovid, and Martial. All students participate in the National Latin Exam in March. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Latin II.*

FLL E55 P Advanced Placement Latin

The AP Latin course covers the selections on the AP Latin Exam syllabus. This includes Vergil's Aeneid and Caesar's Gallic Wars. To prepare for the exam, portions of these works must be studied in Latin, and students will read the remainder in translation. The class will develop Latin reading proficiency, understanding of classical literary techniques, and the ability write critical essays on literary passages. Class activities will involve extensive reading in Latin, learning several dozen literary techniques common in Latin poetry, mastering Latin poetic meter, and studying the historical context of both authors. Extensive, near daily out-of-class reading in both Latin and English will be assigned. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite*: *Honors Latin III.*

FLS A10 Spanish I

Spanish I is designed for both students with some background in Spanish and students who are beginning this language. Students strive to achieve an appropriate level of proficiency in four areas: auditory comprehension, oral expression, written expression, and reading comprehension. To achieve the desired level of proficiency, students need to develop good memory techniques and skills. These are constantly reinforced in class. Students are then able to acquire the necessary verb conjugations, vocabulary, and grammatical rules to succeed. The course emphasizes high frequency vocabulary, basic syntax, and aspects of daily life in Hispanic cultures. Spanish is used as much as possible in class. *Credit: one unit.*

FLS A20 Spanish II

Spanish II is designed for students who have successfully passed Spanish I. Material from Spanish I is reviewed and expanded upon in order to reach a higher level of proficiency. More complex grammatical structures are introduced as well as increased emphasis on oral proficiency and reading comprehension. The class is conducted primarily in Spanish, and students frequently read authentic materials. Students begin developing their writing skills by means of several short compositions. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Spanish I.*

FLS E35 H Honors Spanish III: Composition and Conversation

Honors Intermediate Spanish Grammar and Conversation is designed for students who have successfully completed two or more years of Spanish. With a basis on reviewing and building upon grammar usage and improving pronunciation, this course helps students acquire the ability to communicate with increased fluency and accuracy at an intermediate/advanced level. Students are assessed through oral presentations and their ability to respond to a variety of situations on a variety of topics. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Spanish II.*

FLS E46 H Honors Spanish IV: Hispanic Cultures and Composition

This advanced course introduces students to the skills necessary to analyze literary texts from a variety of periods. Students use and build upon their knowledge of the Spanish language to read and analyze full-length works by Spanish authors and poets such as Ana María Matute, Antonio Machado and Miguel de Unamuno. In addition to reading, students participate in class discussions and write short papers to build their language skills. All class discussions, readings and assignments are in Spanish. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Spanish III.*

FLS E51 P Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course provides students with opportunities to develop language proficiency across the three modes of communication: Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational. Students learn about culture through the use of authentic materials that are representative of the Spanish-speaking world. Materials include a variety of different media, e.g., journalistic and literary works, podcasts, interviews, movies, charts, and graphs. AP Spanish Language and Culture is a language acquisition course designed to provide students with the necessary skills and intercultural understanding

to enable them to communicate successfully in an environment where Spanish is spoken and as such, is an immersion experience requiring almost exclusive use of Spanish, a requirement which class participation grades reflect. This course is designed for students who have mastered complex grammar structures and therefore requires either the successful completion of either. *Credit: one unit. Prerequisite: Honors Spanish IV.*

The Visual and Performing Arts Department

VISUAL ART PROGRAM

The visual art program offers students the opportunity to exercise self-expression through a range of courses. In these studio classes, students are encouraged to increase their skill levels and maximize their artistic potential by exposure to a variety of techniques and mediums in an atmosphere that embraces a high expectation of creative decision making and a high quality of production. Year-long courses receive one credit unit. Semester-long courses receive one-half credit unit.

DANCE

The dance program offers dance courses that provide solid technical training in ballet and modern, while offering opportunities when appropriate for that particular academic year, for students to study other genres of dance and take varied supportive dance courses. Students may mix and match their classes to form their dance schedule, as advised by Dance Faculty. Dance technique courses are offered on the trimester system with the exception of two performance courses, Orchesis and Honors Orchesis. These two courses are offered by the semester and together make up the performing dance company, Orchesis Dance Theatre. All dance classes are scheduled to begin at 3:15 p.m. daily. The dance classes fulfill the Saint Mary's School Visual and Performing Arts and elective requirement as well as the PLUS program requirements.

THEATRE

The theatre program offers opportunities to study acting, explore dramatic literature, read and analyze scripts, and become familiar with the history of theatre. Students also work as production company members in stage management, acting, set, costume, lighting and sound design, and various technical and stage crews. Each year, students create on-campus productions that include a full-length play, full-length musical, one-act plays and, as opportunities present themselves, original student-written scripts.

MUSIC

In the music program, every level of interest and ability is supported with a rich variety of vocal and instrumental training both in performance ensembles and through individual lessons. Expert instruction in applied music is provided in voice and a wide range of instruments, which students can pursue at elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels. An extra fee is charged for private or class applied vocal and instrumental instruction. These lessons are designed to develop musical skills leading up to artistic performance. Opportunities to perform at Saint Mary's School are many and varied. In addition, students are able to take advantage of many first-rate live performances on campus with opportunities to meet the musicians after their performances.

FAD E55 Theatre Arts

Students will explore character development through improvisation and scene work. Students will participate in daily exercises to improve articulation, projection, and breath control. They will use theatre games to promote creativity. Students will be given opportunities to work with original works and different genres of theatre, including comic and dramatic pieces. The class will perform scene work during the semester. This class is geared for beginning actresses. *Credit: one-half unit.*

FAD E55 H Honors Theatre Arts

This is a class for students of acting who have completed a year of Theatre Arts. Students will explore character development through improvisation and scene work. Students will participate in daily exercises to improve articulation, projection, and breathe control. They will use theatre games to promote creativity. Semester work may include Shakespeare, Meisner, or student directing. Students will be given opportunities to work with original works and different genres of theatre, including comic and dramatic pieces. The class will perform scene work, one act plays, and original work during the semester. This class is geared for the seasoned actress, and all students will be involved in all major productions. *Credit: one-half unit.*

FAD E57 Technical Theatre

Students taking this class will serve as technical crew heads and crew members for the major productions. Students choose their interest areas; including costuming, hair, make-up, scenic painting, props, set construction, lights, and sound. Students will participate in the process of theatre production from interpretation and concept to opening night. *Credit: one-half unit.*

FAM E50 Chorale

The Chorale is an ensemble of singers in 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades. The course of study includes extensive music literacy skills and a challenging repertoire. The literature studied and performed includes a variety of genres. The Chorale sings for chapel services and special events on campus as well as in the community. It serves as the touring choir for Saint Mary's School. *Credit: one-half unit for A-G periods or one-third unit for I period.*

FAM E50 H Honors Chorale

The Honors Chorale is an auditioned ensemble of experienced singers in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades and is a year-long commitment. The course of study includes extensive music literacy skills and a challenging repertoire. The literature studied and performed includes a variety of genres. Students are expected to lead the Chorale Program in and outside of class, and individual practice is expected. Students may be asked to participate in Chamber Choir or other solo and/or small group performances. The Honors Chorale sings for chapel services and special events on campus as well as in the community. It serves as the touring choir for Saint Mary's School. *Credit: one unit.*

FAM E52 Chamber Music Program (Instrumental Ensembles)

This is a performance class for instrumental ensembles open to students who have achieved the intermediate to advanced level of skill with their chosen instrument. Groups are arranged according to instrumentation and ability. Examples of groups are String Ensemble, Flute Ensemble, String Trio, Violin-Piano duos, etc. The ensembles meet with a teacher once per week, and individual practice is expected. Emphasis is placed on developing listening skills, awareness of the importance of individual parts to the ensemble, intonation, and tone quality in playing chamber music that will lead to artistic performance. A variety of repertoire is explored. Repertoire will include selections from the Baroque, Classical, Romantic, and the Modern eras. Popular Repertoire will also be included. Instrumental ensembles are combined into a Chamber Orchestra for special occasions. *Credit: one-fourth unit per semester.*

FAM E61 H Honors Fundamentals of Music
Honors Fundamentals of Music is offered on demand. This course is designed to prepare the student for the study of advanced music theory. Students acquire a thorough understanding of the basic materials and processes of music and apply them creatively. Through written work, aural dictation, sight singing, and computer assisted drills, students gain fluency in the language of music. The final project is a sixteen-measure composition in the student's choice of style and genre, synthesizing the material learned in the class. *Credit: one-half unit.*

Honors Program in Applied Music
The Honors Program in Applied Music is available to seniors who are in at least their second year at Saint Mary's School and who will present a public recital in the spring after fulfillment of the following requirements: completion of all applied music courses with a grade of B or better, completion of a music theory course, and satisfactory completion of academic requirements for graduation. The culminating performance (senior honors recital) must be at least thirty minutes long, must represent at least three contrasting stylistic periods, and must be performed at a level satisfactory to the music faculty. Students must apply for the program in the spring semester of their junior year and must be approved by the faculty of the music department. *Credit: one-half unit for the year. Honors credit awarded in applied music courses is related to honors performances.*

FAM E65 H Honors Chamber Choir
The Honors Chamber Choir is a small auditioned ensemble of experienced singers in 10th, 11th, and 12th grades not to exceed 14 students. The course of study includes extensive music literacy skills and a challenging repertoire. The literature studied and performed includes a variety of genres. Students are expected to lead the Chorale Program in and outside of class, and individual practice is expected. The Honors Chamber Choir will be eligible for All-State Chorus and select choral festivals and workshops. The Honors Chamber Choir sings for chapel services and special events on campus as well as in the community. *Credit: one-fourth unit per semester*.

FAM E64 H Honors Aural Skills I
This course is open to all students but requires an instructor's recommendation. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of sight reading and music theory. Students will gain faster fluency with pitch and recognize the tonal relationships through the use of solfege, the international language used to rationalize sound. *Credit: one-fourth unit per semester*

FAM E66 H Honors Aural Skills II
This course is designed for students who have completed Honors Aural Skills I and would like further study in choral and solo sight reading. Students should desire to read music as a one-to-one mapping of sound to symbol. *Credit: one-fourth unit per semester*

MUC-V E51-53 Applied Music Instruction: Elementary, Intermediate, and Advanced Levels
Applied music instruction is offered to students in piano, organ, voice, guitar (folk and classical), flute, clarinet, violin, viola, and cello. Other instrumental instruction is available according to demand. These lessons are designed to develop the instrumental and vocal skill of the individual student according to each student's goals and potential. Instruction is offered at the beginning, intermediate, and advanced levels.

Students choosing to enroll for academic credit must play for a panel of three music teachers at the end of each semester. First semester elementary students are exempt from this requirement. Performance is a vital part of the applied music program. Students are invited to perform in a variety of settings on campus—student recitals, chapel services, and special events—and off campus in local, state, and national level competitions, adjudications, and festivals. Students are also expected to attend professional concerts as an important part of their overall training and development as young artists. *Credit: one fourth unit per semester.*

FAS E73 Foundation Art I

Students are given the opportunity to develop creatively through exploration and learning basic skills while gaining a foundational understanding of the elements and principles of design. Through engaging assignments, students will be exposed to a variety of art media, learn different techniques, and focus on creative problem solving skills. *Credit: one-half unit.*

FAS E74 Foundation Art II

Students will develop the fundamental skills of drawing and painting. In addition to sharpening perceptual skills, the basic elements of design; line, shape, form, texture, and color will be emphasized. This course also focuses on basic techniques, processes, and methods of working and students will be encouraged to explore drawing and painting as vehicles for thinking, perceiving, and communicating. *Credit: one-half unit. Pre-requisite: Foundation Art I.*

FAS E60 Graphic Design and Digital Photography

This class introduces students to the skills of Graphic Design and Digital Photography. Using the same tools as professionals, students learn how to create design layouts, capture digital imagery for use in print, and modify digital images through Photoshop. During the year students will have regular, hands-on experience with Digital SLR cameras and will learn about the publishing industry. Through the course of the year students will also plan, design, and create the Stagecoach Yearbook. *Credit: one unit. Pre-requisite: Foundation Art I and Foundation Art II.*

FAS E64 H Honors Art III

Students will be challenged to further develop their drawing, painting, and design skills. Working at a more advanced level, students will work on developing techniques and processes while they gain a more in depth understanding of the elements and principles of design. A variety of media and process will be explored while students develop an understanding of style and their own creativity. *Credit: one-half unit. Pre-requisite: Foundation Art I and II.*

FAS E62 H Honors Art Portfolio

The Honors Art Portfolio class is an upper level studio course for students who are interested in developing their own portfolio. Whether the student is interested in developing a portfolio for colleges or for their own interest, they will work on creating a body of work, executing their own ideas, and developing a personal artistic language. This course is designed for experienced art students, who are motivated, will work at an advanced level, and are willing to challenge themselves. Students who are enrolling to complete a portfolio for college submission are advised to register for both semesters. *Credit: one unit. Pre-requisite: Honors Art III.*

FAS E75 P Advanced Placement Portfolio
AP Portfolio is a year-long and an intensely rigorous studio course in which students are challenged to create superior quality art work, to develop mastery in concept, composition, and execution of their own ideas. This is a year-long course for highly skilled and motivated visual art students who will work at a very advanced and challenging pace to produce art that exhibits focus, in addition to the quality and quantity necessary for the extensive portfolios that are submitted to the College Board in the spring to be evaluated for possible college credit. *Credit: one unit. Pre-requisite: Honors Art Portfolio and teacher recommendation based on portfolio review.*

Elementary Dance
Elementary dance courses are taught from the perspective that students are new to either ballet or modern dance technique. Dance history, anatomy, conditioning, and improvisational information is incorporated when appropriate throughout the course.

DAN E60 Elementary Ballet
In Elementary Ballet, students learn the basic principles of classical ballet. Students learn exercises that are fundamental to ballet technique and typical of the classical class progression beginning with barre work, progress to the center for variations, and conclude with petite and grande allegro. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E70 Elementary Modern
Students learn the basic principles of modern dance technique, learning combinations that progress from stationary floor work to center standing, concluding with traveling combinations across the floor. Class material focuses on the elements involved in achieving correct body alignment, use of turn-out and parallel positions, introducing on and off-centered torso work, increasing flexibility, strength, motor-coordination and the connection among all of these elements. In all combinations students explore the concepts of space, weight, and time and how they relate to dance movement. Students explore compositional and improvisation assignments that are level appropriate. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

Intermediate Dance
Intermediate dance courses are for students who have had previous dance technique training in either ballet, modern, or jazz. Anatomy, kinesiology, dance history and conditioning are incorporated when appropriate throughout the course. Dance history, anatomy, conditioning, and improvisational information is incorporated when appropriate throughout the course.

DAN E61 Intermediate Ballet
The Intermediate Ballet course is designed for students who have previous experience in preferably ballet, but possibly in modern or jazz dance techniques and who demonstrate a physical awareness and execution of proper dance technique. This course follows a classical ballet class progression from barre to grande allegro. Students execute combinations that focus on expanding their technical vocabulary and proficiency, improve their motor-coordination, improve their understanding of ballet sequencing, and increase their strength, flexibility, and use of their physical range. Intermediate ballet students further their understanding of ballet phrasing and variance in musicality, as it supports the physical execution of classical ballet. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E71 Intermediate Modern

In Intermediate Modern, expand their learning of the principles of various modern dance techniques, including, but not limited to, Graham, Limon, and Cunningham. Students learn combinations that progress from stationary floor work to center standing, concluding with traveling combinations across the floor. Class material focuses on solidifying the student's understanding of the elements involved in sustaining correct body alignment within combinations, proper use of turn-out and parallel positions, on and off-centered torso work, while increasing flexibility, strength, motor-coordination and the connection among all of these elements. In all combinations students continue to build on their understanding of the concepts of space, weight, time and how they relate to dance movement. Students explore compositional and improvisation assignments that are level appropriate. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

Advanced Dance

Advanced dance courses are recommended by dance faculty and are designed for the most technically advanced dance student at Saint Mary's School. Students in advanced level courses are responsible for their learning, ready to expand on a solid understanding of either modern or ballet technique, and committed to fully investing themselves in each of their technique classes, embracing the physical and emotional demands of each class. Anatomy, kinesiology, dance history and conditioning are incorporated when appropriate throughout the course. Dance history, anatomy, conditioning, and improvisational information is incorporated when appropriate throughout the course.

DAN E62 Advanced Ballet

Students in Advanced Ballet have a sound understanding of the classical ballet technique, class progression, and are at a technical level ready to move steadily forward expanding on their knowledge of the classical ballet vocabulary through the execution of longer, more demanding combinations. Students are presented combinations that challenge their understanding of ballet sequencing and motor-coordination. Students are expected to demonstrate technical proficiency within these combinations, along with a supportive level of strength and knowledge of how to use their physical range. Advanced ballet students understand ballet phrasing and variance in musicality, as it supports the physical execution of classical ballet, and work to employ this understanding in a consistent manner. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E64 Pointe

In this course classes will be offered to upper level ballet students who have had prior pointe experience. The class structure will follow a typical pointe class structure: barre work followed by center, concluding with traveling phrases.

DAN E72 Advanced Modern

Students in Advanced Modern have a sound understanding of the various elements of modern dance technique, having been exposed to, but not limited to, Graham, Limon, and Cunningham techniques. Students understand the progression from stationary floor work to center standing, concluding with traveling combinations across the floor and are readily open to all the "new" that is presented to them. Class material builds on the student's solid understanding of the necessity to sustain a correct body alignment within combinations, proper use of turn-out and parallel positions, and on and off-centered torso work. Advanced modern students understand of the concepts space, weight, and time. They are expected to execute given combinations in a manner that demonstrates their level of strength, understanding of motor-coordination, dynamics, momentum, quality changes, variance in musicality, individual expression, and how to connect all of these elements. They are encouraged to explore their own individuality in expression in the class material. Students explore compositional and improvisation assignments that are level appropriate. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

Orchesis Dance Theatre

Orchesis and Honors Orchesis are Saint Mary's School's two performing dance courses. These are for those students who wish to have the opportunity to participate in the choreographic process and experience performance opportunities. Students agree to abide by the rules and regulations written by Orchesis members and dance faculty, as detailed in the Orchesis Constitution. Participation is by invitation of dance faculty. Throughout the year, students learn choreography from Saint Mary's School instructors, guest artists, and company members, performing in the semester's Orchesis concert. Orchesis presents two formal concerts each year, orchestrates the annual Middle School Day of Dance, and conducts the Orchesis chapel service. Students participate in all production aspects: choreographic and technical rehearsals, concert and program promotion, costuming, program copy, photographic sittings, etc. All Orchesis members must be enrolled in a co-requisite appropriate level ballet and modern technique course at Saint Mary's or participate in technique classes at another training facility approved by the dance director.

DAN E56 Orchesis Dance Theatre

Orchesis is the entry level course for those students who wish to have the opportunity to participate in the choreographic process and experience performance opportunities throughout the year as an Orchesis Dance Theatre member. Students meet once a week and focus on learning one work of choreography each semester that is appropriate to their performance level. As co-requisite, students in Orchesis Dance Theatre participate in minimum of one appropriate level ballet and one modern course each week. *Credit: one-half unit.*

DAN E56 H Honors Orchesis Dance Theatre

Honors Orchesis is designed for Orchesis Dance Theatre members who are determined by dance faculty to be able to participate successfully in numerous works of choreography that demand a strong level of performance ability and technical precision. As a co-requisite, Honors Orchesis members must be enrolled in three technique courses each semester - an appropriate level ballet and modern course, and a third dance course of their choosing. If these classes are taken at another training facility they must be approved by the dance director. This course has two class meetings each week, where students learn multiple works of choreography each semester that are appropriate to their performance level. Honors Orchesis students complete an honors project on a dance topic agreed to by the director. *Credit: one-half unit.*

<u>Special Dance Topic Courses</u>

DAN T51 Stretch and Yoga (*not offered in 2017-18*)

Stretch and Yoga is a course that focuses on improving a student's flexibility and strength through the execution of particular positions and the accompanying use of breath. This course emphasizes mental and physical wellness and the necessary supporting discipline. Instruction includes detailed descriptions of the physical positions designed to balance and center the body, achieving a malleable and flexible muscle tone. Students learn basic muscular and skeletal information appropriate to understanding the positions and exercises used in class and the principles behind their success. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E57 Hip Hop

Hip Hop is a course that focuses on learning the basic principles of hip hop dance with its street dance inspiration, incorporating isolations, dynamics, and a broad physical range that increases flexibility, strength, and motor-coordination. This course employs current music pertinent to this genre of dance. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E58 Jazz

This course employs a warm-up that promotes flexibility, balance, strength, and correct body alignment. Exercises teach rapid changes of weight and direction, strengthening student's motor-coordination and agility. Students are exposed to combinations that include floor work, center work, as well as combinations that travel across the floor, and range in style from Broadway, to lyrical, to contemporary. Students increase their knowledge of musical phrasing and improve their skill and performance in jazz

turns, leaps, and isolations. They are encouraged to explore their own style as it relates to the given combinations. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E63 Contemporary Ballet

Contemporary Ballet is a course that combines classical and modern technique in given combinations. It will progress from barre to center. Combinations will ask the student to have an awareness of working and maneuvering between parallel and external rotation, while exploring combinations that use vertical and off centered torso work. The class is designed to revolve around center combinations and not focus on drilling classical or modern technique. Students in Contemporary Ballet students have a good understanding of the classical ballet and modern technique, are open to varied class progressions, and are at a technical level ready to move steadily forward expanding on their knowledge of dance through the execution of the combinations. Students will be presented combinations that challenge their understanding of ballet and modern sequencing and motor-coordination. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

DAN E64 Dance Composition

In this course, students will learn the basic fundamentals of choreography and explore the creative process of making dance in a safe, supportive, and fun environment. This course will provide an outlet for self-expression and build self-confidence. It will promote individuality with an appreciation of differences. Emphasis will be placed on each student sharing their individual perspectives in the dance making process, identifying and exploring their personal style of movement, and becoming more comfortable in their own unique body. Students will gain an understanding that choreography is the art or practice of designing sequences of movements that are formed into a dance. It incorporates the stylistic use of available skills and personal experience to make movement into art. Students will learn through improvisations, class discussions, and the completion of several mini-projects with opportunities to work independently, as well as collaboratively with others. This course is taught from the perspective that students may be new to dance or may have varying levels of experience in dance technique. *Credit: one-eighth unit.*

Notes:

Dance Semester Courses offered for one-half credit: Orchesis, Honors Orchesis which have co-requisites and are by invitation.

Dance Trimester Courses offered for adjusted credit: students must take two classes per week from the following, but may mix and match: Elementary Ballet, Elementary Modern, Intermediate Ballet, Intermediate Modern, Advanced Ballet, Advanced Modern, Dance Composition, Contemporary Ballet, Jazz (each course one-eighth credit).

These courses are offered as single classes once per week: Stretch/Yoga and Hip Hop (each course one-eighth credit).

Athletics Program

The athletic program is an important facet of the student life program and as such, strives to enable students to develop to their fullest potential. Through athletics, Saint Mary's School students learn the lifelong value of involvement in athletics, the value of good sportsmanship, the value of physical activity and hard work, the importance of teamwork, self-sacrifice and accountability, the skills and rules of the game, the importance of making good decisions and living with the consequences, and the appropriate response to victory and defeat. The Athletics Program sponsors teams that compete in the Triangle Independent School Association Conference (TISAC) of the North Carolina Independent Schools Athletic Association (NCISAA).

PLUS (Physical Lifestyle for Us) Program

Saint Mary's is committed to the development of well-rounded young women and to providing opportunities for students to interact outside the classroom. The PLUS Program provides fitness training Monday and Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Each season all 9th grade and 10th grade students must participate in the PLUS Program two days a week, and either be a member of a Saint Mary's athletic team, or be enrolled in a Saint Mary's School class that meets after 3:15 p.m. Students in these classes will be excused from PLUS on class days.

Additional information about the Athletics Program is found in the Student-Parent Handbook.

TEAM SPORTS

Fall:	Cross-country, Field Hockey, Tennis, Volleyball, Golf
Winter:	Basketball, Swimming
Spring:	Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball, Track and Field

Special Studies

INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Independent studies are available to students in all departments, depending on the availability of faculty who are prepared and able to direct them and on the student's academic program. The subject matter of each course varies with teacher, student, and topic. Any of these courses is a careful study in a topic appropriate to the departments' subjects and goals and the student's academic program. The goals of each course must be spelled out before it may be approved by the department chair and the Dean of Teaching and Learning. These courses are usually one semester long and are generally reserved for upper class students.

PATHWAYS

This program affords students in their junior and/or senior year an opportunity to work on an intensive project of their choosing focusing on one or a combination of four areas: academic, creative, service, and career. The student may choose to do an off-campus internship, an on-campus project, or a more individual project. Pathways calls upon and develops a variety of skills and knowledge and requires that the student work independently and responsibly. It is a one-semester course with intermediate deadlines throughout the semester, evaluations at the end of the semester, and a public presentation about the project or experience. Students may elect to take the course for one or two semesters. *Credit: one-half unit per semester*.

CLASSES AT RALEIGH COLLEGES

Saint Mary's School works cooperatively with local colleges to provide opportunities for qualified students to take college classes and receive college credit. Students *may* be able to take college courses if they have exhausted offerings in a subject at Saint Mary's School and receive approval from the School to continue study at a Raleigh college or university. Scheduling, logistics, and other factors may limit the availability of college courses to Saint Mary's students. The student is responsible for transportation to off-campus classes and for the cost of course texts and materials. Different colleges have different standards for admittance of high school students. Students should work with their advisor, college counselor, and the Dean of Teaching and Learning to determine whether a college course fits their academic program and contact the Registrar's Office for information and availability of courses at local colleges. Local colleges and universities include Meredith College, North Carolina State University, William Peace University, Shaw University, and St. Augustine's University.