



**ST. CECILIA  
ACADEMY**

**Course Description Guide  
2019-2020 Academic Year**

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## **Introduction**

This *Course Description Guide* will assist you in planning your course of study for the coming year. It includes course descriptions as well as other information to help you choose courses for next year.

It is important for you to familiarize yourself with the information in this book. You should understand the sequence of courses you need to take to fulfill graduation requirements. You will also want to know the prerequisites required for each course, especially those for the elective courses.

The timeline for course scheduling shown below is useful in letting you know how much time you have to narrow down your choices for next year. During these next weeks, be sure to discuss your course options with your parents, teachers, and advisor, as well as with students who may already be taking the courses in which you are interested.

The course recommendation and request process is overseen by the Vice Principal of Academics, the department chairs, and the advisors. You first meet with your advisor who will give you the *Course Description Guide* and explain the overall process. You will then meet with your classroom teachers who will inform you of what courses you're recommended for. Next, your advisor will help you complete a *Course Request Form*, which will be approved by your parents, and will then be used by the Guidance Office to schedule your classes.

While you may not get all of your first choice electives, it is important to know that the class schedule at Saint Cecilia Academy is built specifically around the students' course requests. Consequently, not all electives published in this *Course Description Guide* will necessarily run in the 2019-2020 academic year. Core courses are given top priority in the scheduling process. Honors and AP courses are given next priority. Overall, we attempt to maximize the chance that every student will have the schedule that she requests.

## **Timeline for Course Scheduling**

January 24	Course Informational Day - (Activity Period: Advisory meets) During Advisory, students receive <i>Course Description Guide</i> , Advisors review graduation requirements and elective credits, and students fill out 4-year Course Planning Chart in the back of the <i>Course Description Guide</i> .
February 4	Course Recommendation Day Each student receives her <i>Course Recommendation Form</i>
February 7	Course Request Day - (Activity Period: Advisory meets) Each student meets with her Advisor to review course recommendations, discuss appropriate course selections and fill out <i>Course Request Form</i> .
February 12	<i>Course Request Forms</i> signed by parents are due (return to Advisor)
Feb - March	Review of <i>Course Request Forms</i> by Guidance Office
April 1-4	Incoming Freshman Placement Tests
April 13, 16, 17	New Student Scheduling Day - Course Request days for incoming freshmen and transfer students
Mid-June	First Summer Mailing - Schedules and updated student copy transcripts are mailed to students. Most of the other summer mailing information will now be found on the St. Cecilia Academy Website.
Mid-July	Finalized Schedules are mailed to students.
July 31	Final day to request a course change for 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester classes

### **Graduation Requirements**

There are two levels to graduation requirements at St. Cecilia Academy:

1) requirements that are specific to the each department, 2) the total number of credits required for graduation. Credits that are not required by a specific department are fulfilled by elective courses.

Required credits by department:

Religion	4 credits (modified for transfer students)
English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Science	3 credits
World Language	3 credits
Fine Arts	2 credits
Physical Education	1 credit
Computer Technology	<u>0.5 credit</u>
	24.5
Electives	3.5 credits

Total credits required for graduation: 28 total credits

All students are required to take at least 7 classes each semester. Students with four Advanced Placement (AP®) classes are eligible to take two study halls provided they are on track to meet all graduation requirements

### **Online Courses**

In general, online courses should not replace or duplicate offerings at SCA, but serve to expand the options for St. Cecilia students. St. Cecilia juniors and seniors who qualify academically are eligible to take one credit per year of a pre-approved online class from an accredited online program for graduation credit. St. Cecilia Academy also participates as a Charter Affiliate member of One Schoolhouse, offering their online all-girls courses. These courses are marked with an \*asterisk as they are listed throughout this guide in their respective departments. Students who desire to obtain high school credit at St. Cecilia Academy for an online course must obtain approval from the Vice Principal of Academics. In addition, students taking an online course for high school credit at SCA must have a study hall. Importantly, online course grades will not be included in the St. Cecilia Academy GPA calculation. Please note that tuition for online courses is not included in the St. Cecilia Academy tuition and must be paid separately by the student's family.

## RELIGION DEPARTMENT

The religion curriculum forms the backbone for the moral and personal development of each St. Cecilia student. Required in each of the four years of study, the curriculum leads the students to explore the foundational beliefs about God and the Church, the development of moral principles from these beliefs, and the practice of faith in history and in their own personal lives.

### **Required Courses:**

Christ & Scripture  
Redemption & the Sacraments  
Encountering Christ in the Church  
Moral & Spiritual Theology

### **Elective Courses:**

Faith & Culture Seminar  
Philosophical Questions

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### **REL 103 & 104**

#### **Christ & Scripture**

Grade 9 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Through the study of Scripture and Tradition, students are led to encounter Jesus Christ and develop a personal relationship with Him. They examine divine revelation and come to understand Christ as the Word made flesh and the source of human happiness and holiness. Recognizing that Christ calls each of them to new life in him, students receive an introduction to morality, studying the lives of the Saints, particularly St. Cecilia, as models of faith in practice.

### **REL 203 & 204**

#### **Redemption & the Sacraments**

Grade 10 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Through the study of redemption, students will learn that for all eternity God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through Christ's saving work on the cross. Students will trace salvation history beginning with creation, culminating in the Paschal Mystery, and continuing today through the sacraments of the Church.

### **REL 303 & 304**

#### **Encountering Christ in the Church**

Grade 11 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Through the study of the Church's 2000 year history, students explore the nature of the Church, their own membership in the Body of Christ and their call to be witnesses in the Church today. Recognizing that Christ is the path to true human fulfillment and communion, students are led to a deeper appreciation of the gift of the Church, particularly as that place of encounter with the living Christ.

### **REL 401 & 402**

#### **Moral & Spiritual Theology**

Grade 12 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Through the reading of primary texts and Socratic dialogue, students prepare to seek truth and live out their faith as adults. Principles of Christian anthropology and morality are applied to the questions posed in modern life. Relying on John Paul II's Theology of the Body, special emphasis is given to the pursuit of holiness and the unique vocation of a modern woman of faith. The Church's Social teachings are explored within the context of the documents of the Second Vatican Council. Exposure to the rich spiritual theology of the Church combined with an honest understanding of self-knowledge and on-going personal growth in virtue.

**REL 311**  
**Faith & Culture Seminar**

Grades 11, 12

Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

This course is designed for students who desire to explore the riches of faith through engagement with culture. Through exposure to classical texts, art, music, and film, students will be challenged to deepen their understanding of the spiritual life and to share their insights in the mutually enriching forum of a seminar.

**REL 411**  
**Philosophical Questions**

Grades 11, 12

Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

Philosophical Questions is a course focused on foundational concepts of philosophy regarding the human person. In other words, it is a beginning course in Philosophical Anthropology. Using Sister Terese Auer's book, *The Human Person*, students will use a philosophical approach to understanding human dignity. Foundational philosophical concepts such as form and matter, potency and actuality, the powers of the soul, internal senses, appetites, and the intellect and will are examined in this course. Building on this material, students will be encouraged to investigate their own philosophical interests, formulating questions and searching for answers. The course will culminate in a final project tracing the student's interests in philosophy.

# Religion Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

## REQUIRED

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Christ & Scripture

Redemption & the Sacraments

Encountering Christ in the Church

Moral & Spiritual Theology

## ELECTIVES

Faith & Culture Seminar  
(semester)

Faith & Culture Seminar  
(semester)

Philosophical Questions  
(semester)

Philosophical Questions  
(semester)





**ENG 301 & 302****English Rhetoric and Composition**

Grade 11

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

Rhetoric and Composition is a course devoted to teaching students the craft of writing. To increase their understanding of rhetoric and its significance, students read, analyze, and write about the form, content, rhetorical strategies, and effects of prose written in a variety of time periods, disciplines, contexts, and genres, including essays, letters, speeches, images, short stories, novels, non-fiction books, poems, and dramatic plays. Students are expected to analyze and understand writing strategies in the essays they read and to effectively employ those same strategies in their own compositions. Over the course of the two semesters, students write analytical, argumentative, reflective, persuasive and narrative essays; they give at least one speech and write at least one five- to seven-page researched argument. Students review the principles of correct grammar, usage, and mechanics, and practice skills necessary for succeeding on the PSAT.

**ENG 503 & 504****AP English Language and Composition**

Grade 11

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

AP Language and Composition follows the same general course of study as Rhetoric and Composition. With a heavy emphasis on nonfiction writing, students will be provided with opportunities both in class and out of class to develop their reading, writing, and speaking skills through a number of strategies and activities. Students will be exposed to a wide range of print and visual materials, from essays and articles to photographs, paintings and cartoons. Extensive practice in analyzing rhetoric will be followed by teacher and peer evaluations. By the conclusion of the course, students will be proficient in analyzing how a writer uses rhetorical strategies to achieve a specific effect and capable of using those same techniques in their own writing.

*Prerequisites: Department permission based on academic record and PSAT scores*

**ENG 401 & 402****British Literature**

Grade 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

Throughout its yearlong course, Senior English reinforces and builds upon previous years' instruction in grammar, usage, style, punctuation, and research methodology. Senior English is a survey of British Literature from *Beowulf* to the modern era. Students read and write about a variety of literary genres, including poetry, prose, drama, and fiction. Students strive to develop a writing style that is concise, clear, coherent, and elegant. The course emphasizes strategies that combat wordiness and incoherence. Students also read Dante's *Inferno* in conjunction with Milton's *Paradise Lost* as a means of exploring the epic tradition in literature.

**ENG 501 & 502****AP English Literature and Composition**

Grade 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

AP English Literature and Composition follows the same general course of study as British Literature. AP students complete extra reading and writing assignments to prepare them for the AP exam, which all AP students must take in the spring. This course is designed to engage students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students can deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing is an integral part of this course, with an emphasis on writing about literature. Assignments include mostly critical analysis, but also well-constructed personal reflections. The goal of both types of writing assignments is to increase students' ability to explain clearly, cogently, even elegantly, what they understand about literary works.

*Prerequisites: Permission of the department based on previous academic record including PSAT scores*

**ENG 331 & 332  
Yearbook 1**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Students are introduced to writing copy and designing layouts for the St. Cecilia Academy yearbook, *The Cecilian*. Students incorporate writing skills developed in the core curriculum of the English department and learn design techniques assisted by computer technology. Students work independently as well as in teams on the various sections of the yearbook.

*Prerequisites: Sophomore English and department permission*

**ENG 431 & 432  
Yearbook 2**

Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Students who have completed Yearbook 1 may enroll a second year to further develop their skills at writing copy and designing layout for *The Cecilian*. Because of their previous experience, students in Yearbook 2 are expected to take a leadership role in the work on the yearbook. Yearbook 2 students may be considered for the job of editors.

*Prerequisites: Junior English, Yearbook 1 and department permission*

**ENG 321 & 322  
Journalism**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 and/or 2  
0.5 credit or 1 credit

The journalism course stresses journalism as a form of professional public writing while also emphasizing the process of formatting and design. Using exemplary instances of journalistic prose as a point of reference, students learn to compose and edit news stories. Students gain hands-on experience in designing, editing, and writing by producing school publications on a regular basis and by meeting set deadlines. Students taking a second semester (ENG 322) gain additional practice researching, writing, and preparing stories for publication.

*Prerequisites: Sophomore English and department permission*

# English Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

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## REQUIRED

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English Language  
& Composition

American  
Literature

English Rhetoric  
& Composition

British Literature

OR

OR

OR

OR

English Literature  
& Composition

American  
Literature Honors

AP English Language  
& Composition

AP English Literature  
& Composition

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## ELECTIVES

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Journalism  
(semester or year)

Journalism  
(semester or year)

Yearbook 1  
(year)

Yearbook 1  
(year)

Yearbook 2  
(year)



## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The Mathematics Department at St. Cecilia Academy is dedicated to developing in every student a solid foundation in basic knowledge and skills and the confidence needed to be successful in mathematics. These skills are then extended to advanced topics, encouraging deep understanding of mathematical concepts. All Saint Cecilia students take a full four-year course of mathematics in preparation for their college studies in a wide variety of fields. The curriculum is flexible; a variety of courses is offered to accommodate the needs of all students, including those who are highly accelerated. Preparation for the math portions of the college entrance exams (PSAT, SAT, and ACT) are incorporated in a grade-appropriate level throughout the curriculum. A TI graphing calculator is required for all math courses.

### **Required Courses:**

Algebra I **OR** Algebra I Honors (may be waived based on placement exam, but does not count as a graduation credit)  
Geometry **OR** Geometry Honors  
Algebra II **OR** Algebra II Honors  
Functions and Data Analysis **OR** Pre-Calculus Honors **OR** Calculus

### **Online School for Girls:**

AP Statistics	1 credit
AP Calculus AB	1 credit
Multivariable Calculus	½ credit
Differential Equations	½ credit

### **Elective Courses:**

AP Statistics  
AP Calculus AB  
AP Calculus BC

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### **MAT 101 & 102**

#### **Algebra I**

Grade 9

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The foundation course in a college preparatory mathematics sequence, Algebra I stresses both the structure of algebra and the development of problem-solving skills. Students gain competence in working with real numbers to solve problems. The concept of a function is introduced, and students learn about a variety of parent functions. Topics include algebraic language, operations with signed numbers, inequalities, exponents and radicals, polynomials, factoring, functions and graphs, domain and range, quadratic equations, and exponential functions. Students learn how to use a graphing calculator as a powerful tool.

### **MAT 151 & 152**

#### **Algebra I Honors**

Grade 9

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Topics taught in the regular Algebra I course are covered in depth at a more accelerated pace. More advanced work is also done in factoring, word problems, linear and quadratic functions and their graphs.

*Prerequisites: Permission of the department based on Algebra I placement exam and previous academic record including standardized test scores*

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### **MAT 201 & 202**

#### **Geometry**

Grade 10

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course in elementary Euclidean geometry emphasizes and integrates logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. Students define, develop and prove the various properties of geometric figures. A detailed and analytical understanding of the ideas of shape and space are developed. Students study flow charts, probability, two-column deductive proofs, logic problems, and transformations, as well as triangle trigonometry, construction, solid geometry, the Pythagorean Theorem and coordinate geometry. Students' algebra skills are maintained and developed through application to geometric problems.

*Prerequisites: Algebra I or Algebra I Honors*

### **MAT 251 & 252**

#### **Geometry Honors**

Grade 9, 10

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The honors section of geometry covers the same topics as the regular geometry course, but pursues these in greater depth. Concepts are developed more rigorously and emphasis is placed on logic and application, developing a solid conceptual foundation for the higher level mathematics courses of Pre-Calculus and AP Calculus.

*Prerequisites: Algebra I or Algebra I Honors and PSAT math scores, or permission of the department based on St. Cecilia Academy math placement exam and previous academic record, including standardized test scores*

**MAT 301 & 302****Algebra II**

Grade 10, 11

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This second year of algebra extends the major topics of Algebra I (real numbers, polynomials, linear, quadratic, exponential functions) to include complex numbers, higher order polynomials, matrices, and expressions with rational exponents. Students develop an understanding of abstract ideas, such as the nature of functions. New classes of functions, including advanced exponential and logarithmic, are included in the students' problem-solving experiences. Trigonometric concepts are introduced. Technology skills are extended as students expand graphing calculator skills.

*Prerequisites: Geometry or Geometry Honors*

**MAT 351 & 352****Algebra II Honors**

Grade 10, 11

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Algebra II Honors moves quickly through the preliminary topics of Algebra II in order to provide more time on advanced topics such as trigonometric and rational functions, and advanced word problems. Students in Algebra II Honors are being prepared to meet the requirements for admission to the AP Calculus course.

*Prerequisites: Geometry or Geometry Honors (or concurrent enrollment in Geometry Honors) and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math scores*

**MAT 451 & 452****Pre-Calculus Honors**

Grade 11

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

After a firm foundation in algebra and geometry, this course introduces the branch of mathematics known as analysis, which is the formal study of functions. Technology is used to explore the representations of class of functions in all forms, numerical, algebraic, and graphical. The study of trigonometry is extended to more difficult topics. Students are introduced to parametric and polar equations, conic sections, and the concept of limits. Emphasis is on problem solving and developing a solid conceptual foundation in preparation for the higher level mathematic courses of AP Calculus.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II or Algebra II Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math scores*

**MAT 401 & 402****Functions and Data Analysis**

Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course focuses on the fundamental mathematical concepts and the realistic problem-solving that can prepare students for the mathematics needed in courses in other fields, such as biology, chemistry, business, finance, economics, and other areas that are heavily dependent on data either from laboratory experiments or from other studies. Students are given an introduction to statistics, data analysis and mathematical modeling using real data.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II or Algebra II Honors*

**MAT 431 & 432****Calculus**

Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course covers the three fundamental concepts of calculus: limits, derivatives, and integrals. Emphasis is placed on conceptual understanding, applications, and proficiency in problem solving. This course is highly recommended for seniors who plan to major in social or natural sciences in college.

*Prerequisites: Algebra II or Algebra II Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math scores*

**MAT 501 & 502****AP Calculus AB**

Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

A culminating course in the study of mathematics in high school, this course develops the three fundamental concepts of calculus in detail: limits, derivatives, and integrals. It meets all the topical requirements for students to be successful on the AP Calculus exam. Emphasis is placed on conceptual understand as well as proficiency in problem solving.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math scores*

**MAT 521 & 522**  
**AP Calculus BC**

Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The BC section of AP Calculus covers the topics of MAT 501 & 502 in greater depth. Additional topics covered in the BC section include parametric and polar functions, convergence tests, and polynomial approximations.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record and PSAT math scores*

**\*MAT 511 & 512**  
**AP Statistics**

Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1.0 credit

This course is intended to help students develop strategies for collecting, organizing, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Much of this knowledge will come through experiential activities that challenge students to design, administer, and tabulate results from surveys and experiments. The course uses graphing calculators as well as statistical software to enhance the students' ability to visualize and solve statistical problems. Although the course is taught through an online format, students participate in small cooperative learning groups to explore solutions and share ideas. Students will complete most work independently, but they will have opportunity for conferencing with the instructor on a regular basis.

*Prerequisites: Pre-Calculus Honors and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**\*MAT 531**  
**Multivariable Calculus**

Grade 12

Sem 1  
0.5 credit

This course will cover some topics that are not part of the AP Calculus BC curriculum, such as calculating volumes by using shells, surfaces of revolution, and centers of mass among others. It will also explore topics that are studied in a typical college-level third semester calculus course. These include vectors, differentiation in several variables, optimization in several variables, multiple integration, and line and surface integrals.

*Prerequisites: AP Calculus BC and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**\*MAT 532**  
**Differential Equations**

Grade 12

Sem 2  
0.5 credit

This course will provide an introduction to differential equations. Topics will include: solving first-order and simple higher-order equations with applications to various scientific fields (physics, chemistry, biology, etc.); solving linear differential equations and their applications; and Laplace transform methods.

*Prerequisites: AP Calculus BC and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores.*

# Mathematics Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

## REQUIRED

Algebra I

OR

Algebra I Honors

OR

Geometry Honors

OR

Algebra II Honors

With permission of the Math Department, freshmen may take both Geometry Honors and Algebra II Honors.

Geometry

OR

Geometry Honors

OR

Algebra II Honors

OR

Pre-Calculus Honors

With permission of the Math Department, sophomores may take both Geometry Honors and Algebra II Honors.

Algebra II

OR

Algebra II Honors

OR

Pre-Calculus Honors

OR

AP Calculus BC

Functions and Data Analysis

OR

Calculus

OR

AP Statistics

OR

AP Calculus AB

OR

AP Calculus BC

## ELECTIVES

**Electives offered through  
One Schoolhouse (Grade 12)**

AP Statistics  
(year)

AP Calculus AB  
(year)

Multivariable  
Calculus  
(semester)

Differential  
Equations  
(semester)



## SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

At St. Cecilia Academy, every student is required to complete a full year in each of the three major high school sciences: physics, chemistry, and biology. This is done by a careful sequencing of the science curriculum with close integration to the mathematics curriculum. All students are expected to fulfill these required courses by the end of their junior year, maximizing the number of students eligible and prepared for enrollment in the AP science courses.

### **Required Courses:**

Physics **OR**  
Physics Honors  
Chemistry **OR**  
Chemistry Honors  
Biology **OR** Biology Honors **OR**  
AP Biology

### **Elective Courses:**

Anatomy & Physiology  
Special Topics in Science  
AP Biology  
AP Chemistry  
AP Physics

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### **SCI 101 & 102**

#### **Physics**

Grade 9

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Physics introduces the student to the skills necessary for the study of science. This is accomplished through an inquiry, activity-oriented, and conceptually-based program that includes the necessary physical laws and science concepts. Topics include the scientific method, measurement, Newton's laws of motion, vector mathematics, energy, light and sound waves, electricity and magnetism, and nuclear physics. Students become adept at carrying out laboratory experiments while maintaining a proper record of lab work and presenting their findings in written form. An emphasis is placed on graphing data and interpretation of this data, with correlation to math concepts presented in Algebra I.

### **SCI 151 & 152**

#### **Physics Honors**

Grade 9

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The general topics covered in this course are identical to physics. However, the mathematical operations necessary for this course material require that the student has a firm foundation in Algebra I before starting this course. Students in honors physics will be required to read a higher-level textbook and to be more independent in the laboratory, using higher level analytical and evaluative skills. The course is designed with a depth and pace appropriate for students considering AP Physics as a later science elective.

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### **SCI 201 & 202**

#### **Chemistry**

Grade 10

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of chemistry for the college-bound student. The topics include: measurement, classification of matter, chemical nomenclature, the mole concept, atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical bonding, states of matter, the gas laws, solution chemistry, acids and bases, oxidation and reduction reactions and nuclear chemistry. Students learn to write chemical formulas and reactions, with an emphasis on organic molecules in preparation for the study of biology. Appropriate lab experiences are incorporated, stressing the discovery of relationships and further development of formal scientific writing.

*Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I and enrollment in Geometry.*

### **SCI 251 & 252**

#### **Chemistry Honors**

Grade 10

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Students in Honors Chemistry will study the same topics as in Chemistry, plus some additional material. Overall, it is a more rigorous and mathematical introduction to the subject of chemistry. The depth and pace of this course demand successful completion of Algebra I and enrollment in Geometry. Students will be required to apply higher analytical and evaluative skills. Laboratory work and application problems at the honors level require more intuitive reasoning on the part of the students.

*Prerequisites: Physics, Algebra I, and enrollment in Geometry Honors, if not already completed, with the permission of the department.*

**SCI 301 & 302****Biology**

Grade 11

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

In Biology, students are introduced to the basic life processes that unify living organisms. The fields of cell biology, classification, plant and animal physiology, genetics, evolution, and ecology are included in the course. The relationship between science and faith is established, with a particular focus on the necessity for moral considerations in the life sciences. Personal and societal applications of biology are considered. Laboratory skills are further developed, and outside readings, including library research, are required.

*Prerequisites: Chemistry*

**SCI 351 & 352****Biology Honors**

Grade 11

Sem 1&amp;2

1 credit

In Honors Biology, students study the basic life processes that unify living organisms. Topics include: biochemistry and metabolism, genetics, cell biology, evolution, multicellular life and ecology. Concepts are illustrated through the study of selected human body systems and homeostasis. The relationship between science and faith is established, with a particular focus on the necessity for moral considerations in the life sciences. Personal and societal applications of biology are considered. Laboratory skills are further developed, requiring the ability to plan, analyze, and execute experiments. Self-motivation and personal responsibility are essential qualities of the honors level student.

*Prerequisites: Chemistry and permission of the department.*

**SCI 501 & 502****AP Biology**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

2.0 credits

The equivalent of a college-level introductory biology course, the content of Advanced Placement (AP®) Biology is divided among three general areas: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, organism and populations. Students are assisted in developing a conceptual framework for modern biology and in appreciating science as a process. Students must be able to recognize unifying themes that integrate the major topics of biology. In addition they will be required to apply biological knowledge and critical thinking skills to environmental and social concerns. AP Biology is a rigorous course that differs from the usual first high school course in biology with respect to the kind of textbook used, the range and depth of

topics covered and the time and effort required by the students. The laboratory component follows the design of the AP Biology syllabus as outlined by the College Board. This class will meet for two periods each day of the class cycle. Taking the AP Biology examination is required and is administered in May.

*Prerequisite: Permission of the department based on a high level of performance in previous science courses, evidence of a strong work ethic and PSAT math and critical reading scores.*

**SCI 411 & 412****Anatomy & Physiology**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 and/or 2

0.5 credit or 1 credit

This course studies human anatomy and physiology. It begins with a review of cells, progresses to a study of tissues and membranes, and ends with an exploration of the structure and function of the human body. A continuous theme throughout the course is "structure determines function." The first semester of this course includes a study of the integumentary, muscular, skeletal, nervous, and special senses. The second semester includes a study of the pulmonary, cardiac, digestive, urinary, endocrine, and reproductive systems. Each semester can be taken as an individual semester course. Both semesters of this course include various required lab dissections. In addition, a foundational knowledge of biochemistry, cell structure and function and the basics of physiology from biology are presumed.

*Prerequisites: Must have taken or be currently enrolled in Biology.*

**SCI 431 & 432**

Sem 1 and/or 2

**Special Topics in Science**

Grade 12

0.5 credit or 1 credit

An interdisciplinary elective designed for students drawing on their studies and methods in physics, chemistry, and biology, this course provides students with an opportunity to extend their scientific interests in a project and lab-based environment. For a full appreciation of the investigative nature of science, students in this course will study a wide variety of scientific topics and techniques. Possible representative topics include: (bio)technology; engineering; and Catholicism & science. Students will engage in a variety of activities including active discussion of current events in science, guided- and inquiry-based labs inside and outside of the classroom; reading and review of scientific literature; reflection papers; and research paper writing to communicate research findings.

*Prerequisites: completion of science credits in physics, chemistry, and biology.*

**SCI 511 & 512**  
**AP Chemistry**  
Grade 11 or 12

Sem 1 & 2  
2.0 credits

The Advanced Placement (AP®) Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course taken during the first year of college. Students attain a depth of understanding of the fundamentals of chemistry and competence in dealing with chemical problems. It is a rigorous course that is qualitatively different from the high school chemistry sequence in topics covered, mathematical applications, and laboratory work requirements. Quantitative differences appear in number of topics treated, depth and detail of topics, the use of advanced mathematical concepts, and the time required by students outside of class for successful work in the course. It is important to note that the nature and variety of experiments done in the laboratory require a high level of analytical and evaluative skills. Course topics include: Structures of matter: atomic, chemical bonding and nuclear chemistry; states of matter: gases, liquids, solids, solutions; reactions: types, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics, thermodynamics; and descriptive chemistry: chemical reactivity, relationships, and organic chemistry. The laboratory component follows the design of the AP Chemistry syllabus as outlined by the College Board. This class will meet for two periods each day of the class cycle. The AP examination is required and is administered in May.

*Prerequisite: Permission of the department based on a high level of performance in previous science courses, standardized test scores, evidence of a strong work ethic and PSAT math score.*

**SCI 521 & 522**  
**AP Physics**  
Grade 11 or 12

Sem 1 & 2  
2.0 credits

The Advanced Placement (AP®) Physics course is designed to be the equivalent of the general physics course taken during the first year of college. The syllabus of this course is appropriate preparation for the CollegeBoard Subject Test in physics. Strong skills in mathematics are essential for students in this course. Topics include a study of classical mechanics, electricity, magnetism, wave motion, light, and relativity. An extensive laboratory component is an integral part of the curriculum as it follows the design of the AP Physics syllabus as outlined by the CollegeBoard. This class will meet for two periods each day of the class cycle. The Advanced Placement (AP®) examination is required and is administered in May.

*Prerequisite: Permission of the department based on a high level of performance in previous science and math courses, standardized test scores, evidence of a strong work ethic and PSAT math score.*

## Science Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

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### REQUIRED

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Physics

Chemistry

Biology

OR

OR

OR

Biology Honors

Physics Honors

Chemistry Honors

OR

AP Biology

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### ELECTIVES

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Anatomy & Physiology  
(semester 1 and/or 2)

Anatomy & Physiology  
(semester 1 and/or 2)

AP Chemistry  
(year)

Special Topics in Science  
(semester 1 and/or 2)

AP Physics  
(year)

AP Chemistry  
(year)

AP Physics  
(year)

AP Biology  
(year)



**SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT**

History is the antecedent to understanding the social, political, economic, religious, artistic, and intellectual structures and systems not only of the past, but also of the present. The understanding of our accumulated experience enables us to construct a better society. The social sciences shows us how to take all the pieces of the puzzle and put them together to understand the whole. It is through the study of social sciences that we develop an understanding of the interrelationships of these parts and the interconnectedness of humanity in order to develop a true vision of our society. Saint Cecilia Academy is committed to exposing students to the exciting world of the past through a rigorous and rich study of all areas of history. Our social sciences courses will develop the students' ability to reason and write, to discern opinion from fact, and to appreciate difference.

**Required Courses:**

- Western Civilization I
- Western Civilization II **OR** AP
- European History
- U.S. History **OR** AP U.S. History

**Elective Courses:**

- Current Global Issues
- AP Psychology
- AP Art History
- AP Government

**SSC101 & 102  
Western Civilization I**

Grade 9, 10 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The course explores the history of western civilization from the world's earliest ancient civilizations through the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century in Europe. Students master basic geography skills and come to understand the impact of geography on human history. Students not only gain competency in their knowledge of western civilization but also analyze the significance of events and persons in shaping the cultural, political, and technological development of western society. Throughout the course, emphasis is placed on building skills in reading comprehension, analytical writing, and studying.

**SSC 201 & 202  
Western Civilization II**

Grade 10, 11 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This survey course is a continued study of Modern Western Civilization from the Reformation to the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Attention is given to cultural, political, socioeconomic, and religious events over these periods. Students will develop their ability to think and write critically by analyzing historical evidence, at times using primary sources. Independent and small group library research is integrated to assist in analysis of material and presentation of ideas to others.

*Prerequisites: Western Civilization I (World History)*

**SCC 501 & 502  
AP European History**

Grade 10, 11 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The AP courses in the history department are taken in place of the regular required courses by highly motivated, serious students who will be prepared to take the AP exam in the specific subject area. In AP European History, the course content is the same as in European History, but introduces a broader exploration of topics, central to the understanding of the development of modern political and cultural history. As this is a college-level course, students are required to study and work independently, in order to cover the large amount of material necessary to be adequately prepared for the AP exam in May.

*Prerequisites: Western Civilization I (World History) and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**SSC 311 & 312  
U.S. History**

Grade 11, 12 Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

A chronological approach to the exploration, settlement, and development of the United States is presented. Within this framework, students examine several major, interconnected themes in U.S. history such as the development of the republic, civil rights and liberties, economic development, geography and environment, cultural diversity, conflict and cooperation, the role of the U.S. in world affairs, and the American individual. A political, economic, and social interpretation of U.S. history is emphasized.

*Prerequisites: Western Civilization II (European History)*

**SSC 511 & 512**  
**AP U.S. History**  
Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Highly motivated, serious students who will be prepared to take the AP exam in U.S. history may take this course in place of the regular U.S. History course. It is taught as a college-level survey course in U.S. history. In addition to studying major themes in U.S. history, students will develop the ability to think critically, articulate themes, and write succinctly. Historians and historiography are studied to acquaint students with differing interpretations of past events. In small group settings, discussion is encouraged to stimulate analysis of material and the ability to present ideas clearly to others.

*Prerequisites: Western Civilization I and II (World and European History) or AP European History and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**SSC 321**  
**Current Global Issues**  
Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

This course examines current world events from geographical, political, economic, social, and cultural perspectives. Class discussion, independent reading, and course readings will examine major global issues and trends. Special emphasis is given to geo-political interaction, human-environment relationships, and socio-economic development. Possible topics to include: global warming, international oil crisis, economic recession, terrorism, and genocide. The course makes use of prominent journals and periodicals, as well as a textbook.

*Prerequisites: Western Civilization I (World History) and concurrent enrollment in (or completion of) Western Civilization II (European History)*

**SSC 521 & 522**  
**AP Psychology**  
Grades 11, 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce 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. Students will also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

*Prerequisites: Previous or concurrent enrollment in Biology, and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores*

**SSC 531-532 (FIA 515 & 516)**  
**AP Art History**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course offers a chronological survey of Western art from the dawn of civilization to the present time, including the most modern trends and ideas in the ever changing world of art. The first semester introduces the topic of art history, and covers art through the northern renaissance. The second semester includes the Italian renaissance through the present. The seven basic course objectives follow the objectives for the AP Art History course defined by the College Board with an emphasis on the Western tradition.

*Prerequisites: Recommendation of the teacher based on previous work in art, English, and history courses.*

**SSC 552**  
**AP United States Government and Politics**

Grades 11, 12

Sem 2  
0.5 credit

Students are introduced to the ideals and institutions on which the U.S. government is founded. This survey class examines the fundamental principles and basic structure of our government while exploring the elements of the U.S. Constitution. A basis for understanding how other nations are governed is established through examination of other political and economic systems. Class discussions are encouraged to aid students in using critical judgment and in assessing the dynamics of U.S. government.

*Prerequisites: Western Civilization I and II (World and European History) or AP European History and permission of the department based on previous academic record including standardized test scores. Can be taken concurrently with US or AP US History.*

## Social Science Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

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### REQUIRED

Western Civilization I  
(may be deferred until  
grade 10)

Western Civilization II  
(may be deferred until  
grade 11)

U.S. History  
(may be deferred until  
grade 12)

OR

AP European History  
(may be deferred until  
grade 11)

OR

AP U.S. History  
(may be deferred until  
grade 12)

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### ELECTIVES

Current Global Issues  
(semester)

Current Global Issues  
(semester)

AP U.S. Government and  
Politics (semester)

AP U.S. Government and  
Politics (semester)

AP Psychology  
(year)

AP Psychology  
(year)

AP Art History  
(year)

AP Art History  
(year)



## WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

The goal of the World Language program is for each student to develop proficiency in reading, writing, and speaking in a modern (French or Spanish) or classical (Latin) language. The students have an opportunity to take four years of language at the high school level, even if they have placed out of the level 1 course in their chosen language, based on their experience in their pre-high school coursework. AP courses are given in modern languages to eligible students.

**Required Courses:** The World Language requirement is 3 credits, taken in high school, in the same language; or, 2 credits in the same modern language and 2 credits in Latin. Level one of each language may be waived based on placement exam, but does not count as a graduation credit.

Courses are selected from:

French 1, 2, 3, French Pre-AP, French Culture & Conversation, and AP French Language and Culture.  
Spanish 1, 2, 3, Spanish Pre-AP, Spanish Culture & Conversation, and AP Spanish Language and Culture.  
Latin 1, 2, 3 (Prose/Poetry), and AP Latin (Vergil/Caesar).

The expected outcomes in the World Language courses are similar based on the course level. There are five areas of language acquisition, with the following expectations in levels 1-3:

1. Listening: To understand the language as it is spoken by a native speaker at a normal conversational rate with the vocabulary and grammatical structures appropriate to the level of instruction.
2. Speaking: To communicate with reasonable fluency in real-life situations at a level commensurate with the vocabulary and structure appropriate to level of instruction.
3. Reading: To read materials appropriate to the level of instruction, both silently and aloud, with understanding.
4. Writing: To write clearly and correctly within the limits imposed by the vocabulary and grammatical structures at the level of instruction.
5. Culture: To gain familiarity and appreciation of the culture of the linguistic community, and learn differences and similarities in world views, customs, beliefs, and social conventions of the linguistic community.

The Pre-AP language courses are for students who really enjoy their study of the world language, have demonstrated a strong academic performance in their previous language classes as well as a serious work ethic. The difficulty level of the AP exam is such that it is important for students to have intensive preparation the year prior to taking the AP level course.

The AP courses may be taken by students who are juniors or seniors, after having completed 3 or 4 levels of their language courses. They are intended for highly motivated students and are comparable in content and difficulty to a language course at the third-year college level.

The Culture and Conversation language courses are intended for students who want to continue in their chosen language beyond the required three years, but may not want to pursue this at the AP level, or have already completed the AP year.

## French

### LAN 101 & 102

**French 1** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### Lan 201 & 202

**French 2** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### Lan 301 & 302

**French 3** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### Lan 351 & 352

**French Pre-AP**  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### Lan 401 & 402

**French  
Culture & Conversation**  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### Lan 501 & 502

**AP French Language and  
Culture**  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

## Spanish

### LAN 111 & 112

**Spanish 1** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### LAN 211 & 212

**Spanish 2** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### LAN 311 & 312

**Spanish 3** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### LAN 361 & 362

**Pre-AP Spanish**  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### LAN 411 & 412

**Spanish  
Culture & Conversation**  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### Lan 511 & 512

**AP Spanish Language and  
Culture**  
Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

## Latin

### LAN 131 & 132

**Latin 1** Sem 1 & 2

### LAN 231 & 232

**Latin 2** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### LAN 331 & 332

**Latin 3** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

### LAN 531 & 532

**AP Latin** Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

## World Language Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

### REQUIRED

French 1

OR

Latin 1

OR

Spanish 1

OR

placement into level 2  
language course

French 2

OR

Latin 2

OR

Spanish 2

OR

placement into level 3  
language course

French 3 or Pre-AP

OR

Latin 3

OR

Spanish 3 or Pre-AP

### ELECTIVES

French Culture & Conversation

Spanish Culture & Conversation

AP Latin

AP French Language and Culture

AP Spanish Language and Culture





**FIA 411**  
**Digital Photography**  
Grade 11, 12

Sem 2  
0.5 credit

Digital Photography is an exploration of digital photography, digital image editing and photographic techniques. During the semester, students will work toward an understanding of digital photography, processes and concepts. Students will discover tips for taking exceptional photographs, while learning strategies to manipulate their photos in Adobe Photoshop Elements. At the end of this course students will gain a deeper understanding of contemporary digital art, as well as photography, by creating a portfolio of their digitally created artwork. **Students must have a working digital camera for this course.**

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B and permission of the department*

**FIA 412**  
**35MM Photography**  
Grade 11, 12

Sem 1  
0.5 credit

Students will learn the history of photography and learn how to shoot and develop black and white film. Basic methods of printing from black and white negatives are presented, and students will learn to strengthen those images with composition, framing, and good exposure. The class will cover camera controls and learn correct techniques for shooting black and white images. **Students must have a working 35 mm film camera with manual capabilities to take this course.**

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B and permission of the department.*

**FIA 413 & 414**  
**Master Visual Arts**  
Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

Master Visual Arts gives the highly creative student the opportunity to focus on individual art projects and to continue work on a strong portfolio based on a theme or thesis. This portfolio is graded on technical skill, creativity, and use of time management. The student is self-directed with a collaborative dialog with the studio art teacher. Rubrics are written for each project to evaluate the work. Students are required to submit at least two works of art to the Regional Scholastic Art Exhibition

*Prerequisite: Intermediate Visual Arts A & B, Advanced Visual Arts or Portfolio Studio Art and permission of the department.*

**FIA 513 & 514**  
**AP Studio Art: 2D Design**  
Grade 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

The portfolio produced for this AP course is intended to address a very broad interpretation of two-dimensional design issues. Students are asked to demonstrate proficiency in two-dimensional design using a variety of art forms in preparation of their portfolios. The student assembles her work in a portfolio to be graded by the AP College Board. Students submit 12 works of art (Breadth Section) based on the elements of art and principles of design. Additionally, 12 works of art are submitted in a concentration or theme. Five high quality actual matted works of art are submitted to the College Board. Students present a display of work in a juried student art exhibit at *ArtsParts*. Students are required to submit at least five works of art to the regional Scholastic Art Exhibition.

*Prerequisites: Int. Visual Arts A & B, Portfolio Studio Arts, and permission of the department. Student must have a study hall to enroll in this class.*

**FIA 515 & 516 (SSC 531-532)**  
**AP Art History**  
Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 & 2  
1 credit

This course offers a chronological survey of Western art from the dawn of civilization to the present time, including the most modern trends and ideas in the ever changing world of art. The first semester introduces the topic of art history and covers art through the Northern Renaissance. The second semester includes the Italian Renaissance through the present. The seven basic course objectives follow the objectives for the AP Art History course defined by the College Board with an emphasis on the Western tradition.

*Prerequisites: Recommendation of the teacher based on previous work in English and history courses.*

**FIA 221 & 222**  
**Intermediate Speech/Drama A& B**  
Grade 10, 11, 12                      Sem 1 and/or 2  
0.5 credit per semester

The speech/drama courses offer the student the opportunity to further develop her acting skills while acquiring knowledge of play production and direction. Critiquing individual and ensemble performances and studying the history of theater give perspective and depth to the student's understanding of drama. Improvisation activities will also be an integral factor in acting development. Participation in the SCA play production and/or forensic team is required. (15 hours per quarter)

*Prerequisites: VAP*

**FIA 321**  
**Advanced Speech/Drama A**  
Grade 11, 12                      Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

Advanced Speech/Drama builds on the knowledge and skills developed in Intermediate Speech/Drama. Added emphasis is placed on learning the technical aspects of theater, including set design, costume design, lighting design, etc. Additional hours are required in participation in the SCA play production and/or forensic team activities. (20 hours per quarter)

*Prerequisites: Int. Speech/Drama A & B and permission of the department*

**FIA 322**  
**Advanced Speech/Drama B**  
Grade 11, 12                      Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

Advanced Speech/Drama B continues with the work of Advanced Speech/Drama A.

*Prerequisites: Advanced Speech/Drama A and permission of the department*

**FIA 421**  
**Masters Speech/Drama A**  
Grade 12                      Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

At the masters level, the drama student continues to perfect acting, directorial, and critiquing skills. She serves as a mentor to other theater students. In the first semester, the student designs a make-up plot for a Broadway play or musical, and executes the plot using fellow classmates. She is also responsible for mastering more challenging monologues. In the second semester, she prepares a theater project to be presented to the class, prepares advanced monologues and duet scenes, and is required to participate in the SCA play production and/or forensic team. (25 hours per quarter)

*Prerequisites: Advanced Speech/Drama B and permission of the department*

**FIA 422**  
**Masters Speech/Drama B**  
Grade 12                      Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

Masters Speech/Drama B continues with the work of Masters Speech/Drama A.

*Prerequisites: Masters Speech/Drama A and permission of the department*

**FIA 131 & 132****Introduction to Choral Music**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

Introduction to Choral Music is the first-year course in the St. Cecilia choral program. Each student is encouraged to embrace and develop her voice to its fullest potential. Fundamentals for excellent choral singing are presented, including techniques for breathing, diction, intonation, proper phrasing, and dynamics. Literature includes rounds, unison songs, and two and three-part music, representing a variety of styles from all periods of music. Basic fundamentals of music theory, sight singing, and ear training are incorporated daily to develop total musicianship. Grading for this course is based on attendance at all scheduled performances, as well as classroom participation, music theory work, and singing assessments.

**FIA 231 & 232, 331 & 332, 431 & 432****Advanced Chorus**

Grade 10, 11, 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

A student may enroll in Advanced Choir upon successful completion of Introduction to Choral Music 1 & 2 and/or an audition/interview with the director. Advanced Choir continues to offer instruction in musicianship and the development of techniques for excellent singing. Advanced repertoire is studied and performed, including a cappella, arrangements from all periods of musical history, various languages, and often in four-part harmony. Advanced Choir prepares students for college choir programs and a lifetime of singing. It may be repeated each year. Grading for Advanced Choir is based on attendance at all scheduled performances, as well as classroom participation, music theory work, and singing assessments.

*Prerequisites: Introduction to Choral Music 1 & 2 and/or permission of the instructor based on an interview and audition. Exceptions may be allowed for freshman participation after audition and with the permission of the Director*

**FIA 161 & 162, 261 & 262, 361 & 362, 461 & 462****Chamber Ensemble**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

0.5 credit per semester

Chamber music has been defined as music for small ensembles in which instrumentalists perform one to a part, generally without a conductor. At one time, *chamber music* was restricted to Western classical music for small ensembles, such as the string quartet. Today, however, chamber music comprises many different musical styles and genres and various combinations of instrumentalists, including collaborations between pianists, string players and wind instrumentalists. Chamber music demands that each individual engage in a close musical dialogue with the other performers. Their collective musical instinct, experience, knowledge and talent guide the process of interpreting, rehearsing, and performing. In this semester course, students work on their chosen instrument in small ensembles of 2 to 5 students for instruction and rehearsal, with the aim of performing in concerts. Attendance at all performances and rehearsals is mandatory.

*Prerequisites: Students with demonstrable levels of proficiency may enroll in this course. Preferably, students should be engaged in private lessons on their instrument while enrolled in this course, or have had previous experience/ lessons on the instrument*

**FIA 531 & 532****AP Music Theory**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 &amp; 2

1 credit

An AP Music Theory course is designed to be the equivalent of a first-year college course in music theory. This course develops the student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a music score. The course includes learning activities designed to develop aural, sight-singing, written, compositional, and analytical skills. It assumes the student's ability to read and write musical notation, and an acquisition of basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument.

*Prerequisites: Permission of the department which is based on the ability of the student to read and write musical notation, and a demonstration of knowledge of basic performance skills in voice or on an instrument, accomplished through an interview with the instructor*

**FIA 241 & 242**  
**Intermediate Dance A & B**

Grade 10, 11, 12                      Sem 1 and/or 2  
0.5 credit per semester

The overarching goals of intermediate dancers are to build on their foundations, develop additional technical skills, and add the elements of artistry and dynamics. At this level, students will be expected to begin realizing their personal responsibility in technical and artistic progression, reflecting a more focused attitude. Students will pursue progress in ballet and jazz technique, in musical theatre style, and in a tap workshop. Additionally, a choreography unit challenges dancers to tell stories, explore music, or portray emotions through the creation of dance.

*Prerequisites: VAP or equivalent dance school training and permission of the department*

**FIA 341 & 342**  
**Advanced Dance A & B**

Grade 11, 12                      Sem 1 and/or 2  
0.5 credit per semester

Through this course, dancers focus on honing technique and style. Improvement in flexibility, stamina, and strength are focal points of this course. Additionally, dancers will be expected to assimilate information and retain feedback quicker than their beginning and intermediate counterparts. The course focuses on more complicated rhythmic patterns and choreography, as well as understanding the meaning of dancing as a member of an ensemble versus as a soloist. Dancers explore these principles through ballet, jazz, tap, and musical theatre styles of dance. Advanced dancers continue their study of the art through creation of their own choreography.

*Prerequisites: Intermediate Dance A & B and permission of the department*

**FIA 441 & 442**  
**Masters Dance A & B**

Grade 12                      Sem 1 and/or 2  
0.5 credit per semester

This course assumes technical and stylistic excellence of its dancers. So, though dancers continue to improve on the elements explored in previous dance classes, performance and artistry are the focal points of this level. Dancers are expected to think analytically, creatively, and pedagogically. Exercises in improvisation and choreography supplement daily technique and performance work. Dancers in this class work on pieces to perform for school events and special assemblies. A dance history component builds on the basics of dance history and its major players, as discussed in the VAP course.

*Prerequisites: Advanced Dance A & B and permission of the department*

# Fine Arts Course Sequence

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

## REQUIRED

VAP  
(Visual & Performing Arts)

*An additional 1.5 credits in the Fine Arts is required and may be fulfilled with any Fine Arts electives. These may be taken at any time in grades 9, 10, 11, and/or 12 provided that they are taken in sequence and prerequisites are fulfilled.*

## ELECTIVES

Introduction to Choral Music  
(year)

Advanced Chorus  
(year)

Advanced Chorus  
(year)

Advanced Chorus  
(year)

Chamber Ensemble  
(semester or year)

Chamber Ensemble

Chamber Ensemble

Chamber Ensemble

Intermediate  
Speech & Drama A & B  
(semester each)

Advanced Speech &  
Drama A & B  
(semester each)

Masters  
Speech & Drama A & B  
(semester each)

Intermediate Visual Arts  
A & B (semester each)

Advanced Visual Arts  
(year)

Master Studio Art  
(year)

Intermediate Dance A & B  
(semester or year)

Advanced Dance A & B  
(semester each)

Masters Dance A & B  
(semester each)

Portfolio Studio Art  
(year)

AP Studio Art: 2D Design  
(year)

Digital Photography  
(semester)

Digital Photography  
(semester)

35 MM Photography  
(semester)

35 MM Photography  
(semester)



## Grades 11 & 12

AP Music Theory  
(year)

AP Art History  
(year)

*Fine Arts electives may be taken at any time in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, provided that they are taken in sequence and prerequisites are fulfilled*

## COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

All students coming to Saint Cecilia have experience with computer technology. The computer courses provided in our Computer Technology department develop previously acquired skills and introduce students to applications best suited to their current high school and future college needs.

### **Required Courses:**

Academic Applications

### **Elective Courses:**

Layout & Design  
Introduction to Programming

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#### **COM 101**

##### **Academic Applications**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

Academic Applications introduces students to computing by learning how to "log in" to the School's network, use the Internet to find information, and work efficiently on the keyboard. In addition, the class discusses the ethical use of computers at school as well as in the real world. The class provides an overview of computer applications including a brief introduction to Microsoft Windows, MS Word, MS Excel, and MS PowerPoint. This requirement may be waived by adequate performance on the computer technology exam.

#### **COM 201**

##### **Layout & Design**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12

Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

In this course, students will learn to use MS Publisher to create and edit publications, design and publish newsletters and brochures, personalize and customize publications with information sets, create business forms and tables as well as business cards and greeting cards, and create an interactive website. Students may take this in lieu of the Academic Applications course with permission from the Technology Coordinator and/or Academic Dean.

*Prerequisites: Academic Applications*

#### **COM 301**

##### **Introduction to Programming**

Grade 11, 12

Sem 1 or 2  
0.5 credit

In this course, students will be introduced to basic programming concepts and design using object-oriented computing with Alice (www.alice.org). Alice is a 3D programming environment based on storytelling through creating a 3D virtual world with animated objects (e.g. people, animals, vehicles, etc.).

*Prerequisites: Recommendation by the Technology Coordinator and approval by the Vice Principal of Academics meeting the following requirements:*

- *Achieved an A or B in Algebra 2 Honors (or be recommended to Pre-Calculus Honors or AP Calculus)*
- *Achieved an A or B in Chemistry Honors (or be recommended to Biology Honors or AP Physics, AP Chemistry, or AP Biology)*

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

Physical education is a requirement at Saint Cecilia Academy as part of the formation of the human person. This development includes attention to the physical body, in a healthy way that acknowledges the necessity of activities that promote fitness.

### **Required Courses:**

VAP (Visual & Performing Arts)	.05 credit in P.E.
Wellness	.05 credit in P.E.

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### **FIA 101 & PED 102**

#### **VAP (Visual and Performing Arts)**

Grade 9	Sem 1 & 2
	0.5 credit for Fine Arts
	0.5 credit for P.E.

Required of all freshmen, VAP introduces students to the basics of dance, drama, and the visual arts. These separate components are covered in classes in a rotating schedule, but there are also projects that cross the various disciplines. VAP allows each Saint Cecilia student the opportunity to experience being an artist, including the aspects of production, history, aesthetics, and criticism.

### **PED 201 & 202**

#### **Wellness**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12	Sem 1 or 2
	0.5 credit

This course is designed to enhance the student's overall level of wellness and physical fitness. Students will be introduced to concepts of exercise physiology, health, and the skills of lifetime fitness. An emphasis will be on activities that improve or maintain the core concepts of a healthy lifestyle, endurance and strength, flexibility, and body composition.

### **PED 212**

#### **Weight Training & Conditioning**

Grade 10, 11, 12	Sem 2
	0.5 credit

This course emphasizes self-improvement and will enhance the student's knowledge of physiology, endurance, and strength development. Weight Training & Conditioning is great for students active in a team sport who would like to further improve their performance, or for someone who would like to develop a knowledge of weights and conditioning. This class will include weight-training, conditioning, plyometrics, flexibility drills, and more.

*Prerequisites: Wellness*

# **St. Cecilia Academy AP Courses Available by Grade Level**

Grade 9

Grade 10

Grade 11

Grade 12

AP English Lang & Comp

AP English Lit & Comp

AP Calculus AB

AP Calculus BC

AP Biology

AP Biology

AP Chemistry

AP Chemistry

AP Physics

AP Physics

AP European History

AP European History

AP European History

AP U.S. History

AP U.S. History

AP Psychology

AP Psychology

AP U.S. Gov.& Politics  
(1 semester)

AP U.S. Gov.& Politics  
(1 semester)

AP French

AP French

AP Spanish

AP Spanish

AP Latin

AP Latin

AP Music Theory

AP Music Theory

AP Art History

AP Art History

AP Studio Art: 2D



## 4 Year Course Planning Chart

	Freshman	Sophomore	Junior	Senior
English (4)				
Religion (4)				
Mathematics (4)				
Science (3)				
Social Sciences (3)				
World Language (3) (2,2)				
Fine Arts (2.0)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sem. ----- --- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem.			
Physical Education (1.0)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sem. ----- --- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem.			
Computer (0.5)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sem. ----- --- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem.			
Electives (3.5)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sem. ----- --- 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sem.			

**Total 28**

7 Classes per Semester