INTRODUCTION

These pages contain brief descriptions of each of the courses offered at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School. Each departmental section begins with a statement of the philosophy of that academic discipline and ends with the course sequences to illustrate how one course satisfies the prerequisites for more advanced courses.

For a complete description of the academic program, please refer to Chapter 4 of the Student Handbook. Some of the contents of that chapter are summarized here for easy reference.

MISSION STATEMENT

Blessed Trinity Catholic High School exists to provide a nurturing educational environment that transforms lives in Christ, integrating spiritual formation, academic excellence, artistic sensibility, and athletic achievement.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All graduates of Blessed Trinity must earn a minimum of 28 credits. A full credit is awarded for successful completion of a full year course and a half credit is awarded for successful completion of a one-semester course or of one semester of a full year course.

The school's curriculum provides all the necessary courses for admission to any college in the University System of Georgia. The 16 credits required in the College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) are included in the graduation requirements for Blessed Trinity.

Please note that the entrance requirements for colleges other than those in the University System of Georgia do not necessarily coincide with the courses required for graduation from Blessed Trinity. It is the responsibility of the student, with the help of our Guidance Office, to be sure that all necessary courses are taken for admission to the college of choice.

Required courses and the number of credit hours for graduation follow:

THEOLOGY – 4 credits are required, or .5 credit for every semester enrolled at Blessed Trinity.

ENGLISH – 4 credits are required, including English 1, World Literature, American Literature (or AP English Language), and British Literature (or AP English Literature). Elective courses do not count toward the English requirement.

SOCIAL STUDIES – 4 credits are required, including Human Geography, World History, United States History, Government, and Economics.

MATHEMATICS – 4 credits are required including Algebra 1, Geometry (or Extensions of Algebra and Geometry), Algebra 2 and one or two additional courses that have these courses as prerequisites. Students who complete Algebra 1 and/or Geometry in middle school must still take four credits at Blessed Trinity.

SCIENCE – 4 credits are required and must include Biology, Chemistry, and either a yearlong Physics course or Principles of Physics/Introduction to Chemistry.

WORLD LANGUAGES – 2 credits are required from the same language. Students who complete one or two years of a world language in middle school must still take two credits at Blessed Trinity.

4.5 credits are required in the Fine Arts, Business and Technology, and Physical Education departments. A minimum of 1 credit must be earned in each department (totaling 3 credits). The remaining 1.5 credits may come from any of the three departments that the student chooses.

FINE ARTS – 1 credit is required from the areas of dance, drama, art, music, or yearbook.
BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY – 1 credit is required and must include a semester of one of the three introductory courses (for students who first enroll as a freshman).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION – 1 credit is required and must include Health as well as either General PE or Introduction to Strength and Conditioning. Dance courses offered through the Fine Arts Department may be taken along with a Health class to fulfill the PE requirement.

ELECTIVES – 1.5 additional credits are required, 0.5 of which must be Personal Finance. These may be chosen from any courses designated as electives or from courses not specifically listed as electives but which exceed the number of courses required within a department. For example, a student who takes Spanish 3 after completing Spanish 1 in the eighth grade and Spanish 2 at Blessed Trinity, receives credit for the course in fulfillment of the requirement of “two years of the same world language at BT.” A student who takes Spanish 3 after completing both Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 at Blessed Trinity receives elective credit for the course.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Blessed Trinity Catholic High School operates on an A/B block schedule that permits students to take up to eight classes with four classes meeting each day.

Many courses are offered on multiple levels: Standard, Advanced, and Honors/AP. Students are not necessarily placed in the same level in all subject areas. Placement in a particular level is based on the student’s aptitude and performance in the various disciplines. While the curriculum is parallel, in that each level of the course has similar goals and objectives, the level of instruction varies by methodology, degree of difficulty, and volume of information presented.

Standard level courses are designed to meet the needs of students who want a college preparatory curriculum.

Advanced level courses are designed to meet the needs of students who want a college preparatory curriculum, who can complete tasks with minimal supervision, and who have an above average level of aptitude and achievement.

Honors/AP level courses are designed to meet the needs of students who want an advanced college preparatory curriculum, who are highly motivated, and who have a high level of responsibility, aptitude, and achievement. Principles and concepts are explored in greater depth, and more independent work is expected of the student.

Honors and AP courses are weighted. For Honors courses, the grade appearing on the report card and transcript has four additional points added to the actual earned grade. For AP courses, the report card and transcript have an eight-point addition. Therefore, the maximum grade that a student can earn is 100 in a Standard or Advanced level course, 104 in an Honors course, and 108 in an Advanced Placement course. However, no weight is added to a grade less than 70. That is, weight cannot change a failing grade to passing.

COURSE OFFERINGS BY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

On the pages that follow are the descriptions of each course offered at Blessed Trinity. The listings are by academic department. Within each department is the philosophy behind the course offerings, the numerical listing of courses, and in the case of the core curriculum areas, the sequence of courses and a summary of the elective options.

There are prerequisites for some courses and may include one or more of the following:

Department Placement – the student is placed into that particular level of the course based on criteria set by the academic department.

Teacher Approval – the student must have the course registration form signed by the teacher of the course.

Contract Required – for all 10th, 11th, and 12th grade honors and AP courses, the student and parent must sign a contract indicating their understanding of the demands of the course.

Application Required – for some 10th, 11th, and 12th grade courses, the student must fill out an application as part of the request to take the class.
THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The goal of the Blessed Trinity Theology Department is to impart to every student the message of salvation through Jesus Christ, who perfectly reveals to us the love and plan of God the Father. Our task is to deliver intact to each student the truths of the Catholic Faith that have been handed down to us. By our teaching we hope to develop student understanding of the Deposit of Faith and bring it to a deeper maturity. The handing down of the truths of the faith is a stage in the process of Evangelization, so our goal is not only to bring clarity to students’ understanding of Doctrine, but also to encourage them towards deeper conversion and commitment to living a Catholic Christian lifestyle. It is our conviction that we are teaching the person of Jesus Christ, with whom we are invited to share a relationship. It is from the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit that our ultimate goal of eternal life is to be accomplished.

Theology at Blessed Trinity is a serious academic course. The statement of Saint Peter, “Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you,” requires both fervent prayer and scholarly study. (1Peter 3:15)

The Blessed Trinity Theology Department, in keeping with the norms of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, continually addresses four key areas of Christianity: creed and revelation (belief in God), liturgy and sacraments (worship of God), Life in Christ (living in accordance with God’s ways), and prayer (communication with God).

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT COURSES

Four credits of Theology are required for Graduation, or .5 credit for each semester enrolled at BT.

FRESHMEN: The two freshman year courses provide an introduction to Catholicism and cover the four components of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. All students are given the “basics” of Catholic belief and practice as a foundation for theological studies.

Course #011 – Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith
Prerequisite: Freshman
Credit Earned: .5
This course introduces students to the basic doctrines and liturgical practices of the Catholic faith. Students are presented with the basic Gospel message and the underlying Scripture and Tradition behind the face of Catholicism. This semester addresses belief in God (Revelation, Creation, Grace, Trinity) and formal worship of God (Mass, the Sacraments, the Liturgical Year).

Course #015 – Morality and Prayer
Prerequisite: Freshman
Credit Earned: .5
This course introduces students to the basic concepts of Christian Morality and Christian Prayer. The Morality component addresses moral formation and discernment, the power of habit in virtue or vice, and thoroughly addresses the requirements of the Ten Commandments, and the Law of Love. The Prayer component focuses on personal and communal prayer as essential to developing a relationship with the Living God.

SOPHOMORES: The sophomore year is designed for the students to study Scripture and the story of salvation history. The fall semester focuses on the Old Testament and the spring semester on the New Testament.

Course #021 – Old Testament Covenants
Prerequisite: Sophomore
Credit Earned: .5
This course serves as the introduction to Scripture study for students. Students establish a foundation for understanding salvation history through exploration of the covenants and prophets of the Old Testament. Understanding of Old Testament themes and images help the students appreciate that our Catholic roots lie in Judaism.

Course #025 – Gospels: Heart of the New Testament
Prerequisite: Sophomore
Credit Earned: .5
This course opens students to the New Testament Scriptures. Students learn how the covenant of Jesus Christ is the covenant that fulfills all the Old Testament covenants. Topics to be studied in this course include Jesus’s Incarnation, His teachings on the Kingdom of God and His use of parables, the miracles Jesus performed as a sign of the Kingdom’s coming, the Paschal Mystery and the birth of the Church at Pentecost.
JUNIORS: After taking two semesters of world history in Social Studies and studying Old and New Testament in Theology, students study the unique contributions of the Church to history and then begin to discover how they fit into salvation history.

Course #032 – Ecclesiology
Prerequisite: Junior
The purpose of this course is to examine the nature and structure of Christ’s Church. The student learns the function that the Church plays in salvation history, her visible manifestation as well as her invisible reality, and the four marks that characterize that Church, i.e. one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. The course is intended to prepare the student to take a more active role in the life and evangelical mission of the Church through a greater understanding and appreciation of her role as the bride of Christ.

Course #035 – Sacraments of the Church
Prerequisite: Junior
A sacrament is an external sign instituted by Christ that confers grace. This course examines the external signs (form and matter) of each sacrament, the Old Testament prefigurement and New Testament institution of the sacraments by Christ, and the sanctifying and actual graces that each sacrament confers upon the recipient. Students also learn who may administer each sacrament and who may receive it. The course is intended to give students a mature understanding of the sacraments of the Church so that they may avail themselves of these gifts and obtain the graces they promise.

SENIORS: The purpose of the senior year of Theology is to prepare the students to engage a religiously plural world, charitably defend their own faith, and have discussions with those of different faiths.

Course #041/042 – Apologetics
Prerequisite for #041: Senior
Prerequisite for #042: Senior, Placement by Learning Center
This course addresses the philosophical nature of theology, with students learning how to reason (and what limitations reason has) on the topics of faith. The course explains and defends the general beliefs of Christianity and the central teachings of the Catholic Church. Students are taught basic logic and argumentation skills as well as what not to do as an apologist. Christian charity in dialogue is required; one goal is to be able to intelligently discuss faith without attacking someone’s beliefs or ideals.

Course #045 – World Religions
Prerequisite: Senior
Students compare and contrast Christianity to the other major world religions. Students look at the beliefs and practices of such religions as Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Judaism. In addition, the political and social implications of each religion are discussed. As a follow-up to Apologetics, one goal of this course is to be able to have a charitable, adult conversation with someone of a different belief system.

ELECTIVE: The following Theology elective is offered for those who wish to expand their knowledge, for those who perceive potential religious or ministry vocations, for those who feel called to public service, and for those who wish to grow closer to God through more serious theological studies.

Course #057 – Morality in the Media
Prerequisite: Senior
Students apply the principles that they learned in their freshman morality course to ideas contained in contemporary movies and TV shows. Besides the moral themes, students examine how religion in general and Christianity in particular are portrayed in the secular media. Some films may be rated R by the MPAA; however, offensive material will be expurgated.

Course sequence:
- Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith → Morality and Prayer → Old Testament Covenants →
- Gospels: Heart of the New Testament → Ecclesiology → Sacraments of the Church →
- Apologetics → World Religions

Elective:
- Morality in the Media
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

As an English Department, we believe in the necessity of developing students’ appreciation for literature and teaching effective communication skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing. In our endeavors we demand fairness, honor, and quality. We aim to create an environment conducive to diverse learning opportunities for our students so they can develop the character, knowledge, and skills to succeed in high school, college, and the workplace. Additionally, we strive to promote and reinforce the doctrines of the Catholic faith while preparing our students for the many challenges they will face as lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

ENGLISH COURSES

Four credits of English are required for Graduation.

Course #110 – English 1H
Prerequisite: Freshman, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This honors level course is intended for the student who has a serious academic attitude and is capable of working independently. This course provides a balance of writing, applied grammar, and genre-based literary analysis. Students read a wide range of literature from many periods and genres to develop critical thinking strategies that will enable the student to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate a variety of texts. Speaking, listening, college entrance exam preparation, vocabulary, introduction to rhetorical strategies, and research skills are also included.

Course #111 – English 1 Adv
Prerequisite: Freshman, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This advanced level course is a balance of composition, grammar, vocabulary, and literature presented in a survey of the major genres of short stories, nonfiction, drama, poetry, the novel, and mythology. Speaking, listening, and research skills are included with emphasis on the development of study skills. In addition, students will prepare for college entrance exams through a series of daily activities.

Course #112 – English 1
Prerequisite: Freshman, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed for students who need reinforcement of basic language arts skills. Taken in conjunction with Foundations of Math and English, this course is a balance of composition, grammar, vocabulary, and literature presented in a survey of the major genres of short stories, nonfiction, drama, poetry, the novel, and mythology. Speaking, listening, college entrance exam preparation, and research skills are included with an emphasis on the development of study skills.

Course #120 – World Literature H
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This honors level course provides a survey of world literature selections in preparation for English classes in the junior and senior years. It applies a wide range of critical thinking strategies to comprehend, interpret, and evaluate an array of texts. This course prepares the student for specific writing experiences through the application of basic rhetorical techniques used in the development of literary analysis and research papers. Additionally, students develop usage, vocabulary, speaking, and listening skills, along with college entrance exam strategies, throughout the year.

Course #121 – World Literature Adv
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
In this advanced level course, students survey the spectrum of world literature, ranging from Greek and Roman classics to contemporary works. Students also develop composition, vocabulary, and grammar/usage skills, along with college entrance exam strategies, through class discussions and writing assignments. Additionally, students learn to recognize and employ rhetorical strategies in their study of literature and writing. Throughout the two semesters, students also focus on techniques in gathering information for research purposes by using a variety of resources, such as books, databases, online sources, and video.

Course #122 – World Literature
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed for students who need reinforcement of analytical skills. It is a survey course in world literature in which students also develop composition, vocabulary, and grammar skills through class discussions and writing assignments. Students use a variety of resources such as books, databases, online sources, and video to gather information for research purposes. In addition, students will prepare for college entrance exams through a series of daily activities.
Course #128 – AP English Language and Composition  
Prerequisite: Junior, Contract Required  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This college level course is reading and writing intensive and includes special emphasis on analysis of the rhetorical elements of language, the synthesis of multiple sources to serve a common purpose, and the formulation of persuasive arguments. This course is not a literature class but a study of the English language. To conduct such a study, students read and annotate primarily non-fiction texts written from a variety of points of view, some of which might be controversial, to better perceive how they themselves might fashion language to participate in an evidence-based discourse. Students engage in a rigorous study of advanced grammar and syntax. Students are expected to regularly apply their own rhetorical strategies to achieve the purpose dictated by the specific occasion. The advanced nature of this course requires thoughtful commitment and demands extensive reading. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #131 – American Literature Adv  
Prerequisite: Junior, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0
In this advanced level course, students survey American works and authors from the country’s beginnings through contemporary society. This course prepares the student for specific writing experiences such as exposition and rhetorical analysis of literary works as well as providing speaking and listening opportunities, vocabulary development, research skills, and college entrance exam strategies.

Course #132 – American Literature  
Prerequisite: Junior, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to provide continued reinforcement of basic language skills through a survey of American works and authors from the country’s beginnings through contemporary society. This course prepares the student for specific writing experiences such as exposition and rhetorical analysis of literary works as well as providing speaking and listening opportunities, vocabulary development, research skills, and test-taking strategies.

Course #140 – AP English Literature and Composition  
Prerequisite: Senior, Contract Required  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This college level course incorporates careful reading and in-depth analysis of British and world literature through discussion, analytical essays, and online activities. The advanced nature of this course demands thoughtful commitment and extensive reading. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #141 – British Literature Adv  
Prerequisite: Senior, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This class provides a chronological approach to the study of the literature, history, and culture of Great Britain. Students hone their literary analysis skills through various modes of expression while continuing their vocabulary, listening, and speaking skills development.

Course #142 – British Literature  
Prerequisite: Senior, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This class provides augmentation of language and writing skills through a chronological approach to the study of the literature, history, and culture of Great Britain. Students will continue to hone their literary analysis skills through various modes of written expression while continuing their vocabulary, listening, and speaking skills development.

Course #151 – Yearbook  
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior, Introduction to Journalism OR Photography as Art, Application Required  
Credit Earned: 1.0
In this elective course, students learn the fundamentals of publishing and journalistic writing. The students have the opportunity to apply what they learn in class by publishing the school yearbook. Class meetings outside of school time, in addition to those during the school day, are a requirement of this course. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.

Course #161 – Creative Writing  
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior  
Credit Earned: .5
In this elective course students explore the process of creative writing. Students form a community of authors and through the writer’s workshop approach, generate and polish original poetry and prose. Students are required to submit original work and share their writing with the class.

Course #164 – Mythology and Classic Archetypes  
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior  
Credit Earned: .5
This elective course provides the student with a background in mythology. Students focus on the mythologies of various cultures throughout history to identify recurring patterns and archetypal figures. That knowledge is then used in
examining selected works, both ancient and modern. Students electing to take this class should be prepared for substantial but manageable reading requirements.

Course #165 – Environmental Literature Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior
In this elective course, students will read and write poetry, fiction, and non-fiction all through an environmental lens. This course will focus on a range of American authors whose works seek to explore the interconnectedness of humans and the natural world. Students electing to take this class should prepare for reading and writing requirements, as well as occasional outdoor study.

Course #169 – Shakespeare’s Comedies Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior
In this elective course students explore Shakespeare and his works through an in-depth study of three of his most famous comedies. Students build on previous knowledge of Shakespearean tragedies from their core English courses to discover the conventions, themes, and values within his comedies. In addition, the students learn to appreciate Shakespeare’s timelessness by watching modern day film adaptations of the plays as well as producing their own adaptation of one of the course readings.

Course #171 – Modern Classics Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior
Students in this elective course will read selected modern, classic novels through a thematic lens. They will increase their knowledge with the adaptation of tools in modern technology, as these inter-textual connections will be used for developing comprehension of the selected literature. Assessments will be varied multimodal digital compositions based on the selected literature.

Course Sequence:
- English 1 → World Literature → American Literature OR AP English Language and Composition → British Literature OR AP English Literature and Composition

Electives:
- Yearbook
- Creative Writing
- Mythology and Classic Archetypes
- Environmental Literature
- Shakespeare’s Comedies
- Modern Classics
SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of the Social Studies Department is to direct the development of reflective, competent, and concerned citizens with a local as well as global perspective. In addition to building content knowledge of significant historical people, events, and trends, the department is focused on developing the historical thinking skills necessary to analyze a variety of historical evidence and develop arguments of explanation and solution to issues facing the world. Using the content knowledge of history and analytical skills, students will be able to use their Catholic values to make informed decisions within their spheres of relationships. These relationships include: the global community, the United States, the local community, the Catholic Church and the family. The students learn their rights and responsibilities within these relationships in order that they may live according to truth and justice.

We understand that we serve students with a wide range of talents in many different areas. The curriculum is presented by a variety of methods and in a manner that strengths may be encouraged and weaknesses improved. Students attain a repertoire of skills necessary to succeed in all areas of liberal arts education at the college level.

SOCIAL STUDIES COURSES

Four credits of Social Studies are required for Graduation.

Course #205 – AP Human Geography
Prerequisite: Freshman, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. Also, students learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. The course requires that students use critical analysis to evaluate a variety of material including verbal descriptions, maps, graphs, photographs, and diagrams. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #206 – Human Geography Adv
Prerequisite: Freshman, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed as a two semester introductory level human geography course. The course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the processes that have helped shape, and continue to shape, the world around us. Through an analysis of such broad themes as population, movement, culture, economics, and politics, the course aims to frame modern global issues in an accessible and engaging way for 9th grade students. The course is conducted in a paperless classroom learning environment and stresses important 21st century skills such as online organization and responsibility, teamwork, problem-solving, and innovation. The primary purpose of the course is to study the increasingly inter-connected world and in doing so empower each student with a greater and more informed global perspective. This course develops critical analysis and evaluation of a variety of material including verbal descriptions, maps, graphs, photographs, and diagrams.

Course #207 – Human Geography
Prerequisite: Freshman, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed as a two semester introductory level human geography course. The course takes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the processes that have helped shape, and continue to shape, the world around us. Through an analysis of such broad themes as population, movement, culture, economics, and politics the course aims to frame modern global issues in an accessible and engaging way for 9th grade students. The course is conducted in a paperless classroom learning environment and stresses important 21st century skills such as online organization and responsibility, teamwork, problem-solving, and innovation. The primary purpose of the course is to study the increasingly inter-connected world and in doing so empower each student with a greater and more informed global perspective. This course supports reading comprehension and writing skills, and introduces critical analysis and evaluation of a variety of material including verbal descriptions, maps, graphs, photographs, and diagrams.

Course #220 – AP World History: Modern
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Contract and Application Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course focuses on developing students' understanding of world history from approximately 1200 CE to the present, beginning with a study of the civilizations in Africa, the Americas, and Asia that are foundational to the modern era. This college-level course has students investigate the content of world history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods, and develop and use the same thinking skills and methods (analyzing primary and
secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation) employed by historians when they study the past. The course also provides five themes (interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; development and transformation of social structures) that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places encompassing the five major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Oceania. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #221 – World History Adv
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course focuses on developing students’ understanding of the world history from approximately 8000 BCE to the present. Students will investigate the content of world history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods and in four major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe. This course supports the development and application of historical thinking skills, including analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation. Students will apply historical thinking skills in short answer and essay format.

Course #222 – World History
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course focuses on developing students’ understanding of the world history from approximately 8000 BCE to the present. Students will investigate the content of world history for significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods and in four major geographical regions of the globe: Africa, the Americas, Asia, and Europe. This course introduces the development and application of historical thinking skills, including analyzing primary and secondary sources, making historical comparisons, chronological reasoning, and argumentation. This course emphasizes critical reading and writing skills necessary to analyze historical data and write effective essays.

Course #230 – AP United States History
Prerequisite: Junior, Contract and Application Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and events in United States history. The AP U.S. History course focuses on the development of historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative) and the development of students’ abilities to think conceptually about U.S. history from approximately 1491 to the present. Seven themes of equal importance – American and National Identity; Migration and Settlement; Politics and Power; Work, Exchange, and Technology; America in the World; Geography and the Environment; and Culture and Society – provide areas of historical inquiry for investigation throughout the course. These require students to reason historically about continuity and change over time and make comparisons among various historical developments in different times and places. The course also allows teachers flexibility across nine different periods of U.S. history to teach topics of their choice in depth. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #231 – United States History Adv
Prerequisite: Junior, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to provide students with the content knowledge necessary and historical thinking skills to deal critically with the events, issues, and trends facing the United States government and American society. The students examine the political, economic and cultural events of United States history from approximately 1491 to the present day. This course emphasizes an understanding of the principles upon which the U.S. government is built, the structure and function of the U.S. Constitution, and the role of U.S. citizens in participating in government. In addition, this course develops historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative), emphasizes analysis of primary documents, and stresses historical writing skills.

Course #232 – United States History
Prerequisite: Junior, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and events in United States history. The students examine the political, economic, and cultural events of United States history from approximately 1491 to the present day. This course emphasizes an understanding of the principles upon which the U.S. government is built, the structure and function of the U.S. Constitution, and the role of U.S. citizens in participating in government. In addition, this course introduces historical thinking skills (chronological
reasoning, comparing and contextualizing, crafting historical arguments using historical evidence, and interpreting and synthesizing historical narrative), conducts analysis of primary documents and develops historical writing skills.

Course #240 – AP United States Government and Politics  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior, Contract and Application Required
This college level course is designed to give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States and includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. The course begins with an examination of the U.S. Constitution and theories of government including democratic theory, theories of republican government, pluralism and elitism. The course continues with the analysis of political beliefs and the role of political parties, interest groups, and mass media in politics. Students also focus on the formation of public policy and the interpretation of individual rights and liberties. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #241 – Modern U.S. History and Government  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior
This course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the political structure and processes of the U.S. government and the opportunity to learn, discuss, and investigate the current government policies in the context of political, economic, and social events in U.S. History in the modern era. The course is divided into four time periods from 1965 to the present. Students will examine government actions as well as political, economic, environmental, and social trends in each period in preparation for evaluating current political policy and participating in the political process. This course includes multiple project based activities that will serve to synthesize the political, economic, geographic, and historical concepts learned in the ninth through eleventh grade social studies curriculum. Students will create and present these projects to demonstrate the acquired content knowledge and analytical skills developed in social studies.

Course #242 – AP Comparative Government and Politics  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior, Contract and Application Required
This college level course introduces students to the rich diversity of political life outside the United States. The course uses a comparative approach to examine the political structures, policies, and the political, economic, and social challenges among six selected countries: Great Britain, Mexico, Russia, Iran, China, and Nigeria. Additionally, students examine how different governments solve similar problems by comparing the effectiveness of approaches to many global issues. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #250 – AP Macroeconomics  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior, Contract and Application Required
This college level course is designed to give students an understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. The course begins with a review of basic economic concepts and then focuses on the study of national income and price determination. Students also develop an understanding of economic performance measures: the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #251 – AP Microeconomics  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior, Contract and Application Required
This college level course is designed to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the economic system. The course also develops students’ familiarity with the operation of product and factor markets, distributions of income, market failure, and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #254 – Economics Adv  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Senior, Department Placement
This course is designed to provide students with an understanding of the principles of economics on the microeconomic and the macroeconomic levels. The course begins with an introduction to the concept of economics and an examination of the American economic system. The students learn and apply the tools of microeconomics including the supply and demand model and market structures. In addition, the course identifies the different types and characteristics of business
organizations and analyzes current labor market trends. Students will learn and analyze the tools and measures used in macroeconomics including the American banking system, the basic measurements of economic performance, monetary and fiscal policy, and international trade. Students create and utilize graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

Course #255 – Economics  
Prerequisite: Senior, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: .5

This course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the principles of economics on the microeconomic and the macroeconomic levels. The course begins with an introduction to the concept of economics and an examination of the American economic system. The students learn the tools of microeconomics including the supply and demand model and market structures. In addition, the course identifies the different types and characteristics of business organizations and discusses current labor market trends. The course also provides the student with an overview of macroeconomics with topics including the American banking system, the basic measurements of economic performance, monetary and fiscal policy, and international trade. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

Course #260 – AP Psychology  
Prerequisite: Senior, Contract and Application Required  
Credit Earned: .5

This college level elective course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #281 – History of Western Philosophy  
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior  
Credit Earned: .5

This elective course examines the factors that led to the emergence of philosophical thought in ancient Greece, culminating in the thought of Plato and Aristotle, whose influence can be seen throughout the whole history of both philosophy and theology. The resurgence of Greek philosophical texts in the West in the late medieval period, which gave rise to the flowering of the Renaissance and the Enlightenment, are studied, as are their effects on the work of St. Augustine and St. Thomas Aquinas. Also examined is the ultimate gift of this philosophical trajectory – the application of rational discourse as it affects all aspects of human knowledge from mathematics and science to art, literature, psychology, history, and politics. The course traces the impact of this phenomenon on the evolution of philosophical ideas throughout the history of Western Civilization.

Course Sequence:

- Human Geography → World History → United States History → AP United States Government and Politics* OR Modern U.S. History and Government* OR AP Comparative Government and Politics* → AP Microeconomics* OR AP Macroeconomics* OR Economics*

* These government and economics courses are one-semester courses that may be taken in either order.

Electives:

- AP Psychology
- History of Western Philosophy
MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Mathematics Department provides a multi-level college preparatory curriculum that stresses logical reasoning, problem solving and applications to real world situations. Through a variety of instructional methods, the teachers nurture each student in their mathematical as well as their spiritual and social growth and development.

MATHEMATICS COURSES

Four Credits of Mathematics are required for Graduation.

Course #311 – Algebra 1 Adv  
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This advanced level course provides the foundation of Algebra skills necessary for future math courses. Topics covered include simplifying expressions involving integers, variables, radicals, systems of equations, solving linear and quadratic equations, graphing and writing linear equations, solving and graphing linear inequalities, solving absolute value equations, polynomial operations, and factoring polynomials. Also covered is some statistical analysis of data using mean, median, mode, range, variance, regression, and standard deviation. Students are also introduced to different representations of data, such as dot plots, histograms, and scatter plots, and how to interpret and analyze that data.

Course #312 – Algebra 1  
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed for students who need reinforcement of analytical and Prealgebra skills and introduces students to the Algebra skills necessary for future math courses. Topics covered include simplifying expressions involving integers, variables, radicals, solving linear and quadratic equations, graphing and writing linear equations, solving and graphing linear inequalities, solving absolute value equations, polynomial operations, and factoring polynomials. Also covered is some basic statistical analysis of data using mean, median, mode, range, and probability and odds. Students are also introduced to different representations of data, such as dot plots, histograms, and scatter plots and how to interpret and analyze that data. A variety of instructional techniques are used to reach multiple learning styles. Emphasis is placed on organizational skills, properly showing work, and study skills to ensure success that will be valuable in all math classes.

Course #320 – Geometry H  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Department Placement, Contract Required (if taken by a sophomore)  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This honors level course is an enriched geometry program with an emphasis on proofs, higher order thinking, and using logic to solve various types of problems. In this two-semester course, students learn and apply geometric concepts, theorems, and postulates. Both inductive and deductive reasoning are utilized to reach conclusions. Topics covered include proofs, constructions, triangles, perpendicular and parallel lines, polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem, circles, area, volume, and coordinate geometry. Statistics topics that are covered include finding and applying mean, median, mode, and standard deviation. The interpretation of data through the use of boxplots and histograms is also covered.

Course #321 – Geometry Adv  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0
In this advanced level course, students learn and apply algebraic concepts in geometric situations, as well as definitions, theorems, and postulates. Inductive and deductive reasoning processes are utilized to reach conclusions. Topics covered include basic geometric concepts, proofs, congruent triangles, lines in a plane, perpendicular and parallel lines, polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem, area, surface area, volume, and coordinate geometry. Additional topics covered include statistical analysis of data using mean, median, mode, range, variance, regression, and standard deviation. Students are also introduced to different representations of data, such as dot plots, histograms, bell curves, and scatter plots, and how to interpret and analyze that data.

Course #322 – Geometry  
Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed for students to learn and apply geometric concepts, definitions, and theorems. Inductive and deductive reasoning processes are utilized to reach conclusions. In this course, there is less emphasis on formal proofs, and more emphasis on creating the logical order of proving and defending information. The students gain critical thinking skills to prepare them for higher mathematics courses. These critical thinking skills are developed using various projects, which require the application of geometric concepts and written analysis of the process. The students analyze various statistical concepts of mean, median, and mode, as well as extend their knowledge to understand standard deviation and sampling. A variety of instructional techniques are used to reach multiple learning styles.
Course #325 – Extensions of Algebra and Geometry Adv
Prerequisite: Exposure to Algebra, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This advanced level course is designed for students who have had exposure to algebra and possibly geometry, but could use additional reinforcement of algebra skills before completing geometry and moving to Algebra 2. The algebra topics emphasized are solving and graphing linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, and systems, word problems, simplifying and factoring polynomials, and simplifying rational and radical expressions. Geometric topics include basic geometric concepts and proofs, congruent triangles, lines in a plane, perpendicular and parallel lines, polygons, similar polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem, circles, area, surface area, volume, and coordinate geometry. Additional topics covered include statistical analysis of data using mean, median, mode, range, variance, regression, and standard deviation. Students are also introduced to different representations of data, such as dot plots, histograms, bell curves, and scatter plots, and how to interpret and analyze that data.

Course #330 – Algebra 2H
Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This honors level course is a fast-paced course emphasizing higher-order thinking skills and problem solving in preparation for higher levels of mathematics such as Precalculus and Calculus. Topics covered in this course include equations and inequalities, matrices, conic sections, and sequences and series. Also covered is the study of functions, including linear, quadratic, absolute value, piecewise, radical, rational, exponential, and logarithmic. Students learn to graph, analyze, solve equations and apply these functions to real world situations. Students also learn to perform basic data analysis using statistics and use probability to predict the likelihood of events.

Course #331 – Algebra 2 Adv
Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This advanced level course provides a foundation for higher-level math courses, such as Precalculus and Calculus. The primary focus of this class is to develop an understanding of families of functions including linear, quadratic, absolute value, piecewise, radical, rational, exponential, and logarithmic. Students learn to graph, analyze, solve equations, and apply these functions to real world situations. The course also includes various statistical concepts. The students further their analysis of mean, median, mode, and standard deviation, apply the normal bell curve, and utilize the empirical rule.

Course #332 – Algebra 2
Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to review and develop the beginning Algebra topics and to continue covering intermediate Algebra topics through a variety of activities and skills practice. The topics emphasized are linear equations and functions, systems of equations, quadratic functions, polynomial functions, and radicals. Students use linear and quadratic regressions to model data and make predictions. Additionally, students utilize measures of central tendency and measures of dispersion to describe data sets. They also use box-and-whisker plots and histograms to represent data graphically. A variety of instructional techniques are used to reach multiple learning styles.

Course #340 – Precalculus H
Prerequisite: Algebra 2, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
Honors Precalculus is an advanced study of functions, analytic geometry, and an introduction to calculus concepts. This course provides a foundation for higher-level math courses, specifically Calculus. Application and critical thinking is emphasized, and mastery of Algebra 2 skills is a necessity. Students continue their study of functions from Algebra 2. The functions emphasized are polynomial, rational, power, exponential, logistic, logarithmic, and trigonometric. Additional topics include vectors, sequences and series, parametric and polar equations, conic sections, and an introduction to limits.

Course #341 – Precalculus Adv
Prerequisite: Algebra 2, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This advanced level course is designed to prepare students for advanced mathematics, including Calculus. Analytic thinking, graphical analysis, as well as skills from Algebra 2 are all equally utilized throughout this course. Students continue their study of functions from Algebra 2 while learning several more families of functions. The functions emphasized are polynomial, rational, power, exponential, logistic, logarithmic, and trigonometric.

Course #342 – Precalculus
Prerequisite: Algebra 2, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course reinforces major algebraic concepts and introduces students to advanced mathematical topics with emphasis on problem solving and its practical application. Topics include the basics of combinatorics and analyzing characteristics of logarithmic, exponential, rational, and trigonometric functions.
Course #350 – AP Calculus AB  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Precalculus H, Contract Required
Calculus AB is a college level course in single-variable calculus which includes techniques and applications of the derivative, techniques and applications of the definite integral, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout the course. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

Course #352 – Calculus Part 1  Credit Earned:  .5
Prerequisite:  Precalculus Adv or H, Department Placement
This is a one-semester non-AP introduction to differential Calculus, but does not prepare students to take the AP Calculus exam. This semester-long advanced level course introduces students to the advanced mathematical concepts of limits, derivatives, higher-order derivatives, curve sketching, optimization, and the physics of motion.

Course #353 – Calculus Part 2  Credit Earned:  .5
Prerequisite:  Calculus Part 1, Department Placement
This course is a one-semester non-AP continuation of course #352. This class is for those students who want a full year of calculus, without the rigor of an AP course. The topics covered in this second-semester class include techniques and applications of integration as well as the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Course #354 – Discrete Math  Credit Earned:  .5
Prerequisite:  Precalculus, Department Placement
Discrete Mathematics involves the study of objects and ideas which can be divided into separate or discontinuous parts. Topics covered include: problem-solving, reasoning, communication, decision-making, voting methods, weighted voting system, and apportionment of land or assets.

Course #355 – Statistics  Credit Earned:  .5
Prerequisite:  Algebra 2 Adv
This semester course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Topics covered include regression and correlation, elementary probability theory, binomial and normal distributions, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals. Students use graphing calculators and computers as aids in exploring and organizing data.

Course #360 – AP Statistics  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Algebra 2 Adv, Contract and Application Required
This college level course introduces students to the science of making decisions in the face of uncertainty. The course is divided into four main parts: exploring data, experimental design, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

Course #370 – AP Calculus BC  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Precalculus H, Contract Required
Calculus BC is a college level course in single-variable calculus that covers all of the topics from Calculus AB plus a number of additional topics, including parametric, polar, and vector functions, improper integrals, infinite series, and polynomial approximations of functions. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout the course. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement examination in May.

Course Sequence:
Standard:  Algebra 1 → Geometry → Algebra 2 → Precalculus
Advanced:  Algebra 1 → Geometry OR Extensions of Algebra and Geometry in place of both Algebra 1 and Geometry → Algebra 2 → Precalculus → (Calculus Part 1 paired with Calculus Part 2 OR Statistics) OR (Discrete Math paired with Statistics) OR AP Calculus AB
Honors:  Geometry OR Extensions of Algebra and Geometry → Algebra 2 → Precalculus → AP Calculus AB OR AP Calculus BC

Electives:
Discrete Math
Statistics
AP Statistics
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of the Science Program at Blessed Trinity Catholic High School is to develop students’ respect for the order and beauty of God’s creation, an awareness of the forces that shape our physical and biological world, and a sense of personal responsibility for the direction science and technology will take in the course of their lives.

The science program provides students with a method of acquiring, organizing, analyzing, and explaining scientific information. Professionalism, ethics, critical thinking, decision-making skills, and retention of core curricula are stressed throughout the student’s scientific studies at Blessed Trinity.

Faculty strive to remain current on scientific developments, work to address the individual needs of the students by utilizing various teaching methods, and encourage scientific curiosity and growth among the students.

SCIENCE COURSES

Four credits of Science are required for Graduation.

Course #420 – Biology H
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This honors level course is designed to teach students the concepts of an introductory biological science course while emphasizing the relationships between the topics covered. Topics of an introductory course include the detailed workings of the cell, the chemistry and genetic basis of life, evolution and diversity, animal and plant metabolism, techniques in biological research, as well as animal behavior and ecology. The course attempts to touch all learning styles through lecture, group activities, and labs.

Course #421 – Biology Adv
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This advanced level course is designed to teach students the concepts of an introductory biological science course. Topics of an introductory course include the detailed workings of the cell, the chemistry and genetic basis of life, evolution and diversity, animal and plant metabolism, techniques in biological research, as well as animal behavior and ecology. The course attempts to touch all learning styles through lecture, group activities, and labs.

Course #422 – Biology
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is designed to teach students the framework of basic biological concepts as in Course #421, while working at a slower pace and with a less-detailed unit structure. Lab techniques/reports are included.

Course #424 – Introduction to Chemistry
Prerequisite: Biology, Department Placement
Credit Earned: .5
An introduction to the study of chemistry, this one-semester course enhances the student’s understanding of the chemical properties of matter, periodicity, and bonding. The course utilizes the laboratory as a reinforcement tool to further understand the concepts presented and prepares students for the full-year required chemistry course the following year. The students also learn the proper usage of laboratory equipment, laboratory safety, and the writing of laboratory reports.

Course #428 – Principles of Physics
Prerequisite: Biology, Department Placement
Credit Earned: .5
The companion course to Introduction to Chemistry, this course is a one-semester introduction to the study of physics. The student’s understanding of connections between the physical sciences and mathematics is enhanced through the study of linear Newtonian mechanics, energy, force, acceleration, and charge. The course utilizes the laboratory as a reinforcement tool to further understand the concepts presented. The course satisfies the physics requirement, but also prepares students for the full-year physics course, should they choose to take that course as well. The students also learn the proper usage of laboratory equipment, laboratory safety, and the writing of laboratory reports.

Course #430 – Chemistry H
Prerequisite: Biology, Enrollment in Algebra 2H, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This honors level course is designed to emphasize chemical concepts and focus on the application of those concepts in problem solving. This course of study is geared to enhance a student’s critical thinking skills and develop independent investigation of chemical concepts and principles.
Course #431 – Chemistry Adv  
Prerequisite: Biology, Enrollment in Algebra 2 Adv, Department Placement  
This advanced level course is designed to introduce the concepts and laboratory techniques of importance in the study of chemistry. Throughout the course, the students are given the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills by applying knowledge of concepts to problem solving and experimentation.  
Credit Earned: 1.0

Course #432 – Chemistry  
Prerequisite: Biology, Enrollment in Algebra 2, Department Placement  
This course is designed to introduce the basic concepts and laboratory techniques of importance in the study of chemistry. The course focuses on the quantitative and qualitative application of chemistry. Throughout the course, the students are given the opportunity to practice developing critical thinking skills by applying knowledge of concepts to problem solving and experimentation. The course further serves to enhance and improve basic algebraic skills of the student.  
Credit Earned: 1.0

Course #440 – AP Chemistry  
Prerequisite: Chemistry H, Algebra 2H, Contract and Application Required  
This is a first year college chemistry course that emphasizes chemical calculations and the mathematical formulation of chemical principles. It enhances and develops many chemical laboratory techniques and safety procedures. The course also stresses the student’s ability to understand, apply, and explain chemical concepts. The course is scheduled as a double block and thus meets for a full block every day. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.  
Credit Earned: 2.0

Course #441 – Anatomy and Physiology  
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior  
This course includes a detailed study of the major organ systems and chemical processes within the human body. Students are given the opportunity to explore the organ system through dissection of animal organisms and tissues. The course also integrates current medical and science research topics throughout the curriculum. Dissection labs are an integral component of the Anatomy curriculum at Blessed Trinity. As this is an elective course, participation in dissections is required.  
Credit Earned: 1.0

Course #446 – Earth Science: Geology/Astronomy  
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior  
This single semester class is designed to provide students with an understanding of land-based geology together with astronomy and space science. Geology topics to be covered include multiple theories explaining earthquakes, seismic monitoring using modern equipment, plate tectonics, and volcanoes. Astronomical topics include discussion of stars, black holes, planetary systems, the moon, the inner and outer solar system, and assorted NASA imagery.  
Credit Earned: .5

Course #447 – Earth Science: Oceanography/Meteorology  
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior  
This single semester class is designed to provide students with an understanding of the dynamic processes and interconnectedness of Oceanography and Meteorology. Oceanographic topics covered include historical oceanography, plate tectonics, the hydrologic cycle, properties of ocean water, ocean circulation, marine sediments, and marine environments, resources and pollution. Meteorological topics covered include the structure and characteristics of the atmosphere, Earth/Sun relationships and their influence on the seasons, solar and terrestrial radiation, global circulation, weather systems and fronts, storms, and analysis of weather maps.  
Credit Earned: .5

Course #450 – AP Physics C: Mechanics  
Prerequisites: Biology, Chemistry, Contract and Application Required  
Corequisite: AP Calculus or Calculus Parts 1&2 or equivalent credit  
AP Physics C: Mechanics is a year-long, calculus-based physics course in Newtonian mechanics designed to be equivalent to a one semester college course in physics for engineering and science majors. The course applies calculus methods to explain physical principles and to solve physics problems from homework sets and lab experiments as appropriate. Lab activities are conducted frequently to allow students to observe and explain a wide variety of physical phenomena (e.g. motion, energy, momentum, oscillations). All aspects of the course depend on extensive computer use, both in and out of class. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.  
Credit Earned: 1.0
Course #451 – AP Physics 1  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Algebra 2 H or Physics Adv, Contract and Application Required
Corequisite:  Precalculus Adv
AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore topics such as Newtonian mechanics, including rotational motion; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; electrostatics; and simple circuits. Lab activities are conducted frequently to allow students to observe and explain a wide variety of physical phenomena. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #452 – Physics Adv  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 2 Adv
Physics is a fundamental science concerned with the laws that govern the structure of the universe and the investigation of the properties of matter, energy, and their interactions. This course integrates science and mathematics to promote a qualitative and quantitative understanding of the physical world. Students perform laboratory activities and solve homework problems in order to enhance their comprehension of the material. Lab activities allow the students to observe and explain a wide variety of physical phenomena (e.g. motion, energy, sound, and light).

Course #453 – Physics  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 2
This course is designed to teach students the framework of basic physics concepts as in Course #452, while working at a slower pace and with a less-detailed unit structure. Lab techniques/reports are included.

Course #460 – AP Biology  Credit Earned:  2.0
Prerequisite:  Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 2, Contract and Application Required
This course is a second year, college-level biology course. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. The course is scheduled as a double block and thus meets for a full block every day. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #470 – AP Environmental Science  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Biology, Chemistry, Algebra 2, Contract and Application Required
This college-level course is broadly interdisciplinary, covering topics in biology, chemistry, physics, geology, and earth science. It is designed to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and tools required to understand relationships in the natural world. Students learn to identify and analyze environmental problems, calculate relative risks, and examine alternative solutions for resolution and prevention of such problems facing modern society. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course Sequence:  Biology → Intro. to Chemistry/Principles of Physics → Chemistry → One additional credit (or two additional credits – one must be Physics – if Intro. to Chemistry/Principles of Physics are skipped)

Electives:

- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics C: Mechanics
- AP Biology
- AP Environmental Science
- Anatomy and Physiology

- Earth Science: Geology/Astronomy
- Earth Science: Oceanography/Meteorology
- AP Physics 1
- Physics Adv
- Physics
WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The purpose of studying a language other than one’s own, whether modern or classical, is to enrich one’s education both in the classroom and in the community. The study of language is not merely the study of grammar and vocabulary but also involves the study of culture, religion, society, history and geography. To learn another language is to learn about other people and to compare one’s own society with that of others. The study of languages broadens the learner’s perspective and helps one to place him or herself within the larger context of the world. Such studies open windows into other global communities that might not otherwise be accessible.

The teachers in the world language department believe that multilingualism is the way of the future in our country. Our aspirations for students are to provide them the language tools needed to establish more relationships in and outside of their social, academic and religious groups. We hope that, by studying a language other than one’s own, our students will be able to expand upon the true meaning of Catholic (universal, broad, and comprehensive) by forming relationships with peoples of different cultures both past and present.

WORLD LANGUAGE COURSES

Two credits, in the same language and taken while a student at Blessed Trinity, are required for Graduation.

Course #511 – Spanish 1  
Prerequisite: Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0

This course has students acquire basic skills in communicating in Spanish in both the spoken and written form. Students are introduced to Spanish-speaking cultures. A variety of text materials are introduced to teach linguistic skills as well as culture. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Incrementally, Spanish is used as the mode of communication in class.

Course #516 – Spanish 2H  
Prerequisite: Spanish 1, Department Placement, Contract Required (unless taken by a freshman)  
Credit Earned: 1.0

This course builds on the beginning level skills in communicating in Spanish orally and in written form. Almost all of the class time is conducted in Spanish. Cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries are studied using Spanish. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Selected readings in Spanish are covered and content-based topics are taught.

Course #517 – Spanish 2  
Prerequisite: Spanish 1, Department Placement  
Credit Earned: 1.0

This course builds on all aspects of the previous level. Increasing vocabulary acquisition is a focus as well as adding more complex grammatical structures. The past tenses are practiced at length. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries are studied. A major goal of this course is to expand skills to use the language in meaningful situations.

Course #520 – Spanish 3  
Prerequisite: Spanish 2  
Credit Earned: 1.0

This course is a pre-intermediate level course and is conducted mostly in the Spanish language. It continues to build on the two previous levels in communicating in Spanish orally and in written form. Cultural aspects of Spanish-speaking countries are studied. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Short novels are read, and cultural topics are studied in Spanish.

Course #522 – Spanish 3H  
Prerequisite: Spanish 2H, Department Placement, Contract Required  
Credit Earned: 1.0

This course is an intermediate level course and is conducted almost entirely in the Spanish language. It continues to build on the skills acquired in communicating in Spanish in spoken and in written form. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Real literature is studied at this level, and content-based topics are taught.
Course #525 – Spanish 4H
Prerequisite: Spanish 3H, Department Placement, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is an advanced intermediate level course conducted in Spanish. Advanced grammar topics are addressed as are cultural topics. Readings reinforce content-based instruction, culture and higher level vocabulary acquisition. Authentic literature is read and discussed. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills.

Course #526 – AP Spanish Language and Culture
Prerequisite: Spanish 4H, Department Placement, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
A reasonable proficiency in all four language skills is expected at the outset of this college level course. The course encompasses advancing comprehension in formal and informal Spanish and reading newspapers, magazines, and literature. There is a focus on the composition of expository passages as well as accurate and fluent oral expression. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #531 – French 1
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course has students acquire basic skills in communicating in French in both the spoken and written form. Students are introduced to Francophone cultures. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Incrementally, French is used as the mode of communication in class.

Course #535 – French 2
Prerequisite: French 1, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course builds on the language skills acquired in the first level. The past tenses are practiced at length. Students continue their study of Francophone cultures. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. A major goal of this course is to expand skills to use the language in meaningful situations.

Course #536 – French 2H
Prerequisite: French 1, Department Placement, Contract Required (unless taken by a freshman)
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course builds on the beginning level skills in communicating in French orally and in written form. Almost all of the class time is conducted in French. Cultural aspects of French-speaking countries are studied using French. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Selected readings in French are covered, and content-based topics are taught.

Course #540 – French 3
Prerequisite: French 2, Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is a pre-intermediate level course conducted mostly in the French language. It continues to build on the two previous levels in communicating in French orally and in written form. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Short novels are read, and cultural topics are studied in French.

Course #541 – French 3H
Prerequisite: French 2, Department Placement, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is an intermediate level course conducted almost entirely in the French language. It continues to build on the skills acquired in communicating in French spoken and in written form. Technology is used for visual and audio materials to build and reinforce language skills. Real literature is studied at this level, and content-based topics are taught.

Course #546 – AP French Language and Culture
Prerequisite: French 3H, Contract Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
A reasonable proficiency in all four language skills is expected at the outset of this college level course. The course encompasses advancing comprehension in formal and informal French and reading newspapers, magazines, and literature. There is a focus on the composition of expository passages as well as accurate and fluent oral expression. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #552 – Latin 1
Prerequisite: Department Placement
Credit Earned: 1.0
In this course students use the first two units of the Cambridge Latin Course to explore the basics of Latin grammar and vocabulary. The course covers cultural topics related to daily life in the Roman world, with a focus on Pompeii, Roman Egypt, and Roman Britain. Students will also increase their knowledge of Latin’s connection to English. Connections to Catholicism are also regularly emphasized throughout the course.
Course #554 – Latin 2H  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Latin 1, Contract Required
Students complete the second and third units of the Cambridge Latin Course. Building upon their first year knowledge of Latin grammar, vocabulary and Roman culture, students will explore more topics related to life in the ancient world. Students forge connections with further topics encountered in history courses while deepening their linguistic knowledge and preparing for further study of authentic Latin prose and poetry. Students will continue their exposure to Roman culture and history with particular attention to the rise of Christianity within the context of the Roman Empire.

Course #556 – Latin 2  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Latin 1, Department Placement
This course continues with the second and most of the third units of the Cambridge Latin Course. Building upon their first year knowledge of Latin grammar and vocabulary and Roman culture, students explore more topics related to life in the ancient world. Students forge connections with further topics encountered in history courses while deepening their linguistic knowledge and preparing for further study of authentic Latin prose and poetry. Connections to Catholicism are also regularly emphasized throughout the course.

Course #560 – Latin 3H  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Latin 2H, Contract Required
This course is designed to prepare students who maintain a high standard of achievement into Advanced Placement Latin. The first semester will largely be devoted to a thorough mastery of all vocabulary encountered in Units 1-3 of the Cambridge Latin Course and to an active recognition and identification of all grammatical forms relating to syntax and structure of complex sentences. By the second semester of Latin III Honors, students will begin the study of Unit 4 where they will encounter an increasing exposure to original Latin works by a distinguished list of ancient authors. Students will continue to broaden their exposure to the classical world: its history, culture, and influence, as well as its transmigration into the setting of the formation and rise of Christianity and the Church.

Course #562 – Latin 3  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Latin 2
Students continue through Unit 3 of the Cambridge Latin Course with greater attention to grammar and syntax and to the mastery of a broad base of Latin vocabulary including derivatives in English. Students also have the opportunity of working collaboratively in creating projects illustrating some aspect of Roman life: the language, the history, and/or the culture. Students will also study the impact of Latin and the Roman Empire on the formation of early Christianity and the Church.

Course #570 – AP Latin  Credit Earned:  1.0
Prerequisite:  Latin 3H, Contract Required
This college level course is open to all students have who have completed Latin 3H and demonstrated a strong potential and keen desire to meet the challenge of reading large sections from the works of Rome’s two most famous writers, Caesar’s *Commentary of the Gallic Wars* and Vergil’s *Aeneid*. The course follows the curriculum set by the College Board and is designed to prepare the students for the Advanced Placement Test in the Spring semester.
FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The fine arts are taught at Blessed Trinity to enhance the human experience and bring about a closer, more spiritual relationship with God and the surrounding world. We provide opportunities for students to explore the arts and acquire historical and cultural knowledge while developing skills across various arts disciplines. Study of the fine arts establishes a basis from which the student's creativity may flourish, using personal expression to connect the student with the human experience.

To the Artist: To all who are passionately dedicated to the search for new “epiphanies” of beauty so that through their creative works as artist they may offer these as gifts to the world. – Pope John Paul II

FINE ARTS COURSES

One credit of Fine Arts is required for Graduation.

Course #601 – Approaches to Art Making
Prerequisite: Freshman or Sophomore
Credit Earned: .5
This course takes a hands-on approach to creating various art forms and explores a wide variety of techniques/materials and cultural arts. No drawing experience is required; all work created is spontaneous and intuitive or derived from cultural-based images. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #603 – History of American Music
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to provide the student with a basic understanding of the history of American music in the twentieth century. The course covers soul, disco, jazz, and rock and roll and its relation to social and historical events. The emphasis is on recognition of different styles and provides students with analytical skills that will enhance their enjoyment and recognition of the different genres of music.

Course #605 – Graphic Design
Prerequisite: Freshman or Sophomore
Credit Earned: .5
This course covers the basics of PhotoShop and In-Design. Students learn the fundamentals of good design as it applies to print and web design. Advertising, lettering, package design, illustration, and career opportunities are explored. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #611 – Clayworks
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
This course covers the history and fundamental approaches to working with clay, hand building, wheel throwing and various techniques of glazing. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #612 – Metalworks
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
Students learn the fundamentals of working with various types of metals. Metalsmithing fabrications, such as piercing, forging, filing, soldering, riveting, etching, and tooling, are covered along with jewelry making techniques and 3-D sculpture assemblies. Students will create small keepsakes, jewelry, and sculptures. This course is recommended for students who enjoy working on fine detail as some processes will require excellent attention to detail for success. There is a $20 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #613 – Drawing 1
Prerequisite: Freshman or Sophomore
Credit Earned: .5
Students learn the basic skills of drawing. Drawing from observation and imagination along with learning various drawing techniques is the focus of the course. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #614 – Photography as Art
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to introduce students to 35mm black and white photography. Students go on photo shoots and work in the darkroom to develop their film and make print enlargements. Composition, use of the manual camera, the history of photography, and other photographic techniques are explored. There is a $35 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.
Course #615 – Drawing 2
Prerequisite: Drawing 1 OR Teacher Approval
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to further develop drawing and foster a more individual approach to drawing. Students expand on techniques and skills learned in Drawing 1 to create a more self-directed approach to drawing. This course is a prerequisite for Advanced Studio Art or AP Studio Art. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #616 – Digital Photography
Prerequisite: Photography as Art OR Graphic Design, Digital Camera Ownership
Credit Earned: .5
This course gives students a strong foundation in the mechanics of a digital camera, Photoshop, and professional photographic techniques, including: f/stops, shutter speeds, white balance, how lighting effects can enhance photographs, and the various types of digital files. Through lectures, demonstrations, photo shoots, and assignments, students gain essential photographic knowledge. All students are required to have a digital camera that can be set to manual mode. There is a $35 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #617 – Painting and Mixed Media
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to give students an in-depth experience in painting techniques, color theory, and mixed media. Students develop an understanding of realistic, abstract, and non-objective painting styles, using ink washes, watercolor, acrylic painting, collage, and other mixed media. This course is a prerequisite for Advanced Studio Art or AP Studio Art. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #618 – AP Art History
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, Contract and Application Required
Credit Earned: 1.0
This elective course is designed to provide students with the skills necessary to analyze architecture, sculpture, painting, and other art forms within diverse historical and cultural contexts. The course begins with the development of artistic traditions from prehistoric times to the Gothic. The course continues with an exploration of various historical, social, religious, and intellectual themes that are reflected in the art that spans the beginnings of the Renaissance through the 20th century. This program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #619 – Advanced Studio Art
Prerequisite: Drawing 2 OR Painting and Mixed Media, Teacher Approval
Credit Earned: 1.0
This course is for the serious art student who has mastered fundamental skills and would like to pursue further their own artistic and expressive approach to art creation. The course focuses on in-depth assignments and self-directed approaches to more advanced imagery and subject matter. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #620 – Advanced Photography
Prerequisite: Digital Photography
Credit Earned: .5
This course helps students advance their skills of Photoshop and learn LightRoom using their bank of images from Digital Photography, along with images shot during the course, to create new and imaginative works of art. Students also learn how to shoot and make alternative “trick photography” without the aid of Photoshop. Participation in either the BT Fall Festival or the Spring Art Show is required. There is a $35 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #622 – AP Drawing
Credit Earned: 1.0
Course #623 – AP 2-D Art and Design
(Student chooses which portfolio to complete)
Prerequisite: Drawing 2/Mixed Media, Contract Required
This course adds the portfolio required for the national judging for advanced placement credit to the requirements of Course #619 Advanced Studio Art. Work produced in this course must be at college level. All students are required to produce a portfolio for Advanced Placement judging in May. There is a $15 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #624 – World Percussion
Prerequisite: None for Sophomore; Teacher Approval for Junior or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
This introductory, hands-on course for drums and auxiliary percussion (bells, shakers, claves, etc.) teaches the basic rhythmic foundation of the world’s most popular rhythms, both traditional and contemporary. Students learn ensemble and solo skills and non-verbal musical languages to control form, dynamics, and tempo. Strategies include in-class performance, demonstrations, audiovisuals, readings, and lectures. No previous musical background is required. Performances outside of class are required.
Course #625 – Philharmonic Orchestra
Prerequisite: Musical Experience With Strings
This is a year-long performance-based class providing musicians with beginning to intermediate musical experiences in any type of orchestral string instrument (i.e. violin, viola, cello, string bass). The course is designed to enhance each student’s musical abilities through rehearsing and performing a variety of string music. This course may be taken multiple times for credit. Minimal outside of class rehearsals and performances are requirements of this course. Students will perform at all the Symphonic Band performances.

Course #626 – Concert Choir
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval
This ensemble is designed to help young singers enhance both their general knowledge of music as well as their music reading and ensemble performance skills. A primary focus is on preparing music for performance, but students also study aural training, sight singing, vocal blend, and vocal production through the singing of a wide variety of quality choral literature from all historical musical periods. This course may be taken multiple times for credit. Minimal rehearsals and performances outside of class are required.

Course #627 – AP Music Theory
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, Contract Required
This year-long course provides serious musicians with an opportunity to study the mechanics of musical form, structure, and style. Students learn music notation, basic compositional and harmonic techniques, score analysis, and aural skills, including sight singing and dictation. This program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by introductory college courses in music theory. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

Course #628 – Symphonic Band
Prerequisite: Prior Music Experience
This is a performance-based class providing musicians with superior music experiences. The course is designed to enhance each student’s musical skills through rehearsing and performing a variety of music. This course may be taken multiple times for credit. Outside of class rehearsals and performances are requirements of this course.

Important Note: Courses 641 through 645 may be used to satisfy either the Fine Arts or Physical Education (other than Health) graduation requirements.

Course #641 – Dance Technique
Prerequisite: Freshman or Sophomore, Teacher Approval
This semester-long course is designed to develop the student’s creative, technical and historical knowledge of dance. The focus is on improving ballet, contemporary, modern and jazz dance technique. This is not a performance based course. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.

Course #642 – Intermediate Dance 1
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval, Audition Required
This course is designed to challenge the students’ technical ability as well as enhance their creative skill. It builds upon the skills learned in Dance Technique and encourages forward mobility through the dance program. This course may be taken multiple times for credit. Outside of class rehearsals and performances are required. There is a $50 production fee for the class.

Course #643 – Intermediate Dance 2
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval, Audition Required
This course is designed to fine tune and further challenge the students’ technical ability as well as enhance their creative skill. It builds upon the skills learned in Intermediate 1 and encourages forward mobility towards Advanced Dance. The course may be taken multiple times for credit. Outside of class rehearsals and performances are required. There is a $50.00 production fee for the class.

Course #644 – Advanced Dance
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval, Audition Required
This course is designed for the more advanced dancer. The student has the opportunity to improve upon classroom technique and body alignment while performing in various dance styles. This course may be taken multiple times for credit. Outside of class rehearsal and performance are requirements of this course. There is a production fee of $70 to help with the costs for costumes and other materials.
Course #645 – Dance Company  Credit Earned: 1.0
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval, Audition Required
This course is designed for the most advanced dancer and has an increased emphasis on performance technique. Students have the opportunity to work with guest artists and to represent the school dance program in the community. This course may be taken multiple times for credit. Outside of class rehearsal and performance are requirements of this course. There is a production fee of $70 to help with the costs for costumes and other materials.

Course #651 – Women’s Chorus  Credit Earned: 1.0
Prerequisite: Freshman, Teacher Approval for upper grades
This course is designed for students to gain the skills for basic singing and music reading. Students receive individualized attention in the areas of vocal technique and musicianship. No prior singing experience is necessary.

Course #653 – Music Production and Songwriting  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Prior Music Experience in Band, Chorus, Orchestra, or Private Instruction
Students learn basic music reading and explore concepts behind songwriting. Other topics covered include music theory, vocal technique and how to sing in a healthy manner, basic piano and guitar skills, as well as preliminary skills in music technology and sound production. Students who take this class should be interested in songwriting and music and also highly self-motivated to compose, write, and express their creativity.

Course #654 – Adv. Music Production & Songwriting  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior; Music Production and Songwriting
Students learn advanced music reading and continue to explore concepts behind songwriting. Students should also be ready to stretch their creativity and compose in new song genres. Other topics covered include advanced music theory, vocal technique and how to sing in a healthy manner, and increased piano and guitar proficiency. Students will delve deeper into music technology and sound production.

Course #661 – Theater Studies  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: None; Teacher Approval if taken more than once
This course will explore varied topics in theater, including but not limited to acting, speech interpretation, playwriting, improvisation, and theater literature. Topics may vary from semester to semester based on the skill, experience, and interest of participants. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.

Course #664 – Musical Theater Conservatory  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Teacher Approval, Audition Required
MTC students will be granted the opportunity for focused study of vocal production, musicianship, and dance techniques for the musical theater performer. These focus areas will be combined with the study of acting technique, stagecraft, and theater design as it relates to current production projects with the BT Theatrical Alliance. Student roles may vary from production to production to develop their skill and experience in all areas of musical theater production. This class is designed to serve as the nucleus of the BTTA musical productions, but will also contain elements of concert performance and technical study in all areas of theater, dance, and music.

Course #671 – Film Studies 1  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: None
This course will explore the evolution of the modern film from the birth of modern photography, to the invention of synchronous sound, up to the “Golden Age of Hollywood” in the 1950’s. Students will view films from the era, consider important filmmakers (directors, performers, writers, composers, and designers), and consider the social, ethical, political, and economic impact of the Film Industry.

Course #672 – Film Studies 2  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior; Film Studies 1
This course will focus on the history & criticism of modern film from the “Golden Age of Hollywood” to the present day. Students will view films from the era, consider important filmmakers (directors, performers, writers, composers, and designers), and consider the social, ethical, political, and economic impact of the Film Industry. A focus on Screenwriting will be included in the course. Some films may be rated R by the MPAA; however, offensive material will be expurgated.

Course #681 – Speech and Communication  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: None
This course is designed to help students become more competent when asked to speak and write in a variety of business and personal situations. Through research and practice, students will focus on becoming more comfortable speaking in a public setting and will learn how to properly craft a message to better impact an audience.
BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Business and Technology department teaches a variety of courses to prepare students for success in college, career, and life. A core belief of our department is that such success comes from the integration of business concepts into all that we teach as well as the inclusion of technology and engineering concepts into business courses. We also believe that developing students who are problem-solvers through project-based challenges and activities is a critical component to our courses.

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY COURSES

One credit of Business and Technology is required for graduation; for students who first enroll as a freshman, at least .5 credit must be in one of the introductory courses 711, 713, or 715, or in Robotics Team (course 747).

Course #711 – Introduction to Business
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to expose the interested student to many components of the modern business. The course shows the student how these components exist in a changing society and the types of decisions which must be made within that environment. The course is also designed to expose the student to the multitude of career fields in the areas of business. The importance of business in modern society is also stressed throughout the course. Topics such as business environment, business ownership, business finance, human resources, marketing, and management are discussed in an introductory manner.

Course #713 – Introduction to Computer Science
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
This is an interactive introductory course for students brand new to programming that teaches the foundations of computer science using block-based and python coding. Not only will this course prepare students for AP Computer Science Principles and AP Computer Science A, but it will teach students how to think computationally and solve complex problems, skills that are important for every student. In this course, students will learn to program drones, draw robots, and even create their own smart home devices through the application of the programming skills they have learned.

Course #715 – Introduction to Engineering
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
Engineering in its simplest form is practical problem solving. In this class, students learn through individual units that cover various engineering fields as well as a semester-long challenge how to apply the engineering design process to solve practical, real-world problems. Additionally, students learn how to properly document and protect their ideas through the use of an engineering notebook. This is a rigorous course that requires students to apply math and science skills, and it includes a multi-page written report for the final project. There is a $75 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

Course #723 – Introduction to Law
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
This course provides insight into the evolution and development of our legal system. Students are introduced to and develop a clear understanding of their rights and duties within the legal environment. Topics include state and federal court systems, criminal and civil law, contract law, and cyber law. Students also have the opportunity to research, analyze, and discuss multiple court cases throughout the semester, as well as participate in debates and mock trials.

Course #727 – Accounting
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to introduce students to the study of accounting. Students work through a complete accounting cycle for a service business organized as a sole proprietorship. Emphasis is on learning to analyze and journalize financial transactions, as well as learning to prepare financial statements. Students are also introduced to the methods of accounting for a merchandising corporation. Topics covered in the course include preparation of payroll records, special journals, subsidiary ledgers, and depreciation.

Course #728 – Personal Finance
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior
Credit Earned: .5
This course is designed to teach students to challenge the current trends in such areas as debt and spending while learning about the positive benefits of budgeting, saving, and investing. This course encourages students to take a fresh and simple approach to finance by using the highly successful Foundations in Personal Finance program developed by
Dave Ramsey. This program, based on biblical principles, teaches students to recognize that all things belong to God and that we as stewards should be faithful to how God wishes us to manage what he blesses us with. This course requires the student and parent to work together throughout the semester on a variety of financial activities using the parent’s financial information. Activities include such things as making a budget with the parents, balancing the family checkbook, creating a shopping list, etc.

**Important Note:** The personal finance course is required for graduation as a general elective. Though listed in the Business and Technology course offerings, it does NOT count as a Business and Technology credit.

**Course #731 – Web Design**  
**Prerequisite:** Sophomore, Junior, or Senior  
**Credit Earned:** .5  
This course is designed to teach students the fundamentals of web site design, graphic design, and interactive design. Students learn to create attractive web sites using various editors and theme-based web site builders. Students are also introduced to web programming through HTML5, Cascading Style Sheets (CSS3), and JavaScript. Advanced techniques are used to manipulate and create attractive and interactive web sites. Students learn the latest trends and techniques used by professional web designers. Finally, students explore the ever-changing world of technology and how it has impacted society. There is a $30 lab fee to cover the cost of hosting space.

**Course #737 – AP Computer Science Principles**  
**Prerequisite:** Sophomore, Junior or Senior, Contract Required  
**Credit Earned:** 1.0  
This college level course introduces students to the essential ideas of computer science and shows how computing and technology can influence the world around them. Students creatively address real-world issues and concerns while using the same processes and tools that artists, writers, computer scientists, and engineers use to bring ideas to life. It is a problem-solving course. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

**Course #738 – AP Computer Science A**  
**Prerequisite:** Junior or Senior, Intro to Comp. Science OR AP Computer Science Principles, Contract Required  
**Credit Earned:** 1.0  
This college level course emphasizes Object-Oriented Programming methodology with an emphasis on problem solving and algorithm development. Topics include program analysis, program implementation, and standard data structures and abstraction. It is meant to be the equivalent of a first-semester college course in computer science. All students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in May.

**Course #744 – Computer Aided Design & Engineering**  
**Prerequisite:** Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, Introduction to Engineering  
**Credit Earned:** .5  
Computer-aided design systems are used by designers and manufacturers in virtually every industry to create engineering design solutions. This course will focus on learning CAD software principles: creating sketches, constraining, isometric drawings, and 3D modeling/specification. Additionally, students will learn how to analyze materials and resources needed for prototyping as well as develop an understanding of the operation of 3D printers and CNC machines. Students will apply the engineering design process and the concepts learned to develop and produce a designed solution to a problem of their choosing in this hands-on, introductory-level course. There is a $50 lab fee to cover the cost of materials.

**Important Note:** Course #744 is delivered primarily online. Students will have required dates of attendance for tests and other activities. The course syllabus lists these required attendance dates. Students who drive themselves can choose to do their work virtually and not be required to be present at class (except on the required dates). Otherwise, students will be expected to meet in the Learning Commons (or assigned classroom) where attendance will be taken.

**Course #747 – Robotics Team**  
**Prerequisite:** None  
**Credit Earned:** .5  
This course introduces students to advanced topics in robotics through an integrative STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) approach. Students learn about electronic circuits, the engineering method, basic programming concepts, 3D Design, and fabrication. This course emphasizes problem-solving skills through the construction of a competition robot that meets the FIRST challenge for that season. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.

**Important Note:** If taking course #747 in the Fall, students will be building and competing on the school’s FTC robotics team. Students will be required to attend two competition events and pay the $150 team dues. If taking course #747 in the Spring, students will be building and competing on the school’s FRC robotics team. For this level, students will be required to attend at least one competition event and pay the $500 team dues.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHY

The Physical Education program is designed to provide a wide variety of learning experiences for students, regardless of individual ability level, that encourages wise personal decisions regarding a lifelong pursuit of a healthy lifestyle. The department adheres to our Catholic teaching on the theology of the body, Canon Law 1113, which states:

The proper and immediate end of Christian education is to cooperate with divine grace in forming the true and perfect Christian….For precisely this reason, Christian education takes in the whole aggregate of human life, physical and spiritual, intellectual and moral, individual, domestic and social, not with a view of reducing it in any way, but in order to elevate, regulate and perfect it, in accordance with the example and teaching of Christ. We thus come to the understanding that maintaining physical health is one of the many components of becoming a "perfect Christian."

"Do you not realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you and whom you received from God? You are not your own property, then; you have been bought at a price. So use your body for the glory of God." – 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

PHYSICAL EDUCATION COURSES

One credit of Physical Education is required for Graduation, including Health. Students are not permitted to register for more than one Physical Education class per semester.

Course #811 – General Physical Education
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
This course provides a foundation for fitness-related activities as well as an introduction to team sports. Students participate in fitness activities each week as well as various team and lifetime sports. Students learn to assess their own fitness level and develop a personalized program tailored to their needs. In addition, students develop individual skills, basic rules and strategies necessary to become successful in various sports. Included in this course is a unit on nutrition. Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding how diet correlates to an exercise program and general wellness.

Course #812 – Introduction to Strength and Conditioning
Prerequisite: None
Credit Earned: .5
This course is an introduction to the Blessed Trinity speed, strength, and conditioning methodology through applied learning. This is the first step in gaining an understanding of the techniques and reasoning behind performance development. The goal of the class is to introduce freshman students to weight room safety, exercise integration, program planning, and performance development. Students learn about record-keeping through training log sheets both for speed and strength development. In addition, students learn how nutrition and recovery are integrated into a training system.

Course #813 – Health/Driver Education
Prerequisite: Must be 15 years of age by December 31
Credit Earned: .5

Course #814 – Health/Driver Education
Prerequisite: Must be 15 years of age by June 30
Credit Earned: .5

The health portion of this course provides a focus on substance abuse and includes the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program (ADAP), which is required to obtain a driver's license. Upon completion of this portion of the class, the student will have the knowledge to make and apply sound decisions regarding personal health behaviors.

The Driver Education classroom portion of this course is taught by Blessed Trinity faculty. The course provides the state-mandated thirty hours of class instruction focusing on driving laws and highway safety. Completion of this course requires the student to complete six hours of driving time outside the school day with an instructor and automobile provided by a state-licensed driving school. The course requires an additional fee of $400.00.
Course #815 – Health/CPR and First Aid  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: None
The health portion of this course provides the student with a wide range of learning experiences on health related topics. Upon the completion of this class, the student has the knowledge to make and apply sound decisions regarding their own health and be able to acquire and maintain positive personal health behaviors and attitudes. In addition, the course includes sections on substance abuse, mental health, human sexuality, nutrition and fitness. The basic goal of the CPR portion of this course is to provide students with knowledge and skills necessary to respond to an emergency, call for help, keep someone alive, reduce pain, and to minimize the consequences of injury or sudden illness until professional medical help arrives.

Course #816 – Driver Education/CPR and First Aid  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior or Senior
The Driver Education classroom portion of this course is taught by Blessed Trinity faculty and includes the Alcohol and Drug Awareness Program (ADAP), which is required to obtain a driver’s license. The course provides the state-mandated thirty hours of class instruction focusing on driving laws and highway safety. Completion of this course requires the student to complete 6 hours of driving time outside the school day with an instructor and automobile provided by a state-licensed driving school. The course requires an additional fee of $400.00. The basic goal of the CPR portion of this course is to provide students with knowledge and skills necessary in an emergency to call for help, to help keep someone alive, to reduce pain, and to minimize the consequences of injury or sudden illness until professional medical help arrives. At the end of the course the student will be Red Cross certified in Adult, Child, and Infant CPR, and in Standard First Aid.

Course #822 – Lifetime Sports  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior
The course provides the student the opportunity to establish a foundation in sports in which an enjoyable activity experience can be maintained for a lifetime. These sports include outdoor education, bowling, tennis, badminton, table tennis, softball, ultimate Frisbee, pickle ball and golf. Special attention is given to basic mechanics, rules, and etiquette for each activity along with strategies necessary to be successful in each sport.

Course #823 – Team Sports  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, Teacher Approval
This course introduces students to a variety of team sports. The goal of the course is to promote the intellectual, physical, and spiritual development of students. The course promotes the intellectual development of each student through learning terminology, rules, history, and basic strategies of each sport. The course promotes the physical through the learning of the basic skills of each activity. Finally, the course promotes the spiritual development of each student through the learning of sportsmanship and moral responsibilities through cooperative skills inherent in each activity.

Course #831 – Speed, Strength, and Conditioning  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior
This course is designed to give students an introduction to speed, strength, and conditioning methodology and applied learning. The students learn program planning through a method of progression called periodization. Topics include performance methodology, functional movement evaluation, pre-habilitation and pillar strength, movement preparation, plyometrics, acceleration, absolute speed, multi-directional speed, strength and rotary power, energy system development, regeneration, and nutrition. In addition to technique and safety, students learn functional anatomy and muscle activation and firing patterns. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.

Course #845 – Athletic Training and Sports Medicine  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Sports Medicine Program, Teacher Approval
This course explores various aspects of athletic training and sports medicine with a hands-on approach. Topics include the following: emergency on-field injury management, injury recognition, assessment, rehabilitation, prevention, and common injuries and illnesses encountered in sports. Also covered are taping, splinting and bracing techniques, as well as ethical and legal issues healthcare professionals encounter in the field of sports medicine. The course also integrates career opportunities and current medical and science research topics. This course does not count as part of the 3-semester Physical Education requirement.

Course #846 – Advanced Athletic Training and Sports Medicine  Credit Earned: .5
Prerequisite: Athletic Training and Sports Medicine, Teacher Approval
This advanced course requires a more in-depth knowledge of human anatomy and physiology and gives students hands-on experience with various clinical examinations to test for orthopedic injuries as well as testing and differentially recognizing common conditions occurring in athletics. Students also gather SOAP notes relating to acute injuries and conditions, discern a guess as to the possible diagnosis of the injury or condition and develop an appropriate course of
action for injury management. Basic kinesiology and rehabilitation steps and techniques are learned and demonstrated by each student. Advanced taping, splinting, and casting techniques are also covered. Students also display continued knowledge of the National Athletic Trainers’ Association Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice for Athletic Trainers. This course does not count as part of the 3-semester Physical Education requirement.

Course #848 – Core and Mobility
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior
This course is designed to provide students with programming that will contribute to improving their quality of life through various fitness methodologies. The program of instruction has been developed with offerings aimed at the development of individual wellness based on student needs. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.

Course #850 – Titan Training
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, Teacher Approval
This course is designed to provide the competitive student-athlete with the explosive speed and strength foundation necessary to reach peak performance. The course employs the latest research in the area of strength and performance training. Topics include speed training methodology for acceleration, absolute speed, multi-directional speed, strength and power programming, and energy system development. In addition, students master self-testing in the areas of movement skills, strength and power, and conditioning. Students learn how testing identifies weak links and how to interpret the results of those assessments to guide programming. This course may be taken multiple times for credit.
INTERDEPARTMENTAL AND NON-CREDIT OPTIONS

PHILOSOPHY REGARDING INTERDEPARTMENTAL AND NON-CREDIT OPTIONS

Courses that are team-taught by members of two departments or that are designed to integrate knowledge from multiple departments are considered interdepartmental.

Regarding non-credit options, note that students are able to complete 32 credits (8 credits per year for four years) but only 28 are required for graduation. For a variety of reasons, students may take one course less than the full load not to exceed one per semester over four years.

After the freshman year, students who receive financial aid are required to participate in the Work Study program. Although there are some work opportunities available after school and during the summer, most are during the school day and must be scheduled like a class.

Freshman and Sophomore students who are considering a Study Hall, and Junior and Senior students who are considering a Study Hall or an Unassigned Period, should take into account such factors as the level of difficulty of the core curriculum courses, the amount of time it typically takes to complete assigned tasks (how “efficient” the student is in getting work done), the amount of time spent commuting to and from school, and the amount of time spent taking part in extracurricular activities.

INTERDEPARTMENTAL

Course #913 – Foundations of Mathematics and English
Credit Earned: 1.0
Prerequisite: Freshman, English/Mathematics Department Placement
This course is designed for students who need continued reinforcement of basic math, language and study skills. Taken in conjunction with English 112 and Algebra 312, it concentrates on improving basic skills. The course provides instruction in reading comprehension, grammar, mechanics, and the writing process, as well as reinforcement of essential basic math skills such as fractions, decimals, and integers. Individual assessment and instruction are included with emphasis on the development of organizational and study skills.

NON-CREDIT

Students may not schedule more than one non-credit course in any given semester.

Course #997 – Work Study
Prerequisite: Sophomore, Junior, Senior Financial Aid Recipients
This may be chosen only by students who are receiving financial aid. Work is either for one or two semesters per year, depending on the size of the financial aid award.

Course #998 – Study Hall
Prerequisite: None
Freshmen and sophomores who need additional study time may schedule one block as a study hall per semester. Students are required to report to the assigned room as for any other class. Juniors and seniors who do not meet the academic and/or discipline requirements for an unassigned period may also schedule a study hall.

Course #999 – Unassigned Period
Prerequisite: Junior or Senior, Acceptable Academic and Disciplinary Record
Juniors and seniors who need additional study time may schedule one block as a free period per semester. Students may go to any of several approved locations during a free period, such as the cafeteria/lobby area or Media Center. Students may not leave the school grounds, but they may come in late or leave early if they have an unassigned period at first or last block. The level assistant principal makes a determination based on the student’s academic and discipline history whether the student qualifies for an unassigned period.