



**2021-2022  
COURSE SELECTION GUIDE**

# Contents

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## ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

Academic Philosophy .....	3
Credits .....	3
Graduation Requirements .....	3
Course Load .....	3
Course Selections .....	4
Course Changes .....	4
Independent Study .....	4
College Advising .....	4
Academic Grades .....	5
Weighting .....	5
Grade Reports .....	5
Honors Recognition .....	5
Honors & Advanced Placement .....	6

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH .....	7
MATHEMATICS .....	11
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY .....	14
SOCIAL STUDIES .....	18
THEOLOGY .....	21
WORLD LANGUAGES .....	23
FINE ARTS .....	25
HEALTH & WELLNESS .....	27

# ACADEMIC GUIDELINES

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## Academic Philosophy

A Saint Dominic Academy education provides an important foundation to Pre-K to 12th-grade students, preparing them for college and for life. Students learn to value academic success along with spiritual and social growth. This is accomplished through a comprehensive program under the guidance of faculty who set clear goals for achievement at all grade levels towards college preparation. Emphasis is placed on understanding basic concepts and developing good study habits, community outreach and participating in organized athletic and social events.

The Saint Dominic Academy academic program helps students develop self-discipline, responsibility, and study skills. Students engage with classmates in a curriculum that includes courses in English, mathematics, social studies, world language, science, fine arts, computer, health, physical education, and Virtual High School. At the high school level, courses are offered at college prep, honors, and advanced placement levels. All students engage in the study of Theology. Structured classes facilitate instruction while permitting the experienced faculty to assess and respond to individual needs and concerns.

## Credits

Saint Dominic Academy awards 1 credit for each successfully completed yearlong course and ½ credit for each semester course. Successful completion of each yearlong course entails earning two semester grades that, when averaged together, result in a passing grade for the year. Students may receive ½ credit by earning a passing grade for one semester but failing the course for the year.

## Graduation Requirements

Students at all grade levels must be able to exhibit the necessary skills to advance to the next grade level based on the academic expectations of Saint Dominic Academy. Twenty-four high school credits are needed for graduation. Students in exceptional circumstances may receive waivers for some requirements; all waivers must be approved by Student Services and the College Advisor. Please note that students must be enrolled until graduation. The minimum requirements for graduation are as follows:

<b>English</b>	4 credits (students must be in an English course every year)
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>Note:</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete a senior symposium
<b>Social Studies</b>	3 credits (including Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2 or beyond)
<b>Science</b>	3 credits (including 1 credit of United States History)
<b>Theology</b>	3 credits
<b>World Languages</b>	4 credits ( <i>students must be enrolled in a Theology course every year</i> )
<b>Fine Arts</b>	2 credits
<b>Physical Education</b>	1 credit (can be fulfilled by an art course or participation in drama program)
<b>Health</b>	1 credit (can be fulfilled by fitness course and/or athletic participation)
<b>Electives</b>	0.5 credits
<b>Total</b> .....	2.5 credits

**Total** ..... **24 credits – minimum required to graduate**

**Note:** Grade-level specific seminars may be required, graded Pass/Fail, with no credit or impact to cumulative GPA.

## Course Load

Students in grades 9-12 must be enrolled in 6 classes at all times. Exceptions to this policy are rare and must be approved by Student Services.

## Course Selections

Students are encouraged to carry challenging but manageable course loads. Schedules are finalized toward the end of the summer based on grades, teacher recommendations, enrollment numbers, scheduling conflicts, and departmental permission. Every effort is made to provide the best schedule for each student. Student Services, College Advising, faculty and administration work closely to ensure that students have strong academic records to support their future goals.

## Course Changes

Each student is required to carry a minimum of 6 courses or the equivalent each semester. Once a course has started, the student is expected to complete it. A limited **Add/Drop Period** of two weeks is held at the beginning of each semester. Permission must be obtained from Student Services, teachers, the College Advisor, and a parent/guardian. To add or drop a course after the add/drop period, the student must meet with the academic advisor to review the change.

## Independent Studies

Any student who wishes to undertake an independent study must work with a faculty member to present a proposal to Student Services prior to the start of the school year. The proposal must include a syllabus or a detailed description of the course. It must also have the support of a faculty sponsor.

## Textbooks & Supplies

Families are responsible for the purchase of all required texts and supplemental supplies. Textbooks should be purchased by the first day of school. We advise students to purchase all other school supplies after the first day of classes when teachers will distribute course syllabi stating required course materials. The online bookstore (Shelf-It) will be open on or before July 1st. Textbooks may be purchased through the bookstore or through alternate suppliers/retailers. New, used, and digital versions (when indicated) are acceptable.

## College Advising Program

The College Advisor supports each student and family through the college search, application, and enrollment process. College Advising begins formal programming with students in the junior year through the College Advising Seminar. Through group workshops and individual appointments, students are introduced to a variety of topics, including standardized test preparation and registration, course selection, how to research colleges, college affordability and financial aid, scholarship opportunities, athletic recruitment and the NCAA eligibility process, and preparation for art and music portfolios and auditions.

Over the course of their relationship, the college advisor listens as students voice their priorities, interests, and concerns and, using online and print resources as well as their own personal experience and knowledge, help students identify the best possible fit for a post-secondary experience.

# Academic Grades

Numerical Grade	Letter Grade	College Prep (CP)	Honors (H)	AP/ High Honors (AP/HH)
98-100%	A+	4.3	4.6	5
95-97	A	4	4.3	4.7
93-94	A-	3.7	4	4.4
90-92	B+	3.3	3.6	4
87-89	B	3	3.3	3.7
85-86	B-	2.7	3	3.4
82-84	C+	2.3	2.6	3
79-81	C	2	2.3	2.7
77-78	C-	1.7	2	2.4
75-76	D+	1.3	1.6	2
72-74	D	1	1.3	1.7
70-71	D-	0.7	1	1.4
70-above	P	0	0	0
69-below	F		0	0

Weighting
Saint Dominic Academy weights Honors <b>(H)</b> , High Honors <b>(HH)</b> , and Advanced Placement <b>(AP)</b> courses. GPA is calculated by multiplying the grade by the number of credits earned and dividing by the number of credits attempted.
<b>Honors:</b> 0.3 points added
<b>AP/HH:</b> 0.7 points added

Grading Codes:	
P	Meets minimum requirements
F	Fails to meet minimum requirements
I	Incomplete
W/P	Withdrawn with a passing grade
WF	Withdrawn with a failing grade

## Grade Reports

Saint Dominic Academy student grade reports are released through the family portal (FACTS) at the end of each marking period/quarter.

## Honors Recognition

At the end of each semester, Saint Dominic Academy recognizes those students who have attained academic excellence in their studies. The Honor Roll is defined as:

Principal's List	An academic average of at least 4.25	No grade below A-
First Honors	An academic average of at least 3.8	No grade below B-
Second Honors	An academic average of at least 3.25	No grade below B-
Honorable Mention	An academic average of at least 3.00	No grade below B-

# Honors and Advanced Placement Courses

Saint Dominic Academy offers students a variety of rigorous learning opportunities. Honors classes often offer the same curriculum as regular classes but are tailored for high-achieving students — covering additional topics or some topics in greater depth. Advanced Placement (AP) courses let students participate in college-level coursework while enrolled in high school. Students can earn college credit, stand out in the college admissions process, gain skills that will help to succeed in college, and broaden intellectual horizons.

Below is a list of all Honors (H), High Honors (HH), and Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered at Saint Dominic Academy.

<b>Full Year, 1 credit courses:</b>		
<b>Honors (H) &amp; High Honors (HH)</b>		<b>Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:</b>
English I (H)	Biology (H)	AP English Language & Composition *
English II (H)	Chemistry (H)	AP English Literature *
English III (H)	Physics (H)	AP Calculus AB
English IV (H)	Anatomy & Physiology (HH)	AP Biology *
Algebra I (H)	CAD (H)	AP Chemistry *
Geometry (H)	French III (H)	AP Physics 1
Algebra II (H)	French IV (H)	AP United States History
Statistics (H)	Spanish III (H)	AP United States Government & Politics
Pre-Calculus (H)	Spanish IV (H)	AP Psychology
World History (H)	Studio Art (H)	AP Studio Art 2-D Design
US History (H)	Yearbook Design (H)*	AP Art Drawing
<b>1 Semester, 0.5 credit courses:</b>		<b>* Notes:</b>
Microeconomics (H)		<i>AP Lit/AP Lang are offered in alternating years.                      AP Bio/AP Chem are offered in alternating years.                      Yearbook Design - Honors level distinction will be determined for each student at the discretion of the instructor based on effort, quality of work and leadership role.</i>
Macroeconomics (H)		
Psychology (Intro) (H)		
Sociology (Intro) (H)		

# 2021-2022 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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## Course Levels:

College Preparation = (CP)

Honors = (H)

Advanced Placement = (AP)

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## English

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All students must take and complete four English credits to graduate. Listed below are descriptions for the courses students may take as they progress from freshman to senior year.

During freshman year, students are introduced to various types of literature (novel, short story, play, poem, and essay) and develop writing, thinking, and speaking skills through vocabulary and grammar study. Writing assignments include composition, character and theme analysis, creative writing, and research papers.

Enrollment in an honors course requires a “B” average in the preceding English course and a teacher recommendation.

### **ENGLISH I [WRITING & CRITICAL THINKING] (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9; Recommendation Required

**Description:** The first semester develops writings and critical thinking skills. Students consistently use the Writing Process, with an emphasis on revising. This prepares students to write effectively in all subject areas. Students will write clear and concise sentences, develop well-thought-out thesis statements, and thought to provoke conclusions, which will be demonstrated through expository, persuasive, narrative, and descriptive essays. Grammar and vocabulary are stressed. During the second semester, the focus is on literature. Students are introduced to major literary concepts that build on composition skills, focusing on analysis, personal response, and evaluation. Students will read a multiplicity of classical and contemporary texts, including novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays. This course requires students to read intensely and widely and to write focused and ordered compositions.

### **ENGLISH I [WRITING & CRITICAL THINKING] (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9

**Description:** The central goal of the first semester is to develop writing and critical thinking skills. Students consistently use the Writing Process, with an emphasis on revising. This prepares students to write effectively in all subject areas. Students will write clear and concise sentences, develop well-thought-out thesis statements and thought-provoking conclusions, which will be demonstrated through expository, persuasive, narrative, and descriptive essays. Grammar and vocabulary are stressed. During the second semester, the focus is on literature. Students are introduced to major literary concepts that build on composition skills, focusing on analysis, personal response, and evaluation. Students will read a multiplicity of classical and contemporary texts, including novels, short stories, plays, poems, and essays.

## English (continued):

### **ENGLISH II [MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE] (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English I

**Placement:** 10

**Description:** The thematic concepts of romance, tragedy, irony, and comedy are explored through close readings of the text. Vocabulary and composition skills are further developed. Various techniques of expository writing are introduced including abstracts of articles, speculative and critical essays, and the use of evidence to support a thesis. Considerable emphasis is placed on the components of fiction and poetry. A five to the seven-page research paper is required. This course is designed for students requiring a more deliberate pace of study and places particular importance on reading for comprehension.

### **ENGLISH II [MULTICULTURAL LITERATURE] (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English II (H)

**Placement:** 10; Recommendation Required

**Description:** The Honors Program continues to focus on reading, writing, and speaking skills. Students read a variety of works across literary genres and respond to readings through response journals, creative pieces, and formal essays. While students' responses to the literature drive class discussions, the teacher supplements these discussions with lessons about traditional interpretive frameworks to assist students in their search to create meaning from the text. Students participate in writing process activities. Throughout the year, students learn strategies to increase their vocabularies, to vary their reading, writing, and speaking for different purposes, and to think explicitly about their own learning styles. During the second semester, students complete a research paper and learn the basic methods and strategies of performing literary research.

### **ENGLISH III [AMERICAN LITERATURE] (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English II

**Placement:** 11

**Description:** The college preparatory junior English curriculum focuses on American literature to further develop expository and critical thinking skills. Students examine the American Literary movements through a chronological survey of major writers such as Hawthorne, Poe, Whitman, Dickinson, and Fitzgerald as well as more contemporary writers. Due to the significance of Shakespeare's works, students also read selected pieces from his collection. Essay writing further develops the use of direct evidence to support critical thinking. Vocabulary, grammar, and SAT prep continue. Students are expected to read extensively in this course.

### **ENGLISH III [AMERICAN LITERATURE] (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English II

**Placement:** 11; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This course focuses on selections from assorted genres by major American writers. Because of the significance of Shakespeare's works, students read selected pieces from his oeuvre. Students read a variety of American novels, short stories, plays, and poems. Writing assignments are frequent. Creative writing, critical essays, and analytical essays are the focus of writing assignments. They include but are not limited to commentary and criticism of the literary works read. Vocabulary is stressed and independent reading is assigned regularly. Students are expected to read extensively in this course.



## English (continued):

### **ENGLISH IV [BRITISH LITERATURE] (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English III

**Placement:** 12

**Requirement:** Successful completion of Senior Symposium

**Description:** The goal of this course is to prepare students for writing and communicating their ideas in a college classroom. Students master reading comprehension skills by reading essays, short stories, poetry, drama, and novels. The course also includes a review of proper English conventions and the continued study of college-level vocabulary. Students write extensively with teacher support, sampling a variety of expository styles. Reading assignments focus on themes in British literature before moving into a study of social justice issues. The course culminates with a senior presentation that incorporates research, writing, and reflection in a formal school presentation.

### **ENGLISH IV [BRITISH LITERATURE] (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English III (H)

**Placement:** 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** Successful completion of Senior Symposium

**Description:** This course focuses on selections from assorted genres by major British writers. Because of the significance of Shakespeare's works, students read selected pieces from his oeuvre. Students read a variety of novels, short stories, plays, and poems. Writing assignments are frequent. Creative writing, critical essays, and analytical essays are the focus of writing assignments. They include but are not limited to commentary and criticism of the literary works read. Vocabulary is stressed and independent reading is assigned regularly. Students are expected to read extensively in this course.

## English (continued):

### **ADVANCED PLACEMENT - ENGLISH**

*Saint Dominic Academy offers a biennial (once every two years) rotation of AP English Literature and Composition and AP Language. Students with a particular strength and interest in the study of English should plan to take both courses over two years.*

#### **AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION**

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English III/IV (H)

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** Successful completion of Senior Symposium. The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** This course helps students become independent readers, creative and mature writers, and effective speakers. Readings range across disciplines, genres, and styles, including both British and American works, with an emphasis on non-fiction and current events. Students focus on three formal aspects of language: grammar, rhetoric, and logic. In keeping with the AP course description, the class time will be a cooperative venture between students and the teacher; students should assume considerable responsibility for the amount of reading and writing they do. It is assumed that students have not only a high level of reading comprehension, vocabulary and writing skills but a love for the subject matter and a desire to push themselves beyond the boundary of a typical classroom. Writing and speaking skills are further developed in a collaborative workshop format, as well as in one-on-one coaching with the instructor. A major thesis paper is required based on the individualized interests and needs of each student.

#### **AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION**

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** English III/IV (H)

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** Successful completion of Senior Symposium. The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** This course is designed for students with a love of literature and language to immerse themselves in an exploration of the power of the written word. Both British and American literature will be examined as the basis for exploration, and students will have the opportunity for free choice reading with the goal of stretching their reading skills to a new level. In keeping with the AP course description, the class time will be a cooperative venture between students and the teacher; students should assume considerable responsibility for the amount of reading and writing they do. It is assumed that students have not only a high level of reading comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills but also a love for the subject matter and a desire to push themselves beyond the boundary of a typical classroom. Writing and speaking skills will be developed in a collaborative, workshop format, as well as in one-on-one coaching with the instructor. A major thesis paper is required based on the individualized interests and needs of each student.

# MATHEMATICS

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All students must take and complete three (3) years of math to graduate from Saint Dominic Academy. The minimum courses and progression of courses are as follows: Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II. Listed below are the courses and descriptions for students to choose from to fulfill their requirement. Students who anticipate pursuing an advanced study in mathematics or science are encouraged to maximize the opportunities the Mathematics Department offers. Many students pursuing other courses of study find that mathematics helps them to embrace a disciplined course of study.

## ALGEBRA I (CP)

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9

**Description:** This course prepares students with average mathematical skills for further work in high school mathematics. The course makes a connection with other math courses previously studied. Main concepts studied include variables and expressions, solving equations in one variable, solving inequalities in one variable, graphing in one and two variables, and an introduction to functions and relations. Other topics may include polynomials, factoring, absolute value functions, and systems of linear equations.

## GEOMETRY (CP)

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I

**Placement:** 10

**Description:** This course stresses the basic structure of geometry with a brief introduction to proofs. Basic concepts studied include parallel and perpendicular lines; various definitions, postulates and theorems concerned with angle measures and other geometric principles; the simplest geometric shapes and their relationships; properties of triangles and other polygons (specifically various quadrilaterals); properties of solid figures to include finding area and volume; parts and properties of circles; and trigonometry basics. The importance of algebraic properties in relationship to geometric diagrams is also covered.

## GEOMETRY (H)

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I (H) or "A+" in Algebra I (CP)

**Placement:** 9, 10; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This is an accelerated course developed for students with above-average mathematical and problem-solving skills. The focus of the course is Euclidean Geometry. The course stresses inductive and deductive reasoning which will enable students to use an axiomatic system to communicate their reasoning in a variety of forms of proofs and to develop conjectures. Main concepts studied include the relationships between lines, angles, and circles; properties of geometric shapes; the application of algebraic properties to geometric diagrams; similar and congruent figures; right triangle trigonometry; constructions; areas and volumes; and real-life applications. Constructions will be integrated throughout the course.

## Mathematics (continued):

### ALGEBRA II (CP)

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra I & Geometry*

**Placement:** Recommendation Required

**Description:** This course provides an introduction to the study of linear, absolute value, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Other topics include systems of equations and inequalities, complex numbers, introductory statistics, and a review of right triangle trigonometry. A graphing calculator can be helpful.

### ALGEBRA II (H)

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in *Algebra I (H) & Geometry (H)*

**Placement:** 10,11; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This course is a rigorous study of the relationship between algebraic equations, graphical representations, and applications which progresses through linear, absolute value, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Other topics may include systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, complex numbers, introductory statistics, and applications of right triangle trigonometry. A graphing calculator (TI-84 Plus) is recommended.

### ADVANCED MATH (CP)

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" avg. in *Algebra II (CP)*

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation required if prerequisite is not met

**Requirement:** Graphing calculator

**Description:** This course is designed for the student who is not planning to major in mathematics or science but does intend to take a college-level math course. Topics covered in Algebra II are reviewed and expanded upon. Other topics including unit circle trigonometry, conics, and sequences and series are introduced. A graphing calculator (TI-84 Plus preferred) is recommended.

### PRE-CALCULUS (H)

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" avg. in *Algebra II (H)*   **Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This is a top-flight math course for juniors and seniors planning pre-med, engineering, math, or any science-related field. It is also a preparatory course required for any student who anticipates taking Advanced Placement Calculus. Topics include advanced work with functions, circle trigonometry, polar complex numbers, conics, and sequences and series. A graphing calculator (TI-84 Plus preferred) is required.

## Mathematics (continued):

### **STATISTICS (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" avg. in Algebra II (H) **Placement:** Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** Graphing calculator (TI-84 Plus is preferred).

**Description:** Statistics is an elective math course for juniors and seniors who have successfully completed Algebra II. This course will engage students to think statistically in the real world by teaching them how to analyze data, gather data, explore relationships between variables, and use probability to make decisions about data. It will include an in-depth look at confidence intervals and using hypothesis testing to make inferences about data that is built on the foundations of randomness, probability, and the Central Limit Theorem.

### **PERSONAL FINANCE**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II

**Placement:** Teacher Recommendation (for Juniors)

**Description:** Personal Finance is an elective math course for Juniors or Seniors. Nearly 80% of Americans live paycheck to paycheck, more than 25% of workers do not save money on a regular basis, nearly 75% of workers say they are in debt, and over half of those workers think this will not change. Money management is an essential life skill, and there is an increasing need for students to be exposed to the topics of personal finance and planning. This course will dive deep into the topics of budgeting, saving, spending, credit/debt, market trends, insurance, college loans, retirement, tax planning, estate planning, risk management, and investments. Personal Finance will also provide a practical assessment of how a person's financial decisions affect long-term investments, wealth building, and planning for the future. Students will acquire knowledge in the world of finance and develop habits that will last throughout their lives. Students will also investigate the income potential of desired career plans and may study the implementation of investment strategies to meet personal financial goals.

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT - MATHEMATICS**

### **AP CALCULUS AB**

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" avg in Pre-Calculus (H)

**Placement:** 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** Graphing calculator (TI-84 Plus is preferred). The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** This Advanced Placement course is for the student who is planning a career involving mathematics. A strong knowledge of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, and pre-calculus is needed. Topics include limits, derivatives, integration, differential equations, areas, volumes, and slope fields. Students should expect an average of six hours of homework each week. Students may opt to earn credit from USM for this course.

# Science & Technology

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## **BIOLOGY (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9

**Description:** This course introduces students to those properties that are unique to and define life. Organisms from the simplest unicellular to the most complex multicellular are studied from both a taxonomic and systemic approach. Laboratory investigations and special projects supplement the material presented in class.

## **BIOLOGY (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This course deals with the properties that are unique to living organisms. The biochemical, cellular, and genetic basis of life is studied in detail in order that life processes at higher levels might be better understood. Cytology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, and zoology are some of the major topics to be covered. Laboratory investigations are conducted in order to help students gain a better understanding of principles covered in class.

## **CHEMISTRY IN THE COMMUNITY (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 10

**Description:** This course teaches chemistry concepts through the lens of societal issues. The seven units use real-world examples to expose students to concepts in materials science, environmental chemistry, organic chemistry, biochemistry, and industrial chemistry.

## **CHEMISTRY (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" avg in *mathematics/science courses*. *Algebra II (H)* may be taken concurrently.

**Placement:** 10; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This course requires the study of chemical principles from a quantitatively rigorous point of view and is specially designed for students who wish to hold open the option of pursuing scientific, technical, or medical careers. Major topics of study include atomic and molecular theory, types of reactions and bonding, inorganic chemical nomenclature, stoichiometry; properties of solutions and principles of molarity and titration in acid-base reactions. The course focus is on the writing and development of formal laboratory reports, integration of Algebra II skills in multi-step problem solving and discussion/explanation of various chemical principles. The course integrates theoretical concepts with laboratory experiments.

## Science & Technology (continued):

### PHYSICS (H)

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Algebra II Honors

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** Honors Physics is an in-depth, inquiry-based class that is designed for advanced science students. This rigorous course utilizes theoretical and physical models to promote the understanding of the concepts and the mathematical relationships associated with mechanics, energy, waves and optics, and electricity and magnetism. In addition to a strong science aptitude, a thorough understanding and facility in algebra, geometry and right triangle trigonometry are essential. Physics is recommended for college-bound students interested in science and math. Students must have a basic scientific calculator.

### ASTRONOMY

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required for Juniors

**Description:** The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop and apply knowledge of the universe and compare the conditions, properties, and motions of bodies in space. Emphasis shall be placed on concepts basic to Earth, including materials, processes, history, and the environment. Students will be introduced to the composition and structure of the universe. Astronomy is the scientific study of the contents of the entire Universe. This course will provide the student with a study of the universe and the conditions, properties, and motions of bodies in space. The content includes, but is not limited to, historical astronomy, astronomical instruments, the celestial sphere, the solar system, the earth as a system in space, the earth/moon system, the sun as a star, and stars.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE (H)

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra II Honors

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** Environmental Science is the study of interrelationships between human activities and the environment. This honors level course will use scientific knowledge about the natural world, as well as an understanding about ways in which humans interact with the natural world. We will examine effects of human actions on the environment, and the means by which policies, regulations, and decisions influence human actions with a strong emphasis in biology, geology, and chemistry. Laboratory investigations are conducted to help students gain a better understanding of principles covered in class.

### ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (HH)

**Level:** High Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Biology, Chemistry

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This is an advanced course. The primary focus is on the systems of the human body, both the structure and the function. Class will include lecture, microscope work, and dissection. Examples from organisms other than humans will be used for comparative purposes.

## Science & Technology (continued):

### TECHNOLOGY

#### CAD (H)

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** Students will use CAD software to learn the standards required to produce technical drawings. This is an introductory CAD-based drafting and design course utilizing the latest software. In conjunction with learning CAD, students will be introduced to the process of design, the related components, and materials, research, drawing and presentation of construction-related documents, from conceptual hand sketches, CAD sketches, to CAD drawings and related spreadsheets, materials, and construction techniques.



## Science & Technology (continued):

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT - SCIENCE

Saint Dominic Academy offers a biennial (once every two years) rotation of **AP Biology** and **AP Chemistry**. Students with a particular strength and interest in the study of life sciences should plan to take both courses over two years. [AP Biology will be offered in 2021-2022]

#### AP BIOLOGY

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Biology, Chemistry, and Anatomy and Physiology

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** *This AP Biology course is designed to offer students a solid curriculum in introductory college-level biology. The course focuses on enduring conceptual understandings and the biological content that supports them. Science practices are employed to help students utilize inquiry-based learning that maximizes depth of learning. Therefore, the course is structured around big idea statements, enduring understandings, and science practices that allow students opportunities to develop an appreciation for the science of biology and to identify and understand unifying principles within a diversified biological world. The process of inquiry and the development of critical thinking skills are important components of AP Biology.*

#### AP CHEMISTRY

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Biology (H) & Chemistry (H)

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** This is an introductory college-level chemistry course. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry-based lab investigations as they explore the four Big Ideas: scale, proportion, and quantity; structure and properties of substances; transformations; and energy. Topics covered will include atomic structure and properties, molecular and ionic compound structure and properties, intermolecular forces and properties, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, acids and bases and the applications of thermodynamics.

#### AP PHYSICS 1

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Biology (H) & Chemistry (H)

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based is the equivalent of a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics, but it is designed to be taught over the full academic year to enable AP students to develop a deep understanding of the content and to focus on applying their knowledge through inquiry labs. The course covers Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. It also introduces electric circuits.

# Social Studies

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Students are required to take three (3) years of social studies to graduate from Saint Dominic Academy. One (1) of these courses must be World History and one (1) must be United States History. The third credit may be taken from any of the electives listed.

## **WORLD HISTORY-(CP) / WORLD HISTORY-(H)**

**Level:** College Prep/Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9, 10; Recommendation Required for Honors

**Description:** World History highlights the economic, social, political, and cultural themes that distinguish peoples, civilizations, and periods. The course also stresses common themes that unite civilizations such as social structure, philosophical and religious character, technological advancement, intellectual development, political identity, economic interaction, and environmental influences. Students profit from the experience of reaching across time and making connections with the past. Steady reading and note taking are required. Students write short and medium length essays on both factual and interpretive subjects as well as participate in debate/simulation activities. Honors classes engage in more extensive study and analysis of major movements and issues in history. This course addresses some aspects of the Civics requirement for the Maine high school students. Native American studies material is covered that satisfies the requirements of State Law LD 291.

## **U. S. HISTORY (CP)/ U. S. HISTORY (H)**

**Level:** College Prep/Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** World History

**Placement:** 11; Recommendation Required for Honors

**Description:** United States History surveys American history from colonial times to the present. Students study the political, social, cultural, and economic events and people that have shaped the United States. Emphasis is placed on understanding how this nation came to be, how it survived through wars, dissension, and reforms, and how it has evolved into the democratic, pluralistic, and technologically advanced society that it is today. Students profit from the experience of reaching across time and making connections with the past. Extensive reading and note taking are required. Students write short and medium length essays on both factual and interpretative subjects. Honors classes engage in more extensive study and analysis of major movements and issues in history. This survey course also serves as the Civics requirement for Maine high school students.

## **INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGY (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12 -- Recommendation Required

**Description:** Psychology is the study of mental processes and behavior. This course introduces students to the scientific and systematic study of mental processes and behavior of humans and other animals. Students will delve into the major subfields of psychology and focus on the ethics and methods psychologists use in their field of study. This course requires extensive reading augmented by papers/projects and experiential learning. Priority is given to Seniors.

## Social Studies (continued):

### **INTRODUCTION TO SOCIOLOGY (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** Sociology is the scientific study of human society and social interaction. Sociology provides an unfamiliar way of looking at familiar institutions and associations. As an introduction to the discipline of sociology, this course concentrates on developing research skills as well as surveying sociological theories and techniques. In addition to acquainting the student with the basic concepts used by sociologists to explain the social world and social interaction, the course gives the student elementary skills with which to decode society and social life. The skills students learn in this course include the ability to describe, analyze, and contrast the basic value positions or perspectives which generate and shape society's goals. Students also develop a critical understanding of the social research methods by which we discover social processes, patterns, and directions of social change. Priority is given to seniors.

### **MICROECONOMICS (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** *Algebra II*

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** The Honors Economics sequence helps students develop an economic perspective on the world by introducing and examining basic economic realities and principles surrounding how societies use limited resources to satisfy unlimited wants and needs. This course includes the topics of consumer demand, production, exchange, the price system, resource allocation, and government intervention. The course provides students with an understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. Through reading, writing, and speaking, students develop an understanding of basic economic concepts and theories, demonstrate abilities to translate numerical data into graphs, use critical thinking skills to evaluate data, and draw inferences from current and historical data. Priority is given to seniors.

### **MACROECONOMICS (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** *Macroeconomics (H)*

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** The second course in our Honors Economics sequence, this course includes the topics of national income, inflation, business fluctuations, unemployment, the monetary system, the federal budget, international trade, and finance. The course provides students with an understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole. Through reading, writing, and speaking, students develop an understanding of basic economic concepts and theories, demonstrate abilities to translate numerical data into graphs, use critical thinking skills to evaluate data, and draw inferences from current and historical data. Priority is given to seniors.

## Social Studies (continued):

### ADVANCED PLACEMENT – SOCIAL STUDIES

#### AP PSYCHOLOGY

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** “A-” in U.S. History (CP) or “B” in U.S. History (H) or “C+” in AP U.S. History

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** Students are introduced to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. Students examine psychologists and studies that have shaped the field while they explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and examples associated with major psychological topics (biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology). Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims, and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas in a variety of formats.

#### AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** “B” average in U.S. History honors or “C+” average in AP U.S. History

**Placement:** 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** Students survey and analyze the major processes and institutions of American government. Course topics include historical and contemporary constitutional issues, recurring struggles in the United States over democracy, conflicts over executive, legislative, and judicial power; the rise of the administrative state; development of civil liberties and civil rights; and political beliefs and behavior. The AP seminar format enables students to speak out and to work cooperatively. Students are prepared to take the AP exam in the spring.

#### AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** “A-” avg in World History (H)

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** The AP U.S. History course familiarizes students with American historical issues, figures, events, and movements. Through readings, discussions, debates, and writings, students come to know not only the What of our history but also the Why. The course's steady and expansive reading and writing requirements encourage students to develop critical and independent learning skills and habits. By intensively reading and writing on significant issues, AP U.S. History students become more efficient, insightful, and independent readers and writers. Students' research skills are enhanced as they work with original documents, maps, data, and speeches. Additionally, the AP seminar format and the course's emphasis on small learning groups help students learn to express themselves comfortably and confidently and to work cooperatively. Students are prepared to take the AP exam in the Spring. This course also serves as the Maine Civics requirement for high school students.

# Theology

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Saint Dominic Academy's theology curriculum explores the basic traditions, teachings, and community life that comprise Catholic Christianity. Over the course of eight semester-length subject areas, students are given a robust introduction to the Christian sacred scriptures, sacramental theology, the history of the Catholic Church, ecumenical and Interreligious dialogue, vocational discernment and Catholic moral teaching, and Catholic spirituality and service. The curriculum is grounded in the Midwest Theological Forum Didache Semester Series textbooks, which are aligned to the U.S. Bishop's catechetical framework for high school theology instruction.

## **THEOLOGY I: SCRIPTURE AND SACRAMENTS**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9

**Service Requirement:** 6 hrs./semester @ approved site

**Description:** Students gain comprehensive understanding of the central role that scripture and sacraments play in the Catholic faith.

**Semester I:** Sacred Scripture. Students examine the concepts of divine revelation, inspiration, and the interpretation of scriptures. The course presents a survey of the various texts of the Old and New testaments, giving students a broad understanding of their content, literary genre, and historical context.

**Semester II:** Sacraments. During the second semester of the year, students survey the seven sacraments of the Catholic faith, examining in detail the history, theology, and practice of each in the life of Christians. Beginning with the sacraments of initiation, students then move to study sacraments of vocation and healing. The final part of the course focuses on the origins and forms of liturgy in the Catholic Church.

## **THEOLOGY II: THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, YESTERDAY AND TODAY**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 10

**Service Requirement:** 8 hrs./semester @ approved site

**Description:** Students learn about the history of the Catholic Church and about the internal structure and mission of the Church today.

**Semester I:** History of the Catholic Church. Students study the origin and development of the Catholic faith over its 2,000-year history, beginning with the first apostles and continuing through the Roman persecution, middle ages, protestant reformation, Renaissance, enlightenment, and modern periods.

**Semester II:** Ecclesiology and Ecumenism and Interreligious Dialogue. The second semester leads students through the Catholic Church's mission and its organization and structure. This course also examines key concepts regarding the role of the Church and state, religious freedom, and the importance of dialogue with other religions and with those who have no faith.

# Theology (continued):

## **THEOLOGY III: VOCATION AND MORAL LIFE**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 11

**Service Requirement:** 10 hrs./semester @ approved site

**Description:** Students explore Catholic teaching regarding the meaning and purpose of life and the moral foundation that leads to true freedom and fulfillment.

**Semester I:** The first semester focuses on the Catholic understanding of a vocation as a call from God to serve him in the world. In conjunction with their Junior retreat in November, the course looks at the various ways that people live out their vocations as single, married, or religious. Students are encouraged to consider their own strengths and weaknesses and to think and pray about their own call in life.

**Semester II:** The second semester introduces students to key questions in the moral life. What should guide human decisions? What does it mean to be a human being? What is the purpose of life, and what does it mean to live a good life? The course considers the 10 Commandments and the teachings of Christ regarding the moral law and the way that the Catholic Church has interpreted these teachings over the centuries and today.

## **THEOLOGY IV: PRAYER AND SERVICE**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 12

**Requirement:** \* Senior Involvement

**Description:** Students encounter the Catholic spiritual tradition and how it sustains and directs the social teaching and action of the Church.

**Semester I:** Students turn to primary texts on Catholic spirituality by C.S. Lewis, Fr. Thomas Dubay, and others. Key questions and concepts regarding the spiritual life are introduced. What does it mean to have a soul? How do people pray? What are the ways that God speaks to people, and how do we discern the difference between right and wrong?

**Semester II:** The second semester assists students in understanding the connection between the spiritual life and the love of neighbor.

(\*) Students examine key concepts of the dignity of the human person, the rights of workers, the preferential option for the poor, and the principle of subsidiarity, among other themes. The semester concludes with senior involvement, a four-week immersion volunteer experience at various social service organizations in the greater Lewiston/Auburn area.

# World Languages

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All students must take and complete two (2) consecutive years of a world language to graduate from Saint Dominic Academy. Listed below are the courses and descriptions offered to students to fulfill their requirement.

\* In addition to the textbook, all students must have French/English or Spanish/English dictionary.

## **FRENCH I (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** N/A

**Description:** This course presents a good foundation in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in French. Emphasis is on vocabulary, reading, and comprehension, the study of sentence structure, regular and irregular verbs, along with some of the many grammar rules and their exceptions. Exposure to Francophone culture takes place with readings in French.

## **FRENCH II (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** French I

**Placement:** N/A

**Description:** French II presents a solid review of the structural elements of French I and two past tenses. There are additional irregular verbs studied and parts of speech such as object pronouns, adjectives, and adverbs. Vocabulary naturally expands thematically, chapter by chapter. The composition is explored, reading is intensified, and French culture and the spoken language are reinforced.

## **FRENCH III (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in French II

**Placement:** Recommendation Required

**Description:** This course provides a thorough overview of previously learned material in French I and French II. Vocabulary, grammar, and verb study are continued, with an emphasis on the indicative, subjunctive, and conditional moods, along with simple and compound verb tenses, and varied sentence structure. Students will develop their knowledge by reading a variety of texts: from ads to interviews, from essays to stories, from natural history to literature. Francophone cultural exploration is included, and students will demonstrate responding to actual situations and forming and sharing opinions. Students will also demonstrate their understanding of concepts and culture by working collaboratively with other students in the classroom. Students must be willing to attempt to speak French for most of the class time.

## **FRENCH IV – (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in French III (H)

**Placement:** Recommendation Required

**Description:** This is an advanced French course for students who have successfully completed the French III Honors Course. The study of grammatical structure is intensified with extensive writing, reading, and speaking in French. Students learn independent vocabulary enrichment as they develop their responses to readings, literary excerpts, analyzed dictation, and viewing and analysis of French-language films. Students delve into areas of French cultures, such as art, cuisine, music, and history of various areas of the world. The central texts to this course adapt to students' needs and preferences, as they work collaboratively on focus areas. Students must be willing and able to communicate in French, as this course is conducted primarily in French.

## World Languages (continued):

### **SPANISH I (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** N/A

**Description:** This course presents a good foundation in reading, speaking, and writing Spanish. It aims at a thorough comprehension of materials nationally required in the first year of high school Spanish, such as vocabulary, reading and comprehension, structures made up of regular and irregular verbs in the present, preterit, and immediate future tenses, possessive, adjectives, pronouns, objects, and more.

### **SPANISH II (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I

**Placement:** N/A

**Description:** Spanish II presents a solid review of the structural elements of Spanish I, followed by the past tenses, future and conditional tenses, and the introduction of the subjunctive tenses, irregular verbs and adverbs, object pronouns, comparison of adjectives and adverbs, and expanded vocabulary. The directed composition is further explored, reading is intensified, and Spanish culture and the spoken language are reinforced. The second year of Spanish is devoted to grammar instruction, intensive vocabulary and enhanced reading and writing.

### **SPANISH III (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Spanish II

**Placement:** Recommendation Required

**Description:** Spanish III (Honors) is conducted primarily in Spanish; therefore, students should be willing to converse in the spoken language. The course is designed to be a grammar intensive course; this means that students should have mastered the present, future, conditional and past tenses in Spanish II. Students learn more about the collective subjunctive tenses. In this course, students enhance reading comprehension by reading short stories, listening, speaking, and writing skills as well as expand their knowledge of the Spanish culture.

### **SPANISH IV (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** "B" in Spanish III (H)

**Placement:** Recommendation Required

**Description:** This is an advanced course for students that have successfully completed a Spanish III Honors course. Students should be willing to converse only in Spanish. This course is a grammar intensive course, meaning students should have mastered not only the present and preterit tenses; but also, the conditional, imperfect, and future tenses. Students learn more subjunctive tenses as well as informal and formal commands. The students enhance their reading, listening, and writing skills by working with different readings and literature, as well as expanding their knowledge of Spanish Culture.



## Fine Arts

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All students must complete one credit of art to graduate from Saint Dominic Academy. Listed below are the courses available to students that fulfill this requirement. While St. Dom's encourages students to draw from the rich variety in the Art Department, students may apply to earn credits through other similarly sophisticated and expertly instructed Fine Art Programs. This credit must be pre-approved by the administration at St. Dom's. Credit cannot be counted toward the art requirement if the credit was taken prior to approval or admission into Saint Dominic Academy. All art students will be required to read art reviews from various newspapers as well as selected articles provided by the teacher from Scholastic Art Magazine.

### **STUDIO ART I (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9-12

**Description:** This course is a studio course based on the study of foundational principles and practices of artmaking. Students are exposed to aesthetics, art history, art criticism as well as art productions. There is a strong drawing component to this course. Utilizing a variety of resources and materials, students engage topics related to the process that artists have and continue to engage as they produce meaningful imagery. This class will focus its study on the making of two-dimensional work.

### **CERAMICS (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9-12

**Description:** This course is a studio course based on the study of foundational principles and practices of artmaking. Students are exposed to aesthetics, art history, art criticism as well as art productions. Utilizing a variety of resources and materials, students will engage topics related to the process that artists have and continue to engage as they produce meaningful three-dimensional work using hand-building and wheel-thrown pottery techniques.

### **PHOTO/DIGITAL ART (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9-12

**Requirement:** A camera where you can manually change the shutter speed/F stop (aperture). An SLR digital camera is preferred.

**Description:** This is an introductory course focused on the art of photography and digital media. Students will work on developing a basic understanding of controlling the camera to get the perfect shot. They will learn editing and publishing software for creating stunning digital images. Students will use a variety of subject matters, processes, styles, and techniques while creating their photographs. Students will be provided with numerous opportunities to make choices about their photography and digital art as they begin to develop their own personal style.

## Fine Arts (continued):

### **STUDIO ART II (H)**

**Level:** Honors

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** *Studio Art I, Produce a collection of works over the summer.*

**Placement:** Grade 10, 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Description:** This is an honors course offered to juniors and seniors who are highly motivated and have shown a desire to continue the study of art after the high school level. The focus of the course is to develop a portfolio for college entrance. Students are introduced to matting and photographing their work. A wide variety of mediums and techniques are explored including ceramics, sculpture, painting, drawing, and design. There is a strong drawing component and students are required to maintain a sketchbook and an art journal. Students are required to visit area exhibits and museums. Students are expected to complete weekly assignments and write reports on various areas of art.

### **YEARBOOK DESIGN (CP/H)**

**Level:** College Prep/Honors\*

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** *Computer Experience; skills in graphic design or photography, writing and editing.*

**Placement:** 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** Own computer; Prior experience with Adobe Photoshop, attention to detail, interest in creating and publishing the yearbook, and submission of a summer assignment prior to entering the class in the fall. (\*) Honors level distinction will be determined for each student at the discretion of the instructor based on effort, quality of work and leadership role.

**Description:** This class introduces students to the skills used in commercial art, graphic design, publishing, and digital photography. Students study the elements and principles of art and how they relate to graphic design and photography. Students work on the design and layout of the yearbook using an online platform. Students learn digital photography and will use the school's digital cameras (or bring their own) to enhance photography skills. Students will need to use their writing and editing skills as part of the yearbook creation process. Students must have their own laptops and demonstrate skills in graphic design or photography prior to registering. The teacher will sign permission to enroll.

### **AP STUDIO ART (2-D DESIGN or DRAWING)**

**Level:** Advanced Placement

**Duration:** Full Year

**Credit:** 1

**Prerequisite:** *Grade of 88% or better in prior Honors course or 92% or better in prior CP course; Complete the summer art assignments by the due date.*

**Placement:** Grade 11, 12; Recommendation Required

**Requirement:** The AP exam/portfolio is required to earn the AP designation, weight, and credit.

**Description:** The Advanced Placement (AP) studio art program makes it possible for highly motivated high school students to do college-level work that will focus on drawing and 2-D art to include painting, collage, printmaking, etc. Students will develop an art portfolio for submission to the AP board for college credits. There are two distinct types of portfolios that students may submit: 2D Design or Drawing; each has specific requirements of its own. Students will use a variety of media, styles, processes, and techniques while creating their drawings. Students will be provided with numerous opportunities to make choices about their art as they begin to develop their own personal styles. Students need to be independently driven and engaged in the art process.

# Health & Wellness

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## **HEALTH (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9

**Description:** This course is designed to provide students with health information enabling them to develop skills, health practices and attitudes for daily living and prepare for their future role as healthy and productive individuals. This required course covers goals and objectives in regard to maintaining a balance between physical, mental and social health. It will raise awareness on mental health issues and promote stress management, teach them how to interact and empathize with one another and stress the importance of physical activity and proper nutrition. Other topics include learning preventive measures about heart disease, cancer, and diabetes as well as infectious diseases and substance abuse.

## **PERSONAL FITNESS (CP)**

**Level:** College Prep

**Duration:** 1 Semester

**Credit:** 0.5

**Prerequisite:** None

**Placement:** 9-12 (priority given to Grade 9)

**Description:** This course provides an overview of fitness concepts and the effects of exercise on an individual and explores training programs specific to achieving optimal physical and mental health. Activities include, but are not limited to strength training, plyometric training, cardiovascular training, intervals, and metabolic conditioning. The curriculum is designed with the intent of improving the many aspects of wellness including, cardiovascular fitness, muscular strength and endurance, flexibility, mental health, nutrition, and personal safety.