

# **St. John Lutheran School**



**2008-2009**

## **High School Course Guide**

# St. John Lutheran High School

## COURSE CATALOG

This catalog contains brief descriptions of courses offered at St. John Lutheran High School for students in grades 9-12. We offer a strong college preparatory curriculum. Some courses are mandatory for graduation, some require pre-requisites, and others are electives. Electives are offered on a rotating basis depending on the number of students requesting that course each semester. Online courses, approved by Guidance, may be taken to supplement our curriculum.

Also listed are *Honors* and *Advanced Placement* courses. Students must be recommended by previous teachers and qualify for placement in these classes. *Honors* classes are designed to cover the state requirements for credit and content in a subject area but also to provide extra academic challenges requiring additional responsibility and work on the part of the enrolled students. *Advanced Placement* courses are accelerated curriculum programs offered within certain content areas (summer and/or holiday work may be required of students in AP courses). National tests prepared by the College Board in Princeton, New Jersey, are taken at the end of each course for potential college credit as well as high school credit. Both types of courses add an extra quality point to weighted GPA calculations.

*Dual Enrollment* at the local community college is an option available for seniors in good standing with an unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher and teacher recommendation. Students who dual enroll at Central Florida Community College are able to take their core requirement academic courses in the morning at St. John. They then can schedule up to two courses at CFCC in the afternoon and/or evening and receive both high school and college credit for those courses. A government program covers the cost of tuition, but students are responsible for purchasing their text books. A general rule for considering courses is that students should take those not offered at St. John. A three credit college course is generally equivalent to a ½ credit high school course, although there are a few selected academic offerings that equate to 1 credit per high school semester. The agreement between CFCC and state colleges and universities in Florida is that college credits earned at CFCC are transferable to the state university system. Private and out-of-state schools should be contacted as to which credits they will accept. You should get any agreement in writing. Students may begin taking classes in the “Summer B” session after Junior year in high school. Students find that matriculating on a college campus prior to graduation provides valuable real life experience as well as college credits.

In keeping with the Florida state statutes, students must pass at least 24 credits of the appropriate mix of classes and have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 in order to graduate. Students are advised to choose courses carefully to meet both state and college requirements.

### Graduation Requirements

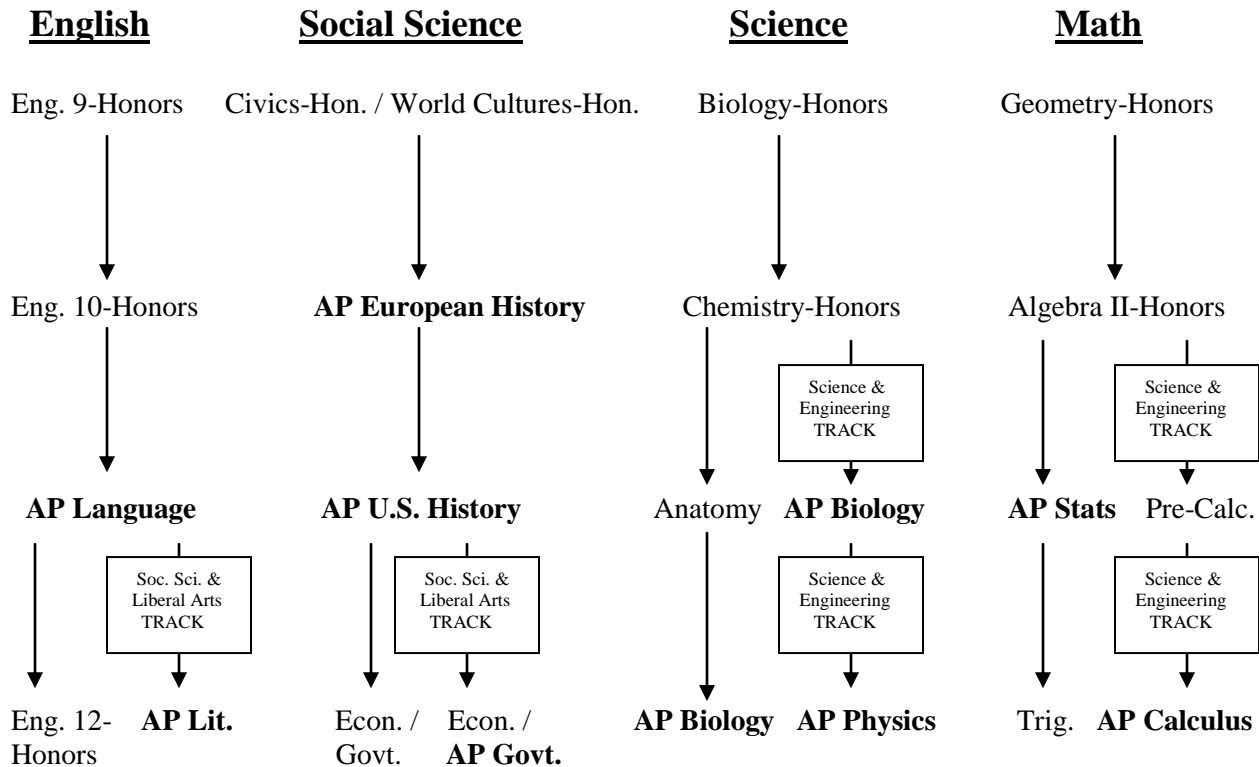
<u>Content Area</u>	<u>Regular Diploma</u>	<u>Junior/Minimum College</u>	<i>Recommended</i> <u>Four Year College</u>
ENGLISH	4 Credits	4 Credits	4 Credits
SOCIAL STUDIES	4 Credits	4 Credits	4 Credits
MATH	3 Credits	3 Credits	4 Credits
SCIENCE	3 Credits	3 Credits	4 Credits
RELIGION	½ Credit for every semester attending at St. John; counts as elective		
FOREIGN LANGUAGE	2 Credits- <i>preferred</i>	2 Credits- <i>preferred</i>	2 Credits
PHYS ED/HEALTH	1½ Credit	1½ Credit	1½ Credit
FINE ARTS	1 Credit	1 Credit	1 Credit
ELECTIVES	4 Credits	4+ Credits	6+ Credits

## THE ST. JOHN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The St. John Scholars Program is a curriculum track providing for the academic rigor and challenge so necessary for the top echelon of our high school students. Students interested in this program should meet the following criteria:

1. A GPA of 3.5 weighted (Scholars who drop below this point will be placed on academic probation and have one semester to raise their GPA)
2. Overall academic standing and work ethic
3. An acceptable disciplinary record reflecting a high level of demeanor and deportment

The Scholars Program is exemplified by certain distinctives including guidance in discerning the students' strengths and weaknesses in order to help them choose an appropriate academic track. The program also is geared to provide ongoing counseling to help Scholars maintain a solid high school record in academics, extracurriculars, and service. The following are the course track choices:



All Scholars will take the same courses during their freshman and sophomore years. During a Scholar's sophomore year, he/she will, with guidance, choose an appropriate academic track reflecting the student's interests and abilities. One track is designed for Scholars with gifts in the fields of Science and Engineering; the other track is designed for Scholars whose gifts lie in the Social Sciences & Liberal Arts fields of study. A Scholar must choose at least one track, but he/she has the option of choosing both tracks.

## PREFACE

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

## LAPTOP INITIATIVE: ANYTIME, ANYWHERE LEARNING

St. John is committed to providing the best learning experience possible for all students. To that end, we are initiating a program whereby each student will have a laptop computer for use in school and at home. This will allow the students guided access to more learning resources, enhance communication and research skills, build a real learning community, and prepare them for their future after high school. This is a comprehensive, cooperative plan involving teachers, students, and parents. School-home communications will change and be enhanced with access to records even easier. Students will be able to get and submit work online, course offerings will be expanded through distance learning options, and parents will have the opportunity to take some courses in technology applications. St. John will become a part of the global learning community.

## THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

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

### **Religion I:**

#### **Introduction to Christianity**

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

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Religion II:**

### **Old Testament**

Students will gain knowledge of the people and events of the Old Testament including creation, the patriarchs, the flood, Egyptian exile and return, judges, the prophets; the development and history of the Kingdom of Israel, and the Psalms. Understanding God's covenant relationship with His people and His ongoing provision and love for them leads to building the student's personal faith relationship. Applications to life today are prayerfully discerned and analyzed.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Religion III:**

### **New Testament**

This course provides a broad overview of the New Testament focusing on the birth, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus, our Savior. Application of Christ's message and teachings to contemporary life and the knowledge of how to have a personal relationship with Him are core themes. Understanding of the Great Commission and its implications in students' own personal faith journey serve as a call to action. The history and growth of the early church are studied through the Pauline Epistles including applications for faith and life in the church today.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Religion IV:**

### **Lifelong Christianity: Preparation for Life**

This course includes a review of the key theological teachings of the Holy Bible, an understanding of our Triune God, a primer on salvation and Christian discipleship, as well as at length discussion of issues facing the student preparing to leave high school for college and adult life. How to grow in faith, make decisions based on personal beliefs rooted in Biblical truths, remain true to Christ despite societal pressures, and articulate Christian World View are key topics. Students will engage in reading, discussion, hands-on projects, and real world experiences as they re-examine and hone their faith and actions based on Scriptural truths.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## ***Theology Department Electives***

### **Understanding the Times**

This semester course covers in depth the issues that Christians face in today's world. Readings from Christian authors as well as the Bible aid students in fully developing their ability to stand firm for Christianity in a secular world. Students in this course are expected to read and analyze independently as well as discuss key issues in society today.

- Semester Course (½ credit)

### **Independent Bible Study Workshop**

This semester course is available for students who wish to participate in a daily Bible Study with fellow students under the direction of one of the religion teachers. Any course of study or Biblical topic must be approved by the religion department and school administration. Students participating must be regular in attendance, keep a prayer journal as well as a notebook of weekly insights and information gleaned in the study. This course can be taken multiple times with different topics of study within the approval of the department.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Sharing Your Faith: EE for Youth**

This semester course presents the Evangelism Explosion curriculum for teens as presented by D. James Kennedy. Students are taught the Biblical basis for salvation, the methods of presenting the Gospel to others, and are offered practice role plays and experiences to share their faith. After completion of this course, students are well prepared as Christians to articulate their faith and share the Good News with others.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

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

### **English I / English I-Honors**

This comprehensive course is designed to reinforce and enhance writing skills and the grammar, mechanics, and usage learned throughout elementary and middle school. The writing portion of this class covers all elements of the writing process, practices writing the various types of essays, and culminates with a research paper. All writing is evaluated by both peers and the teacher. The grammar, mechanics, and usage section of the course includes reviewing all parts of speech and their usage through direct instruction, application, and a short daily practice. Diagramming is also a component of these units. Other areas of study include speaking, listening, study and test-taking skills, vocabulary and spelling practice, and how to research topics.

- *Required of all Freshmen*
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **English II / English II-Honors**

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

- *Required of all Sophomores*
- Pre-requisite: English I
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **English III / English III-Honors: American Literature**

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

- *Required of all Juniors except those taking AP Language*
- Pre-requisite: English II
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Advanced Placement English Language and Composition**

The AP English Language and Composition course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, as well as in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both reading and writing experiences make students aware of the interactions among writers' purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way generic conventions and resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

- *May be taken in place of the English 11 course required for juniors*
- Pre-requisites: A or B in previous Honors English course, teacher recommendation, score 90th percentile or above on achievement test, and commitment to the goals of the AP program
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

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

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

- *Required of all Seniors except those taking AP Literature*
- Pre-requisite: English 11
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition**

This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through close reading of selections with breadth, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for readers. Literary analysis includes a works' structure, style, and themes as well as elements of figurative uses, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Intensive study of representative works from various genre and periods is included with concentration on works of recognized literary merit from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century.

- *May be taken in place of the English 12 course required for seniors*
- Pre-requisites: A or B in previous Honors or Advanced Placement English course, teacher recommendation, score 90th percentile or above on achievement test, and commitment to the goals of the AP program
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

### **Honors English Courses (Grades 9-12)**

These courses utilize the same primary texts as the regular English classes, including focus on different readings and additional, more challenging literature. Students will be expected to read, think, and write at a more sophisticated level. Vocabulary development, written composition, and discussion are aimed at preparing students for the rigors of college work. Additionally, the second semester of English 10 will be devoted to preparation for Advanced Placement English courses.

- Pre-requisites: A or B in previous English course, score above the 85th percentile on the achievement test, recommendation of teacher, and commitment to the goals of the Honors Program.
- Honors credit awarded for these courses
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Literature I / Literature I-Honors**

This course focuses on the study of various genres of literature, including the short story, drama, poetry, and the novel. A broad spectrum of authors and literature is included. The skills of analyzing literature, critical thinking, and reasoning and writing are emphasized. Vocabulary development is a key part of this course.

- *Required of all Freshmen*
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Public Speaking**

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

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

## *English Department Electives*

### **Journalism**

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

- Pre-requisite: Students selected by application only. Enrollment is limited.
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Mass Media**

This course acquaints the students with the craft of journalism and the structure, function, political, social, and economic impacts of the various mass media within the context of the developing and changing popular culture. Focus on media literacy and the legal and ethical responsibilities included.

- Pre-requisite: None. Open to students in grades 11 & 12. Cannot be repeated.
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

## **SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

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

## **Social Science 9:**

### **Civics / Civics-Honors**

Civics is designed to equip the student with an understanding of, and appreciation for our democratic form of government. The course includes the study of the United States Constitution and the American governments on the national, state, and local levels. Honors students will explore all areas in more depth.

- *Required of all Freshmen*
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **World Cultures / World Cultures-Honors**

This course is an examination of the diverse ancient cultures which formed the foundation of the modern world. The course will compare the cultural, social, political, economic, and religious aspects of cultures from the beginning of history through medieval times. Honors students will explore all areas in more depth.

- *Required of all Freshmen*
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

## **Social Science 10:**

### **World History**

World History is a study of Medieval Times to the present. It will involve the study of culture, economics, politics, and geography, and how they relate to the time periods being studied. Ancillary reading and research papers will be required.

- *Required of all Sophomores except those taking AP European History*
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Advanced Placement European History**

This course is an engaging study of European history from the Renaissance to the present. Cultural and artistic themes as well as political and social development will be discussed, debated, and digested. Challenging readings and regular essay writing is included.

- Course goal is the preparation for the AP Examination given for college credit in May.  
Pre-requisites: Grades of A or B in previous Social Science courses, teacher recommendation, plus a commitment to the Advanced Placement program
- *May be taken in place of the World History course required for sophomores*
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

## **Social Science 11:**

### **U.S. History**

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

- *Required of all Juniors except those taking AP U.S. History*
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Advanced Placement U.S. History**

A comprehensive survey of United States History from before European discovery through the present, this course covers social, political, economic, and ideological topics in our history. The

curriculum stresses a factual knowledge of history, analysis of the implications of historical events, comparisons to happenings today, and written composition. The course is meant for students with good writing and excellent study skills as well as an interest in social science. Course goal will be preparation for the AP examination for college credit.

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

## **Social Science 12:**

### **Economics / Economics-Honors**

Students study a survey of macro economic and micro economic principles. Topics include economic systems, supply and demand, business forms, methods of competition, the Federal Reserve System and banking, and our national economy. An economic simulation, sponsored by Junior Achievement is used to apply economic concepts to a business experience for participating students.

- *Required of all Seniors*
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Government**

This course studies in depth the influence of organizations, people, and mass media on government. Included is study of the election process, branches of government, the legislative process, and an overview of policy making in several categories.

- *Required of all Seniors*
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Advanced Placement Government & Politics**

This course is intended to be the equivalent of the one-semester college introductory course in United States government and politics. The following topics will be covered in the course: the Constitutional underpinnings of our government, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups, mass media, Congress, the Presidency, bureaucracy, and the courts, public policy, Civil Rights, and Civil Liberties.

- Pre-requisites: Grades of A or B in previous Social Science courses, teacher recommendation, plus a commitment to the Advanced Placement program
- *May be taken in place of the Government course required for seniors*
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Semester Course (½ Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

## ***Social Science Department Electives***

### **Contemporary History**

Elective course focusing on the influential issues of our day; study will take place in a small group. Evaluation will be based in part on individual and group projects. Current events, politics, ideologies, societal pressures, and Christian world view are all topics for discussion and research. Students will be guided in information gathering technique, critical analysis,

discernment of truth and bias, and how to present findings in an interesting and informative manner to their classmates. Debates can be included.

- Pre-requisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Psychology**

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

- Pre-requisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Sociology**

This course is an introduction to the scientific study of human social interaction with particular focus on the mutual influences between individuals and the groups to which they belong. Also included are the basic theories, concepts, and techniques used by sociologists and their research.

- Pre-requisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

## **MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT**

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

### **Pre-Algebra**

This course is designed to aid students in making the transition from basic middle school general math to algebra. Basic operations of arithmetic, as well as fractions, decimals, percents, and geometric measurements are reviewed. Concepts of real numbers, equation solving, word problems, statistics and probability are also explored. Students scoring below the 35<sup>th</sup> percentile on achievement test will be placed in Pre-Algebra.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Algebra I / Algebra I-Honors**

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

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

## **Geometry**

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

- Pre-requisite: Algebra I
- Honors credit awarded for this course when taken at the honors level
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Geometry-Honors**

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

- Pre-requisites for Freshmen: Successful completion of Algebra in 8<sup>th</sup> grade with an A or B, teacher recommendation, plus commitment to the Honors program
- Pre-requisites for Sophomores: Successful completion of Algebra I with an A or B and teacher recommendation plus commitment to the Honors program
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Algebra II**

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

- Pre-requisites: Successful completion of Algebra I with an A or a B and recommendation of their Algebra I instructor
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Algebra II-Honors**

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

- Pre-requisites: Successful completion of Algebra I with an A or a B and recommendation of their Algebra I instructor
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Trigonometry & Analytical Geometry**

This course begins with students studying circular and trigonometric functions and their applications. Topics covered are identities, graphing, solutions of trigonometric equations, and solutions of right and oblique triangles. The analytic section is intended to stress the relationship between algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. Topics are straight lines, graphs, curves, sketching, vectors, conic sections, equations and graphs of curves in polar form, analytic proofs, and parametric equations.

- Pre-requisite: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Pre-Calculus**

This course provides the mathematical background needed for calculus and combines the study of advanced algebra, trigonometry, and analytic geometry with the graphing calculator to extend students' understanding of mathematics and its applications. Concepts are presented and explored from algebraic, graphical, and numerical perspectives. Basic concepts covered include numerical patterns, polynomial and rational functions, complex numbers, analytic geometry, systems of equations, statistics and probability, limits and continuity, and extensive coverage of trigonometry. Other topics include limits, matrices, and vectors. *A calculator of the TI-8x family is required for this class.*

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

### **Advanced Placement Calculus**

The study of calculus provides a foundation for the study of advanced mathematics. This course is intended for students who have a thorough knowledge of analytic geometry and elementary functions in addition to college preparatory algebra, geometry, and trigonometry, and who plan on taking university calculus in preparation for a career in mathematics, the sciences, engineering, or medicine. This course includes a study of elementary functions, limits and continuity, derivatives, differentiation, applications of derivatives, integration and applications of the integral. Students in this course may take the AP exam, but they are not required to do so. Graphing calculators are heavily used in this course and, therefore, a *TI-3 Plus is required.*

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

### **Advanced Placement Statistics**

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

- Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra II and recommendation of their Algebra II instructor
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit + College Credits determined by score on AP exam)

## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

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

## **Earth Science**

This course covers a study of the physical make-up of Earth: the land, the sea, and the atmosphere. Also presented is an exploration of the realm of Space through the study of stars, planets, and star systems. The universe as a creation of God is stressed. The curricular material is presented in a variety of ways to enhance student learning. This is the typical first course in the high school science program.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **Biology / Biology-Honors**

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

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

## **Chemistry / Chemistry-Honors**

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

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

## **Anatomy and Physiology**

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

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

## **Physics**

Physics is the science that studies the nature of matter, energy, and their relationships. It applies the mathematics learned in previous courses to physical problem solving techniques. This full year course meets the honors guidelines of the Florida Department of Education and is designed to prepare the student for the study of physics on the university level. Learning is accomplished through lecture, discussion, demonstrations, homework, lab activities, and testing. *A calculator of the TI-8x family is required. Homework submitted online by subscription.*

- Pre-requisite: Algebra II & Chemistry
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Advanced Placement Physics**

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

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

### **Environmental Science**

This course involves a qualitative scientific study of the world that God has given us. As background, the earth's systems are studied with reference to the biological and physical sciences. The effect which man has had on those systems is observed through case studies. Proper stewardship of the environment is encouraged with the goal of developing more responsible citizens. Hands-on activities are used to encourage learning.

- Pre-requisites: Biology
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### *Science Department Elective*

#### **Engineering I**

An introduction to mechanical drafting as well as training in the program of Auto CAD are key components of this course. Students will be given an overview of the various fields of engineering and the skills and aptitudes required of those interested in this career path. Supplemental lectures from professional engineers and field trips as well as university workshop opportunities will be a part of this course. Students will be expected to participate in an engineering design project due at the end of the year.

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

#### **Engineering II**

This course builds on Engineering I, taking students further into the skills concepts and technology required to pursue a career in engineering. Independent study as well as group projects will be required.

- Pre-requisite: At least a grade of C in Engineering I plus teacher recommendation
- Honors credit awarded for this course
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

St. John currently offers Spanish as our main foreign language choice for students because of its wide range of use across our world and in the business arena, especially in our home state of Florida. Two successive years of foreign language instruction is required for four year college

entrance. Additional years of study are encouraged for entry into some major fields of study. Students interested in taking a foreign language other than Spanish, can take an online course through the Florida Virtual School for state credit ([www.flvs.net](http://www.flvs.net)).

### **Spanish I**

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

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

### **Spanish II**

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

- Pre-requisite: Successful completion of Spanish I
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Spanish III**

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

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

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH**

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

### **P.E.**

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

- *Required of all Freshmen not in Weight Training*
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Weight Training & Conditioning**

Students will learn to safely use weights to improve overall body shape and fitness levels. They will be required to know the muscles involved in each exercise performed and how they work, overview the fundamentals of good nutrition, and review or examine the effects of drugs on body performance. This class may be re-taken for additional credit.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit) or Semester Course (½ Credit)
- May be taken in place of P.E.

### **Personal Fitness**

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

- *Required of all Sophomores*
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Life Management**

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

- *Required of all Sophomores*
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

## **ART DEPARTMENT**

The Art Department at St. John Lutheran School is well recognized for both its quality and depth. Student artists display works in a variety of settings including Fine Arts for Ocala (FAFO), the Appleton Museum, local exhibitions, and school shows. St. John *Saints* win ribbons and awards in competitive arenas as well as scholarships for further university study. It is the goal of the Art Department to expose students to the variety of art media and formats, art history and genres, as well as develop individual interest, talent, and skills. All Art Department courses carry a supplementary fee for materials, equipment use, and support items.

### **Beginning Art**

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

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Advanced Art**

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

- Pre-requisite: Beginning Art
- Full Year Course (1 Credit) or Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Art III**

This course is for the student who is interested in pursuing independent studies in a certain medium. It is a course for advanced art students who have completed Art I and Art II, who would like to further their skills in a particular area, or those who are building a portfolio. Tests will not be given, but a research paper is required.

- Pre-requisite: Art I & Art II plus teacher recommendation
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Ceramic Studio**

In this course, the student will learn basic clay technique as it applies to hand building and wheel work. Projects will include both decorative and functional design.

- Pre-requisite: Art I
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Painting Studio**

Students taking this course will experience watercolor, acrylic, and mixed media paint applications. Projects will be based on original photography, still life, and subjects from life as they appear in the painting studio and natural settings. Framing of all major projects is encouraged.

- Pre-requisite: Art I
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Video Production**

This course will instruct students to create a film following the ten steps that all movie-makers follow. Students will be involved with every aspect of film making, from initial ideas to post production. Students will be required to examine, analyze, and critique films to compare and contrast various styles of production. Students will be expected to participate fully in all aspects of the class. Space is limited.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

## **MUSIC DEPARTMENT**

The Music Program at St. John Lutheran School gives all students an opportunity to participate in a variety of experiences ranging from instrumental to vocal performance as well as music theory and appreciation. Courses range from introductory instruction for the musical novice to classes which provide development for the student already possessing musical skill or training.

### **Guitar**

This is a class for the student who either wants to learn to play guitar or knows a little about the instrument and wants to better him- or herself by learning the basics of playing the instrument as well as reading music. This class is open to all students from 9 through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Students ideally come away at the end of the year proficient enough on the guitar to play from a lead sheet, play open and barred chords, as well as read standard notation.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Chorus**

This vocal course incorporates classical choral repertoire, but also contemporary music as well. Music theory, parts singing, and performance skills are also part of this musical experience. Some outside class performances are required.

- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

### **Chapel Band**

The main purpose of this course is to offer students an opportunity to lead musical worship in our weekly chapel services. Students will be responsible for learning new songs, re-working traditional songs, and serving as leaders in worship as well as fellowship settings. Students in the chapel band course are required to already be proficient in an instrument and music theory.

- Pre-requisite: Audition
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **CROSS CURRICULAR COURSES**

### **Study & Writing Skills**

This one semester elective course is designed to strengthen the organizational, thinking, studying, and writing skills of any student. As a part of this course, students determine their best learning style and how to adapt to the other styles so they can attain success in high school and college. Students also will learn how to organize their work, manage their time, set and meet goals, utilize the SQ3R reading system, take lecture notes, and analyze the various types of tests so they will be better equipped to take and pass them. Students will also focus on writing skills.

- Semester Course (1/2 Credit)

### **Laptops: Care, Feeding, & Uses for Learning**

This one semester course helps students learn how to use and care for a laptop computer as well as how to use it effectively as a learning tool in secondary school. Students will complete projects in the Microsoft Office Suite to assist them in effectively using Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher and Front Page at school and in the workplace. Review and understanding of the St. John Lutheran Acceptable Use Policy for Technology is a required part of this study.

- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Planning Your Future**

This course is designed to introduce students to the myriad of decisions they will be making and to provide them with methods in handling planning required for their future. At the core of this course will be discussions of Godly decision making and finding His will for their lives. Topics included will be college and career choices, admissions testing, resume writing, and job search techniques. Key goals are assessing one's own talents, styles, strengths and weaknesses, and learning how to use that self-knowledge in decision making. Career mentoring may be a part of this study.

- Pre-requisite: Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Semester Course (½ Credit)

### **Yearbook**

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

- Pre-requisites: A-B academic course average, English teacher approval, completion of 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Full Year Course (1 Credit)

## **EARLY RELEASE FOR WORK**

This scheduling option is for Seniors who have completed or scheduled all coursework necessary for graduation. With written permission from a parent or guardian, the student may be released from school after his/her last scheduled class of the day (earliest release is after 5<sup>th</sup> Period). At that point, the student is no longer under the supervision of St. John Lutheran School and must leave campus. The intention is to allow students the opportunity to balance their time between work and study during the school term. There is no credit earned for early release.

## **ACADEMIC RELEASE**

This scheduling option is for Seniors who have completed or scheduled all coursework necessary for graduation. Any student taking Advanced Placement, Honors or dual enrollment courses at the community college is eligible for early release from school after his/her last scheduled class of the day (earliest release is after 5<sup>th</sup> Period). At that point, the student is no longer under the supervision of St. John Lutheran School and must leave campus. The intention is to allow students the opportunity to take college level courses and have additional time to prepare and study during school hours. Students on Academic Release may also be engaged in on-line learning courses for credit as approved by the Guidance Office and Administration.