

PROGRAM OF STUDIES

2021-22





BERGEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

September 9, 2021

Dear Parents and Students:

Bergen Catholic High School offers its students an academic program of excellence, which is designed to provide a comprehensive and challenging intellectual experience during their secondary school years. Bergen Catholic students will find success in the school's curriculum by being curious about subject matter, engaging in all elements of instructional lessons, and exhibiting a work ethic, which results in well-crafted and detailed work.

Bergen Catholic's academic program is most assuredly a college preparatory curriculum, offering a breadth of courses at the college prep, honors, and AP levels. These academic courses will provide our students with an educational foundation that will underpin success in their future collegiate and life pursuits.

This document not only presents descriptions of the courses offered at Bergen Catholic High School but also guidelines and prerequisites needed as our students progress through the curriculum. It is my hope that this document proves to be informative and helpful. If, after a review of the information, you have any questions, please contact the appropriate chair.

Sincerely,

Mr. Timothy J. McElhinney

Principal

Table of Contents

Course Sequence	4
Concentrations	5
Senior Year Electives	5
Dual Enrollment Opportunities	6
AP Course Guidelines	9
Computer Science/Technology	10
English	12
Health/Physical Education	16
Mathematics	17
Performing Arts	21
Religion	17
Science	22
Social Studies	24
World Language	27
Visual Arts	31
Virtual High School	32
Report Card Grading System	33

Course Sequence

Core Subjects	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
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English	Intro Literary Genres 1 CP Intro Literary Genres 1 Honors	American Literature CP American Literature Honors	British Literature CP British Literature Honors * AP English Language **	World Literature CP Humanities Honors ** AP English Literature
World Language	Latin 1 Honors Mandarin 1 Honors Spanish 1 CP Spanish 1 Honors	Latin 2 Honors Mandarin 2 Honors Spanish 2 CP Spanish 2 Honors	Latin 3 Honors * Mandarin 3 Honors * Spanish 3 CP ** Spanish 3 Honors *	Latin 4 Honors * AP Latin Mandarin 4 Honors * AP Mandarin Spanish 4 CP Spanish 4 Honors * AP Spanish
Math	Algebra I CP Algebra I Honors Geometry CP Geometry Honors Geometry High Honors	Geometry CP Geometry Honors Algebra II Trig CP Algebra II Trig Honors Algebra II Trig High Honors	Algebra II Trig CP Algebra II Trig Honors Pre-Calculus CP Pre-Calculus Honors Pre-Calculus High Honors	Math 12 Pre-Calculus CP Pre-Calculus Honors Calculus Honors ** AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC Statistics Honors **
Religion	Catholic Christianity CP	Christian Scriptures CP	Morality & Social Justice CP	World Religions CP **
Science	Biology CP Biology Honors	Chemistry CP Chemistry Honors	Physics CP Physics Honors * AP Biology	AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science * Forensic Science CP Astronomy Honors Anatomy & Physiology CP Earth Science CP
Social Studies	World History CP World History Honors	US History 1 CP US History 1 Honors AP European History	US History 2 CP US History 2 Honors AP US History	AP American Government ** AP Economics ** Criminal Justice CP AP Psychology **
Computer Science	Introduction to Engineering Principles 1 CP	Introduction to Engineering Principles 2 CP	Intro to Coding CP AP Computer Science Principles	Digital Media Production CP AP Computer Science A * Computer-Aided Design CP Robotics CP **
Art	Art I CP	Art 2 CP	AP Art (Junior)	AP Art (Senior)
Physical Education	Freshman Physical Education	Sophomore Physical Education Health	Junior Physical Education	Senior Physical Education
Business	Introduction to Business			Entrepreneurship Honors *** Business Law CP Economics Honors **

* Seton Hall University Dual Enrollment Course **Iona College Dual Enrollment Course *** U. Delaware Dual Enrollment Course

CONCENTRATIONS

Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, freshmen will take the following courses during their general (non-core) period. Note that these classes can be scheduled in any order.

Business Course	STEM Course	Art Course	Physical Education Course
Intro to Business	Intro to Engineering	Studio Art	Freshman Physical Education

Senior Year Electives

Full-Year Courses	Fall Semester Courses	Spring Semester Courses
AP American Government (640) AP Biology (546) AP Chemistry (548) AP Computer Science A (751) AP Economics (644) AP Environmental Science (575) AP Latin (216) AP Mandarin (286) AP Physics AP Psychology (675) AP Spanish (269) Entrepreneurship Honors (674) Latin 4 Honors (215) Mandarin 4 Honors (283) Spanish 4 Honors (267) Statistics Honors (351)	Business Law (648) Computer-Aided Design (760) Criminal Justice (652) Economics H (647) Forensic Science (552) Robotics (756) Sports Journalism (153)	Anatomy and Physiology (555) Business Law (648) Computer-Aided Design (760) Criminal Justice (652) Economics H (647) Robotics (756) Sports Journalism (153)

Dual Enrollment Partnerships

Site Coordinator: Ms. Elisabeth Walter

Seton Hall Project Acceleration

Project Acceleration (PA) is a concurrent enrollment program within the College of Arts and Sciences at Seton Hall University which allows Bergen Catholic students to earn up to 21 college credits. Bergen Catholic teachers who teach Project Acceleration courses are recognized as adjunct professors at Seton Hall.

Project Acceleration courses are open to high school juniors and seniors in good academic standing and who are capable of performing Advanced Placement (AP) or Honors coursework. Once registered, students must earn a grade of C (2.0 grade point average) or better in their Project Acceleration courses in order for the classes to be easily transferable. A grade of "D" or "F" will likely result in an unsuccessful transfer process to the college or university of their choice. Low grades will not result in the refund of tuition. Grades cannot be removed from a transcript.

There is no guarantee that a specific college or university will accept Project Acceleration credit. Students should contact the school(s) that they are applying to for clarification.

The cost of each Project Acceleration credit is \$100. Payment is made directly to Seton Hall. To register for a Project Acceleration course, visit this website:

<http://www.shu.edu/undergraduate-admissions/project-acceleration-application.cfm>

CURRENT PROJECT ACCELERATION COURSES			
SHU Course #	SHU Course Name	Credits	BC Equivalent
ENGL 1201	Core English I	3	British Literature Honors
CHIN 1102/1103	Introductory Chinese I/II	6	Mandarin 3 Honors
LATN 2101	Intermediate Latin I	3	Latin 3 Honors
SPAN 2001/2002	Intermediate Spanish I/II	6	Spanish 3 Honors
PHYS 1701/1702 PHYS 1811/1812	General Physics I/II Labs	6 2	Physics Honors
CSAS 1111/1112	Introduction to Computer Science I/II	8	AP Computer Science A
SPAN 3001/3002	Advanced Spanish I/II	6	Spanish 4 Honors
CHIN 2101/2102	Intermediate Chinese I/II	6	Mandarin 4 Honors
LATN 2102	Intermediate Latin II	3	Latin 4 Honors
ENVL 1011	Introduction to Environmental Science	3	AP Environmental Science

Iona College

In April 2019, Bergen Catholic and Iona signed a partnership agreement that allows BC students to take dual enrollment courses at Iona.

The following courses are offered for dual enrollment in 2021-2022:

Iona Course	Iona Course Name	Credits	BC Equivalent
ENG 213	Self and Society	3	Humanities Honors
MTH 231	Calculus I	4	Calculus Honors
ECO 100	Economics for Today	3	Economics Honors (Semester)
ENG 120	Communication Skills: Writing 1	3	AP English Language & Composition
SPA 150	Beginning Hispanic Culture Through Conversation	3	Spanish 3 CP
ENG 214	New Worlds	3	World Literature
RST 210	Religious Pluralism Series	3	World Religions
CRJ 205	Criminal Justice	3	Criminal Justice
CS 146	Introduction to Robotics	3	Robotics
ECO 201/202	Basic Microeconomic Analysis Basic Macroeconomic Analysis	3 3	AP Economics
MTH 270	Applied Statistics	3	Statistics Honors
POL 201	American Government	3	AP US Government and Politics
PSY 201/202	General Psychology 1 & 2	6	AP Psychology

University of Delaware - Horn Entrepreneurship

Seniors will have the opportunity to take **Entrepreneurship Honors**, a yearlong exploration into the process of starting a business. Students will study research and planning, marketing, management, financing, and growth. Guest instructors will share personal experiences in this process and students will have opportunities for hands-on experience. All students will have the opportunity to earn dual enrollment credits for the following 1-credit courses:

- ENTR155: Startup of the Professional You
- ENTR156: Idea to Action
- ENTR157: Venturing for Good

Students will also participate in the Diamond Challenge for High School Entrepreneurs, an innovative entrepreneurship competition for high school students offering \$100,000 in awards.

Students will register for these courses through their instructor.

The cost for the 3 courses is \$500.

Bergen Community College Dual Enrollment

BC Course	Bergen Community Course Name	Bergen Community Course Number	Bergen Community # of Credits
Men's Vocal Ensemble	Chorus I	MUS 121	1 credit
Jazz Ensemble	Jazz Ensemble I	MUS 140	1 credit
Men's Vocal Ensemble	Chorus II	MUS 255	1 credit
Jazz Ensemble	Jazz Ensemble II	MUS 246	1 credit

The above courses will be offered to students eligible to enroll in junior/senior classes at Bergen Catholic and carry the equivalent number of college credits that traditional college students receive for taking the course(s) at the college.

Students will be charged for the course, if they opt for college credits, at 50% of the current applicable tuition rate at the time of registration plus a one-time registration fee. Students who qualify for free and reduced lunch will be responsible for only the registration fee pursuant to N.J. statute 18A: 61C-6.

AP Course Guidelines

The Advanced Placement Program is an academic program of college-level courses and examinations for high school students. Courses challenge the students to learn the subject in greater depth, develop analytical reasoning skills, and form disciplined study habits. Students enrolled in AP courses take the College Board AP Exam and have an opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced standing in college based on their scores on the AP exam. Students are encouraged to research the college/university of their choice for minimum score standards and transferability.

As a student enrolling in an AP course, you are choosing a curriculum that goes beyond the basic high school graduation requirements. The pacing, difficulty, skill development, and content of such courses revolve around the expectation of student completion of the College Board AP Exam in May. It is with this understanding that you are making a commitment to a year-long course with rigorous demands. AP courses are open to high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors in good academic standing who are capable of performing Advanced Placement (AP) work and meet the stated prerequisites listed under each academic discipline where an AP course or courses are offered. All students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses are required to take the AP Exam. Students enrolled in Senior AP Art must complete an AP Art portfolio in lieu of an exam. In order for students to continue in the AP program for any academic discipline, they must have an 85 or higher in the class, and score a 2 or higher on the AP exam. Grades cannot be removed from a transcript. The fee for each AP Exam for the 2021-2022 school year is \$95 and will be billed through TADS.

Bergen Catholic offers the following AP Courses:

Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
European History	Biology	Calculus AB
	Computer Science Principles	Calculus BC
	English Language and Composition	Chemistry
	Studio Art: 2D Design (2 years)	Computer Science A
	US History	Economics (Micro and Macro)
		English Literature and Composition
		Environmental Science
		Physics 1 (VHS)
		Physics C (VHS)
		Psychology
		US Government and Politics
		World Languages (Latin, Mandarin, Spanish)

BUSINESS

Department Chair: Mr. John Tedeschi

Email: jtedeschi@bergencatholic.org

Intro to Business:

Grade 9

This is a one quarter course offered only to the members of the freshman class. In this course, students will be introduced to topics such as the risks and benefits of entrepreneurship, the impact of credit scores, inflation, monetary transaction tools, taxes, insurance, and budgeting.

COMPUTER SCIENCE/TECHNOLOGY

Department Chair: Mr. Jorge Mascaro

Email: jmascaro@bergencatholic.org

The Technology/Computer Science/Engineering curriculum strives to prepare students to be able to function within our highly technological society. The computer is a tool, which should assist students in the quest to creatively solve the problems facing our society.

Competitions - Students may have the opportunity to engage in the following academic competitions:

- Technology Student Association High School Competition
- USA Computing Olympiad
- American Computer Science League

Robotics

- Conrad Challenge
- Odyssey of the Mind
- National Robotics League

Introduction to Engineering Principles 1

Grade 9

All freshmen take this one-semester course. Robotics as a subject allows students to explore and solve real-world scenarios through Problem-based Learning. Problem-based Learning requires students to generate solutions both independently and collaboratively using experimentation. This course guides students to complete projects based upon a certain set of parameters that are given prior to the beginning of class. The assessment and measuring of subject area retention is done through the completion of an Engineering Notebook and building an online version of the structure designed and produced throughout the cycle.

Introduction to Engineering Principles 2

Grade 10

All sophomores take this one-semester course. Introduction to Engineering Principles 2 is a continuation course to be taken after Introduction to Engineering Principles 1. Robotics as a subject allows students to explore and solve real-world scenarios through Problem-based Learning. Problem-based Learning requires students to generate solutions both independently and collaboratively using experimentation. This course guides students to complete projects based upon a certain set of parameters that are given prior to the beginning of class. The assessment and measuring of subject area retention is done through the completion of an Engineering Notebook and building an online version of the structure designed and produced throughout the cycle. The progression from freshman to sophomore year includes using pre-conceptual physics, ratios, and multiple measurements.

Introduction to Coding

Grade 11

All juniors take this full year course. Students will learn the proper syntax and alignment of the programming language “Python.” Topics will include conditions, loops, functions, data types, and list accessing. Students will also explore employment opportunities that require coding and other technology related jobs.

Digital Media Production

Grade 12

This is a full-year course required of all seniors. The course is designed to provide the students with digital story-telling skills. Topics covered will be presentation techniques in PowerPoint, Google Slides, and Prezi, animation fundamentals in Tupi, storyline creation in Adobe Spark and Toondoo, as well as video production and editing in iMovie and QuickTime Player.

Robotics

Iona Credit

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

Robotics is a one semester, project-based course in which students design, construct and program a robot. Students will familiarize themselves with the Vex EDR Robotics Design System materials which they will use for the labs over the course of the semester. They will learn key STEM principles through a process that captures the excitement about and engagement with engineering and design. Students will learn about the different components of a robot. Students will also learn to program their robot to perform different tasks using the computer language ROBOTC.

Computer Aided Design (CAD)

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

This one semester course introduces the student to the concepts of computer aided design. The course is intended to be an introduction to industrial drafting concepts, oriented towards three-dimensional design of manufactured parts using a CAD system. Utilizing industry software, parametric design concepts will be introduced, virtual 3D objects will be made and orthographic drawings will be created. The course will include design intent and process, sketching techniques, model development techniques, process-specific modeling, design changes, editing models, and patterning and assembly techniques. The course will include lectures as well as group projects when appropriate. This course will prepare students who may have an interest in engineering or another design related field in college.

AP Computer Science A

AP Credit, SHU Credit

Grade 12

The AP Exam in Computer Science A is REQUIRED.

Prerequisite: A cumulative, weighted three year Mathematics average of 90 or higher. Approval of the Chair is also required.

This full-year course introduces the student to object-oriented programming using the Java language. Emphasis will be placed on problem solving, data representation, algorithm design, programming, and application development. Programs requiring a variety of control structures and objects will be assigned. This course will employ both lectures and laboratory exercises. Permission of the Chair is required.

AP Computer Science Principles

AP Credit

Grades 11, 12

The AP Exam in Computer Science Principles is REQUIRED.

Prerequisites: A cumulative, weighted three year Mathematics average of 90 or higher. Approval of the Chair is also required. *Open to juniors in lieu of Computer Programming 1*

AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to the central ideas of computer science, inviting students to develop the computational thinking vital for success across multiple disciplines. The course is unique in its focus

on encouraging students to be creative and to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts. Students design and implement innovative solutions using an iterative process similar to what artists, writers, computer scientists, and engineers use to bring ideas to life.

ENGLISH

Department Chair: Mrs. Janet Conley

Email jconley@bergencatholic.org

Bergen Catholic offers a four year college preparatory and Honors program, and a two year AP Sequence. The AP and Honors Programs require a seriousness of purpose, the ability to study a broad range of literature, meet the challenge of an increased number of written assessments, demonstrate superior intellectual curiosity, and sustain academic motivation. A student enrolled in the Honors Program must maintain an 83% average or higher. Students are required to take four years of English in order to graduate.

Placement in Honors Program for incoming Freshmen:

1. Any student wishing to be in the English Honors Program must excel on a placement exam of the English department Chair's choosing.
2. The student's 8th grade English course and grade is taken into consideration for proper course and level placement.
3. The Chair reserves the right to administer an internal placement exam to further refine decisions about those students who will be placed in Honors.

Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year:

1. To remain in an Honors English course, and the English Honors programs, a student should have an average of 83 or better by the end of the third quarter. The prior year's course grade is not a consideration. The department recognizes that circumstances can create an exception to this statement and the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-case decisions in the face of mitigating circumstances such as illness, or a loss in a family that may cause the student's grade to fall below 83.
2. **Movement from College Preparatory to Honors:** At each grade level, the student who is requesting a move to Honors should have a 95+ average for the current course and the same average for all previous English courses at Bergen Catholic, **AND** the student must have the recommendation of his current English teacher.
3. **Movement down from Honors:** Students may leave an Honors course at their request with the consent of their parents. The course teacher is to recommend to the Chair any student he/she deems unqualified for Honors and the reason(s). The Chair is to sign for the removal approval.
4. **Movement from Honors to AP:** At each grade level, the student who is requesting to move to AP should have a 90+ average for the current course **AND** the student must have the recommendation of his current English teacher. Some courses require a placement test: please see specific prerequisites listed below applicable courses. In order to remain in the AP program, students must score a 2 or higher on the AP exam.

Once a student leaves Honors, or AP for any reason, it is unlikely he will be allowed to return to that program level. However, the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-base decisions in the event of mitigating circumstances.

Competitions - Students may have the opportunities to engage in the following academic competitions:

- National Scholastic Press Association Competitions
- NCTE Achievement Awards in Writing
- Scholastic Art & Writing Awards
- The Claudia Ann Seaman Award for Young Writers
- Letters About Literature
- Manningham Student Poetry Awards
- Odyssey Con Flash Fiction/Prose Poetry Contest
- River of Words Poetry and Art Contest
- Young Authors Writing Competition
- Letters About Literature
- Profile in Courage Essay Contest
- American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest
- High School Public Debate Program
- National Forensic League National Speech Tournament
- VFW Voice of Democracy Contest

English I: Introduction to Literary Genres College Preparatory Grade 9

English I College Preparatory begins with developing the skills necessary for reading and writing mastery by using contextual vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and formal usage. Critical writing processes using research skill, drafting, rough drafts, and a final draft will be integrated into the reading of literary texts. The narrative, descriptive, argument/persuasion, and compare/contrast rhetorical models serve as the basis of the student's development as a writer. Students will also develop an appreciation of the literary genres through selected essays, short stories, poems, drama, and novels. The MLA research format, driven by technology, will serve as the foundation for all initial research.

English I: Introduction to Literary Genres Honors Grade 9

Introduction to Literature Honors is a writing-intensive course, which includes contextual vocabulary, grammar, sentence structure, and formal usage practice through the critical writing process using research, drafting, rough drafts and a final draft. The argument/persuasion, compare/contrast, definition, and expository rhetorical models serve as the basis of the student's evolving development as an academic writer. Students will continue to develop an appreciation of literature by furthering their formal literature analysis skills through thematic units of selected essays, short stories, poems, drama, and novels. The MLA format, driven by technology, will be reviewed and employed in all research papers.

English II: American Literature College Preparatory Grade 10

English II College Preparatory is designed to introduce or review sound grammatical usage and syntactical principles in standard written English. It also facilitates vocabulary development to enrich reading comprehension and to prepare for the PSAT. The course includes understanding and appreciating the American short story, poem, drama, and novel through thematic units in the context of the text's historical and cultural era, and reinforces critical thinking in oral and written expression. The MLA documentation format will be augmented by current technology and research methods. Students will continue their development as a writer, by employing argument/persuasion, narrative, description, and example rhetorical models of academic expression.

English II: American Literature Honors Grade 10

English II Honors is designed to review sound grammatical usage and syntactical principles in standard written English. It also facilitates vocabulary development to enrich reading comprehension and to prepare for the PSAT. The course includes understanding and appreciating the American short story, poem, drama, and novel through thematic units in the context of the text's historical and cultural era, and reinforces critical thinking in oral and written expression. The emphasis will be on literary analysis and evaluation using critical literary theories as focal points. The MLA documentation format will be augmented by current technology and research methods. Students will continue their development as a writer, by employing argument/persuasion, narrative, description, and example rhetorical models of academic expression.

English III: British Literature College Preparatory Grade 11

English III College Preparatory will enable students to develop critical and analytical thinking skills by using all four modes of discourse (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) to respond to a wide-ranging selection of literature from Great Britain and its colonies, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present day. They will become familiar with a variety of genres and classic texts, always linking the past with the present. Students will enhance their vocabularies in addition to learning test-taking strategies designed to aid their PSAT and their SAT scores. Students will learn and use technology as a tool for research and develop proficiency in both the processes of research and composing a formal literary analysis (exposition, compare/contrast, or argument/persuasion) using the standard MLA format.

English III: British Literature Honors SHU Credit Grade 11

English III College Honors will enable students to master critical and analytical thinking skills by using all four modes of discourse (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) to respond to a wide-ranging selection of literature from Great Britain and its colonies, from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present day. They will acquire a deep understanding of a variety of genres and classic texts, always linking the past with the present. Students will enhance their active and passive vocabularies in addition to learning test-taking strategies designed to aid their PSAT and their SAT scores. Students will employ technology as a tool for research and demonstrate mastery in both the processes of research and composing a formal literary analysis (exposition, compare/contrast, or argument/persuasion) using the standard MLA format. Students will be engaged in careful reading which develops the student's ability to closely analyze the text of all genres of literature, thus enhancing his appreciation of literature and culture.

AP English Language & Composition AP Credit Iona Credit Grades 11, 12

The AP Exam for AP English Language and Composition is REQUIRED.

Prerequisite: Please see "Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year" above. In addition to grading policies stated, students must take a placement test and receive a minimum score of 8 on a point scale on a written exam, based on the AP Exam. This exam will be given after the third quarter, prior to placement.

This full year course is a college level reading and writing intensive course for students who demonstrate an exceptional interest in and a commitment to the study of language and the art of writing the essay. Students will read a diverse selection of fiction and nonfiction, including novels, short stories, essays, speeches, and cross-genre works. An emphasis is placed on British Literature. Students will study the art of rhetoric, including rhetorical devices, tropes, and fallacies. They will be able to identify and implement these strategies. Students will analyze authorial style and demonstrate their rhetorical skills in analytical, argumentative, and synthesis essays. Vocabulary, grammar and mastery of the MLA documentation format are embedded in the curriculum.

World Literature Iona Credit

Grade 12

Prerequisite: English 3 College Preparatory

This full year course will introduce and develop an aesthetic appreciation for diverse literary genres through the guided reading of various modern and classic texts, including short story, poetry, drama, essay, epic and the novel, arranged by geographical location and theme. Students will compose literary critiques, MLA style research papers, and the college essay, in addition to various other kinds of informal writing. The emphasis is on acquiring and polishing real world skills, such as technology-enhanced presentations in group work settings. Course requirements include quarterly research papers, a midterm, and a final exam.

Humanities Honors

Iona Credit

Grade 12

This full year, interdisciplinary course is designed to emphasize the creative process of thought and application. Functioning largely as a survey course, Humanities Honors touches on a variety of topics and areas of study by analyzing selected works of fiction and nonfiction, film, slides, and dance and musical selections. Students will explore different literary themes and art forms, such as architecture, painting, and sculpture. The course will enable each student to be more aware of various world cultures.

Emphasis will be placed on literary contributions to society, as well as intensive analytical and creative writing. Students will read, discuss, and debate a diverse selection of texts ranging from Antiquity to Postmodernism. Students will compose critical papers, multimedia projects, and oral presentations to demonstrate an understanding of the material covered. The course requirements include a midterm and a final exam.

AP Literature

AP Credit

Grade 12

Prerequisite: Please see “Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year” above. Juniors who are already placed in AP Language must maintain an average of 86 or higher, and score a 2 or higher on the AP Language exam to be placed in AP Literature as seniors.

This full year course focuses on modern writers with an emphasis on twentieth century plays, poems, and the integration of selected earlier great world writers whose works have made an impact on twentieth-century thinking and writing. The course goal is to develop student confidence and excellence in critical thinking, literary analysis, and critical essay writing. The emphasis will be on close reading, literary analysis and evaluation, using critical literary theories as focal point. The course requirements include several extemporaneous AP style essays each semester, additional monthly independent reading selections and assignments, a midterm, and a final exam modeled on the actual AP Literature test.

Sports Journalism

Grade 12, Semester Course

This one semester course will introduce the basics of sports journalism to interested students. Students will become familiar with the fundamentals of basic newspaper reporting and article format, including blogs and other online information sites. The course will cover a variety of sports writing, including but not limited to straight game reporting, preview articles, human interest stories, feature articles, and opinion pieces in a variety of formats including media and blogging. Students should be prepared to watch various film/clips at home, and be willing to write on a very frequent (once or twice a week) basis. No expertise in any particular sport is necessary, but we will tailor writing assignments to the interests of each student.

HEALTH/PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Department Chair: Mr. Fred Stengel

Email fstengel@bergencatholic.org

Health and physical education provide opportunities for students to develop knowledge, attitudes, and practices necessary to meet the present health needs of youth and society. The courses also provide an opportunity for students to develop a concept of life-long health, which will be important in the future.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Physical Education is a four-year requirement. Activities include cardiovascular exercises, inclusive athletic games, weight training, and other activities.

Health

Grade 10

Sophomore health is a mandatory course. The goal of the Bergen Catholic Health curriculum is to focus on the physical well-being of our students. Students will understand the fundamental principles of healthy living in daily life including proper diet, exercise, rest, and hygiene. The dangers and effects of smoking, vaping, alcohol, and drug abuse, along with the short- and long-term effects on the human body, will be discussed. Students will also understand what mental health is and the different types of mental illnesses. The course will conclude with safety procedures necessary to keep safe in recreational and sporting activities and to identify when to ask for help.

MATHEMATICS

Department Chair: Mr. Jeffrey Fox

Email: jfox@bergenatholic.org

The Mathematics faculty recognizes the increasing importance of mathematics in our students' lives. Not only will they need math skills and competency in the applied sciences, but will also use math as an indispensable discipline in such fields as business, economics, and the social sciences. Our immediate aim, therefore, is to develop students' proficiency in and understanding of the mathematical techniques they will need in college and in their careers. The department provides a four-year college preparatory and Honors course of study for all students. Students are required to complete four years of mathematics in order to graduate. As students plan for their senior year, they must keep in mind that a full year math course is required.

Placement in Honors Program for incoming Freshmen:

1. Any student wishing to be in the Mathematics Honors Program must perform well on a placement exam of the department Chair's choosing.
2. The student's 8th grade Mathematics course and grade is taken into consideration for proper course and level placement.
3. The Chair reserves the right to administer an internal placement exam to further refine decisions about those students who will be placed in Honors.

Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year:

1. To remain in an Honors Math course and the Math Honors program, a student should have an average of 83 or better in each Honors course. The prior course grade is not a consideration. The department recognizes that circumstances can create an exception to this statement and the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-case decisions in the face of mitigating circumstances, such as illness, or a loss in a family, that may cause the student's grade to fall below 83.
2. **Movement from College Preparatory to Honors:** At each grade level the student who is requesting a move to Honors should have a 95+ average for the current course and the same average for all previous Math courses at Bergen Catholic, **AND** the student must have the recommendation of his current Math teacher. Teacher recommendation is considered as well.
3. Students may leave an Honors course at their request and with the consent of their parents. The Honors course teacher is to recommend to the Chair any student he/she deems unqualified for Honors and the reason(s). The Chair is to sign for the removal approval.

**Once a student leaves Honors for any reason, it is unlikely he will return to the Honors program. However, the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-base decisions in the event of mitigating circumstances.*

Competitions - Students may have the opportunities to engage in the following academic competitions:

- AMC 10/12
- Continental Mathematics League
- High School Mathematics Contest in Modeling
- Math League Contests
- Mathworks Math Modeling Challenge
- USA Mathematical Talent Search

Algebra I College Preparatory

Grade 9

This course presents mathematical properties, operations with signed numbers and polynomials, factoring, solution of linear and quadratic equations, graphing, functions and variations, solution of systems of equations and inequalities, rational expressions, and equations. A substantial amount of time is spent on skills and concepts to enable students to make the transition from arithmetic to Algebra.

Algebra I Honors

Grade 9

This course presents mathematical properties, operations with signed numbers and polynomials, factoring, solution of linear and quadratic equations, graphing, functions and variations, solution of systems of equations and inequalities, rational expressions, and equations. Appropriate emphasis is placed on mastering more rigorous skills, concepts, and mathematical content. Students are encouraged to develop problem solving skills throughout the course, and applications of these skills will be of primary importance.

Plane Geometry College Preparatory

Grades 9, 10

The course enables students to study relationships between geometric figures using deductive reasoning. Topics studied include lines and angles, methods of reasoning, congruent and similar triangles, parallel lines, quadrilaterals, circles, proportions, areas of polygons and circles, and coordinate geometry, including distance, midpoint slope, and graphs. The key concepts of Algebra will also be reinforced throughout the year.

Geometry Honors

Grades 9, 10

This course includes **ALL** of the topics covered in Plane Geometry (see above) and also presents Solid Geometry: points, lines and distance in space; polyhedrons; pyramids, cylinders, cones and spheres; surface areas and volume. Students will develop a knowledge of geometric elements and their relationships in order to help the student grow in the use of the deductive method of proof. Formal proofs will be explored in detail throughout the entire course.

Geometry High Honors

Grade 9

This course includes **ALL** of the topics covered in Plane Geometry (see above) and also presents Solid Geometry: points, lines and distance in space; polyhedrons; pyramids, cylinders, cones and spheres; surface areas and volume. It will also include right triangle trigonometry (See Algebra 2 – Trigonometry below). An in-depth study of geometry with a heavy emphasis on deductive proofs will be explored.

Algebra II Trigonometry College Preparatory

Grades 10, 11

This course will cover both a continuation of Algebra I and Trigonometry. The first semester, Algebra II, presents a review of the most important topics of Algebra I. A full study of quadratic equations, factoring, completing the square, the quadratic formula, graphing, solving systems of equations, and inequalities will be provided. The

second semester, Trigonometry, includes the study of trigonometric functions and their inverses, graphs of periodic functions, trigonometric identities, and application of the law sines and cosines.

Algebra II Trigonometry Honors

Grades 10, 11

This course includes **ALL** of the topics in Algebra II Trigonometry CP. Special emphasis is placed on trigonometric identities, proofs, and solving trigonometric equations.

Algebra II Trigonometry High Honors

Grade 10

Students will have an extensive study of all of the topics introduced in Algebra I. All of the topics covered in Algebra II Trigonometry CP will be covered in High Honors, however, this course is fast-paced and emphasis will be placed on higher order thinking and problem solving.

Pre-Calculus College Preparatory

Grades 11, 12

This course is a continuation of Algebra II/Trigonometry. Topics will include a complete study of trigonometry, functions and their inverses, exponential and logarithmic functions, and sequences and series. Conics and probability may also be explored.

Pre-Calculus Honors

Grades 11, 12

This rigorous course is a preparation for AP Calculus AB. Topics will include a complete study of trigonometry, functions and their inverses, advanced graphing techniques, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, and the binomial theorem. Applications of these concepts will also be included. An introduction to limits and continuity may also be explored.

Pre-Calculus High Honors

Grade 11

This intensive course will provide the students with a strong background for AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC. Topics include trigonometry, advanced graphing, polynomial functions, logarithmic and exponential functions, complex numbers in polar form, polar graphing, limits, and continuity. This course will also focus on the theoretical development of each of these topics, and emphasis will be placed on higher order thinking skills and challenging applications.

Math 12

Grade 12

Prerequisite: Recommendation of teacher and chair; total average of 74 or less in all Math courses taken at Bergen Catholic or 74 or less in the Grade 11 offering

This course, preliminary to Calculus, is designed for those college-bound students who have found success when mathematical concepts are presented in a scope and sequence that shows how each topic builds on the one preceding it. Topics include basic finance such as income tax, sales tax, and discounts, real number analysis including quadratic equations, factoring, inequalities, and absolute value equations, polynomial equations over the complex field, application of trigonometry, matrices, determinants and systems of equations, and analytic geometry.

Calculus Honors

Iona Credit

Grade 12

Prerequisite: Students opting for this course manifest that they are academically prepared for this higher level Mathematics syllabus by achievement level, teacher recommendation and approval of the Chair.

In this course, students will continue to study the concepts of limits and continuity. The basic concepts of the derivative with its applications to velocity, acceleration, curve sketching, related rates, and max-and-min problems will be studied. The definite and indefinite integral will be introduced and techniques of differentiation and integration of the trigonometric functions, the natural logarithmic function, the exponential function, and the inverse trigonometric functions will be studied.

AP Calculus AB

AP Credit

Grade 12

AP Calculus AB Exam is REQUIRED.

Prerequisite: The student must have received a grade of 90 or better in Pre-Calculus Honors and have the recommendation of his teacher. Chair approval is required.

In this full year course, students will continue to study limits and continuity begun in Pre-Calculus. An introduction to the basic concepts of differential and integral calculus with applications to velocity, acceleration, curve sketching, related rates and max-and-min problems will be given. Techniques of differentiation and integration will be studied and applied to areas, radioactive decay, and volumes and surface areas of revolution. The theoretical development of each of these topics will be stressed.

AP Calculus BC

AP Credit

Grade 12

AP Calculus BC Exam is REQUIRED.

Prerequisite: The student must have received a grade of 85 or better in Precalculus High Honors and have the recommendation of his teacher.

This full year course covers all topics of Calculus of functions of a single variable as described in the AP Calculus BC topic outline in the AP Calculus course description. AP Calculus BC includes all topics covered in AP Calculus AB plus additional topics including techniques of integration, parametric, vector and polar functions, sequences, and series (Taylor and Maclaurin).

Statistics Honors

Grade 12

Prerequisite: The student must have achieved a three-year cumulative average of 85.

This full year course provides students with a thorough presentation of introductory statistics. The course will examine four major themes: exploratory data analysis, data collection through surveys, studies and experiments, probability and statistical inference.

PERFORMING ARTS

Department Chair: Ms. Barbara Peraino

bperaino@bergencatholic.org

Men's Vocal Ensemble

BCC Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

The Bergen Catholic Men's Vocal Ensemble is committed to developing individual vocal skills and musicianship in an ensemble setting, as well as expanding each student's knowledge of repertoire and style. Selections will cover a broad spectrum of music from sacred to secular including classical, pop, jazz, and world music. Students will acquire knowledge and skills in the use of basic music vocabulary, including terms, signs, and symbols of reading music. Acceptable choral discipline is expected at all rehearsals and performances. Attendance and participation in all performances is required.

Jazz Ensemble

BCC Credit

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Proficiency with an instrument and in reading musical notation (sight reading).

Jazz ensemble requires students to study and to perform in a variety of jazz styles. Special attention will be given to the development of improvisational skills, reading jazz charts, knowledge of harmony and chords, improvement of the student's technique on his instrument, and development of repertoire. Consistent and effective home study and practice are required for this class. Students are expected to participate in all concerts, ceremonies, and functions.

Chamber Ensemble

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite: Proficiency with an instrument and in reading musical notation.

Students in the Chamber Ensemble will develop instrumental skills on an individual basis, as well as in a group setting. They will perform music ranging from classical orchestral masterpieces to pop and movie classics, thereby broadening their general musical appreciation. Students will be expected to improve their proficiency in such areas as intonation, reading notation, rhythm, and dynamics. The ensemble is open to all instruments - strings, brass, reeds, percussion, and piano.

RELIGION

Department Chair: Mr. Joshua Powers

Email: jpowers@bergencatholic.org

Bergen Catholic High School commits itself to being a Catholic community where, for four years, a young person may pursue and understand his faith and experience it in community with other students, in liturgy, and in service to the larger community. The goal of the religion classes is to understand Jesus resurrected and His message, primarily through scripture, sacraments, and prayer, as they are found in the community's call and response to faith-filled holiness, presently understood and historically demonstrated. Among believers, the individual's commitment to growth in a relationship with Jesus is called Christian holiness. Christian holiness shapes the goals of the Religion courses in each of the required four years of religious study and the corresponding annual off-campus class retreats with the school Chaplain. The Religion Department of Bergen Catholic High School follows the Curriculum Framework for High School as proposed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The outline of the six core courses and electives can be found in PDF format [here](#). **It is our goal to reinforce, educate, and nurture the Essential Elements of a Christian Brother Education and the model set forth by Blessed Edmund Rice.**

Religion I: Catholic Christianity

Grade 9

Religion I is designed to introduce and review the basic concepts of Catholic Christianity. In this course, students will develop an understanding of what it means to be a person of faith. This will be learned through an intense study of Judaism and the Hebrew roots of Christianity, Christian spirituality and Theology, and an examination of the Gospel teachings of Jesus Christ. The course begins with an in depth study of The Bible—its history and its living presence in our lives today. The second semester gives us the opportunity to dive deeply into the richness of the Gospels and Christian Theology—who is Jesus and who is Jesus calling us to be? This course will also enable you to conduct interfaith dialogue with your classmates of diverse religious backgrounds.

Religion II: Christian Scriptures

Grade 10

This course is designed to reinforce and build upon the work begun in freshman year by exposing the student to the Christian Scriptures and Catholic sacramental life, which flows from the Church's continuance of the work of Jesus Christ in the world. Students will complete an in-depth study of the Gospels and the life and work of Saint Paul.

Religion III: Morality & Social Justice

Grade 11

During this year-long course, students will examine the theory and practice of Christians living in the modern world. The course will begin by examining our call to Christian life through the Seven Sacraments. Students will examine Christian responses to personal and social moral problems in light of his responsibility to God, neighbor, and self. He will consider freedom, conscience formation, rational decision-making, emotional awareness, and traditional sources of Christian morality and justice. He will practice implementing the above in light of theoretical and actual moral dilemmas.

Religion IV: World Religions & Spiritual Journeys

Iona Credit

Grade 12

This year-long course examines the major religious traditions in the contemporary world (Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam, and Christianity) and is a comprehensive review of the traditional “states” of life. The cultural, historical, political, and spiritual aspects of each religion will be explored with a focus on their specific religious expressions. The historical foundations, major themes, basic beliefs, sacred writings, and various rituals of each tradition will be discussed. The course will also address the developmental components of young adulthood, specifically addressing identity, autonomy, love, community, communication, sexuality, learning, careers, money, and time management. The course’s focus is on leading the student through mature reflections upon their spiritual journey as they examine the spiritual journeys of key figures in various world traditions and examine their own lifestyle options, particularly single life, marriage, religious life, and ordained ministry.

SCIENCE

Department Chair: Dr. Dominic Esker

Email: desker@bergencatholic.org

Modern society demands the presence of science-literate citizens. The science program at Bergen Catholic is designed with the aim of providing the student with knowledge of scientific concepts, in particular with the on-going research for order in the universe. Students are required to take the laboratory-based courses Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Implementing the use of technology in all science labs will help to meet the needs of a society that is becoming ever more dependent on technology.

Placement in Honors Program for incoming freshmen:

1. Any student wishing to be in the Science Honors Program must excel on an entrance exam of the department Chair's choosing.
2. The student's 8th grade Science course and grade is taken into consideration for proper course and level placement.
3. The Chair reserves the right to administer an internal placement exam to further refine decisions about those students who will be placed in Honors.

Review of Honors Program Placements before sophomore year

Academic reviews of the student's progress may be made at the end of each quarter whereupon a student who is doing poorly or is on the borderline will be warned or dropped from the Honors Program, whichever is in the student's best interest. The third quarter review will recommend **tentative** lists of those students qualifying for the Honors Program for the coming school year. The end-of-the-year review confirms those students in the Honors Program for the coming school year based on the following criteria:

1. An average of 83 or more in the Honors Course and the recommendation of his science teacher.
2. A non-Honors student can only move up to an honors Course in Biology, Chemistry, or Physics, as long as he can fulfill the following requirements:
 - a. The student has the recommendation of his current science and math teachers, and the Chair to move up to Honors.
 - b. The student must show a cumulative average of 90 or more in both Math and Science.
 - c. The student must have a cumulative average of 85 or more for the complete school year.
 - d. The student needs a letter signed by his parents approving the change to Science Honors.

Competitions - Students may have the opportunities to engage in the following academic competitions:

STEM Games

- Independent Games Festival
- Global Game Jam
- International Graphic Arts Education Association Gutenberg Award

Environmental Science

- National Ocean Sciences Bowl
- 4-H Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program
- President's Environmental Youth Awards

Biology College Preparatory

Grade 9

This course provides an introduction to the major topics of Biology and also an understanding of how these topics and concepts are inter-related in order for organisms to work and survive. Topics include DNA, the Scientific Method, biochemistry, cellular biology, photosynthesis/cellular respiration, mitosis/meiosis, genetics, evolution, and selective concepts of the skeletal, muscular, nervous and cardiovascular systems. Students are given the opportunity to learn key concepts through readings, lectures, digital interactives, and exposure to both hands-on laboratory work and virtual simulations. Lab topics include safe/proper laboratory procedures, correct nomenclature and use of lab equipment, the scientific process, enzyme controlled reactions, compound light microscope use, chromatography, protein sequence, genetic simulations, and both virtual and live dissections of earthworms and frogs.

Biology Honors

Grade 9

This course is a general overview of the concepts of various fields of Biology including cellular and molecular biology, genetics, evolution, plants, and human biology. The content of this course is similar to Biology CP but will require students to handle more abstract principles, perform higher level tasks with emphasis on collaboration, communication, and critical thinking, while working at a faster pace than the CP student. Through the readings, lectures, and exposure to hands-on laboratory activities, students will gain a keen appreciation for scientific theories, practices, and their applications to everyday life.

Chemistry College Preparatory

Grade 10

This course provides an introduction to the major topics of Chemistry. Students encounter such topics as matter and energy, atomic structure, bonding, the periodic table, chemical reactions, and stoichiometry. A minimum of 15 laboratory experiments are performed.

Chemistry Honors

Grade 10

This course follows the general outline of topics of the CP course as well as states of matter, solutions, acid-base theory, and electrochemistry. The Honors course is taught at a more rigorous pace. Mathematical treatment of all topics is expected at a more advanced level than of the Chemistry CP course.

Physics College Preparatory

Grade 11

A quantitative approach is used to present the basic concepts of physics. Topics such as mechanics, kinematics, gravitation, and the conservation of energy and momentum are covered in order to present to the student an understanding of the physical principles that lie beneath physical phenomena.

Physics Honors

SHU Credit (Lecture + Lab)

Grade 11

This course deals with the same topics as the CP course, as well as the study of states of matter, machines, waveforms, and sounds. A rigorous mathematical approach is applied to all topics in the honors section. A minimum of 20 laboratory experiments are performed.

AP Biology

AP Credit

Grades 11, 12

AP Biology Exam is Required

Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum of an 85 cumulative academic average and a minimum of a 90 average in Chemistry Honors or Physics Honors and be currently in the Math Honors program. Chair approval is also required.

The AP Biology full-year course is designed to offer students a solid foundation in introductory college-level biology. By structuring the course around the four big ideas and enduring understandings identified in the College Board Revised AP Biology Curriculum Framework students develop an appreciation for the study of life and can identify and understand unifying principles within a diversified biological world. The course will focus on inquiry-based laboratory work and the use of the seven science practices in both lab and non-lab activities. At the end of the course, students will have an awareness of the integration of other sciences in the study of biology, understand how the species to which we belong is similar to, yet different from, other species, and be knowledgeable and responsible citizens in understanding biological issues that could potentially impact their lives. The laboratory component of this course is critical in the understanding of science as a process by allowing students to collect data and reach conclusions.

AP Chemistry

AP Credit

Grades 11, 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Chemistry Exam is Required

Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum of an 85 cumulative academic average and a minimum of a 90 average in Chemistry Honors or Physics Honors and currently be in the Math Honors program. Chair approval is also required.

In this full year course, topics such as the structure of matter, states of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, acid-base theory, oxidation-reduction, and the basic concepts of thermodynamics will be presented in considerable depth with an emphasis placed on the mathematical treatment of these topics.

AP Physics 1(VHS)

AP Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Physics 1 Exam is Required

Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum of an 85 cumulative academic average and a minimum of a 90 average in Chemistry Honors or Physics Honors and currently be in the Math Honors program. Chair approval is also required.

Learn about the foundational principles of physics while exploring Newtonian mechanics; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Hands-on laboratory work is required.

AP Physics C (VHS)

AP Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Physics C Exams in Mechanics and Electricity/Magnetism are Required

Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum of an 85 cumulative academic average and a minimum of a 90 average in Chemistry Honors or Physics Honors and currently be in the Math Honors program. Chair approval is also required.

AP Physics C is divided into 2 semester courses: Mechanics and Electricity and Magnetism. Mechanics is a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in one of the physical sciences or engineering. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study and activities as well as hands-on laboratory work as they explore concepts like change, force interactions, fields, and conservation. Electricity and Magnetism is a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in one of the physical sciences or engineering. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study and

activities as well as hands-on laboratory work as they explore concepts like change, force interactions, fields, and conservation.

AP Environmental Science

AP Credit, SHU Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Environmental Science Exam is Optional

Prerequisite: Students must have a minimum of an 85 cumulative academic average

The AP Environmental Science course provides students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The course helps students identify and analyze natural and human-induced environmental problems. It enables them to learn how to assess the risks associated with these problems and evaluate alternative solutions for resolving and preventing them.

Anatomy and Physiology CP

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

This senior elective presents a descriptive encounter with the human anatomy with emphasis placed on major tissue types. The structure and function of major systems are covered: including muscle groups, the skeleton, digestive system, circulatory system, nervous system, and the endocrine glands. Seniors selecting this course are required to keep a well-illustrated notebook.

Forensic Science CP

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

Emphasis is placed upon understanding the science behind the techniques used in evaluating physical evidence. Some of the scientific topics may include improving observation skills, blood analysis, DNA, fingerprints, organic and inorganic analysis, soil comparisons and examinations, toxicology, microscopic investigations, hair analysis, fiber comparisons, anthropology of bones, dental, tire and foot impressions, trajectory of a bullet and blood, etc. Small lab activities will reinforce the understanding of these techniques and principles including the timeline associated with a decomposing organism. A basic knowledge of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Math is very helpful.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Department Chair: Mr. John Tedeschi

Email: jtedeschi@bergencatholic.org

The aim of the Social Studies faculty is to develop an understanding of the social, political, and economic world necessary for effective citizenship. The Social Studies curriculum is designed to produce thoughtful citizens who recognize the complexities and frustrations of social change, utilize the tools of critical thinking, and pursue those civilizing qualities discerned over the period of human existence. An important objective of the Social Studies program is to develop an appreciation of the American heritage and the American way of life within the global community. Students are required to take three years of Social Studies in order to graduate.

Placement in Honors Program for incoming Freshmen:

1. Any student wishing to be in the Social Studies Honors Program must excel on a placement exam of the department Chair's choosing.
2. The student's 8th grade Social Studies course and grade is taken into consideration for proper course and level placement.
3. The Chair reserves the right to administer an internal placement exam to further refine decisions about those students who will be placed in Honors.

Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year:

1. To remain in an Honors Social Studies course and the Social Studies Honors program, a student should have an average of 83 or better by the end of the third quarter. The prior year's course grade is not a consideration. The department recognizes that circumstances can create an exception to this statement and the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-case decisions in the face of mitigating circumstances such as illness, or a loss in a family that may cause the student's grade to fall below 83.
2. **Movement from College Preparatory to Honors:** At each grade level, the student who is requesting a move to Honors should have a 95+ average for the current course and the same average for all previous Social Studies courses at Bergen Catholic, AND the student must have the recommendation of his current Social Studies teacher.
3. **Movement down from Honors:** Students may leave an Honors course at their request and with the consent of their parents. The Honors course teacher is to recommend to the Chair any student he/she deems unqualified for Honors and the reason(s). The Chair is to sign for the removal approval.
4. **Movement from CP to AP:** The move from CP to AP is extremely rare, and should not be taken lightly. In order for current CP students to be placed in the course they must have a 95 or better in CP and be highly recommended by his teacher.
5. **Movement from Honors to AP:** At each grade level, the student who is requesting to move to AP should have a 90+ average for the current course AND the student must have the recommendation of his current Social Studies teacher. Some courses require a placement test; please see specific prerequisites listed

below applicable courses. In order to remain in the AP program students must score a 2 or higher on the AP exam.

Once a student leaves Honors or AP for any reason, it is unlikely he will be allowed to return to the program. However, the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-base decisions in the event of mitigating circumstances.

Competitions - Students may have the opportunities to engage in the following academic competitions:

- Junior Statesmen of America
- Mock Trial
- Stock Market
- The Fed Challenge
- Future Business Leaders of America

World History I College Preparatory

Grade 9

History is the story of change. This course will show how some change is as quick as a revolution, while other change can take decades or even centuries. Although change is always taking place, enduring traditions and concerns link people across time. Themes including, but not limited to, geography, political systems, social systems, religions, and technological advances will be explored.

World History I Honors

Grade 9

World History I Honors is an advanced course examining the historical development of world civilizations. The course emphasizes analysis of primary source materials and evaluation of historical interpretations. The curriculum aims to bring a historical perspective to bear on an understanding of the state of the world and focus will be those topics and issues that are global or hemispheric in scope. This will be accomplished through a chronological comparative study of cultures from ancient Greece to the present. The depth and pace of the course is designed to prepare the student for further advanced work, therefore the honors student will need to be skilled in reading and writing and be committed to daily homework requirements. The student will be trained to interpret, analyze and synthesize historical documents, as well as primary and secondary sources. The course is meant to challenge the most motivated and disciplined student.

American History I College Preparatory

Grade 10

This section of American History covers periods from the colonization of America up to the present administration (time permitting). Students will be tasked with analyzing documents, timelines, graphs, and tables to complete their understanding of American History I. One in-depth paper/project per semester is required on topics such as how our American “Sons of Liberty” and their actions impacted the American way of life then and now, as well as analyzing war veterans through interviews. Students will be encouraged to question, think critically, and express themselves clearly.

American History I Honors

Grade 10

This course introduces students to the history of the United States from Pre-Columbus society to Reconstruction. Students will learn about major political, philosophical, and historical underpinnings of our government, and the plight of the indigenous people of the continent. There will be a focus on social change and the growth of democracy. Throughout the course, students analyze how ideas of freedom and equality have shaped our collective past and explore implications for the future. Adopting a chronological approach, students analyze the causes and effects of events in the nation’s past. In this historical study of pre-twentieth century America, students deepen their understanding of major geographical themes, economic principles, and significant concepts in United States government. Throughout the course, students learn to develop important questions, conduct inquiry, and evaluate evidence.

AP European History

Grade 10

AP European History Exam is Required

Prerequisite: Please see “Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year” above. In addition to grading policies stated, students must take a placement test in writing and analysis. This exam will be given in the third quarter, prior to placement.

This course emphasizes relevant, factual knowledge about European History from 1450 through 2001. Major themes of the course are intellectual, cultural, political, diplomatic, social, and economic history. In this course, students will use a variety of primary sources and the course includes a variety of analytical and interpretive activities. Students complete frequent practice in writing essays based on analysis and interpretation of primary source materials. All students will take the AP European History Exam in May.

American History II College Preparatory

Grade 11

This section of American History covers periods from Reconstruction to the present administration (time permitting). The student will be required to analyze documents, political cartoons, graphs, and tables to complete their understanding of American History II. One in-depth paper per semester is required on topics such as evaluating immigration or analyzing war veterans through interviews. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to question, think critically and express themselves clearly.

American History II Honors

Grade 11

American History II Honors begins after Reconstruction and extends through the Clinton Presidency. Students use a variety of primary sources via the laptop and they also complete a number of technology-based learning projects. Students will also work on developing their analytical skills as well as their written and verbal communication skills.

AP United States History

Grade 11

AP US History Exam is Required

Prerequisites: Please see “Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year” above. In addition to these policies continuing AP students should have 85 or better in AP European History. A placement test is required for Honors and CP students who meet the required averages. This exam will be given in the third quarter, prior to placement.

Students will examine in great detail the implications of the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Progressive and Populist eras, the two World Wars, the Civil Rights Movement, and finish with the Carter and Reagan eras. There will be a thorough review of American History 1 to prepare for the required Advanced Placement Exam in May. Emphasis will be on writing document-based essays and historical interpretations (at least two per quarter). Both of these are required for the Advanced Placement Exam. Exams will not be based solely on the college level textbook, but from a variety of Advanced Placement review books.

AP Economics

AP Credit

Iona Credit

Grade 12, Full-Year, Elective

AP Macroeconomics and Microeconomics Exams are Required

Prerequisites: Please see “Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year” above. In addition to these policies continuing AP students should have 85 or better in AP American History. *If a student in AP European History or AP US History has failed one or both exams, with a score of 1, he is not permitted to take a senior AP course.*

AP Economics is a rigorous yet rewarding examination of the fundamental principles which govern economic activities at both the level of the individual and corporations, and also that of the aggregate economy. This is a full year course divided into one semester of macroeconomics and one semester of microeconomics.

AP Psychology

AP Credit, Iona Credit

Grade 12, Full-Year, Elective

AP Psychology Exam is Required

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, 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.

AP US Government and Politics

AP Credit

Iona Credit

Grade 12, Full-Year, Elective

AP US Government and Politics Exam is Required

Prerequisites: Please see “Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year” above. In addition to these policies continuing AP students should have 85 or better in AP American History. A placement test is required for Honors and CP students who meet the required averages. This exam will be given in the third quarter, prior to placement.

AP U.S. Government and Politics provides a college-level, nonpartisan introduction to key political concepts, ideas, institutions, policies, interactions, roles, and behaviors that characterize the constitutional system and political culture of the United States. Students will study U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behavior.

Business Law

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

This subject deals with the basic concepts and philosophy of law. Emphasis is placed on the law of contracts, law of sales, debtor-creditor relationships, law of agency insurance, motor vehicles, real estate, and consumer law. In all areas, the law is studied as it applies to common experience. Actual case studies are discussed and reviewed.

Criminal Justice

Iona Credit

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

This course is an introductory survey of the American criminal justice system. It will include discussion of the police, the courts, institutional corrections, and the juvenile justice system. It will include the definition and the measurement of crime as well as various efforts to explain the causes of crime. General issues for consideration will include discretion in the administration of criminal justice, due process, and contemporary change in the American criminal justice system.

Economics Honors

Iona Credit

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

This course introduces the student to the science of economics, which is the study of production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. The course will study how individuals, businesses, and governments make choices to satisfy their wants and needs. The course will introduce students to both micro- and macroeconomic

theory, as well as discuss both the classical and the Keynesian economic approaches. Students will be introduced to the economic systems of capitalism, socialism, and communism. Some of the areas covered in this course include scarcity, the laws of supply and demand, elasticity, public and private sector activity, and the role of economic theory.

Entrepreneurship Honors

U. Delaware Credit

Grade 12, Semester, Elective

This course focuses on starting a business, research and planning, marketing, management, financing, and growth. Guest instructors will share personal experiences in this process and students will have opportunities for hands-on experience. Students will participate in real world simulations and create a business plan.

WORLD LANGUAGES

Department Chair: Mrs. Andrea Barone

Email: abarone@bergencatholic.org

The World Language Department provides a four year course of study in **Latin, Mandarin, and Spanish**. Spanish offers College Prep and Honors levels, while Latin and Mandarin are Honors level programs only. Each student is encouraged to complete at least three sequential years of a world language beginning in the ninth grade.

Competitions - Students may have the opportunities to engage in the following academic competitions:

- National Latin Exam
- National Spanish Exam
- Chinese Bridge Language Competition
- New Jersey Seal of Bi-Literacy

Placement in Honors Program for Incoming Freshmen

1. Students wishing to take Latin I Honors and Mandarin I Honors do not have to take a placement test to enroll in these classes. Both classes are introductory level.
2. Students who have prior experience in either Latin or Mandarin may take a placement test for possible placement into Latin II Honors or Mandarin II Honors.
3. Students wishing to take Spanish I Honors must take the Spanish Placement Test. A score of 80 or higher is required **AND** a minimum of B+ average for any previous Spanish classes prior to entering Bergen Catholic High School.

Policy for Honors and Course Selection after Freshman Year:

1. A student of Latin Honors and Mandarin Honors will remain in those programs provided he has the teacher's approval. If a student wishes to switch to another language after freshman year, he needs the written approval of his parent(s).
2. To remain in an Honors Spanish course and the Spanish Honors program, a student should have an average of 83 or better by the end of the third quarter. The prior year's course grade is not a consideration. The department recognizes that circumstances can create an exception to this statement and the Chair reserves the right to make case-by-case decisions in the face of mitigating circumstances such as illness, or a loss in a family that may cause the student's grade to fall below 83.
3. **Movement from Spanish College Preparatory to Spanish Honors:** At each grade level, the student who is requesting to move to Honors should have a 95+ average for the current course and the same average for all previous Spanish courses at Bergen Catholic, **AND** the student must have the recommendation of his current Spanish teacher. These changes will occur only with the consent of the student and his parents.
4. **Movement down from Honors:** Students may leave an Honors course at their request and with the consent of their parents. The Honors course teacher is to recommend to the Chair any student he/she deems unqualified for Honors and the reason(s). The Chair is to sign for the removal approval.

5. **Movement from Honors to AP:** At each grade level, the student who is requesting to move to AP should have a 90+ average for the current course **AND** the student must have the recommendation of his current World Language teacher.

Spanish I College Preparatory

Grade 9

This first year course introduces the student to the sounds of the language with great emphasis on the spoken word and correct pronunciation. The courses stress a logical learning sequence with a smooth progression from spoken to written language on a variety of everyday topics as well as practice in the basic routines of daily conversation. Varied exercises provide both drill and personalized manipulation of the world language. Short readings in the target language are included. These readings examine the history, geography, culture, and daily life of the many diverse Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish I Honors

Grade 9

A more intensive program of study is provided at the honors level. The honors classes study the conversation, vocabulary, written word, readings, and cultures surrounding the language in greater depth. The language of instruction will shift from English to the target language over the course of the year. Correct use of grammar and syntax will be acquired contextually in situations which range from useful everyday language to that which is analytical and abstract. Selected readings supplement the textbook material. More emphasis is placed on speaking skills as well as listening comprehension.

Mandarin I Honors

Grade 9

Mandarin I Honors is an introduction to the reading, writing, listening, and speaking of Mandarin Chinese and Chinese culture. The course begins with the basics of proper pronunciation of Chinese words and the writing of Chinese characters. By the end of the course, students will be able to communicate in spoken and written Chinese to describe everyday life as well as have an awareness of Chinese culture.

Latin I Honors

Grade 9

Latin I uses the digital textbook *Ecce Romani I*, the innovative, reading-based, Latin-language course. Students learn Latin by actually reading it and discovering for themselves the shapes of words, the structures of grammar and vocabularies. The textbook's storyline follows the daily life and adventures of the Cornelii, a typical Roman family in the years A.D. 80-81, and the readings serve to familiarize students with Roman culture at the same time that they build rapid facility with the Latin language. The course offers study of the Latin language, incorporates listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, word building, English derivatives, Roman culture, and classical mythology.

Spanish II College Preparatory

Grade 10

This course begins with a review of the work of the first year with continued emphasis on the mastery of the fundamental skills of the language. The study of the basic concepts of grammar and syntax will be completed. The conversational aspect of the language is once again stressed in new grammar, vocabulary, and cultural readings. The language of instruction will shift from English to the target language over the course of the year.

Spanish II Honors

Grade 10

A more intensive program of study is provided at the honors level which commences with a review of the material learned during the first year honors courses. Added emphasis is placed on the correct use of grammar and syntax. Contextual study of the language will continue with equal emphasis placed on all four skills of reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Selected authentic readings supplement the textbook material and examine the history, geography, culture, and daily life of the many diverse Spanish-speaking countries.

Mandarin II Honors

Grade 10

Mandarin II Honors continues to build upon the skills learned in Mandarin I Honors in greater depth and complexity. At this level, students will be able to use spoken and written Chinese to perform additional authentic language tasks, such as ordering food in a restaurant, shopping, casual conversation, and more. Students will continue to gain cultural awareness of the history and values of various Mandarin-speaking countries. Mandarin II Honors prepares students for more advanced Mandarin courses by developing higher level reading and writing skills.

Latin II Honors

Grade 10

Latin II uses the digital textbook *Ecce Romani II*, the innovative, reading-based, Latin-language course. Students learn Latin by reading and discovering for themselves the shapes of words, the structures of grammar, and vocabularies. The story line continues to follow the daily life and adventures of the Corneli, a typical Roman family in the years A.D. 80-81, and the readings familiarize students with Roman culture at the same time that they build rapid facility with the Latin language. The course offers study of the Latin language, incorporating listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, word building, English derivatives, Roman culture, and classical mythology.

Spanish III College Preparatory

Iona Credit

Grade 11

Students will study the Spanish language (its vocabulary, structures, and grammar) while gaining increased proficiency as they practice speaking, writing, and reading skills. The course uses lectures, dialogues, class participation, written homework assignments, and technology infused into various activities to increase fluency and understanding of the target language. Selected authentic readings supplement the textbook material and examine the history, geography, culture, and daily life of the many diverse Spanish-speaking countries.

Spanish III Honors

SHU Credit

Grade 11

This course reviews the structure of the language and provides for additional practice in the four basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It also includes a study of the culture, geography, history, and literature of Spain. Honors is taught at a more rapid pace with higher expectations of students in all skills, requiring students to use the target language more extensively and do additional readings and translations. Students will be able to take the SAT Subject Test by the end of the year.

Mandarin III Honors

SHU Credit

Grade 11

Mandarin III Honors is designed to further students' communicative language skills to the intermediate level. Students will explore various topics through short stories and video clips and by hearing from native speakers. Students will be able to formulate their own thoughts on specific topics in both written and spoken forms. Students will build upon their cultural awareness of the history and values of various Mandarin-speaking countries. Mandarin III Honors prepares students for more advanced Mandarin courses by developing higher level reading and writing skills needed in the IV Honors and AP classes.

Latin III Honors

SHU Credit

Grade 11

Latin III uses the digital textbook *Ecce Romani III*, as a transitional reader, dealing only with un-adapted Latin; none of the readings have been simplified, although many of them are extracts from longer works. Students will also be studying Roman history and politics in greater depth and analysis. Book III begins with selections from Eutropius' *Breviarum* (a short account) of Roman History, and contains selections from many of the most

important authors of the end of the Republic and the early Empire, including Cicero, Caesar, Augustus, Suetonius, and Pliny. The course continues the study of the Latin language, incorporating listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, word building, English derivatives, Roman culture, and classical mythology.

Spanish IV College Preparatory

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

Prerequisite: Spanish III CP must have already been successfully completed. The Chair will review the list of all students applying for Spanish IV CP, and with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

This course will have a twofold goal - a more profound study of Spanish culture and an energetic development of Spanish conversation. The central goal of this course will be to build up and improve upon the students' oral proficiency in the target language. Activities will be developed through small group and pair work; students will practice different forms of communication and speech. In addition, students will explore and learn about the multitude of contributions that Spaniards and Hispanics have made to the world. Spanish 4CP students will continue to examine the diverse elements of Hispanic culture, including music, dance, art, film, and history in depth.

Spanish IV Honors

SHU Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

Prerequisite: Spanish III Honors must have already been successfully completed with a minimum prerequisite grade of 83. The Chair will review the list of all students applying for Spanish IV Honors and, with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

While the focus is on speaking fluency, the students will continue to develop their auditory, reading, and writing skills at an advanced level. Appropriate communication in a wide variety of cultural and social contexts, in addition to expressing an educated opinion in the target language, is practiced and demonstrated through several multimedia and technology-infused projects.

Mandarin IV Honors

SHU Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

Prerequisite: Mandarin III Honors must have already been completed. It is expected that the student will have achieved a grade of at least an 83. The Chair will review the list of all students applying for Mandarin IV Honors and, with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

Mandarin IV Honors incorporates all of the topics introduced in previous Mandarin classes, but at a much higher level and in greater complexity. This course is designed to further students' communicative language skills to a more advanced level. Students will explore various topics through short stories and video clips and by hearing from native speakers. Students will be able to formulate their own thoughts on specific topics in both written and spoken forms. Students will build upon their cultural awareness of the history and values of various Mandarin-speaking countries. Mandarin IV Honors prepares students for more advanced Mandarin courses by developing higher level reading and writing skills needed in the AP and college level courses.

Latin IV Honors

SHU Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

Prerequisite: Latin III Honors must have already been completed. It is expected that the student will have achieved a grade of at least an 83. The Chair will review the list of all students applying for Latin IV Honors and, with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

This course will provide students with the opportunity to sample important works from Latin literature, primarily from Vergil and Caesar. Students will improve their ability to read, translate, analyze and interpret poetry and prose passages from both Virgil's *Aeneid* and Caesar's *Commentarii de Bello Gallico*. Students will also examine

and understand these passages in a variety of contexts including historical, political, social, and cultural perspectives. Students will also read selections from a variety of other Latin authors, and review and reinforce their grammatical and syntactical knowledge learned from previous years of Latin study.

AP Spanish Language and Culture

AP Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam is Required

Prerequisite: This course is open to juniors completing 4 Honors with an average of 85, or 3 Honors courses with an average of 90. The Chair will review the list of students applying for AP and, with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

Attention will be given to the four skills of the Spanish language at an advanced level. The AP Language course will prepare students to demonstrate their level of proficiency across three communicative modes: interpersonal (interactive communication); interpretive (receptive communication); and presentation (productive communication), and in the five goal areas outlined in the *Standards for World Language Learning in the 21st Century* (communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities). This course is meant to be comparable to the third year (fifth or sixth semester) college and university courses that focus on speaking and writing in the target language at an advanced level.

AP Chinese Language and Culture

AP Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Chinese Language and Culture Exam is Required

Prerequisite: This course is open to juniors completing 4 Honors with an average of 85, or 3 Honors courses with an average of 90. The Chair will review the list of students applying for AP and, with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

AP Chinese Language and Culture is intended for qualified students who are interested in completing studies comparable in content and difficulty to a full year course at the second year college level. The course is taught entirely in Chinese. The primary goal of AP Chinese is to enable students to master conventions of communication through the exploration of topics reflecting multiple aspects of Chinese society and culture, the use of various authentic multimedia and literary materials in different linguistic registers, advanced level Chinese language structures, and expressive styles. Students are expected to read and write on a weekly basis. Oral skills are also emphasized through class discussion, which provides opportunities for students to articulate and debate their understanding of the materials in Chinese at the intermediate level.

AP Latin Caesar and Virgil

AP Credit

Grade 12, Full-year, Elective

AP Latin Exam is Required

Prerequisite: This course is open to juniors completing 4 Honors with an average of 85, or 3 Honors courses with an average of 90. The Chair will review the list of students applying for AP and, with the appropriate teacher's recommendation, make the final approval.

This course is designed to allow students to read, translate, analyze, and interpret the prose and poetry passages required on the AP Latin reading list from both Caesar's *Commentarii de Bello Gallico* and Virgil's *Aeneid*, as well as additional sight reading passages. Based on the requirements set forth in the *AP Latin Course Description*, students will read and translate as accurately as possible the required selections from Caesar and Virgil, paying close attention to grammatical constructions, syntax, meter, figures of speech, literary style, and writing techniques of the authors. Students will examine and understand these passages, as well as the English content from the reading list, in a variety of contexts including historical, political, social, and cultural perspectives.

VISUAL ARTS

Department Chair: Mr. Jorge Mascaro

Email: jmascaro@bergencatholic.org

The Visual Art program for freshmen and sophomores consists of unified, sequential courses, which give students the opportunity to think and behave as artists. This program will prepare some talented and motivated students to advance to AP Studio Art during junior and senior years but will provide all students with a life-long appreciation and understanding of art and its importance in our world.

The Visual Art program will encompass exposure to the following disciplines:

2D Studio Art:

1. Students have the opportunity to work with a number of art mediums and concepts including painting (watercolor and acrylics), drawing (colored pencil, markers, and oil pastels), and printmaking.
2. We use the finest materials including high quality acrylic and watercolor paints, canvas panels, brushes, markers, and high quality drawing and painting paper.
3. Students will learn and master the Principles and Elements of art.

Digital photography and elaboration of digital images:

1. Students will learn how to create digital photography and work with digital images, create text and drawings, using the professional program Adobe Photoshop.
2. Using Photoshop, students will also learn about layering, opacities, and filters that the software provides.

Art History:

1. Over the course of freshman and sophomore years, students will be exposed to art history, criticism and analysis through the use of video, internet research, virtual tours, and presentations.
2. Students will be introduced to key artists and artwork from a multicultural, historic, and western world perspective.
3. Students will be exposed to some areas of art history including the Renaissance, Impressionism, Post-Impressionism and Modern/Contemporary Art.

AP Studio Art: 2D Design

Two full years, AP Credit

Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Students must apply for admission to AP Studio Art in the spring of their sophomore year; Teacher and Chair approval required.

The AP 2D Art and Design program is a two-year commitment that culminates in the production of a Portfolio with 2-D artworks which will be used instead of a final exam and will be submitted to the College Board for scoring and potential college credits at the conclusion of the senior year. The portfolios share a basic, TWO-section structure, which requires the student to exhibit competence and range of understanding in visual

approaches and techniques. Each of the portfolios asks the student to demonstrate a depth of investigation and process of discovery in the Sustained Investigation (60% of exam score). The student is asked to demonstrate a broad grounding in visual principles through a range of mediums and techniques. For the Sustained Investigation, a minimum of 15 digital images that include works of art and design and process documentation is to be submitted.

The Selected Works (40% of exam score) asks the student to select and submit original files of best quality works or high-quality digital reproductions, which show mastery in concept, composition, and execution of 2-D principals or drawing techniques. The Selected Works section should be presented with written responses describing the materials, processes, and ideas used. Senior AP Studio Art students will be self-directed and focus solely on creating high-quality artwork that encompasses all of the AP portfolio requirements.

As students complete their art pieces, professional digital images will be taken of their work that will be part of their AP portfolio. The principles and elements of design are stressed. Under the chosen 2D focus for a student, a total of 15 pieces in the Sustained Investigation section and five original works or high-quality reproductions for the Selected Works section must be submitted in the final portfolio. From time to time, individual and group critiques will be given to assist students and get feedback from fellow art students. The Senior AP environment is collegiate and less structured than the Junior AP class. Seniors will meet regularly with the teacher in one-on-one conferences in which the student will develop and present a plan for their Sustained Investigation. Here, the student will outline his chosen theme, idea, or concept and plan the way each piece will cohesively and coherently fit into their chosen concentration. Once narrowed down, students will present their ideas to the rest of the class and participate in a group discussion/critique in order to foster more ideas and further hone their ideas for exploration until a final decision is reached.

VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Site Coordinator: Mr. Albert Spiegel '95

Email: aspiegel@bergencatholic.org

Bergen Catholic offers students the opportunity to enroll in online courses through Virtual High School (VHS). All VHS courses are taught by certified teachers at various high schools throughout the United States. A student may elect to enroll in a VHS course in his senior year in place of a semester-long elective. A maximum of 10 students may take a VHS course in each semester. Priority is given on a first-come, first-served basis.

In order to enroll in a VHS course, the student must:

1. Have an overall simple GPA of 85.
2. Have the approval of the guidance counselor.
3. The VHS Coordinator will schedule the courses after confirming the appropriateness of the course.

To view a list of available VHS courses, visit: <http://thevhscollaborative/catalog>

Advanced Placement Courses:

1. If Bergen Catholic offers an AP course, the student must take the Bergen Catholic course.
2. If a scheduling conflict prevents the student from taking the Bergen Catholic AP course, the VHS version of the AP course will be substituted.
3. Any student enrolled in a VHS AP course must take the appropriate AP exam

Report Card Grading System

The report card grading system is based on full year and semester-long courses. Students in year-long courses in all core subjects such as Mathematics, English, Social Studies, Science and World Language receive 5 credits. Semester-long courses such as senior level electives are worth 2.5 credits and credits in general period courses such as Physical Education, Health and Concentrations will vary as shown below:

Art 1 / Art 2	1.5 credits each
Intro to Engineering 1 / 2	1.5 credits each
Intro to Business	1.5 credits
Health (1 Semester)	1.5 credits
Intro to Coding	2 Credits
Digital Media Design	2 Credits
Physical Education does not count towards GPA	
Freshman/Sophomore PE	1.5 credits each
Junior PE	2 credits
Senior PE	3 credits

FULL-YEAR COURSE (ALL LEVELS)

	First Quarter Grade	Second Quarter Grade	Midterm Exam Grade	Third Quarter Grade	Fourth Quarter Grade	Final Exam Grade	FINAL YEAR AVERAGE
Weights →	20%	20%	10%	20%	20%	10%	100%
Example →	82	92	95	85	87	92	88%

FULL-YEAR COURSE WITH EXAM EXEMPTIONS (SENIORS ONLY)

Note the final year average is computed out of 90 points.

	First Quarter Grade	Second Quarter Grade	Midterm Exam Grade	Third Quarter Grade	Fourth Quarter Grade	Final Exam Grade	FINAL YEAR AVERAGE
Weights →	25%	25%	10%	25%	25%	EXEMPT	100%
Example →	95	98	83	85	94	EXEMPT	92%

SEMESTER-LONG COURSES WITH A FINAL EXAM

	First/Third Quarter Grade	Second/Fourth Quarter Grade	Semester Exam Grade	FINAL SEMESTER AVERAGE
Weights →	42.5%	42.5%	15%	100%
Example →	92	96	88	93%

Sample Quarter Average Calculations

During each marking period, the “average” displayed at the bottom current marking period column is calculated as follows. This average determines honor roll status.

SUBJECT	COURSE LENGTH	QUARTER	COURSE CREDIT VALUE	CALCULATION		
ENGLISH	FULL-YEAR	95	5	95 X 1.25	=	118.75
LANGUAGE	FULL-YEAR	88	5	88 X 1.25	=	110.00
HISTORY	FULL-YEAR	90	5	90 X 1.25	=	112.50
MATHEMATICS	FULL-YEAR	88	5	88 X 1.25	=	110.00
SCIENCE	FULL-YEAR	90	5	90 X 1.25	=	112.50
RELIGION	FULL-YEAR	85	5	85 X 1.25	=	106.25
COMPUTERS	SEMESTER	90	1.5	90 X .75	=	67.50
PHYS. ED.	FULL-YEAR	A	0.0			
				TOTAL: 8.25		737.50
				AVERAGE =	737.5/8.25 =	89.36

Calculating Simple and Weighted Grade Point Averages

In order to calculate a student’s GPA, use the following formula:

$$\text{FINAL GRADE} \times \text{COURSE MULTIPLIER} \times \text{NUMBER OF CREDITS} = \text{COURSE PRODUCT}$$

$$\text{SUM OF ALL COURSE PRODUCTS} / \text{TOTAL NUMBER OF CREDITS} = \text{GRADE POINT AVERAGE}$$

To determine a student’s career grade point average, perform the above calculation for every course in which this student earns a numerical grade. Letter grades do not factor into the GPA. The weighted GPA factors Honors and AP courses. The simple GPA does not.

EXAMPLE JUNIOR YEAR SIMPLE GPA CALCULATION				
COURSE	FINAL GRADE	COURSE MULTIPLIER	NUMBER OF CREDITS	WEIGHTED GPA CALCULATION
English 3 CP	95	1.0	5	$95 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 475.0$
Spanish 3 Honors	88	1.1	5	$88 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 440.0$
AP Calculus AB	84	1.15	5	$84 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 420.0$
Religion 3	99	1.0	5	$99 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 495.0$
Physics Honors	91	1.1	5	$91 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 455.0$
US History CP	87	1.0	5	$87 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 435.0$
Computers 3	85	1.0	2	$85 \times 1.0 \times 2 = 170.0$
TOTALS			32	2890.0
				SIMPLE GPA = $2890.0 / 32 = 90.31$

EXAMPLE JUNIOR YEAR WEIGHTED GPA CALCULATION				
COURSE	FINAL GRADE	COURSE MULTIPLIER	NUMBER OF CREDITS	WEIGHTED GPA CALCULATION
English 3 CP	95	1.0	5	$95 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 475.0$
Spanish 3 Honors	88	1.1	5	$88 \times 1.1 \times 5 = 484.0$
AP Calculus AB	84	1.15	5	$84 \times 1.15 \times 5 = 483.0$
Religion 3	99	1.0	5	$99 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 495.0$
Physics Honors	91	1.1	5	$91 \times 1.1 \times 5 = 500.5$
US History CP	87	1.0	5	$87 \times 1.0 \times 5 = 435.0$
Computers 3	85	1.0	2	$85 \times 1.0 \times 2 = 170.0$
TOTALS			32	3042.5
				WEIGHTED GPA = $3042.5 / 32 = 95.08$