

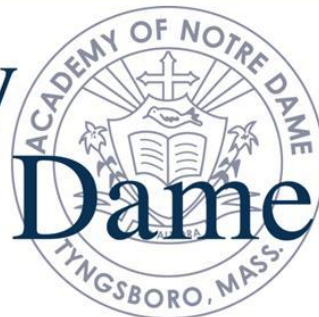


# Program of Studies

## 2015-2016



Academy  
*of* Notre Dame



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## Letter from the Principal

March 2015

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Once again we look forward to a new 2015-16 academic year at the Academy of Notre Dame. This Program Guide contains all the information needed to select courses that will challenge your daughters and fulfill their graduation requirements.

As you begin this process, be sure to look carefully at core requirements and the prerequisites for any College Prep, Honors, or AP courses your daughter is thinking of taking. Most AP courses require work over the summer as well as one extra period a cycle. Final decisions about qualifying for Honors and AP courses depend upon final grades and recommendations of a student's present teachers. Electives here at NDA as well as on VHS are a wonderful way for students to expand their education and to begin to delve into academic areas they may want to pursue. Guidance counselors are available to discuss any questions and concerns with you and/or your daughter.

Please take time to look over the Program Guide to determine the best course selection. As always, know that faculty and counselors and I are here to help in any way to ensure the success of your daughter.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Helen Kay  
Principal

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Academy of Notre Dame, Tyngsboro, a Catholic, private school, sponsored by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, and based on the educational philosophy of their foundress, St. Julie Billiart. The Academy offers co-educational programming from Pre-K through middle school, and a college-preparatory high school for young women.

Our mission is to educate the whole person for life through a curriculum rooted in spiritual formation and academic excellence. We nurture a belief in the goodness of God and the dignity of each person. We are committed to community-building, diversity, global justice and service to those in need.

## **COURSE SELECTION**

This booklet has been prepared to assist the student in making good course selections for the coming year. It also gives her the opportunity to plan ahead for course offerings in subsequent years. Course selection is a serious matter because of the lasting impact choices made now have on future opportunities. Decisions should be made with the utmost care through thoughtful discussions among the individual student, her parents, her teachers and her guidance counselor. Once all required signatures are obtained, course selections are considered final unless lack of enrollment in a course causes it to be cancelled (the administration reserves the right to cancel a course for which fewer than 10 enroll) or the student's academic standing has changed by the end of the school year. After the first cycle of classes in the fall (or in January for a second semester course) absolutely no course may be added or dropped. Dropped courses as WF (withdrawn/fail) on the student's transcript.

Core courses are required in order to meet established standards for college preparatory work. Students are encouraged to make selections that challenge them academically and augment their particular abilities and interests. While all curriculum offerings meet the rigors necessary for college preparatory work, honors and advanced placement courses are offered for those highly motivated students capable of a more demanding program. Teacher recommendation must initiate any consideration of placement at honor or AP levels.

In addition, to qualify for honors or advanced placement courses students must meet specified minimum grade prerequisites and should be able to demonstrate consistency in the following:

- superior academic achievement
- strong higher thinking skills
- self-motivation
- good attendance
- strength in independent and group work
- positive attitude toward rigorous work
- ability to perform under time pressure

A student not meeting standards of H/AP will meet with teacher and /or department head, parents, and guidance to discuss continuing in the course or moving to appropriate level, or another course if necessary.

## **Course Level Requirements**

### **Honors**

Entering Grade 9 students must take special placement exams to qualify for honors. Honors placement within departments at all other grade levels requires a minimum of an 80 in the prior year's honors course or a 93 in the prior year CP course.

### **Advanced Placement**

Students seeking to enroll in an AP level class must have at least an 87 in prior related honors courses. Candidates for AP English and history classes will also be required to produce a writing sample demonstrating strong writing and critical thinking skills.

## **Course Requirements for Graduation**

- To qualify for a diploma each student must earn a minimum 26 credits. (An exception may be made for seniors enrolled in two or more AP courses)
- All courses in this book are 1 credit full year classes unless otherwise noted.
- These credits must include the following:

<b><u>Courses</u></b>	<b><u>Credits</u></b>
Theology	4
English	4
Mathematics	4
Science (must include Biology)	3
World Languages (of same language)	2
Social Studies (must include Global History, U.S. History-Government)	3
Physical Education/Wellness	.50
Fine Arts	1
Technology Portfolio*	1

Most selective and highly selective colleges will require 3 or 4 years of world language.

AP exam fees are included in annual tuition and fees. Students taking an AP exam for a course not taught by NDA faculty will be charged a fee in the spring. The fee is set by the College Board.

\*1 Technology credit: The skills needed for this credit will be incorporated in their other academic courses. Electronic Portfolio Required.

**THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

All Theology courses are required.

## 010 Hebrew Scriptures

**Grade: 9**

**Semester .5 credit**

This course is an introductory study of the significant persons, key events, and dominant themes of the Hebrew Scriptures, their relevance to our lives today and their importance as the foundation for the study of the New Testament. The relationship between Judaism and Christianity with regard to beliefs and tradition is explored. Students will be introduced to the contextual approach to understanding Scripture that involves critical reflection and interpretive skills to determine the original intent of the Biblical author and to understand the Church's definition of Biblical Truth.

## 011 Facing History & Ourselves

**Grade: 9**

**Semester .5 credit**

Facing History and Ourselves examines the Holocaust as a basis for the study of individual and group behavior, especially why people make the choices they make as well as the consequences of such choices. By studying the historical development of the Holocaust and other examples of individual and collective prejudice, students make the essential connection between history and the choices they confront in their own lives. Students are expected to develop an understanding of an increasingly interconnected world and the moral choices that young people make daily. The methodology of study includes readings, research, videos, primary sources, speakers, class discussion and essay writing.

## 020 Introduction to the New Testament

**Grade: 10**

**Semester .5 credit**

The intention of this course is to enable the student to encounter Jesus Christ with both heart and mind through the study of the New Testament. It covers the historical Jesus: his social, political, geographical, and religious environs, and his teachings about the Reign of God. It also focuses on Jesus' death and resurrection and their significance to both the early Church and our lives today. In addition, students are encouraged to reflect on the context and meaning of the Christian Scriptures in their everyday lives.

## 021 Living a Christian Lifestyle

**Grade: 10**

**Semester .5 credit**

This course seeks to encourage and enable students to live according to the ideals and values that are essential and integral to the Catholic tradition in the midst of a society that has become increasingly materialistic, relativistic, and competitive. Students will reflect on their own choices in our modern society and focus on physical/social/emotional/health issues facing young women today. Students will examine ways of making moral decisions through conscience formation. Since the foundation of living a Christian lifestyle is rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ, this course will explore respect for life, sexuality, God's mercy, justice, truth and the call to one's vocation.

## 030 Church History

**Grade: 11**

**Semester .5 credit**

This course introduces students to the Catholic Church as a world shaping force. Civilization has been deeply and profoundly influenced by the life and teachings of Jesus and by the actions of the Church through the centuries. Students explore the history of the Church this journey of exploration takes place within the global context of human history. Students also study the lives of men and women of faith who have passed on to us the most precious family lore of the people of God. Church history continues to evolve and to influence our lives in the 21st century. Students will come to see their own place within the continuum of God's saving history.

## 031 World Religions

**Grade: 11**

**Semester .5 credit**

This course introduces students to the basic dimensions of the world's major religions. The intention is to develop a deeper understanding of those who adhere to particular religions and how each religion answers life's major questions. The Church encourages such exploration as noted by Pope John Paul II: "With the world's religions we share a common respect for and obedience to conscience, which teaches all of us to seek the truth, to love and serve all individuals and peoples, and therefore to make peace among individuals and nations." (The Challenge and the Possibility of Peace)

**040 Ethics Grade: 12 Semester .5 credit**

Ethics is a branch of knowledge concerned with moral principles that influence conduct. This course surveys the principle figures of the Western philosophical tradition by studying secular ethicists Aristotle, Emmanuel Kant, and John Stuart Mill. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of Catholic moral theology and ethical Christian lifestyles through the writings of Christian ethicists and thinkers such as Ignatius of Loyola, Dorothy Day and Martin Luther King Jr. This course provides a firm foundation and language for the second semester when students will study Catholic social teaching and thought.

**041 Issues in Social Justice Grade: 12 Semester .5 credit**

As Christians, we are called not only to a personal conversion in our relationship with God, but also to share the love of God with one another, and to find ways to bring that love of God to the wider world. This course examines various issues of social justice present in our world today. We will examine these issues and the church's response as it has developed historically and theologically, and how this call continues to be lived out today. Using primary sources, works of fiction and nonfiction, and films students will examine contemporary social issues and work to discern the Christian response to these issues. The course also examines how a personal Christian faith compels one to pursue social justice through specific models in scripture and contemporary life.



## **BUSINESS/TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

At the Academy of Notre Dame, technology is integrated into the core courses in the curriculum. The computer lab is available during class time for students to fulfill the requirements of their personal electronic portfolio. Each student must complete and submit the following original works into their e-portfolio according to the following scheduled checklist.

### **Ninth Grade Technology Standards**

The overall focus for integrating technology into the 9th grade curriculum is on critical reading and writing in all forms, including electronic and online. Students are expected to use technology as an aid and tool for better reading, writing and collaboration. Students will create a robust personal Electronic Portfolio that is organized into descriptive folders. All products in students' e-portfolio must comply with the Academy's Acceptable Use Policy and federal copyright laws, especially materials acquired from the Internet.

This E-Portfolio must contain at least the following products by the end of Grade 9:

1. A word processing document, such as an original essay or report that includes advanced formatting and page layout features.
2. A word processing document that combines text and images to convey meaning, and includes media files that have been uploaded from various storage devices.
3. Original slide presentation or electronic poster that includes advanced formatting and page layout features, such as themes, transitions and animations.
4. A slide presentation or electronic poster that combines multi-media such as still images, video and audio to convey meaning.
5. Digital media products created collaboratively. There must be evidence of students interacting, collaborating, and publishing with peers through a variety of digital media, such as web pages, blogs, wikis or other online tools.
6. A compressed (.zip) folder containing one or more electronic files.

### **Tenth Grade Technology Standards**

The overall focus for integrating technology in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade is on utilizing technology for greater understanding, solving and proving mathematical concepts. Students should utilize software tools that store and manipulate numerical data to represent and model the real world. The following products must be added to each student's personal Electronic Portfolio by the end of Grade 10:

1. A word processing document that combines text and spreadsheet data.
2. An electronic spreadsheet, displayed as a well-formed and labeled Chart.
3. An electronically generated model of a mathematical equation.
4. An electronically generated model of a mathematical concept.

### **Eleventh Grade Technology Standards**

The overall focus for integrating technology in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade is on researching, identifying, utilizing and analyzing primary and secondary sources using media tools for learning. The learning experiences created from these standards should be relevant to the students and should promote their perceptions of themselves as proactive and empowered problem solvers, creators and innovators capable of impacting their community. The following products must be added to each student's personal Electronic Portfolio by the end of Grade 11:

1. An original research document that includes correctly formatted in-text citations and reference lists for both text and online sources with hyperlinks.



2. A student created website documenting a process or project.
3. Additional multi-media presentation(s) created individually and collaboratively

### Twelfth Grade Technology Standards

The overall focus for integrating technology in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade is researching, utilizing and analyzing data. Students should explore the uses of computer science as a tool in creating effective solutions to complex contemporary problems as they can be represented using various forms of data. The following products must be added to each student's personal Electronic Portfolio by the end of Grade 12:

1. An electronic spreadsheet with personally recorded data, like Science Lab data. Spreadsheet must include a Chart, with proper Labels and data Analysis including forecast lines based upon the data.
2. An electronic spreadsheet that includes formulas and functions that solve complex mathematic equations and functions, like Slope, or other built-in functions.

### Computer Science Course Offerings

#### **650 Explorations in Computer Science** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Semester** **.5 credit**

Explorations in Computer Science is designed to introduce students to what Computer Science is and how it can be applied to all other subjects through engaging and accessible topics such as human-computer interaction, computational thinking, algorithms, data analysis, and the societal impact of computing.

#### **905 VHS Course: Personal Finance** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Semester** **.5 credit**

##### **Prerequisite: Basic Computing Skills**

This course is designed to inform students how individual choices directly influence goals and future earnings potential. Real world topics will include income potential, taxes, renting/leasing an apartment, purchasing a home, car and health insurance, fixed and variable costs of a home/apartment and savings programs. These topics will be incorporated through a budget process. This is a valuable course to prepare you for independent living.

#### **907 VHS Course: AP Computer Science (A)** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full year** **1 credit**

##### **Prerequisite: Programming (646) or equivalent**

Advanced Placement (AP®) Computer Science A is designed to prepare students for the College Board's AP® Computer Science A Exam. The course will introduce the Java programming language while emphasizing universal language techniques like syntax, semantics and readability. Students will gain mastery in programming concepts by using a subset of Java features that are covered when needed throughout the course content.

Students enrolled in Advanced Placement VHS courses are required to take the AP® exam, and are required to report their AP® examination scores to VHS (note: students who are failing their AP® class are not required to take the exam).

#### **905 VHS Course: Computer Science Honors** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Semester** **.5 credit**

##### **Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Basic Computing Skills**

This course is an introduction to computer science, covering the basic concepts and elements of the Java programming language and introducing object-oriented programming. Students will gain experience writing programs that are well documented according to industry standards and will have the opportunity to create Java Applets and learn about Graphical User Interface programming with Swing. Additionally, the students will be encouraged to work both independently and collaboratively to solve practical problems that illustrate application-building techniques

**905 VHS Course: Creative Programming - Scratch Grade: 10, 11, 12 Semester .5 credit**

Students who enjoy working on the computer, creating characters, writing stories, or playing games will all find a fun opportunity with Scratch. In this course, students will begin by programming simple shapes to move and interact with each other. Then, they will learn how to add sound effects and music to their project. Students will spend time every week working on ideas in an online design journal, and they will provide creative and technical feedback to each other through discussions and group activities.

**905 VHS Course: Programming in Visual Basic Grade: 10, 11, 12 Semester .5 credit**

This course is an exploratory programming course that uses one of the easiest programming languages in the world today, Visual Basic. It's a graphically-oriented language that allows for the easy construction of useful programs. Students will gradually build a vocabulary and syntax to create programs that meet specific guidelines. The logic and creativity used in solving the course problems will enlarge a student's capacity for problem-solving in all other disciplines. The course activities provide a great introduction to programming in general. With the support of the course instructor and the rest of the class, students will experience a non-threatening laboratory in which to experiment with their ideas.

**905 VHS Course: Web Design - Basics Grade: 10, 11, 12 Semester .5 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Algebra I, Basic Computing Skills

This course will explore the artistic and functional principles of web design, the web development process, best practices in working with a client, and the technical development of a final web product. Students will develop skills that will expand their understanding of the World Wide Web and its many elements. This course takes a wide perspective on design, and it will not assess students on their knowledge of HTML, CSS, or specific web page authoring software.

**905 VHS Course: Web Design - Advanced Grade: 10, 11, 12 Semester .5 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Web Design – Basics

In this course, students will learn how to apply intermediate and advanced techniques in HTML and CSS to set up a professional-looking website. Students will be guided by online tutorials to review and increase their HTML vocabulary and syntax. This course also reviews the topics and tools most important to a web developer: searching the Internet, validating information and HTML/CSS, making a website accessible for all, using multimedia, implementing appropriate layout and design, and more. In the process, students will work cooperatively with their classmates to create a team website. Students will stretch their collaboration and project management skills to create this unique web space.

## **Virtual High School**

The Academy offers multiple and varied opportunities for learning through the VHS Collaborative. This option offers a chance to investigate possible interests or take courses not offered at Notre Dame. A list of over 200 course offerings can be found at [www.thevhscollaborative.org](http://www.thevhscollaborative.org). It is important to note that no lab courses may be taken. Other criteria for VHS courses as well as the process for registration may be found in the Student Handbook on page 7. Please see your guidance counselor if there are any questions.

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT****Required Courses**

- 111 Literary Genres Honors** **Grade: 9** **Full Year** **1 credit**  
Students explore leading literary genres for poetry, short stories, dramas and novels, while developing skills for recognizing and analyzing both fiction and nonfiction literature. Learning the skills of literary analysis complements writing goals for the course. Students hone in on essay-writing skills through scaffolding techniques which build solid evidence-gathering, essay-structuring and concise formal writing competence. Students work extensively on grammar & punctuation mastery, along with vocabulary development through Latin and Greek root words. Texts studied also complement the 9th grade World History curriculum, Honors students read more throughout the year, and they work at a challenging pace to position them well for upper level English courses.
- 112 Literary Genres** **Grade: 9** **Full Year** **1 credit**  
Students explore literary genres for poetry, short stories, dramas and novels. Learning the skills of literary analysis complements writing goals for the course. Students begin the year writing poetry and a short story project in the first quarter. The rest of the year focuses on essay-writing skills through scaffolding techniques which build solid evidence-gathering, essay-structuring and concise formal writing competence. Students work extensively on grammar & punctuation mastery, along with vocabulary development through Latin and Greek root words. Tests studied also complement the 9th grade World History curriculum.
- 121 World Literature and Writing Composition Honors** **Grade: 10** **Full Year** **1 credit**  
In this honors sophomore course, students will practice several types of writing, primarily in response to what they read. They write in narrative, expressive, and creative modes. They learn to conceive of writing as a craft to be practiced and as a process to be followed. Through frequent assignments, both formal and informal, honors students come to respect writing as a means of understanding what they read and think. Through careful self-evaluation and revisions from peer editing, students will improve their writing skills at the levels of the sentence, paragraph, and full essay. Selected world literature of all genres will be read for inspiration to generate a writing exercise. Summer and outside reading, critical response papers, essays, and one research paper are required.
- 122 World Literature and Writing Composition** **Grade: 10** **Full Year** **1 credit**  
This sophomore course allows students to explore literature that will widen their appreciation of the world and the human experience. Texts used will connect to the students' Global History course. Students will write frequently, both formally and informally, to develop skills in organization and to develop their ideas in a variety of modes. They will continue to work extensively on grammar and mechanics mastery, along with vocabulary development through Latin and Greek roots. Summer and outside reading, critical response paper, essays, and one research paper are required.
- 131 American Literature/Critical Reading Honors** **Grade: 11** **Full Year** **1 credit**  
The honors section of American Literature offers students a more rigorous course of study requiring more frequent and extensive writing assignments and additional readings. The emphasis is on deepening the students' writing and discussion skills in connection with the works studied. The class engages in a thematic study of selected writers from early settlers to the twentieth century. Students will practice the five paragraph writing process by focusing on analytical and persuasive essay development. We continue to study grammar but begin to apply these skills to SAT preparation. Summer and outside reading, critical response papers, essays, outside readings and research papers are required.

**132 American Literature and Critical Reading      Grade: 11      Full Year      1 credit**

American Literature is a year-long course devoted to a chronological or thematic study of important selected writers from the early days of the Native Americans through the refined prose of the twentieth century. It includes significant works from Franklin, Jefferson and Paine to renowned authors from Kate Chopin to Ernest Hemingway. Transcendentalism is examined through various essays of Emerson to the poetry of Emily Dickenson. Students will practice the five paragraph writing process by focusing on analytical and persuasive essay development. We continue to study grammar but begin to apply these skills to SAT preparation. Summer and outside reading, critical response papers, essays, and research paper are required.

**140 Advanced Placement English Language      Grade: 12      Full Year      1 credit**

This college-level course is for advanced students who wish to prepare themselves to obtain credit and/or advanced placement in college. The course will not only be a more in-depth study of major British literary works from the fifth to the twenty-first century, but also an exercise in the development of the students' abilities to interpret comparative literature and to write critical analysis. The study of rhetorical devices is a key component of this course. A summer reading selection and a research paper are required. Taking the Advanced Placement exam in May is a requisite in this course.

**141 British Literature and Critical Analysis Honors      Grade: 12      Full Year      1 credit**

The honors senior course offers a chronological survey of British literature using a more in-depth study of selected works from the fifth to the twenty-first century. Students will study literature in order to sharpen their critical thinking skills and their communication and writing expertise. Integral to this evolving expertise is the study and continuing acquisition of both grammar skills and lexicon appropriate to literary analysis. Summer and outside reading, and ongoing composition assignments and a term paper are required.

**142 British Literature and Analytical Writing      Grade: 12      Full Year      1 credit**

The senior course offers representative works spanning more than 1500 years of British literature. This chronological survey traces the development of literature and language from the fifth to the twenty-first century. Learning how to interpret, discuss, research, and write clearly about the literature studied will be an integral part of the course. Grammar review and vocabulary enrichment are included. Summer and outside reading and ongoing composition assignments and a term paper are required.

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT****Elective Courses****145 Creative Writing & Journalism      Grade: 10, 11, 12      Full Year      1 credit**

This semester long course explores different types of creative writing, encompassing both poetry and prose. Students will generate a variety of poems ranging from Sonnets to blank verse poems. They will also focus on different types of prose writing, both fiction and creative non-fiction. Students will touch on personal essay, biography, memoir and short story, reading examples of each. The culminating project for the year will be a written and revised portfolio and may include work from throughout the year. Regardless of the project they choose, students will be engaging in the writing process. Journalism focuses on writing aimed at a public audience, whether for the masses or for a targeted niche. This course helps you hone your writing to journalistic standards, from print publications to web-based opportunities. Students will learn traditional print news and feature formats, including magazines, and explore the unique requirements of Internet writing. Whether you enjoy writing or need to improve your writing skills, this course will help. In the Information Age every student, citizen and professional needs to know how to communicate well for small and large audiences.

**148 Theatre Workshop      Grade: 11, 12      Full Year      1 credit**

This course is a series of performance and production workshops designed to enhance students' experience with all aspects of theatre. Workshop topics include, but are not limited to, training in the following: audition techniques; actor's vocabulary; character development; improvisation; stage dialects; period styles; theatrical design; production management. A willingness to perform and contribute is necessary. An additional requirement of the course will be involvement in some aspect of the current Drama Guild production. No previous experience is required to take this course.

**FINE ARTS****ART DEPARTMENT****710 Art Appreciation** **Grade: 9 Required Semester .5 credit**  
**10, 11, 12 Elective**

This course provides students with opportunities to both create and study the history of visual art. From prehistoric art through the 21st Century, major styles and movements will be covered. Emphasis is on critical thinking, analysis, and an appreciation for creativity in its many forms and cultures.

*Note: Studio Classes do not fulfill the Fine Arts graduation requirement for the class of 2015.*

*Studio II, III and all Honors Level need teacher approval/portfolio review if they wish to change the normal sequence of Studio classes.*

**711 Studio I** **Grade: 10, 11, 12 Full Year 1 credit**

This course is an introduction to the fundamental techniques and concepts of drawing, painting, 2-D and 3-D design. Students will explore portraiture and perspective as well as a variety of materials including watercolor, acrylic and clay. With a strong emphasis on observational work along with an introduction to historical references, students explore basic problems of technique and composition as well as issues of content and personal expression. Visual problem solving and supported group discussions lead students to develop critical thinking and analytical skills.

**712 Studio II** **Grade: 10, 11, 12 Full Year 1 credit**

For students who wish to further develop their understanding of the art-making process this course offers a more advanced exploration of technique and design across a variety of mediums. Compositional skills and self-expression are developed through projects supported by the study of historical and contemporary examples. A variety of technique and materials are explored through drawing, painting, mixed-media, 2-D and 3-D design. Through visual problem solving and group discussion students develop critical thinking and analytical skills.

**713 Studio III** **Grade: 11, 12 Full Year 1 credit**

Intermediate and advanced level students will work independently in a variety of mediums to follow a selection of directives provided by the instructor coupled with self-determined objectives. Compositional skills and self-expression are developed through projects supported by the study of historical and contemporary examples. Students develop critical thinking and analytical skills through visual problem solving and group discussion.

**713 Studio Honors** **Grade: 12 Full Year 1 credit**

This intensive course, for students who have demonstrated a high standard of artistic skill and motivation, is focused on further developing conceptual creativity and self-discipline. The purpose of this course is to support students while they work independently in response to a framework of specific themes. Themes are derived from student/teacher discourse and are specific to the individual student. Students are expected to explore between 1-4 themes throughout the year. A coherent body of work based upon each theme is the result of this focused approach.

**725 Digital Media** **Grade: 11, 12 Semester .5 credit**

This introductory course teaches students the rudiments of desktop publishing as well as digital photography. Students learn composition while shooting a variety of subjects. Students also create graphic design works -- such as logos, business cards, newsletters, cover designs, and advertisements -- through digital imaging computer software. Though marketing and business are introduced, course emphasis primarily focuses on design. [Point-and-shoot digital camera with LCD required.]

**723 Digital Design and Filmmaking** **Grade: 11, 12** **Semester** **.5 credit**

This course continues from Digital Media. Students advance their skills and knowledge of design programs and digital technology in creating final graphic design quality images from more complex problems as well as shooting more in depth photography. Students are introduced to digital filmmaking –from storyboards to editing—and create their own short films.

**MUSIC DEPARTMENT****730 Music Appreciation** **Grade: 9 Required** **Semester** **.5 credit**  
**10, 11, 12 Elective**

Music appreciation will be a journey through the multiple eras of classical music from the Middle Ages to the present as well as a journey through the diverse cultures that encompass our lives: Jewish music, Indian music, African music and music of the Spanish culture. Students will learn the major classical music periods, notable composers and their major works. An introduction and overview of other cultural music genres will include their history, instruments, and audio and video recordings of these elements. This course is lecture format, cooperative learning with group and individual projects/presentations and the use of technology with web quests.

**741 Piano - Beginner** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

Piano I is designed to allow the student an opportunity to learn how to play the piano. This course provides the student an opportunity to learn a musical instrument and acquire skills that can be incorporated into other areas of interest such as education, psychology, or therapy. Students will receive instruction on the piano; learn basic theory and essential vocabulary related to beginning piano. Students will learn how to play all genres of music inclusive of classical, pop, rock, folk, religious, and patriotic. Piano is a life skill; if rooted now, it will bring years of enjoyment and personal satisfaction. Grade 12 students wishing to take Piano I must obtain approval from piano teacher.

**742 Piano - Intermediate** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

Students in Piano II will have the opportunity to increase their proficiency on the piano and learn new, independent playing skills. Students will receive individualized instruction on the piano, learn intermediate theory consisting of scales, key signatures and major chords up to 3#’s and 3b’s and incorporate software into multimedia presentations. All genres of music will be learned. Students are required to perform at the Fine Arts Night in May and at a liturgical service during the school year.

**743 Piano - Advanced** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

This course is for the advanced pianist who has completed through private instruction the requirements of Piano, beginner and intermediate. Students in this course will advance their performance skills, integrate additional advanced theory into piano composition, utilize music software for composition and beginning arranging and integrate all skills into a multimedia project. This is a challenging but exciting and creative course. Students who may be continuing music education in college as a major or minor should consider taking this course. Students must perform at Fine Arts Night and play at a minimum of 3 liturgical services a year.

**744 Chorus/a cappella** **Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

This elective course is designed to develop the vocal ability of singers through vocal technique and natural harmony. Students will learn some musical theory, notation, and ear-training. Performances for NDA and the larger community are an integral part of this course.

**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT****Required Courses**

*All math classes require a calculator with the capability of at least a TI-30 x which has clearly identifiable trig function buttons. (The TI-34 is not recommended.) Classes in Pre-calculus and above require a TI 83+. STUDENTS WHO TAKE MATH PREREQUISITES DURING THE SUMMER IN ORDER TO REACH CALCULUS WILL BE REQUIRED TO TAKE OUR FINAL EXAM TO ENSURE ADEQUATE PREPARATION.*

**211 Algebra I Honors** **Grade: 9** **Full Year** **1 credit**

This course covers the topics described for the college preparatory Algebra I (212) course but goes more in-depth and moves at a faster pace. Course work also includes a greater emphasis on word problems connecting algebra to the real world.

**212 Algebra I** **Grade: 9** **Full Year** **1 credit**

A strong foundation in Algebra 1 is critical for success in high school math and science. The course begins by reviewing some topics from pre-Algebra and middle school Algebra 1, emphasizing systematic technique and applying these concepts and skills to more complex problems. Students will solve equalities (linear and quadratic) and inequalities, and perform polynomial operations, including factoring. Students are introduced to function notation, and solve systems of linear equations algebraically and by graphing. Students use mental math and become comfortable with a variety of word problems. Calculators will be used as a tool once concepts are mastered, and computer lab sessions integrate algebra with technology.

**221 Geometry Honors** **Grade: 10** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This course covers the facts, concepts, and processes of Euclidean plane geometry, and goes more in-depth and moves at a faster pace than the CP course. Students improve their thinking skills using deductive and inductive reasoning, and apply a variety of strategies to solve geometry problems. Students develop the ability to write formal two-column proofs for various applications and are trained in formal deductive logic, a critical thinking skill applicable across other subjects and everyday life. Fluency in Algebra I is expected, and right triangle trigonometry is introduced.

**222 Geometry** **Grade: 10** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This course covers the facts, concepts, and processes of Euclidean plane geometry. Students improve their thinking skills using deductive and inductive reasoning, and apply a variety of strategies to solve geometry problems. Students develop the ability to write basic formal two-column proofs for triangle congruence and are trained in formal deductive logic, a critical thinking skill applicable across other subjects and everyday life. Algebraic concepts are reviewed and applied throughout the course, and right triangle trigonometry is introduced.

**231 Algebra II Honors** **Grade: 9, 10, 11** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Geometry Honors (or Department approval)**

This fast-paced course is for students who have demonstrated in their high school coursework a high aptitude in math and expect to take rigorous math courses in college. It stresses both the theory and structure of Algebra. Problem-solving techniques are emphasized and refined. Problems dealing with simple probability are introduced.



**232 Algebra II** **Grade: 11** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Geometry**

Algebra II builds on the skills and concepts of Algebra I. This course continues to examine number systems, and emphasizes properties to solve equations and inequalities, and diverse word problem applications. Various techniques are taught for solving linear systems in one and two variables, including graphing. Rational expressions, imaginary numbers and quadratic equations are introduced. Fluency in Algebra I and recall of geometry is expected.

**235 Pre-Calculus Honors** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** 80 average or better in Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II or Honors Algebra I/II. It is not possible to move into this course from Algebra II CP.

This rigorous course is for students who have demonstrated in their high school course work a high aptitude in math and who desire a solid preparation for college math. All the necessary topics of a pre-calculus course will be developed. This course integrates geometric and algebraic concepts, unifying the fundamentals of high school math while introducing concepts of higher math as extensions of familiar ideas. The fundamentals of trigonometry will be reviewed, as well as methods of graphing because of their importance and relevance in preparing students for calculus. Graphing with the TI 83+ or TI 84 will be integrated into course work.

**236 Pre-Calculus** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department approval and at least 73 average in prior math classes.

This course is designed to prepare students for a future course in Calculus by building on and strengthening concepts of Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry. Graphing and use of the TI 83+ or TI 84 calculator will be integrated into the course.

**240 Calculus Honors** **Grade: 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors Pre-Calculus or successful completion of CP Pre-Calculus with department approval.

This introductory Calculus course is for the advanced student who wishes to learn the fundamental techniques and concepts of calculus in preparation for a college Calculus course. To ensure successful mastery of this material, a thorough review of key Pre-Calculus topics will be provided as needed. Topics covered will include the key concepts of limits, continuity, the derivative, techniques and applications of differentiation, definite and indefinite integrals, and techniques and applications of integration. A graphing calculator (TI-83 + Or TI 84) is required and extensively used during the course.

**241 AP Calculus** **Grade: 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** 85 average or better in Honors Pre-Calculus and department approval.

This college level course is for the advanced student who wishes to prepare herself to obtain credit and/or advanced placement in college. Topics are covered in greater depth and with far greater rigor than in Honors Calculus. Both differential and integral calculus will be covered. Topics match the College Board Calculus AB syllabus, including functions, limits, derivatives, definite and indefinite integrals, and applications. A graphing calculator (TI-83 + or TI 84) is required and extensively used during the course. The Advanced Placement Exam is required and is administered in May. The Educational Testing Service sets the fee for this examination.

**MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT****Elective Courses****245 Financial Math** **Grade: 10, 11, 12** **Semester** **.5 credit****Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II**

This course is designed to go through the everyday mathematics of finance and budgets. Real world topics will include income potential, taxes, renting/leasing an apartment, purchasing a home, car and health insurance, fixed and variable costs of a home/apartment and savings programs. All of these topics will be presented in a hands-on budget simulation.

**246 Introduction to Statistics** **Grade: 11, 12** **Semester** **.5 credit****Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II - This course is appropriate for students in either the Honors or College Placement tracks.**

Understanding data collection, representation and analysis is becoming more critical in every field of study and career. At many universities, statistics courses are now required more often than calculus. Statistics is applicable to all college majors. This second semester course will involve the study of probability, statistics and how they affect decision-making. The student will be introduced to sampling methods, graphical representation of data and their measures and distribution of data. Examples and problems will emphasize real-world applications and situations. Critical thinking skills will be honed as we examine the uses and abuses of statistics. Emphasis is placed on interpreting statistical information, especially normal "bell curve" distributions. Students are required to have a calculator with statistical functions.

**247 Finite Math I** **Grade: 12** **Semester** **.5 credit****Prerequisite: Geometry and Algebra II**

This first semester course is intended for seniors who have completed Algebra II CP and, while not comfortable moving on to Pre-Calculus, still want more than three years of high school math to prepare them for college, and cover math skills they need to know for life. The course is more appropriate for those NOT planning to major in a math or science related field, and will introduce them to topics likely to be covered in their required college math classes. As an elective, the class pace and content can be varied based on the needs of the students. The course provides an integrated review of Algebra. The concepts are clarified, reinforced, and applied to real-life situations and standardized test preparation. Students must be willing to productively engage in frequent group work and prepare daily assignments.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION****810 Physical Education** **Grade: 9** **Semester** **.5 credit**

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to participate in a variety of physical activities and improve their skills. Sportsmanship and cooperation are stressed. Both individual and team sports and activities are offered with emphasis on the importance of lifelong physical activity. The benefits of good nutrition, health-related physical fitness and current fitness trends will be introduced.

**SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

## 511 Physical Science Honors

**Grade: 9**

Full Year

**1 credit**

This is an introductory honors level science course designed to provide a strong foundation for the study of honors level sciences. Topics covered in Physical Science (see course 512 below) are studied in greater depth and at a significantly faster pace. Critical thinking skills are stressed. Ability to read and understand scientific material is assumed of the honors level student. A hands-on approach is employed with 36 laboratory experiments emphasizing an open-ended design and the ability to analyze, plan and execute experimental procedure. The honors physical science student should be able to work with limited direction and have completed or be simultaneously enrolled in Honors Algebra I.

## 512 Physical Science

**Grade: 9**

Full Year

**1 credit**

Physical Science, an introductory science course, reinforces skills necessary in the study of science. This is accomplished through an inquiry, activity oriented program that includes the necessary physical laws and science concepts. Topics include properties and states of matter, atomic structure, periodic table, chemical bonds, chemical reactions, solutions and pH, carbon chemistry, nuclear changes, forces and motion, energy, and efficient use of energy.

521 **Biology Honors**

**Grade: 9, 10**

Full Year

**1 credit**

Honors Biology uses a molecular approach to study the principles of life in an evolutionary context. The treatment of these principles is more in-depth than in BIOLOGY. Topics include: biochemistry and metabolism, genetics, cell biology, evolution, multicellular life and ecology. Concepts are illustrated through study of selected human body systems and homeostasis. The relationship between structure and function in living systems is stressed throughout the course. Students will apply critical thinking & logical reasoning skills throughout the course. Laboratory study is an integral part of this course and requires the ability to plan, analyze, and execute experiments. Self-motivation and a high level of personal responsibility are essential qualities of the honors level student.

522 **Biology**

**Grade: 10**

Full Year

**1 credit**

This course uses a hands-on approach to explore the following principles of biology: cell biology, genetics, evolution, ecology, biochemistry and multicellular life. Concepts are illustrated through study of selected human body systems and homeostasis. The relationship between structure and function in living systems is stressed. Activities to practice critical thinking skills as well as discussion of current events and ethical issues related to biology are included. Laboratory sessions reinforce concepts studied.

## 531 Chemistry Honors

**Grade: 10, 11, 12**

Full Year

**1 credit**

The honors course offers a more rigorous and mathematical introduction to chemistry than does the CP chemistry course. It is open to students with above-average mathematical ability and demonstrated ability in science. The same basic topics, of CP Chemistry, plus kinetics, equilibrium, thermodynamics, and organic chemistry are covered. Topics are researched in greater depth, and laboratory work and application problems require more intuitive reasoning on the part of the students. Students will take the American Chemical Society H.S. Test as their final exam.

## 532 Chemistry

**Grade: 11, 12**

Full Year

**1 credit**

This course is an introduction to the basic concepts of Chemistry for the college-bound student. The topics include: measurement, classification of matter, chemical shorthand, the mole concept, problem solving, atomic structure and the periodic table, states of matter, the gas laws, solutions, acids and bases, chemical reactions and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory experiments are performed throughout the course to introduce and reinforce the concepts studied.

**540 Physics Honors** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite:** Honors Chemistry and Honors Algebra II**Co-requisite:** Honors Pre-Calculus or Calculus

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of physics that moves at a faster pace and goes more in-depth than the CP course. Physics is the study of matter and energy and their relationship together. Topics include Newton's Laws, force, power, energy, momentum, waves, gravity, light, sound and electricity. Students will be expected to perform advanced mathematical computations utilizing geometry, trigonometry and algebra. Laboratory experiments are performed throughout the course to reinforce concepts studied. Ability to work independently and in groups is crucial for success in this course.

**541 Physics** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite:** Chemistry and Algebra II, co-requisite CP pre-calculus or higher math

The main objective of this physics course is to provide students with a clear and logical presentation of some of the basic concepts and principles of physics. Physics is the study of matter and energy and their relationship together. Topics include Newton's Laws, force, power, energy, momentum, waves, gravity, light, sound and electricity. In the laboratory, students will perform practical examples that demonstrate the role of physics in other disciplines and in their everyday lives. Basic mathematical skills, including geometry and trigonometry will be applied to the study of physics concepts.

**542 Anatomy and Physiology Honors** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

This fast-paced course is designed for students interested in health sciences or in biology as a science major. Course topics include biochemistry as it applies to human physiology, cell and tissue functions, and the systems of the human body. Course requirements include dissection of the fetal pig, clinical blood work analysis, oral presentations, and lab practicals.

**543 Anatomy and Physiology** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit**

This course is designed for students interested in health sciences or in biology as a college major. The material presented is at a moderate pace appropriate for the CP student. Those students opting for CP credit will still do all the core subject material topics which include biochemistry as it applies to human physiology, cytology, histology, and the systems of the human body. The course will include the dissection of the fetal pig. Students will take modified lab practicals.

**545 Advanced Placement Biology** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite:** Honors Biology, must have completed or be enrolled concurrently in Honors Chemistry and must successfully complete summer prequalification material which will be assigned in June.

This course offers students a solid foundation in introductory college-level biology and is organized around the Big Ideas, enduring understandings, and science practices outlined by the College Board. Connections between the Big Ideas are stressed throughout the course. Students will be encouraged to look for patterns that help them to understand "the big picture" and to apply their understanding to environmental and social concerns. Students will be required to use technology along with mathematical and statistical analysis appropriately. Critical and creative problem solving will be stressed both in class activities and in evaluations. The AP Biology student should be highly motivated and able to learn independently. The Advance Placement examination, administered in May, is required.

**546 Advanced Placement Chemistry** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite:** Must have completed Honors Biology, Chemistry and Algebra II and successfully complete summer prequalification material which will be assigned in June.

The Advanced Placement Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course taken during the first year of college. The AP Chemistry course curriculum 2013-14 presents the student with six major ideas: Atoms and elements, Structure and Properties of Matter, Chemical Reactions, Thermodynamics, Equilibrium, and Kinetics. Laboratory work will involve completing 18 AP Chemistry experiments of which ten will be inquiry based. Classroom lectures and laboratory experiments will implement the seven science practices designed for students to think and act like scientists. The Advanced Placement examination, administered in May, is required.

**547 Forensic Science****Grade: 12****Full Year****1 credit****Prerequisite: Chemistry**

This course will focus on the process of science -- making careful observations, performing detailed laboratory procedures, keeping accurate records, writing clear and concise reports, and explaining and defending your conclusions. Students will apply these skills as they learn to process a crime scene and analyze evidence. Types of evidence considered will include fingerprints, fiber and hair samples, drugs, alcohol, blood, DNA, glass, and handwriting samples. An understanding of basic principles from the disciplines of biology, chemistry, and some elementary physics will provide the foundations for analyzing evidence. Scientific thinking and critical problem solving will be stressed in all aspects of the course.

**SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT****310 Global History Honors Grade: 9 Full Year 1 credit**

This course studies the same basic information, people, events, and themes as the Global History course, but takes a greater in-depth look at the various developments of the people of the world. This course places emphasis on analyzing and interpreting the different events and movements of World History through research, critical thinking, essay writing and class discussion. Outside reading required. This course continues through sophomore year.

**311 Global History Grade: 9 Full Year 1 credit**

This course is designed to provide knowledge, appreciation and an understanding of how the people of the world arrived at their present state of human life and experience. It highlights important movements and events from prehistory to the 1800's. Themes stressed are geography, politics, economics, technology, ideas, religions and people. Through these themes, students gain a global perspective, and make connections between the past and present. Finally, Global History provides an appreciation for the world's heritage and the common concerns of people around the world. Outside reading required. This course continues through sophomore year.

**323 Global History II Honors Grade: 10 Full Year 1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Grade 9 Global History

This course is a continuation of Global History Honors from freshmen year. The major focus is events from 1750 until present, the impact of events on our future. Particular attention is given to integrating U.S. History into a global context. The same basic information, people, events and themes as well as thinking and writing skills are covered as in the Global History course. This course, however, involves a more rigorous reading and writing program with extensive use of primary documents and practice with written analysis.

**322 Global History II Grade: 10 Full Year 1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Grade 9 Global History

This course is a continuation of Global History from freshmen year. It highlights important movements and events from 1800 and the Industrial Revolution to modern history and global interdependence. Particular attention is given to integrating U.S. History into a global context. The same themes are stressed; geography, politics, economics, technology, ideas, religions and people. The main focus for the students is the twentieth century and the crises and strides of the past century. Research, analysis and the writing of essays and papers are a core element in this course.

**330 Advanced Placement US History Grade: 11 Full Year 1 credit**

This course is for the motivated student who loves to read and write and wishes to engage in college level work aimed at taking the AP Examination offered by the College Board in May. It is designed to provide students with the analytical and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in American history. The text will be supplemented with readings from primary and secondary sources; students will write a great number of argumentative essays; produce two research papers, and give presentations on assigned topics. In addition, students will have a weekly vocabulary quiz and data based question essays. In preparation for this course, extensive summer reading and writing is required.

**331 United States History and Government Honors Grade: 11 Full Year 1 credit**

While the honors class will cover the same topics as those outlined in the College Prep course, it will involve a rigorous reading and writing program with extensive use of primary and secondary documents and practice with written analysis. Students will hone their writing skills with argumentative essays and data based questions. In addition, students will prepare four quarterly research papers.

**332 United States History and Government Grade: 11 Full Year 1 credit**

This course provides an overview of American History from the Revolutionary War to the present. We will investigate the social, political, cultural and economic developments throughout this period of time focusing special attention on evolving democratic trends, reform movements in the Nineteenth and Twentieth centuries, and the expression of US influence around the globe. Assignments will include one research paper each quarter. Special emphasis will be placed on writing argumentative essays.

**340 Advanced Placement United States Government Grade: 12 Full Year 1 credit**

This course is for the motivated student who is interested in studying the government and politics of the United States in depth and in understanding the ins and outs of the American electoral process. As we prepare for the AP Examination offered by the College Board in May, you will hone your critical writing and reading skills (newspapers, magazines, Supreme Court decisions, and 'Think Tank' research papers) along with your ability to interpret charts and graphs, identify relevant information, and develop criteria for evaluating an array of information. It is designed to provide students with the analytical and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems in, and the materials of, American government.

**341 Psychology Grade: 11, 12 1<sup>st</sup> Semester .5 credit**

Psychology is the study of the mind; examining how we think, react and live in the world. It asks important questions about thought process and human behavior. The principles and history of psychology are introduced. Methods of research and dominant trends, group guidance in current areas of behavior, relationships, personal development, decision making, and value-appreciation are considered. This course includes the study of motivation theory, learning theory, and developmental psychology.

**342 Sociology Grade: 11, 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester .5 credit**

The study of human societies and social behavior are examined through culture, stratification systems and societal institutions. This course is designed to aid students in understanding today's dynamic and rapidly changing world. This course will present the complexity of social life with its interconnections between social events and conditions. It includes a study of major social institutions, socialization, social stratification, and the manner in which people interact with and make sense of these social forces.

**346 Current Issues – Domestic Grade: 12 1<sup>st</sup> Semester .5 credit**

**Note: While this course is designed to be a full year course, students may opt to take it for a single semester for .5 credit. (346 First semester only; 347 Second semester only)**

This course examines timely domestic policy issues confronting Americans. Topics include everything from the federal budget, to the media, to global warming and America's role in the world. The class is activity based, involving research, discussion and presentations. Students need to choose sides and convince others to their way of thinking. By the time you leave this course, you will be ready to intelligently discuss the complexity of the problems facing America today.

**347 Current Issues – Foreign Grade: 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester .5 credit**

This course examines foreign policy issues confronting America and the world. Topics are varied and complex looking at the world issues today. The class is activity based, involving research, discussion and presentations. Students need to choose sides and convince others to their way of thinking. By the time you leave this course, you will be ready to intelligently discuss the complexity of the problems facing America and our world.



**WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT**

*The World Language Department believes in the immersion method and therefore all French and Spanish classes are conducted in the target language.*

**411 French Language and Culture I Honors                      Grade: 9                      Full Year                      1 credit**

This French course is for the intermediate student who has had a consistent exposure to the French language and its culture in her previous middle and/or elementary years. Students at this level come with basic conversational, reading, writing and listening skills in topics such as greetings, school life, family members, pastimes and sports. In addition, the expectation is that students will be comfortable and participate in this full immersion class. Students also come with some knowledge of the French speaking culture. They will expand their knowledge with new projects in which they will be comfortable doing research about the French speaking world.

**412 French Language and Culture I                                      Grade: 9                      Full Year                      1 credit**

This French I course is for the beginning student as well as for the student with some previous exposure to foreign language in elementary school. It is designed so that students will use the language in simple structures from the very first days. Communication is stressed along with the use of complete sentence structures. Listening, reading and writing skills in the target language will also be developed. Information on French culture is an integral part of each chapter. At the end of the third quarter, students will be evaluated for placement into either the college preparatory or honors level of the second year of study. NDA is committed to total immersion in the World Language classroom. The second semester of the first year will be conducted in French as much as possible.

**421 French Language and Culture II Honors                      Grade: 10                      Full Year                      1 credit****Prerequisite: French I**

French II Honors seeks to continue the learning process begun in French I. Students manipulate more complicated grammar patterns, add new verb tenses, build vocabulary and increase their knowledge of culture through reading selections that will cover a variety of topics. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in French and students are expected to speak French at all times while in the classroom.

**422 French Language and Culture II                                      Grade: 10                      Full Year                      1 credit****Prerequisite: French I**

French II further develops the multi lingual skills emphasized in French I. Speaking patterns using more difficult structures are introduced, as well as more challenging reading, writing & listening activities. The study of French civilization is also continued through a variety of media. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in French and students are expected to speak French at all times while in the classroom.

**431 French Language and Culture III Honors                      Grade: 10, 11                      Full Year                      1 credit****Prerequisite: French II**

This is a challenging course for the advanced student who is enthusiastic about the study of French. Development of the four language skills continues. Students read *Le Petit Prince*, write a five paragraph essay on a theme from the book and present a scene from this Saint-Exupéry novel. Oral presentations on topics of interest are also an integral part of the curriculum, especially during the second semester.

**432 French Language and Culture III                                      Grade: 10, 11                      Full Year                      1 credit****Prerequisite: French II**

The third year course continues to add more complex grammatical structures and widens the range of verb tenses, vocabulary and idioms. It is a continuation of French II with the addition of the video series "A Year in Provence" to reinforce culture. Students will be given written and oral tasks to complete with each chapter. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in French and students are expected to speak French at all times while in the classroom.

**441 French Language and Culture IV Honors**      **Grade: 11, 12**      **Full Year**      **1 credit****Prerequisite: French III**

This course is a continuation of French III Honors. It continues to improve the four basic language skills. Selected readings provide an introduction to contemporary and/or classical literature. Students will be required to provide recorded orals and to give oral presentations to the class from time to time as well as complete writing assignments based on Molière's *le Bourgeois gentilhomme*. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in French and students are expected to speak French at all times while in the classroom.

**442 French Language and Culture IV**      **Grade: 11, 12**      **Full Year**      **1 credit****Prerequisite: French III**

This course is a continuation of French III. The four language skills are reviewed and further developed with an emphasis on grammar and literature. Written and oral work is an integral component of the course. Students read *Le Petit Prince*, write a five paragraph essay on a theme from the book and present a scene from this Saint-Exupéry novel. Oral presentations on topics of interest are also an integral part of the curriculum, especially during the second semester. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in French and students are expected to speak French at all times while in the classroom.

**451 French Language and Culture V Honors**      **Grade: 11, 12**      **Full Year**      **1 credit****Prerequisite: French IV Honors**

In this course students will show mastery of all aspects of fluency including presentational and personal speaking and writing, as well as listening and reading skills from a multitude of French language sources. Students will continue to develop critical thinking skills and cultural awareness on a variety of topics including science and technology, aesthetics and beauty, and contemporary issues. Students will be prepared to sit for the French Language and Culture Advance Placement exam in May. Students who take Advanced Placement French Language and Culture and pass the exam with a 3 or higher will have mastered skills equivalent to those of a 5th or 6th semester college student in French Language.

**413 Spanish Language and Culture I Honors**      **Grade: 9**      **Full Year**      **1 credit**

This Spanish course is for the intermediate student who has had a consistent exposure to the Spanish language and its culture in her previous middle and/or elementary years. Students at this level come with basic conversational, reading, writing and listening skills in topics such as greetings, school life, family members, pastimes and sports. In addition, the expectation is that students will be comfortable and participate in this full immersion class. Students also come with some knowledge of the Spanish speaking culture. They will expand their knowledge with new projects in which they will be comfortable doing research about the Spanish speaking world.

**414 Spanish Language and Culture I**      **Grade: 9**      **Full Year**      **1 credit**

This Spanish course is for the beginning student as well as for the student with some previous exposure to foreign language in elementary school. It teaches the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course is designed so that students will use Spanish from the very first day. The study of Hispanic cultures is begun at this level. At the end of the third quarter, students will be evaluated for placement into either the college preparatory or honors level of the second year of study. NDA is committed to total immersion in the World Language classroom. The second semester of the first year will be conducted in Spanish as much as possible.

**423 Spanish Language and Culture II Honors**      **Grade: 10**      **Full Year**      **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish I**

Spanish II Honors continues the development of the four language skills. Advanced grammar concepts and vocabulary will be combined in the students' reading, writing, speaking and listening comprehension. Students will learn more about the Hispanic cultures through various projects. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in Spanish, and students are expected to speak Spanish at all times while in the classroom.

**424 Spanish Language and Culture II** **Grade: 10** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish I**

The language skills begun in Spanish I are further developed through the introduction of more advanced grammar and vocabulary. Speaking patterns of greater difficulty are required along with more challenging reading, writing and listening comprehension. The study of Hispanic cultures continues. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in Spanish, and students are expected to speak Spanish at all times while in the classroom.

**433 Spanish Language and Culture III Honors** **Grade: 10, 11** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish II**

Spanish III Honors is a challenging course for the advanced student who is enthusiastic about the study of Spanish. Development of the four language skills continues. Oral and written communication is stressed. Students are required to write compositions. Students' understanding of Hispanic literature and cultures continues to be enriched. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in Spanish and students are expected to speak Spanish at all times while in the classroom.

**434 Spanish Language and Culture III** **Grade: 10, 11** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish II**

Spanish III is a continuation of Spanish II. Development of the four language skills is continued with a greater stress on more complex reading and writing. Students will be given written and oral tasks to complete with each chapter. The study of Hispanic cultures continues. This is a total immersion course. All instruction will be in Spanish, and students are expected to speak Spanish at all times while in the classroom.

**443 Spanish Language and Culture IV Honors** **Grade: 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish III Honors**

This is an advanced Spanish course where students will read short stories, a play, and a novel written by prominent Spanish writers as well as view several Spanish films. Students will analyze and discuss themes, culture, and make connections to other literature, films and their own experiences. There will be review of all grammar concepts. The course is taught totally in Spanish, and students will communicate at all times in Spanish during the class.

**444 Spanish Language and Culture IV** **Grade: 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish III**

This is an advanced Spanish course where students will read short stories, a play, and a novel written by prominent Spanish writers as well as view several Spanish films. Students will analyze and discuss themes, culture, and make connections to other literature, films and their own experiences. There will be limited review of grammar. The course is taught totally in Spanish, and students will communicate at all times in Spanish during the class.

**450 AP Spanish Language and Culture** **Grade: 11, 12** **Full Year** **1 credit****Prerequisite: Spanish III or IV Honors**

Students who take Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture and pass the exam with a 3 or higher will have mastered skills equivalent to those of a 5th or 6th semester college student in Spanish Language. In this course students will show mastery of all aspects of fluency including presentational and personal speaking and writing, as well as listening and reading skills from a multitude of Hispanic language sources. Students will continue to develop critical thinking skills and cultural awareness on a variety of topics including science and technology, aesthetics and beauty, and contemporary issues. Students will be prepared to sit for the Spanish Language and Culture Advance Placement exam in May.

**CAREER INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS****850 Early Childhood and Elementary Training      Grade: 10, 11, 12****(EDU Intern)**

Wondering about early childhood and elementary education as a career? This pilot program gives you the opportunity to experience the possibilities of working with and educating children. While not a credit course, students can choose to use some of their studies to observe and interact with kindergarten and elementary students. Working with teachers, students will have opportunities to work in the classroom, help prepare lessons, and understand the expectations of this level of education. Students must be committed to use two studies per cycle.

After completing your placements, students will receive a certificate and a letter of recommendation for your college search. Students may want to take a VHS course in education to help in deciding your career path.

**851 Marketing Training      Grade: 10, 11, 12**

Want to try out your skills? This training, run by the Marketing Department at Notre Dame, is an opportunity for students interested in marketing, photography, and writing. Meeting once a cycle during lunch with NDA's Marketing Director, you will learn the basics of communicating the life of the school to the world outside. Through this course you will acquire professional skills and knowledge, use and strengthen communication skills, and develop an understanding of marketing as a career.

After completing your placements, students will receive a certificate and a letter of recommendation for your college search. Students may want to take a VHS course to also help in deciding your career path.



# Academy of Notre Dame

## BY THE NUMBERS

Awarded 4 prestigious Medeiros Scholarships over the past 3 years

Over 50% membership in National Honor Society

88% of students earn a 3 or higher on the AP exam

Class of 2014 earned more than \$145,000 per student in scholarships

100% of graduates attend college

94% are accepted to their first choice college or university

50% of graduates major in STEM

"We the People" Massachusetts State Champions - 2013

