



Sacred Heart Catholic School

2017-2018 Course Curriculum Guide

Grades 9-12

English & Literature

English I: A year-long course for 9th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
English I provides the student with a concentration of basic communication skills through the teaching of grammar, composition and literature. Students will study various works of drama, poetry, prose and fiction.

Accelerated English I: A year-long course for 9th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Enrollment based on teacher recommendation, SAT scores and/or English 8 scores.
Accelerated English I provides the student with a concentration of basic communication skills through grammar, composition and literature. Students will study various works of fiction, non-fiction, drama and poetry.

English II: A year-long course for 10th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: English I
English II, a continuation of English I, reinforces previously learned grammatical skills and introduces new grammatical skills, paragraph and essay writing, oral communication, vocabulary and spelling. There will be study in World Literature.

Accelerated English II: A year-long course for 10th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: English I
Enrollment based on teacher recommendation, SAT scores and/or English I scores.
Accelerated English II is composed of a review of basic grammatical skills with an introduction to advanced skills, oral communication, formal writing, vocabulary and spelling skills, in addition to World Literature.

English III: A year-long course for 11th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisites: English I and II
English III is a review of basic grammatical skills and the study of basic vocabulary and spelling. Emphasis is placed on writing various types of paragraphs and essays and the study of American Literature. A basic research paper is required.

AP Language and Composition: A year-long course for 11th grade students Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisites: English I and II
Enrollment based on teacher recommendation, SAT scores and/or English II scores.
This introductory course in rhetoric focuses on style, tone, diction, syntax, modes, appeals, and other strategies used by writers. The course requires extensive reading of both fiction and non-fiction, and calls for frequent analytical and argumentative writing. Students are encouraged to take the AP Language and Composition test given in May.

English IV: A year-long course for 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisites: English I, II and III/AP Language and Composition
Students develop an appreciation and understanding of fiction, drama, nonfiction and poetry as literary forms from a chronological study of British Literature from the Anglo Saxon period to the Modern Era. Students develop their critical reading and analysis skills. The students will also expand their vocabulary skills and essay writing in preparation for the SAT and ACT tests. Composition as a process will be implemented primarily in examination of primary texts. Students will write formal research papers, using MLA documentation.

AP English Literature and Composition: A year-long course for 12th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisites: *English I, II and III/AP Language and Composition*

AP Literature and Composition challenges students to closely read and analyze quality literature from a variety of genres (novels, short stories, plays and non-fiction and periods from the 16th century to the present). Selected texts are mainly American and British, but include literature in translation as well. Students will be required to write clearly and purposefully in response to the literature, demonstrating command of language and appropriate address of literary components and their function. AP Literature and Composition is taught on the level of a college course and is recommended for able, motivated Language Arts students. The course will prepare students for the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition test given every spring. Satisfactory performance on this exam may allow students to test out of freshman English classes in college.

Mathematics

Algebra I: A year-long course for 8th through 10th grade students

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Pre-algebra.*

This course provides a formal development of the algebraic skills and concepts necessary for students who will take a geometry course and other advanced college-preparatory courses. In particular, the instructional program in this course should provide for the use of algebraic skills in a wide range of problem solving situations. The course emphasizes structure and the properties of the real number system. It includes, but is not limited to, solution and evaluation of open sentences (equations and inequalities); solution of open sentences by graphing number line and coordinate plane; solution of systems of open sentences; basic operation with polynomials; solution of quadratic equations; understanding and using elementary functions; use of exponents; simplifying radicals; and introductory topics from statistics and probability.

Geometry: A year-long course for 9th and 10th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Pre-Algebra and Algebra I.*

Geometry emphasizes the extensive uses of deductive and inductive reasoning, as well as investigative strategies in drawing conclusions. The course's curriculum includes the use of applications, long and short-term projects, interdisciplinary assignments and the use of graphing calculators. Properties and relationships of geometric entities include the study of angles, lines, planes, congruent triangles, similar triangles, trigonometric ratios, polygons, circles, and spatial drawings and relationships. Coordinate and transformational geometry material is integrated throughout the year. The course develops an understanding of the need for proof, and the use of logic in developing proof.

Algebra II: A year-long course for 10th and 11th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, Algebra I and Geometry.*

A second-year course in Algebra where topics studied include linear equations, systems of equations, matrices, determinants, quadratic equations, parabolas, powers, roots, radicals, sequences and series, and various types of functions including exponential and logarithmic.

Algebra III: A year-long course for 11th and 12th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II.*

Topics of study in Algebra III include sequences and series, functions, and higher order polynomials. Topics are addressed from a numeric, graphical and analytical perspective. Students will present and evaluate mathematical arguments, proofs and explanations about their reasoning.

Advanced Mathematics Plus: A year-long course for 11th and 12th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: *Successful completion of Pre-Algebra, Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Algebra III.*

This course specifies the mathematics that students should study in order to be college and career ready. The Advanced Mathematics Plus Course includes rigorous mathematical standards that will prepare students for collegiate courses dealing with higher-level trigonometric, algebraic, and calculus concepts. This course was designed to be a fourth year math course. Throughout the duration of this course, teachers will ensure the Standards for Mathematical Practice are addressed. These topics include various objectives covering statistics, geometry, trigonometry and algebra. Some of the course is a demanding, quick paced review of Algebra III with extension of specific concepts.

AP Calculus A.B.: A year-long course for 12th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Algebra III

AP Calculus, designed to be the equivalent of a college-level course, is the study of the mathematics of change. The major focus is on differential and integral calculus. Preparation includes a high level of algebra, geometry, trigonometry, complex numbers and elementary functions. This study in calculus will include limits, derivatives, continuity, integration, applications, transcendental function, and plane analytic geometry. The teaching of this course includes an analytic, numerical and graphical approach. Students have the option of taking the AP test with the possibility of earning college credit. Teacher approval is required.

Dual Credit College Algebra: A semester-long dual credit course for 10th-12th grade students..

Credit: 1 Unit

Students will receive 3 semester hours of college credit at William Carey University in addition to one Carnegie Unit.

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation and a minimum score of 20 in Math on the ACT for 11th & 12th grade students or a minimum score of 30 in Math on the ACT for 10th grade students.

Advanced Algebra/College Algebra is taught by a teacher at Sacred Heart Catholic High School through the William Carey University Jump Start Program. This class will be offered on Sacred Heart's semester schedule, but students will register on William Carey University's trimester schedule. Students need to meet requirements of admission to William Carey, except for a high school diploma. Additional tuition will be charged, and students will need to purchase a College Algebra textbook chosen by their teacher. This course is the standard course in college-level algebra. Topics include basic concepts of algebra; linear, quadratic, rational radical, logarithmic, exponential, and absolute value equations; equations reducible to quadratic form; linear, polynomial, rational, and absolute value inequalities, and complex number system; graphs of linear, polynomial, exponential, logarithms, rational, and absolute value functions; conic sections; inverse functions; operations and compositions of function; systems of equations, sequences and series; and the binomial theorem. **Students are required to meet all of the college standards of this course to receive college credit along with the high school credit.**

Social Studies

Mississippi Studies: A semester-long course for 9th grade students.

Credit: ½ Unit

Mississippi Studies offers students a better understanding of their home state's history, culture, geography, and government. Various tools are used in the course including music, guest lectures, creative projects, primary and secondary sources.

Introduction to World Geography: A semester-long course for 9th grade students.

Credit: ½ Unit

Students gain an overview of the fundamentals of geography, including climate, population, culture, resources, land use, and the regions of the world. Students will participate in class projects, listen to guest lecturers, and analyze their own geography.

World History: A year-long course for 10th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

A survey course that provides the student a history of the world from the 1700s to the present-day. Focus is on the development and issues of Europe, Africa, and Asia with connections drawn to the role of America in worldwide events.

AP World History: A year-long course for 10th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

This is an advanced course designed to help students gain a greater understanding of the global processes and interactions that have shaped human history since 8000 BC to present day. Throughout the course, AP World History themes are used to improve the analytical and critical thinking skills of students. Students should expect a demanding workload with an emphasis on reading and writing that is the equivalent of an introductory college course. Students have the option of taking the AP test with the possibility of earning college credit.

U.S. History 1877 to Present: A year-long course for 11th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

U. S. History provides students with an advanced knowledge of history of the United States from Reconstruction to the war on terror. Learning tools for the class include lecture, class projects, historic research and analysis of primary and secondary sources.

AP U.S. History: A year-long course for 11th grade students.

Credit: 1 Unit

AP U. S. History is more in-depth than U. S. History, and is an analytical class focusing on the history of the United States. Students have the option of taking the AP test with the possibility of earning college credit.

U. S. Government: A semester-long course for 12th grade students.

Credit: ½ Unit

U. S. Government provides an understanding of the foundations of the United States Government; provides an understanding of the inalienable rights, civil rights and civil liberties of an American; outlines the duties and responsibilities of the citizens of the United States; and relates the study of the U. S. government to current issues. This course is offered in conjunction with Economics.

AP U. S. Government: A semester-long course for 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
AP U. S. Government will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. This course includes both the general concepts used to interpret U.S. government and politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U. S. government and politics.

Economics: A semester-long course for 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
Economics will develop an awareness of the relationship of world economic systems. The students will trace the American economic system and impact of that system in a global setting. The students will develop an understanding of microeconomics and macroeconomics from individual finances to world economic organizations. This course is offered in conjunction with U. S. Government.

Health and Physical Education

Contemporary Health: A semester-long course for 9th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
Contemporary Health provides the knowledge and skills the students need to obtain, interpret, and apply basic health information to their daily lives to enhance their individual health.

Physical Education: A semester-long course for 9th grade students. Credit: ½
Physical Education is designed as a daily instructional program that includes themes such as: team, dual and individual sports, rhythms/dance and fitness activities. Physical education may also include non-traditional activities. The program allows students opportunities to practice and apply a range of motor skills in physical activities that emphasize the social skills associated with competitions. Personal fitness assessment is an integral part of this program.

Physical Education-Weightlifting: A semester-long or year-long course for 10th through 12th grade students Credit: ½-1 Unit
This class will take an in-depth look into weight training, training modes, program design, and how it fits into a complete fitness program. Students will design and keep track of their own weight training programs and their personal fitness plans.

Science

Biology I: A year-long course for 9th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: None

Biology I is a laboratory-based course designed to study living organisms and their physical environments. Students should apply scientific methods of inquiry and research in the examination of the chemical basis of life, cell structure, function and reproduction, energy, natural selection, and diversity and ecology. Laboratory activities, the use of technology and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

Chemistry I: A year-long course for 10th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: Biology I and Algebra I; may be co-enrolled in Algebra II.

Chemistry provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of structure, physical and chemical properties, and chemical change. Concepts covered in this course include properties of matter, measurement and use of the International System of Measurement applied to mathematical operations, atomic theory, bonding, periodicity, nomenclature, equations and reactions, stoichiometry of aqueous solutions, thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium, oxidation-reduction and electron chemistry, nuclear chemistry, and organic chemistry. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

Organic Chemistry: A semester-long course for 11th & 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
Prerequisite: Chemistry I

The Organic Chemistry course provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of the structure, nomenclature, reactions and uses of organic compounds, including polymeric materials. Laboratory experiences should allow the student to manipulate compounds, observe change, collect and analyze data, and draw conclusions. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

Environmental Science: A semester-long course for 11th & 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
Environmental Science is a laboratory-based or field-based course that explores ways in which the environment shapes living communities. Interactions of organisms with their environment should be emphasized along with the impact of human activities on the physical and biological systems of the Earth. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

Human Anatomy and Physiology: A year-long course for 11th and 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Human Anatomy and Physiology is a laboratory-based course that investigates the structure and function of the human body. Topics covered include the basic organization of the body, biochemical composition, and major body systems along with the impact of diseases on certain systems. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

Physics I: A year-long course for 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Physics provides opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of matter and energy through lab-based activities, mathematical expressions, and concept exploration. Concepts covered in this course include kinematics, dynamics, energy, mechanical and electromagnetic waves, and electricity. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course.

Dual Credit Zoology: A semester-long course for 11th and 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
Zoology is a laboratory-based course taught by a teacher at Sacred Heart Catholic High School through the William Carey University Jump Start Program. The class will be offered on Sacred Heart's semester schedule, but students will register on William Carey University's trimester schedule. Students need to meet the requirements of admission to William Carey, except for a high school diploma. Additional tuition will be charged, and students will need to purchase a College Zoology textbook chosen by their teacher. This course is a standard course in college-level zoology. Topics include the surveys of the nine major phyla of the Kingdom Animalia. Morphology, taxonomy, anatomy, and physiology should be investigated. Comparative studies may be addressed during laboratory observations and dissections. Laboratory activities, research, the use of technology, and the effective communication of results through various methods are integral components of this course. ***Students are required to meet all of the college standards of this course to receive college credit along with high school credit.***

Religious Studies

Religious Studies 9: A year-long course for 9th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course consists of two semesters of focus. The year's focus is understanding the scriptures. The purpose is to immerse students in this great gift as it has been expressed in the Sacred Scriptures. It is through their study of the Old Testament and New Testament that the students will grow in knowledge of the story of our Salvation and will simultaneously encounter Jesus Christ, the living Word of God. In the second semester the students learn to share what Jesus Christ reveals about God, to uncover the mystery of the Incarnation, and to explore how teenagers, specifically, can learn from Jesus about themselves and how they are to live the Gospel. Students must complete 20 service hours per nine weeks with an emphasis on community service.

Religious Studies 10: A year-long course for 10th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course uses two textbooks, *The Mystery of Redemption* and *The Church*. The first book emphasizes Christ's saving work in the Paschal Mystery and its effects on the Church in light of the teachings of Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition. Using *The Church*, students study the nature of the Catholic Church combined with history of the Church. Activities include a Saint project in October and Christmas Around The World in December. Students must complete 20 service hours per nine weeks with an emphasis on community service.

Religious Studies 11: A year-long course for 11th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course prepares Catholic teens to take the next step in their faith formation – confirmation. The course is composed of prayer, short informative videos and lessons from the text *Chosen*. This program is designed to provide the essential intellectual and spiritual catechesis vital to sacramental preparation. Students must complete 20 service hours per nine weeks with an emphasis on community service.

Religious Studies 12: A year-long course for 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course focuses on the study of the world religions of Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, Chinese and Japanese religions, in response to Pope John Paul II's document *Nostra Aetate (in Our Time)* and morality. Students will develop an understanding of Catholicism and other global religious traditions in addition to a focus on injustices within our world. Students must complete 20 service hours per nine weeks with an emphasis on community service.

Foreign Language Electives

Two years of the same foreign language are required for graduation.

French I: A year-long elective course for 8th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
French I focuses on conversation about people, family, hobbies, and food. Listening skills are developed by watching French cartoons. Throughout the year, students read French websites, children's books, and poems. Students also collaborate online with high school students in France.

French II: A year-long elective course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: French I
French II builds on topics in French 1 and introduces vocabulary about music, houses and homes, and travel. In addition to watching French shows and reading French short stories, students give presentations and keep a journal in French. Students continue to collaborate with high school students in France.

Latin I: A year-long elective course for 8th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course is an introduction to the language with the primary focus on vocabulary acquisition and basic grammar. Translation skills are built through modified texts. Students learn simple Greek and Roman myths, geography and history through the Republic period. The National Latin Exam is required and attendance at the state Latin convention is encouraged.

Latin II: A year-long elective course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: Latin I
This course continues with vocabulary and grammar acquisition. Translation skills are improved as more complex readings are accomplished. Additional myths, geography and history through the Empire are learned. The National Latin Exam is required and attendance at the state Latin convention is encouraged.

Spanish I: A year-long elective course for 8th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course is an introduction to the language with the primary focus on providing the skills needed to communicate, to engage in conversation and to understand written and spoken language.

Spanish II: A year-long elective course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: Spanish I
This course provides students with opportunities to continue the development of their listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Students should participate in simple real-life conversational situations that incorporate learning elements of the language and culture. Students should compose sentences, which narrate, describe, compare and summarize familiar topics from the target culture. Students should develop a better understanding of the similarities and differences between cultures and languages and examine the influence of the beliefs and values of the target culture(s).

Fine Arts Electives

Beginning Guitar & Strings: A year-long elective for 7th -12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
The curriculum includes learning to sight-read through the course book, *Essential Elements 1*, learning and understanding basic music theory, learning vocabulary of musical terms, learning the parts of an instrument and how they work. Students will play melodies by ear and begin to explore and expound on the theory and practice of improvisation and how scales work within chord structure.

Intermediate Guitar & Strings: A year-long elective for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
The curriculum includes learning to sight-read through the course book, *Essential Elements 2*, learning and understanding basic music theory, learning vocabulary of musical terms, learning the parts of an instrument and how they work. Students will play melodies by ear and begin to explore and expound on the theory and practice of improvisation and how scales work within chord structure.

Advanced Guitar & Strings: A year-long elective for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
The curriculum includes learning to sight-read through the course book, *Essential Elements 3*, learning and understanding basic music theory, learning vocabulary of musical terms, learning the parts of an instrument and how they work. Students will write and play an original song, play intricate melodies by ear and play variations of that melody, sight-read and play through intermediate to advanced pieces of music. They will understand music theory and how to apply it to different styles of music while playing in a group.

Choral Music I, II, III: Each is a year-long elective for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Curriculum developed for these competencies will foster increasing knowledge of: choral performance; the relationship of music elements, music theory, and technology to performances practices; repertoire encompassing a wide variety of forms, styles and periods, historical/cultural connections of repertoire events, times, places and other arts, and other disciplines. Through this elective students may also study percussion and participate in the Sacred Heart Drum Line.

Percussion Ensemble: A year-long course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Coursework includes an introduction to drumline, Brazilian samba music, and playing drum sets in various styles around the world. There will be a final performance to showcase music learned throughout the semester. No previous experience is required.

Advanced Percussion Ensemble: A year-long course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Audition Required.
Students will expand physical drumming techniques and learn increasingly challenging music in drumline and samba band. Students will also play more drum set as they learn to play along with contemporary groups as well as improvise. The students will perform at the end of each semester to demonstrate skills acquired.

Theater I: A year-long course for 9th through 12th grade students Credit: 1 Unit
In the first semester, students learn the basic elements of theater: acting, scenic design, costuming, makeup and business practices. In the second semester, students apply their knowledge in three productions (a puppet show, a clown show, and a one act play) actually performed before audiences.

Theater II: A year-long course for 9th through 12th grade students Credit: 1 Unit
This course continues to explore the theatrical process as an art form. Students will have the opportunity to build on skills learned in Theater I. Students will concentrate on designing, creating, producing, performing and critiquing from original and published works.

Visual Art I: A year-long elective course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
This course is an introductory program of study at the high school level that involves a broad range of media techniques and processes. It is a comprehensive overview of art production, critical analysis, history and culture, aesthetics, and connections among the visual arts, other content areas, and everyday life. In addition to studio and class time, the students will explore art and artists in their community through field trips as well as any show that might be scheduled in the community.

Visual Art II: A year-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: Visual Art I
This course continues the development of knowledge and skills, as well as the creation of study of works of art and design. Building on concepts and skills acquired in the prerequisite course – Visual Arts I, students continue to increase their knowledge of production, critical analysis, history and culture, aesthetics, and connections among the visual arts, other content areas, and everyday life.

Vocal Performance: A year-long course for 9th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit
Prerequisite: Choral Music I
Students must audition for this small ensemble that will study vocal jazz and an advanced repertoire of music.

General Electives

ACT/SAT Prep: A semester-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
Prerequisite: None

This test-taking strategies class is primarily an ACT/SAT prep class with emphasis on the math and science exams, as well as on the reading and language passages. Vocabulary building is also included.

Business Law: A semester-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit

Business Law provides the basic foundations of law as it relates to business. The origin of the law, ethics, the structure of the court systems, procedural and employment law, and legislation that applies to real and personal property are all studied in this course. Business Law will equip the student with a working knowledge of the law as it applies to various legal situations that are encountered in personal business situations.

Creative Writing: A semester-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit

Creative Writing provides an opportunity for students to improve skills in poetry, short stories and personal creative non-fiction through the writing of original works. Grading for the course is determined through a contract by the number of works written throughout the course.

Debate: Each course is a year-long elective for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit

Students must be a member of the Forensics Team to enroll in Debate I or Debate II. Communication skills are developed through acquiring, analyzing, and evaluating information to organize effective arguments. Students also develop poise, confidence, critical thinking, and efficient research skills. The teacher also provides assistance to students in developing and perfecting their performances for competition.

Humanities: A year-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit

Students will be introduced to highlights of artistic development, from ancient civilizations forward through the centuries. Students will explore connections between culture and history, focusing on painting, sculpture, architecture, film, theater and dance, including significant artists, works, and genres.

Journalism/Yearbook: A year-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit

Introduction to Journalism is intended as a general course to enhance the student's skills as communicators and as informed users of the communication media. Students will develop an awareness of the history and role of journalism in our society, develop writing skills and editing skills, understand the role of advertising, demonstrate knowledge of art, photography and design in publishing. The students work as a production team to publish the history of the year by producing the hardbound Sacred Heart Catholic School Yearbook, *The Shield*.

Journalism Laboratory I, II, and III: A year-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: 1 Unit

Prerequisite: Journalism/Yearbook

In Journalism Laboratory, students will perform specific duties with leadership functions to be outlined, assigned and evaluated by the advisor/teacher according to the nature of the publication and staff organization.

Oral Communication: A year-long course for 9th through 12th grade students Credit: 1 Unit

This introduction to competitive speech and debate introduces the student to the elements of effective communication, and requires the student to prepare oral presentations in a variety of modes. Participation on the Speech and Debate team is a requirement for this course.

Personal Finance: A semester-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit

Personal Finance allows the student to explore personal financial decision-making. It also helps individuals use skills in money management, record-keeping, banking and investing. The course accomplishes this by the study of basic concepts involving economics, insurance, banking, credit, stocks and bonds, and other related topics through the use of business research tools and technological resources. Activities will include preparation of budgets, consumer skills, checking accounts, investment applications, comparison-shopping, advertising research, standard of living analysis, and comparison of housing options.

Psychology: A semester-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
This course is an introduction to the field of psychology and looks at the life process through various theories of development. Psychology focuses on the history, advances in technology, and both internal and external influences that affect human mental development.

Sociology: A semester-long elective course for 10th through 12th grade students. Credit: ½ Unit
This introductory sociology course provides a basic overview of the elements that make up our social structure, the nature of social groups, social control, conflict resolution, and the structure and interaction within family and peer groups. This course is designed to facilitate critical and analytical thinking as well as encouraging deeper thought concerning the interaction between social influence and human behavior.

Independent Study

At times it is necessary to allow a student enrolled at Sacred Heart Catholic High School the opportunity to take a course of study through Independent Study. This is done on an individual basis at the approval of the principal with a teacher recommendation. The Independent Study courses offered at Sacred Heart are administered through Mississippi State University. Each independent study course must be taken at Sacred Heart during the regular school time and must be administered by a member of Sacred Heart's faculty or administration. There is an additional fee for the course and textbook charged to the student, and these must be paid prior to the student's enrollment in the Independent Study course.