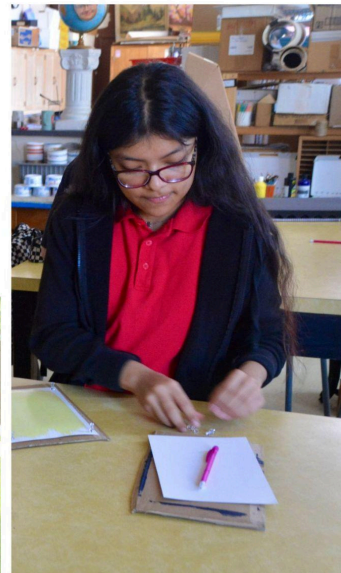
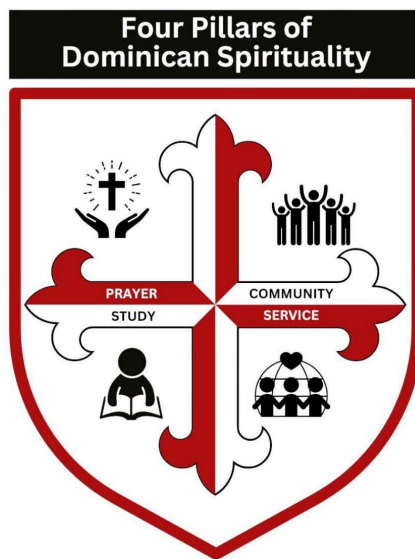




# Bethlehem ACADEMY

INSPIRING TRUTH SINCE 1865

## 2024-2025 Course Guide



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# Department Philosophies & Objectives

## English

**Philosophy:** English skills consist of the ability to write clearly and correctly, to read and analyze for deeper meaning, and to present ideas articulately in speech. English students at BA will seek to become critical thinkers who are discerning in their choices as well as perceptive readers; in that context, the English Department focuses not only on reading and understanding literature through both a historical and cultural lens but also on grammar, techniques for proficient writing, spelling and vocabulary, and reading and analysis of poetry, nonfiction pieces, short stories and novels, and drama. It is through good communication skills that individuals can connect with and relate to one another responsibly and productively. All course work is intended to help students become smart, confident, and clear communicators so that they are better able to deal with the challenges and complexities of the modern world and are also able to reflect and defend their faith.

### Objectives

Goal 1: Students will be able to construct a coherent piece of writing that expresses a primary idea with supporting evidence.

- 1.1 Students will analyze the various components of a work of literature.
- 1.2 Students will write critically about literature, using textual evidence with proper citation.
- 1.3 In researched writing, students will use relevant scholarship.
- 1.4 Students will be able to edit and proofread manuscripts.

Goal 2: Students will be introduced to literature from around the world and from the four major genres.

- 2.1 Students will be familiar with the terminology peculiar to each of the genres: non-fiction, fiction, poetry, and drama.
- 2.2 Students will be able to identify the major theme of a piece of literature and relate that message to today's culture.
- 2.3 Students will be able to identify and interpret the historical and cultural lenses through which a literary selection can be viewed.

Goal 3: Students will acquire a mature vocabulary that allows them to communicate precisely and effectively.

- 3.1 Students will use vocabulary that reflects their increasing understanding of the nuances of language.
- 3.2 Students will understand the power of their words to effectively communicate.

## Mathematics

**Philosophy:** The Bethlehem Academy mathematics department strives to empower and challenge students to discover their abilities and talents in mathematics. Students will develop critical thinking skills, self-direction, and an eagerness for exploration and apply these skills to lead, to serve, to inspire, and to seek the truth.

### Objectives:

- Develop a positive attitude towards learning mathematics.
- Perform mathematical operations and manipulations with confidence, speed and accuracy.
- Think and reason precisely, logically and critically in any given situation.
- Develop investigative skills in mathematics.
- Identify, illustrate, symbolize and use mathematical relationships in everyday life.
- Comprehend, analyze, synthesize, evaluate and make generalizations to solve problems.
- Collect, organize, represent, analyze, interpret data and make conclusions and predictions.

- Apply mathematical knowledge and skills to familiar and unfamiliar situations.
- Appreciate the role, value and use of mathematics in society.
- Develop willingness to work collaboratively.
- Acquire knowledge and skills for further education and training in mathematics.
- Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills, content knowledge, and the ability to communicate ideas effectively.

## Science

**Philosophy:** Science is the study of God’s creation and the human response to it. This includes processes, structures, designs, and systems which bring the student to a fuller understanding of the natural world. Science students use their senses and tools to observe, record, and analyze data about the world and make conclusions based on evidence. Students that are science literate can understand basic science concepts, use skills for doing scientific investigations, solve technical problems, and design technologies for today’s world.

**Objectives:** Students will

- Explore the natural world.
- Discover principles that govern natural processes.
- Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills.
- Demonstrate appropriate scientific literacy, mathematical modeling, and cooperation/communication skills during scientific inquiry.

## Social Studies

**Philosophy:** Bethlehem Academy believes that our purpose is to help young people make informed and educated decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in a global world. We strive to assist students to integrate Catholic teaching and values, ask questions, evaluate critically, and problem solve.

**Objectives:** Students will

- Explore rights and responsibilities of citizenship.
- Engage in historical inquiry.
- Identify and analyze primary and secondary sources.
- Evaluate maps, charts, graphs, and other visual sources to draw conclusions and make predictions.
- Describe how physical and human geography affect how and where people live.
- Understand events, trends, individuals, and group movements that shaped the history of regions, nations, and people.
- Explain psychology and its usefulness to society.
- Obtain a basic understanding of different economic systems and how they address basic economic issues.

## Theology

**Philosophy:** The revelation of Jesus Christ, communicated through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, is the foundation of Bethlehem Academy’s Theology department. Understanding of the Incarnation, when the Son of God became man in Jesus Christ, and the Paschal Mystery, when Jesus gave himself up for the salvation of mankind, informs our study of morality, the Church, Sacraments, and what it means to live as a disciple of Christ in society. Bethlehem Academy, a Catholic school in the Sinsinawa Dominican tradition, also aligns all curricula to the four pillars of

Dominican life: community, prayer, study, and service. The Theology department is particularly committed to the living out of each through fostering relationships in the classroom, developing habits of prayer in the parish Adoration chapel, studying theology, and holding each other accountable to serving our school and local community.

### **Objectives**

- Students will be able to, through study of Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, understand the Incarnation, life of Christ, the Church, and the Paschal Mystery.
- Students will study the life and teachings of Fr. Samuel Mazzuchelli and the Sinsinawa Dominican sisters, who founded Bethlehem Academy, and understand what it means to live out the four pillars of Dominican life.
- Students will study the seven Social Teachings of the Catholic church and apply their knowledge in experiential learning, projects and personal reflection.
- Students will study the seasons of the church, feast days and the sacramental life.
- Students will study and explore vocations of single life, marriage, religious life, and priesthood.
- Students will be able to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ our Savior and use their knowledge and experience from their time at Bethlehem Academy to put into practice living as a disciple of Christ.

## **Agricultural Science and Shop**

**Philosophy:** The philosophy of the agricultural science program is to provide students with opportunities for career exploration, as well as building an understanding of the basic principles of food production and trades-based skills. The primary focus within the agriculture courses is to become an educated consumer and knowledgeable conservationist of the natural world in which we live. Shop-based courses are meant to build the skills, understanding, and appreciation of trade-based professions such as carpentry, mechanics, and electricity.

### **Objectives:**

- Students will learn through a classroom/lab-based setting that is inquiry based and interactive.
- Students will engage in an experiential, service, or work-based learning opportunity through a supervised agriculture experience (SAE) program.
- Students will have the opportunity to participate in FFA, which provides them with premier leadership building experiences, personal growth, and career exploration.

## **Fine Arts: Music**

**Philosophy:** The essential goal within the fine arts courses at Bethlehem Academy is to ensure that our students have the encouragement to seek out, and the freedom to share, a diversity of influences they have in their lives (academic, spiritual, cultural, and social). No matter where those influences come from, they make up the individuality of each student. Part of our role as teachers is to identify where those passions are, and give each student the support, confidence, and tools to pursue them. We believe that students exploring a range of subject matter helps to build a supportive, balanced, and creative learning community.

### **Objectives:**

- Students will demonstrate increased musical knowledge and developed musical skills through the study and performance of band and choral literature.
- Partake in a fellowship type of learning experience where the efforts of each individual are considered essential to achieving group success.
- Serve the community and Bethlehem Academy at traditional events when band/choral music is appropriate.

## Fine Arts: Visual Arts

**Philosophy:** The visual arts program at Bethlehem Academy is a process-based program for both middle school and high school students who have an artistic interest and dedication to exploring the visual world in a structured course of study. The program is planned out so that the curriculum promotes intellectual, spiritual, aesthetic, and emotional growth. Self-discipline and the willingness to make one's best efforts through process and imagination give way for generating a stronger understanding of the creative experience which may then allow us to evolve and mesh as a society of active, spiritual, and critically thinking citizens of our community.

### Objectives:

- To create a deeper connection and understanding of the visual world that we live in (physically and spiritually).
- Increase students' knowledge of how visual art influences and reflects the cultures we live in.
- To take risks when exploring how to create something that may express our way of seeing or feeling; to ask, "What if" and "Why not," and then discover how and why our perspective may differ from someone else's.
- Build on the students' personal strengths and open doors to create opportunities for each student to sign on to a process and see where it takes them.
- Students will learn how to share ideas with each other, to be reflective and thoughtful.

## Physical Education and Health

**Philosophy:** We believe that a quality physical education program is fundamental for our students to learn the skills needed to remain physically active throughout their lifetime and reap the benefits of doing so. The PE Department provides students with a multitude of important learning experiences that cannot be duplicated in the classroom. Physical education is concerned with the teaching of skills, improving physical fitness, the reinforcement of self-discipline, leadership and cooperation, enhancing self-belief, stress reduction, and strengthening peer relationships. Physical activity contributes much to the growth, development, and the general well-being of every individual.

### Objectives:

- Students will learn about the three areas of health (physical, mental/emotional, social) and how they are connected in the classroom, gymnasium, and everyday life.
- Students will learn and practice different ways to deal with the daily stresses of life.
- Students will understand the importance of good communication skills in all areas of life.

## World Language: Spanish

### Philosophy

The World Language Department has as its goal the development of each student through a creative and vigorous world language program which integrates religious truths and values with living and learning. The program seeks to incorporate a better understanding of the diversity of cultures, their value systems, and cultural backgrounds. It is the program's intention to help the student acquire a multicultural appreciation and perspective, to develop intellectually, and to communicate in the target language.

The World Language Department is aligned with *ACTFL 5 C's* of foreign language learning: communication, cultures, connections, comparisons, and communities. The department emphasizes the development of the four basic language skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. It also provides opportunities for traveling abroad, enabling students to

use the target language and implementing their skills in real life situations, ultimately developing a global perspective. This burgeoning cultural awareness and native linguistic setting support the journey toward empowering the student to achieve personal, spiritual and academic excellence as found in our mission statement.

**Objectives:**

- Each course is a study of Spanish in its format, grammar, language and culture. Students perform various functions of the language and become familiar with many elements of its culture. Emphasis is placed on development of four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing within a given context and extending outside of the classroom setting when possible.
- A variety of introductions to the culture, its products (e.g., literature, laws, foods, games,) perspectives (e.g., attitudes, values, beliefs,) and practices (patterns of social interaction) is integrated throughout all courses.
- Students acquire gradual insight into how languages and cultures work by comparing Spanish language and culture(s) to their own.

# Middle School

Bethlehem Academy’s middle school helps scholars develop in body, mind and soul as they live out the school’s mission. The middle school curriculum is designed to strengthen and broaden knowledge in core academic areas while addressing the unique developmental needs of this age group through a separate middle school schedule and a daily Advisory period. During Advisory, students build social skills through specialized activities, develop independent study skills, share in service learning and have opportunities for targeted intervention.

**PHILOSOPHY:** The middle school teachers at Bethlehem Academy strive to empower our middle school students to become lifelong learners. Our staff guides students to discover and develop their God-given talents through opportunities to grow intellectually, spiritually, socially and physically. Our teachers provide many different supports as students navigate through their early years of adolescence and partner with parents throughout their educational journey.

**ACADEMICS:** Core courses include English, theology, social studies, science, and math. Physical education, visual arts, music classes, agricultural science and shop are offered every other day during the school year to introduce our red/white alternating schedule. These classes give each student the opportunity to experience all academic areas and develop insights into personal strengths before high school. Instruction at the middle school level focuses on an active learning, project-based approach. This “school within a school” model allows 6th through 8th grade students to learn in a caring, personalized, student-centered environment.

**RESOURCE CENTER:** The middle school follows a semester-based schedule that includes a common grade-level advisory and study hall period each day. Additional support is provided to students during this time and a resource teacher is available for additional skill reinforcement. The Bethlehem Academy middle school resource center provides additional academic and organizational support to middle school students for future success. The main objectives of the resource center are to improve literacy, strengthen math skills, foster good work habits and study skills, and promote effective time management.

## Middle School Courses & Credits

### 6th Grade

English	1.0 Credit	Math 6	1.0 Credit
Minnesota Studies	1.0 Credit	Religion 6	1.0 Credit
Earth Science	1.0 Credit	Music	1.0 Credit
PE	0.5 Credit (Year-round, every other day)		
Art	0.25 Credit (One semester, every other day)		
Technology	0.25 Credit (One semester, every other day)		

### 7th Grade

English	1.0 Credit	Intro to Algebra	1.0 Credit
U.S. Studies	1.0 Credit	Religion 7	1.0 Credit
Life Science	1.0 Credit	Music	1.0 Credit
PE/Health	0.5 Credit (Year-round, every other day)		
Art	0.25 Credit (One semester, every other day)		
Ag & Shop	0.25 Credit (One semester, every other day)		



## 8th Grade

English	1.0 Credit	Algebra 1	1.0 Credit
World Studies	1.0 Credit	Religion 8	1.0 Credit
Physical Science	1.0 Credit	Music	1.0 Credit
PE	0.5 Credit (Year-round, every other day)		
Art	0.25 Credit (One semester, every other day)		
Ag & Shop (\$)	0.25 Credit (One semester, every other day)		

## Middle School Course Descriptions

### English

#### English 6

This course integrates writing, reading, and communication skills throughout the year. Literature focuses on Minnesota themes and authors for cross-curricular connections to sixth grade Minnesota Studies. Writing focuses on journals, in-class themes, and a five-paragraph essay that links to the sixth grade Minnesota Studies class. Vocabulary, spelling, and individual reading projects are included throughout the year. This course encourages students to become independent readers, thinkers, and writers in order to foster success in middle school.

#### English 7

This course uses an integrated approach to reading, writing, and communication skills by building upon the fundamentals of sixth grade. Literature focuses on a wider variety of reading opportunities that develop students' critical thinking skills and foster a love for reading. Writing focuses on journals, in-class themes, multi-draft essays, and a research paper that connects to their seventh grade science class. Vocabulary, spelling, and individual reading projects are included throughout the year. This course fosters lifelong reading and study habits and encourages in-depth exploration of content.

#### English 8

This course uses an integrated approach to reading, writing, and communication skills throughout the year. Literature focuses on wider reading opportunities that develop students' critical thinking skills and offer diverse perspectives about the world. Writing focuses on journals, in-class themes, multi-draft essays, and a research paper that connects to their Wolf Ridge science field trip. Vocabulary, spelling, and individual reading projects are included throughout the year.

### Mathematics\*

#### Math 6

This math class is designed to provide students with a final examination of general math topics before they move on to a pre-algebra math class. Students will solve problems of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of whole numbers, decimal numbers, fractions, mixed numbers, and integers. They will solve real-world problems with ratios, proportions, and percentages and display and interpret data in a variety of

ways. Students will convert measures using unit multipliers, use formulas to solve perimeter, area, and volume problems, evaluate expressions, and solve simple equations.

### **Math 7: Introduction to Algebra**

Introduction to Algebra is designed to help students move from the concrete concepts of arithmetic to the abstract concepts of algebra. This course reviews calculations with rational numbers to solve real-world problems. Students will use order of operations, combine like terms, solve one and two step equations, and use ratios, proportions, and scale factors to solve problems. Students will graph on the coordinate plane, analyze geometric figures, and use probability to solve real-world problems.

### **Math 8: Algebra 1**

Algebra is the generalization of arithmetic rules and procedures. Students use variables as real numbers, abbreviations in formulas, and unknown quantities in problems. Students study properties of real numbers, solve and graph equations and work with elementary functions. Students will simplify expressions with like terms and solve multi-step equations. Students will find probability, graph on coordinate planes, find slope, and use the slope-intercept equation of a line. Students will also solve and classify systems of equations, use the FOIL method to multiply polynomials, and factor trinomials.

\*Math concepts leveled courses may be offered in any middle school grade based on need.

## **Science**

### **Science 6: Earth Science**

Earth science incorporates module projects, class activities, vocabulary development, and lab experiments to explore the physical features of planet Earth. This course examines such topics as the Sun-Earth-Moon relationship, weather, human impact on Earth's spheres, geologic time, changes in Earth's crust, and distribution of Earth's resources.

### **Science 7: Life Science**

Life science, an introductory biology class, incorporates module projects, class activities, vocabulary development, and lab experiments to explore the living things of our planet. This course examines such topics as cycling of matter, ecosystems and biodiversity, cells, organization and body systems, reproduction and genetics, and natural selection.

### **Science 8: Physical Science**

Physical science, an introductory chemistry and physics class, incorporates module projects, class activities, vocabulary development, and lab experiments to explore matter, energy, and the changes they undergo. This course examines such topics as forces and motion; mechanical energy; electromagnetic forces; waves; light; and the classification, states, properties, and changes of matter.

## **Social Studies**

### **Social Studies 6: Minnesota Studies**

In this course students study Minnesota history, geography, and its government, placing the state and its people within the context of the national story. Students engage in historical inquiry to discover the important events, issues, and individuals significant to Minnesota history. They analyze how the state's physical features and

location of resources affected settlement patterns and the growth of cities. Investigations provide the opportunity to analyze primary sources and appreciate the value of multiple perspectives.

### **Social Studies 7: U.S. Studies**

In this course students learn about the people, issues, and events of significance to our nation's history from 1800 to the current era. Students employ maps to understand American history. They also have the opportunity to be historical detectives by using primary sources such as speeches, letters, diaries, documents, political cartoons, and photographs to further analyze an event or issue in history. Discussion of current issues is also incorporated into the course.

### **Social Studies 8: World Studies**

In this course students explore the physical and human geography of regions of the world. Students gain an understanding and appreciation of major geographic and cultural areas of the world and the issues and challenges that unite and divide them. Students read, write, discuss, analyze and take positions on multiple topics in order to build and defend arguments. Students also learn to interpret and utilize information from an atlas, map, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

## **Theology**

Middle school theology courses are designed to give students an opportunity to examine Sacred Scripture and encourage them to delve as deeply as possible into it. Students will have the opportunity to study both the Old and New Testament, the symbolism found throughout the Bible, typology, saints, and the people who make up the Bible and the history of the church. Students will conclude by studying the Commandments, prophets, and the writings of the Old and New Testament. Each grade follows the same sequence but builds in complexity. Students are also involved with planning and participating in school Masses.

Using the *Spirit of Truth* textbook series, the particular emphasis of each grade level are as follows:

- Theology 6: abstract thinking, reading, and writing abilities (related to the scripture)
- Theology 7: their own identity and their identity in Christ (related to the scripture)
- Theology 8: belonging and their experience of Church which should be one of inclusion and welcome (church history)
- Each grade also participates in group discussions and activities based on the *Habitudes* curriculum, a program to build leadership and lifelong skills in students.

## **Technology**

### **Technology 6**

Technology 6 introduces students to the laptop program. This course is intended to enhance and support classroom instruction and student learning. Students acquire technological knowledge and skills through Microsoft Office, multimedia and keyboarding applications. Students will discuss how to function and exercise rights and responsibilities of citizenship in an ever-changing digital society. This class is offered one semester, every other day.

## **Agricultural Science & Shop**

### **Agricultural Science & Shop 7**

This semester-long class meets every other day. Students will be introduced to the broad field of agriculture. This class will also focus on the scientific side of agriculture through different hands-on projects and activities. Safety will be emphasized to ensure students become comfortable around tools and their various functions. Some of the many specific activities/projects covered throughout this semester will be 3-D flowers and a real flower germination lab, an agriculture-related science project, and learning how to care for their chosen class pet. This class is offered one semester, every other day.

### **Agricultural Science & Shop 8 (\$)**

This semester-long class meets every other day. Students will continue to explore agriculture and the trades through agriculture-based projects and activities. Some of the activities completed in this semester include managing the hydroponics tower to grow lettuce for the school lunches, creating their own wildlife management program, and creating and marketing their own snack mix. Shop projects include “The Flower,” a foldable table, and a birdhouse. The shop fee for this class is \$15. This class is offered one semester, every other day.

## **Fine Arts: Music**

### **Middle School Choir**

Middle school choir is designed to provide vocal instruction and general musicianship skills to all choral students of varying ability levels. Instruction will include proper vocal technique, music literacy and music theory and will emphasize differences in musical styles as they relate to music history and the interpretation of specific pieces. Emphasis will be placed on improved ensemble singing such as pitch matching, tone production, and reading rhythms. Students will also learn appropriate rehearsal and audience behavior. Middle school choir includes grades 6-8, but may vary depending on year, schedules, level of students or class size to allow for 8th grade to participate with the high school choir. All middle school choir members are expected to participate in three concerts throughout the year. 8th grade singers are required to attend weekly individual lessons when in high school choir. Weekly/every other week lessons are optional for 6-7<sup>th</sup> graders. Summer lessons with the choir director are optional.

### **Middle School Band**

*Prerequisite:* Band experience or summer lessons with the band director and an instrument diagnostic test. The band program is designed to promote and direct musical growth, help the members become proficient on their chosen instrument(s), and provide a creative outlet for musical talent. Each student has lessons with the band director throughout the school year. Middle school band includes grades 6-8, but may vary depending on year, schedules, level of students or class size to allow for 8th grade to participate with the high school band. All band members are expected to perform at 3-5 concerts. In addition, all grade 8-12 band students are part of the pep band, which performs at approximately 20 different events throughout the year. All grade 8-12 band students take part in summer band rehearsals with exceptions to be approved by the band director.

## **Fine Arts: Visual Arts**

### **Art 6**

Students will use creative processes and the language of art to communicate through a variety of media and techniques. Students will learn how history and culture have influenced art. Students will use the language of art to critically analyze, derive meaning from and evaluate artwork. This class is offered one semester, every other day.

### **Art 7**

Students will develop new techniques and skills in visual art. They will continue the practice of reflecting upon art through discussion and writing and build upon the art fundamentals learned in 6th grade. Art appreciation and aesthetics will continue to be important components of the curriculum, along with exploring additional artistic mediums that may not have been previously encountered. This class is offered one semester, every other day.

### **Art 8**

Through the study of visual arts, students respond to life experiences through images, structures, and tactile works of art and design. Students will continue to learn the language of the arts and how to interpret visual symbols. This program involves production, critical analysis, history and culture, aesthetics and connections among the visual arts, other content areas, and everyday life. This class is offered one semester, every other day.

## **Physical Education**

### **Physical Education 6**

The 6th grade physical education course focuses on the importance of developing physical literacy, the ability to move with competence and confidence in steps to develop the whole child. Students will participate in a wide variety of physical activities that will enhance their knowledge of lifetime sports and activities, with the goal of making physical activity a part of their lifestyle. This class is offered all year, every other day.

### **Physical Education/Health 7**

The 7th grade physical education class focuses on the three areas of health (physical, mental, and social). Students will apply the three areas of health through various sports and activities. The students will learn the importance of physical education and how it can be used to improve their daily lives. This class is offered all year, every other day.

### **Physical Education 8**

The 8th grade physical education class focuses on the fundamentals of sports and three areas of health (physical, mental, and social). The students will enhance the three areas of health through many different sports and activities. The students will be able to describe the importance of physical education and how it can help to create a pathway to lifelong healthy living. This class is offered all year, every other day.

# High School

The following section provides each scholar with information about high school course offerings, graduation requirements, and tips about planning for your future beyond Bethlehem Academy. Our courses follow our mission “to empower our students to achieve personal, spiritual and academic excellence.” We know that God has great plans for you! The intent of this curriculum book is to guide you in your course selection and registration for the upcoming school year while helping you plan for the remainder of your high school career.

## BE SURE TO READ THE ENTIRE COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOKLET

before registering so you can be confident that you know about all course offerings and what the courses cover. If you have questions about a specific course, please contact the course teacher or counselor before registering.

Discuss your plans and selections with your parents and feel free to seek advice and help from faculty members and the school counselor. You are encouraged to consider past achievements to help make wise decisions in your academic selection. When you and your parents have decided on the classes for you, register your course selections online via PowerSchool. Be sure to follow directions carefully.

### You will only be allowed to change a class in the fall/spring for the following reasons:

1. Credit for a scheduled course was earned during the summer/fall.
2. Student does not have the prerequisite for a scheduled course.
3. Course is at an inappropriate academic level for the student.
4. An error was made by the scheduling office during the registration process.

## Points to Consider in Your Course Selection

You owe it to yourself to select courses that are relevant to your future plans and challenge you as a scholar. Individual pathways may vary. Discuss your plans with your parents and our counselor to ensure that you select the right courses. We also encourage you to seek input from faculty. Keep your class workloads to what you know you can handle. Take time to sit down with your parents and school counselor to plan out a tentative schedule for grades 9-12.

## Bethlehem Academy Graduation Requirements

Upon successful completion of a course, students at Bethlehem Academy receive 0.5 credit for each semester course and 1.0 credit for a year-long course. To graduate from BA, students need to fulfill the following requirements and maintain a schedule equivalent to eight academic courses. Students are required to take a **minimum of four classes at BA each semester** in order to be eligible for a BA diploma. Students may only schedule one study hall per semester unless taking multiple college-level classes and with the approval of the counselor and Principal.

### Minimum Graduation Requirements

Theology	4.0
English	4.0
Social Studies	4.0
Math	3.0
Science	3.0
Fine/Practical Arts	1.0
Physical Education	0.5
Health	0.5
Elective	7.0

## Credit Recovery for Class Failure

If a student does not successfully complete a course required for graduation, they will be responsible for making up the lost credit in order to graduate on time. Students may elect to:

- Repeat the course the following school year.
- Complete a course makeup packet for P/F grade.
- Take an online course at the student's expense.
- Coordinate with your counselor for credit recovery through the Faribault ALC.

## Future Goal Considerations

In addition to fulfilling high school graduation requirements, students must consider entrance requirements at the post-secondary school of their choice. Please use the following information as a guideline. Each college/university may have unique entrance requirements. **If you know a college you are interested in attending after high school, look up that school's unique admission requirements.**

### Planning a Course of Study

What is your goal?	Vocational/Technical College Certificate, Diploma	Community College, Associate Degree or transfer Program	Traditional 4 year college/University Bachelor's degree	"Selective" 4 year College/University Bachelor's Degree
Example	Riverland, DCTC, St Paul Technical College	South Central College, Century College, Riverland College	Concordia University, Marymount, UMD, MN State Mankato, UW-Eau Claire	St. Thomas, Marquette University, Carlton, St. Kate's, St. John's, St. Benedict's, Bethel College, U of Mary's (ND), Gustavus, St. Olaf, Loyola, Notre Dame, Villanova, Ivy League, Univ of Minnesota, UW Madison

How many years of each class should you take based on your goals? (Based on admission recommendations from sample institutions)

English	4 years	4 years	4 years	4 years, advanced levels
Social Studies	3.5 years	3.5 years	3 or more years	4 years, advanced levels
Mathematics	3 or more years	3 or more years	3 or more years	4 or more years
Science	3 or more years	3 or more years	3 or more years	4 or more years
Physical Education	.5 year	.5 year	.5 year	.5 year
Health	.5 year	.5 year	.5 year	.5 year
Fine Arts <small>(most schools do not allow industrial tech to meet this requirement)</small>	1 year	1 year	at least 1 year	at least 1 year
World Language (Spanish)	no recommendation	no recommendation	2 or more years	3-4 years
Electives	<i>choose electives to prepare for a career</i>	<i>or broaden your</i>	<i>interests</i>	Take as many Advanced level, honors, AP, CIS, Marquette courses you can successfully manage

## NCAA Athletic Clearinghouse Requirements:

Student-athletes planning to play at the Division I or Division II level must be registered with the NCAA Clearinghouse after the completion of 11th grade. The registration process and other important information can be found at their website: [www.web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3](http://www.web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3). All student-athletes must meet initial eligibility requirements established by the NCAA Clearinghouse. Please note that not all courses offered at BA meet

NCAA core course requirements. Be sure to check with the Clearinghouse and your counselor to ensure that your pathway meets NCAA requirements.

## Technical College Requirements:

Technical colleges offer many opportunities in a wide range of vocational fields. Students having a particular field in mind should check with the counselor for advice on high school courses that may be helpful. Apply early, as many technical colleges have limited seats in certain areas of study. Please remember that technical and community colleges **highly encourage students to complete college prep classes which include three or more years of math, science, social studies and four years of English.** Students will also take placement tests in the areas of reading, writing and math upon acceptance.

## Grading System

Bethlehem Academy weights grades for college-level classes taught at BA. Under the weighted system, BA's AP and CIS courses are given an additional 25% in GPA points as follows:

Grading Scale	Percent	Unweighted	Weighted
A	94-100	4.00	5.00
A-	90-93	3.67	4.58
B+	87-89	3.33	4.17
B	83-86	3.00	3.75
B-	80-82	2.67	3.33
C+	77-79	2.33	2.91
C	73-76	2.00	2.50
C-	70-72	1.67	2.08
D+	67-69	1.33	1.67
D	63-66	1.00	1.25
D-	60-62	0.67	0.83
F	0-59	0.00	0.00

Class valedictorian and salutatorian are selected by cumulative grade point average. While selecting courses at BA, keep in mind that colleges will consider the rigor of your high school curriculum as part of their admissions decision.

## College Credit Opportunities

*Please be aware that every college and university has different rules regarding the transfer of credits earned in college-level classes taken in high school. Please consult with our school counselor and/or your desired post-secondary institution for details.* Students may switch the sequencing of required classes (where academically appropriate) to take advantage of BA's college level options.

## College in the Schools (CIS) / Advanced Placement (AP) Courses

College in the Schools is a concurrent enrollment program that allows Bethlehem Academy students to take University of Minnesota-Twin Cities classes at BA, earning both high school and college credit. Interested students must fulfill U of MN course requirements to enroll in a CIS course at BA. CIS courses cost an additional \$145 for domestic students and \$195 for international students. Should a student have a genuine interest in the course but not meet the course qualifications, they are encouraged to speak to the school counselor and the course instructor.



Students enrolled in AP courses are required to take the May AP exams. Exam fees are \$98/exam and are administered at Bethlehem Academy. College credits may generally be earned when a student scores a 3 or higher on the AP exam.

<u>College in the Schools (CIS)**</u>	<u>Advanced Placement (AP)**</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● U.S. History Since 1865-University of Minnesota HIST 1308 (3 credits)</li> <li>● CSE Calculus I-University of Minnesota MATH 1371 (4 credits)</li> <li>● Human Physiology, Technology and Medical Devices-University of Minnesota BIOL 1015 (4 credits)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● AP Comparative Government &amp; Politics</li> <li>● AP English Literature and Composition</li> <li>● AP English Language and Composition</li> <li>● AP European History</li> <li>● AP Music Theory</li> <li>● AP Statistics</li> </ul>

**\*\*All CIS and Advanced Placement course instructors weigh grades for these classes.**

## Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

PSEO offers high school juniors and seniors the opportunity to take courses at eligible post-secondary institutions. Students must meet the admissions requirements of the post-secondary institution, but do not pay for tuition, fees, or books.

Students interested in taking PSEO courses at South Central or other colleges and universities must work with the counseling office prior to registration; **many schools have deadlines as early as the beginning of April.** No more than four PSEO classes—generally only an option senior year—may be taken in a semester and only with counselor and principal approval. Students taking PSEO classes will have a scheduled study hall for each PSEO class. PSEO classes count as elective credits for graduation purposes. Generally speaking, PSEO classes should be chosen to take advantage of elective courses not offered at BA.

## Minnesota Bilingual and Multilingual Seal Program

Bethlehem Academy students will have the opportunity to participate in the Bilingual and Multilingual Seals and World Language Proficiency Certificate program through the State of Minnesota. This program allows students to take a qualifying exam in a language other than English to demonstrate proficiency and earn a special commendation on their transcript. Schools within the Minnesota State (formerly MNSCU) system have agreed to award college credit to students with bilingual or multilingual seals or certificates on their transcripts. Other schools in Minnesota may also choose to award credit, but the student will need to discuss this with the individual school’s academic department. This option is usually offered to Spanish IV/V students.

## Alternate Elective Options

### Independent Study (.5 elective credit)

Students interested in an independent study course need to coordinate an agreement with an independent study advisor. Together, the student and advisor will collaborate on the Independent Study framework. Students may pick up an Independent Study request sheet from the counseling office. Students are encouraged to complete all other elective offerings before pursuing an independent study course. Students are only allowed one independent study per semester.

## Teacher Aid & Tutoring Options (.5 elective credit)

Senior students in good standing and with a genuine interest in helping with the education process are encouraged to explore the option of being a Teacher's Aid or Tutor. Students may only TA for a course they have already taken, and are **only allowed one TA course per semester**. TA opportunities are at the discretion of the teacher in conjunction with the school counselor. TA courses are graded P/F. A TA opportunity does not count for the purposes of meeting the minimum number of classes required each semester to be eligible for a BA diploma.

## Limitations on Electives

Bethlehem Academy wants graduates to be well rounded, therefore students are only allowed to take two classes in the following areas per semester: shop and physical education.

## Academic Support Services

In an effort to ensure the academic success of all our students, Bethlehem Academy offers the following academic support systems:

- Middle and High School Homework Club: 3-4 times/week immediately after school.
- Individual Peer Tutoring: can be requested through counseling office
- High School Support Staff: Available during study hall and after school on certain days. Students should let staff know they are interested in additional support or if struggling, they may be scheduled to meet with our support staff.
- Student Assistance Team: students can be assigned/referred by a teacher, counselor, or parent/guardian
- 1:1 Teacher Help: teachers are available before and after school

## High School Courses & Credits

See department sections for course listings and requirements

### English

English 9	Grade 9	1.0 Credit
English 10: Research & Writing	Grade 10	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
English 10: Speech	Grade 10	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
American Literature & Composition	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
Writing & Thematic Literature	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit (2024-2025; 2026-2027)
Reading & Writing	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit (2025-2026; 2027-2028)
AP English Literature & Composition (\$)	Grade 12	1.0 Credit
World Literature	Grade 12	1.0 Credit
AP English Language & Composition (\$)	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
Multimedia	Grades 10-12	0.5/1 Credit (Semester or Year)
Mythology*: Greek, Roman, Norse, and Modern	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2) (2024-2025; 2026-2027)
Creative Writing	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2) (2025-2026; 2027-2028)
Cinema and Literature	Grade 12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)

### Mathematics

Geometry	Grade 9	1.0 Credit
Algebra II/Trigonometry	Grades 9-10	1.0 Credit
Intermediate Algebra	Grades 9-10	1.0 Credit
Precalculus	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
CIS Calculus I (\$)	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
Calculus II	Grade 12	1.0 Credit
Probability & Statistics	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
AP Statistics (\$)	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
Coding I	Grades 10-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Coding II	Grades 10-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
<i>Consumer Math</i>		<i>Course description under Business</i>

### Science

Earth and Space Science*	Grade 9	1.0 Credit
Biology	Grade 10	1.0 Credit
Chemistry	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
Physics	Grade 12	1.0 Credit
Introduction to Engineering	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
Field Biology & Ecology	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
CIS Human Physiology, Tech and Med Devices(\$)	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
Human Anatomy	Grades 10-12	1.0 Credit

## Social Studies\*\*

World History	Grades 9, 12	1.0 Credit
Foundations of Personal Finance	Grade 10-12	0.5 Credit
Citizenship and Government	Grade 11	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Geography	Grade 11	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
United States History	Grade 10	1.0 Credit
Psychology	Grades 10-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Current Events	Grades 10-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
History of Warfare	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
History of Cinema*	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Comparative Government*	Grades 10-12	1.0 Credit
AP Comparative Govt & Politics(\$)*	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit
AP European History (\$)	Grade 11-12	1.0 Credit
CIS U.S. History-1865 to Present (\$)	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
CloseUp Trip: Washington DC & NYC(\$)	Grades 9-12	Spring 2026

\*\*See Department section for grade level progression

## Theology

Revelation of Jesus Christ	Grade 9	1.0 Credit
Christian Morality	Grade 10	1.0 Credit
The Church & Sacraments	Grade 11	1.0 Credit
Discipleship of Jesus Christ in Society	Grade 12	1.0 Credit
Church History	Grades 10-12	1.0 Credit

## Agricultural Science & Shop

Fish and Wildlife	Grades 10-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
Plant Science	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
Veterinary Science	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1) (2024-2025; 2026-2027)
Animal Science	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1) (2025-2026; 2027-2028)
Work-Based Learning	Grades 11-12	0.5/1 credit (Semester or Year)
Online Ag Study	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)

Intarsia (\$)	Grades 9-12	0.5/1 credit (Semester or Year)
Small Gas Engines	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1) (2024-2025; 2026-2027)
Electricity	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1) (2025-2026; 2027-2028)
Woodshop I (\$)	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Woodshop II (\$)	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)

## Business\*

Consumer Math	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Intro to Business	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Intro to Accounting	Grades 11-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
<i>Foundations of Personal Finance</i>		<i>Course description under Social Studies</i>

## Fine Arts: Music

High School Band	Grades 9-12	1.0 Credit
High School Concert Choir	Grades 9-12	1.0 Credit
Music History	Grades 10-12	1.0 Credit (2024-2025; 2026-2027)
AP Music Theory (\$)	Grades 11-12	1.0 Credit (2025-2026; 2027-2028)

## Fine Arts: Visual Arts

Drawing I	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Drawing II	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
Painting I	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Painting II	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
Studio Arts	Grades 11-12	0.5/1 Credit (Semester or Year)
Introduction to Photography	Grades 9-12	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)

## Physical Education & Health

Physical Education	Grades 9-10	0.5 Credit (Semester 1)
Health	Grades 9-10	0.5 Credit (Semester 2)
Leadership & Health*	Grades 10-12	0.5 (Semester 1) (2024-2025; 2026-2027)
Lifetime Sports & Activities	Grades 10-12	0.5 (Semester 1) (2025-2026; 2027-2028)
Speed & Strength Training I-III	Grades 10-12	0.5 (Semester 2)
Female Strength Training I-III	Grades 10-12	0.5/1 Credit (Semester or Year)

## World Language: Spanish

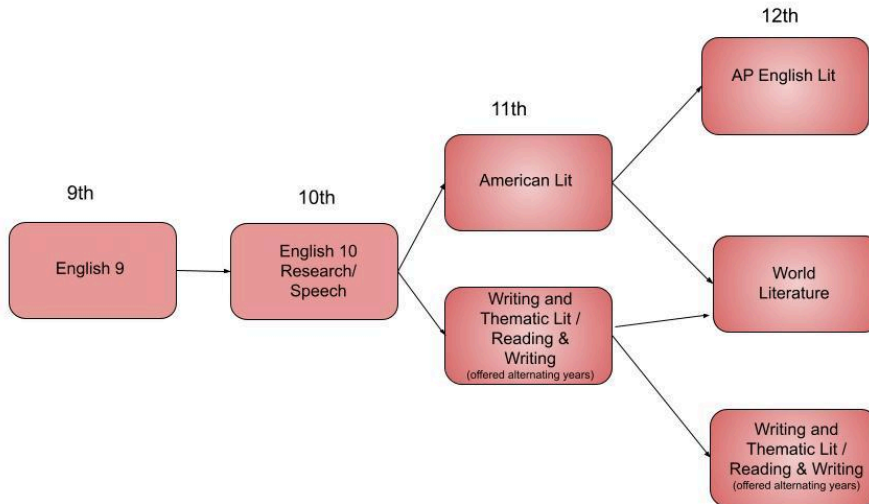
Spanish I	Grades 9-12	1.0 Credit
Spanish II	Grades 9-12	1.0 Credit
Spanish III	Grades 9-12	1.0 Credit
Spanish IV	Grades 9-12	1.0 Credit
Spanish V	Grades 10-12	1.0 Credit

\*New Courses for 2024-2025  
(\$) Additional Course Fees Required

# High School Course Descriptions

## English

*High school students must complete 4 years of English to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*



### English 9

Grade 9 • 1.0 Credit

The course includes expanded literary, writing, and speaking experiences. English skills consist of the ability to write clearly and correctly, to read and analyze for deeper meaning, and to present ideas articulately in speech. We will focus not only on reading and understanding literature through both a historical and cultural lens but also on grammar, techniques for proficient writing, spelling and vocabulary, and reading and analysis of poetry, nonfiction pieces, short stories and novels, and drama. It is through good communication skills that we can connect with and relate to one another successfully. All the course work is intended to help students become smart, confident, and clear communicators. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### English 10: Research & Writing

Grade 10 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

Students will focus on a research paper unit, which will emphasize the research process. This includes the construction of a thesis statement, an outline, and a formal paper. We will review grammar elements, focusing primarily on phrase and clause construction and punctuation, paragraph and short essay construction, and proper grammar usage. This semester will also include proper research methods (MLA format) and cultivating and citing sources. In addition, vocabulary development will continue as a way to improve critical thinking and language skills. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### English 10: Speech

Grade 10 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

The speech component of English 10 stresses oral and visual communication. Students will give introduction, tribute (memorial), narrative, demonstrative, informative, and persuasive speeches over the course of the semester. Topics for the informative and persuasive speeches, in particular, will be derived from the formal research project. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

**One credit of English is required for graduation both junior and senior years. The following courses are available to meet that requirement based on teacher and counselor recommendation:**

### **American Literature & Composition**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

Students in this course will read and discuss American literature dating from the European settlement of this land to the present. Literature will be taught within its historical and cultural context and will include within its scope major authors and the movements or schools of thought they represent. In addition, students will learn the art of communicating through the written word in the following forms: essays - both responsive and formal - and speech preparation. In particular, students will learn to respond thoroughly to timed, written prompts and will complete a formal application essay for college.

### **Writing and Thematic Literature (2024-2025; 2026-2027)**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Instructor approval; limited enrollment

Students will be taught and will use context clues to help develop reading comprehension skills. Students will read modern fiction and nonfiction sources. Vocabulary and decoding of words will be used with the ACT most tested words list. Students will be required to read three independent novels and report out in both written and oral formats. Students will also analyze nonfiction texts discussing the importance of setting and its influence in classic literature and modern fiction. Students will learn to write a persuasive essay and defend his or her opinion based on critical research and analysis of literature. Essay structure (introduction, body, conclusion, transition and grammar) will be a key element in this course in preparation for college writing. There will be a significant emphasis on sentence fluency and grammar rules regarding the use of: semicolon, comma, avoiding fragments and run-on sentences, active voice and subject/verb agreement.

### **Reading & Writing (2025-2026; 2027-2028)**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Instructor approval; limited enrollment

Students will demonstrate reading comprehension skills while reading and annotating fiction and nonfiction sources. Vocabulary growth and an independent reading program will be key components to improving students' reading comprehension. Once students demonstrate comprehension of a text, they will analyze the text in both written and oral form. Students will identify and analyze elements of fiction (character, plot, theme, conflict) in novels, short stories, and poetry; students will also analyze nonfiction texts (main idea, fact/opinion, tone, intent, bias, and credibility). Written communication will emphasize organization, sentence fluency, paragraph and essay writing, and mechanics. Speaking activities will consist of formal and informal discussions and informative presentations.

### **AP English Literature and Composition (\$)**

Grade 12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* American Literature & Composition

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery,

symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works. Students are required to take the AP exam in May; there is a \$98 fee for the exam.

## **World Literature**

Grade 12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* American Literature & Composition or instructor approval

World Literature is a course designed for seniors not only to meet the fourth-year English requirement but also to challenge those students who are academically qualified yet do *not* desire to earn an AP credit. It is structured to be rigorous and to prepare students for college-level work; therefore, students should expect to engage in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature from six continents to deepen their understanding of the methods by which writers use language to provide meaning and interest. As they read, students will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. The course will focus not only on reading and understanding literature through both a historical and cultural lens but also on techniques for proficient writing and spelling and vocabulary.

## **English Elective Courses**

### **AP English Language and Composition (\$)**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

The AP English Language and Composition course is an elective course that aligns to an introductory college-level rhetoric and writing curriculum, which requires students to develop evidence-based analytic and argumentative essays that proceed through several stages or drafts. Students evaluate, synthesize, and cite research to support their arguments. Throughout the course, students develop a personal style by making appropriate grammatical choices. Students also read and analyze the rhetorical elements and their effects in non-fiction texts, including graphic images as forms of text, from many disciplines and historical periods. Students are required to take the AP exam in May; there is a \$98 fee for the exam.

### **Multimedia**

Grades 10-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

Multimedia is the integration of multiple forms of media including text, graphics, audio, and video, to name just a few. This class will be designed and dedicated to using these many forms of technology. The basic foundation of this course is working with technology to create and design creative digital and print media to be used in and around the school and on various social networking platforms.

### **Mythology: Greek, Roman, Norse, and Modern\* (2024-2025; 2026-2027)**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit -Semester 2

This semester-long course will give students an overview of the vast collection of stories explaining the Roman, Greek, and Norse viewpoints of the creation of the world as well as explore the lives of their gods, goddesses, heroes, and heroines. The immense scope of the influence of the Greek, Roman, and Norse myths on all other literature will be a secondary focus of this course. Students will briefly explore Japanese, Celtic, Egyptian, and Mayan myths. Students will study Homer, his influence on literature, history, and the modern world. The class will also touch on the Arthurian legend and its relationship to mythology. Students in this course will demonstrate their understanding through a variety of projects which will include writing and film study and will then apply this body of knowledge to modern mythology including Tolkien, C.S. Lewis, and Riordan.



## Creative Writing (2025-2026; 2027-2028)

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

Students will develop effective creative expression and analysis of writing by first reviewing examples of fictional work, drama, poetry as well as modern forms of expression including but not limited to lyrics, personal mission statement and noteworthy speeches. The first nine weeks will focus on the reading and interpretation of poetry and fictional works by both classic and contemporary writers. The second nine weeks will focus on characterization, plot and story building. Because of the reading and writing activities, students will develop an understanding of the specific elements of a poem, poetic techniques, and form. Students will master an understanding of the elements of fiction, characterization, plot development, and literary techniques. Students will then synthesize and apply the learned knowledge in personal writing creations. This English elective course is designed to assist students to both creatively express themselves as well as develop a critical eye in reading, proofreading, analysis and critique. A writing portfolio is the culminating project for this course.

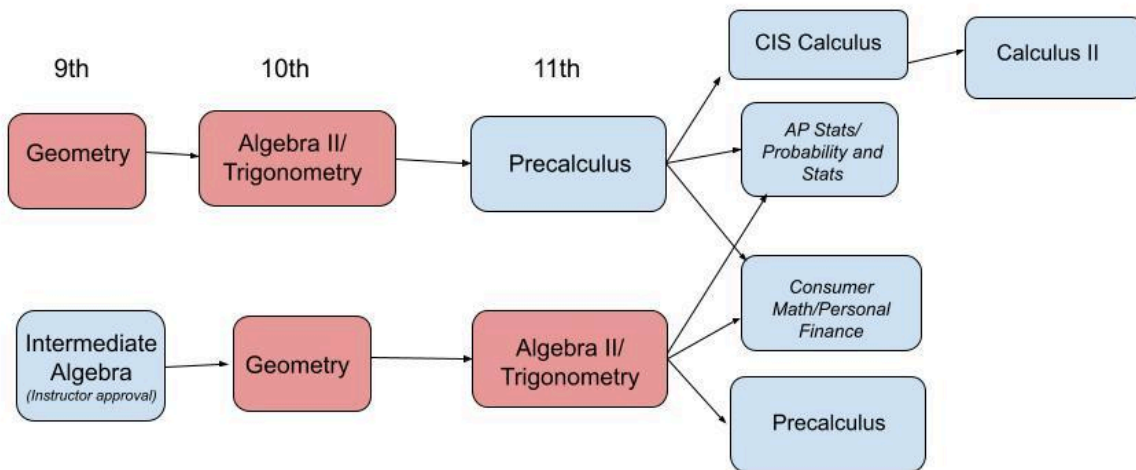
## Cinema and Literature

Grades 12 • 0.5 Credit -Semester 2

This semester-long English elective course encourages study in the comparative arts. It uses classic movies to reinforce the study of the elements of literary analysis. The course will give students not only the tools to appreciate good books more fully but also the ability to critique narrative content and form, to discern underlying messages, and to analyze movies from a moral, critical, and historical standpoint. All books/films will be chosen for literary merit and effective filmmaking. Student discussion and composition questions will form the basis for the course curriculum.

## Mathematics\*\*

*High school students must complete at least 3 years of mathematics, including Geometry and Algebra II/Trigonometry, to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*



Students may take more than one math class per year as an elective course.

Consumer Math and Personal Finance is a math pathway option only with counselor and principal approval.

## Geometry

Grade 9 or instructor approval • 1.0 Credit

Geometry is a course designed to study the concepts of Euclid. We can use points, lines, and planes as models of real world situations. Students will learn about the foundations of Geometry, congruent and similar triangles, general polygons, special quadrilaterals, and circles. Volume and surface area of geometric solids will also be studied. We will briefly cover constructions using a compass and straightedge, logic and reasoning, and transformations. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## Algebra II / Trigonometry

Grades 9-10 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Geometry or instructor approval

This course is the second year of algebra at the high school level. We will be expanding the concepts taught in Algebra and Geometry and applying them to more complex situations. Students study functions in depth including quadratic, exponential and logarithmic. Right triangle trigonometry is introduced, culminating in a study of the unit circle. After completing this course students should be ready to take Pre-Calculus if they choose. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## Intermediate Algebra

Grades 9-10 with instructor approval • 1.0 Credit

Algebra is the generalization of arithmetic rules and procedures. Students use variables as real numbers, abbreviations in formulas, and unknown quantities in problems. Students study properties of real numbers, solve and graph equations and inequalities and work with elementary functions. There is an extended focus on linear functions and their properties. Students also learn to display data in a variety of ways and interpret the results.

**\*\*Note:** Additional intermediate or concepts math classes may be offered at any level based on student need.

**One additional credit of Math is required for graduation. The following courses are available to meet that requirement based on teacher and counselor recommendation:**

## Precalculus

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Algebra II / Trigonometry or instructor approval

This mathematics course is aimed at college-bound students with a good aptitude in mathematics. The course introduces the students to analytical and discrete mathematics. Students are challenged to develop critical thinking skills in mathematics. Students use mathematics as a means of problem solving, communicating, reasoning, and making connections to the real world. Among the topics are advanced equations solving techniques, polynomials, rational, logarithmic and exponential functions, trigonometry, and conic sections.

## CIS Calculus I (CIS/MATH 1371) (\$)

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Precalculus with an A- or better, or instructor approval. A graphing calculator is required.

Calculus is the mathematics used to describe change and motion. Founded in the 17th century by Isaac Newton & Gottfried Leibniz, its applications have grown from physics to many areas within the natural and social sciences, including engineering, economics, medicine, and statistics. Calculus I is a first year college

mathematics course. Students at Bethlehem Academy may enroll for 4 credits in MATH 1371 from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities through its College in the Schools program. Fees for this course is set by the University of Minnesota at \$145 (\$195 for international students).

## **Calculus II**

Grade 12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Calculus and instructor approval. A graphing calculator is required.

This course will continue to build on concepts and techniques introduced in CIS Calculus I. Advanced techniques for integration will be covered. Topics include differential equations, sequences, series, parametric equations, polar coordinates, vectors and Taylor Polynomials. Students may choose to take the AP Calculus BC exam in May.

## **Probability and Statistics**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Algebra II/Trigonometry

This course is intended for juniors and seniors who are not planning on a college major that is math intensive. Statistical concepts and methods will be carefully presented with a focus on understanding both the suitability of the method and the meaning of the results. Statistical methods and measurements are developed in the context of applications.

## **AP Statistics (\$)**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Completion of or concurrent enrollment in Precalculus. Students are required to have a TI-84 calculator for this course.

This course is the study of collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. The primary units of study include exploring data by observing patterns and departures from patterns, planning a study by deciding what and how to measure, anticipating patterns by producing models using probability and simulations, and using statistical inference by confirming models. The students will demonstrate learning through quizzes, labs, and tests. Students take the AP exam in May; there is a \$98 fee for the exam.

## **Mathematics Elective Courses**

**Consumer Math** under Business

**Personal Finance** under Social Studies

## **Coding I**

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

*Prerequisite:* Algebra II/Trig (may be taken concurrently)

Are you interested in becoming a web or app developer? Then you need to learn how to code! Students will code through in-class activities, small group projects and independent based projects. Coding languages available include HTML/CSS, Python, JavaScript, Swift and others. This course will utilize resources and tools from various websites such as CodeHS, Code Academy, PythonAnywhere, W3Schools, Coursera and EDX. Students may earn completion certificates which may be used in the workplace or possibly for advanced placement in college.

## Coding II

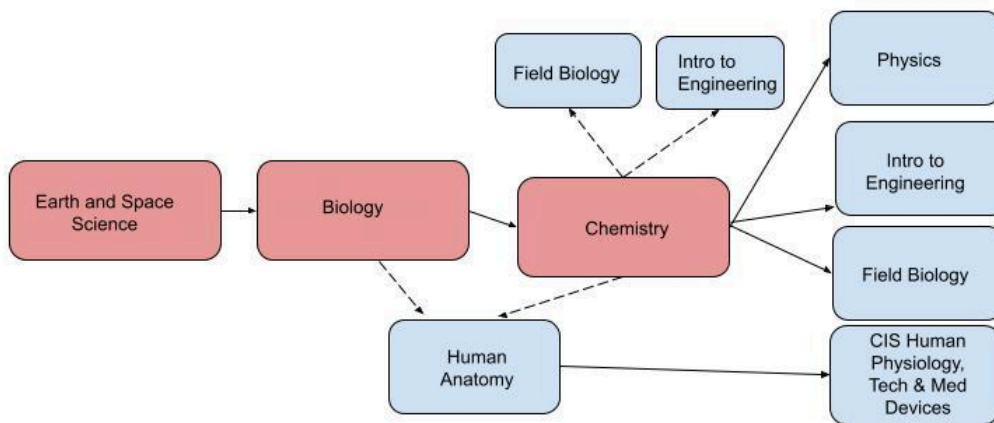
Grades 10-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

*Prerequisite:* Algebra II/Trig (may be taken concurrently) and Coding I

Students who have completed Coding I will continue to work independently or in small groups as they study different programming languages. Available languages include HTML/CSS, Python, JavaScript, PHP, Bash/Shell, C++, Swift and others. This course will utilize resources and tools from various websites such as CodeHS, Code Academy, PythonAnywhere, W3Schools, Coursera and EDX. Students may earn completion certificates which may be used in the workplace or possibly for advanced placement in college.

## Science

*High school students must complete at least 3 years of Science including Biology and Chemistry to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*



## Earth and Space Science\*

Grade 9 • 1.0 Credit

In this course, students will explore earth and space science with a brief introduction to chemistry. Students will study Earth's geology, weather, the environment, and how they are affected by humans. venture into space to learn about stars, planets, and galaxies. We will finish the year with a brief introduction to chemistry to ensure students are adequately prepared for future courses. Students will learn through a combination of lectures, group discussions, hands-on experiments, and virtual labs. Emphasis will be placed on critical thinking, problem-solving, and the application of scientific to real-world situations. **This class is required for high school graduation starting with the Class of 2028.**

## Biology

Grade 10 • 1.0 Credit

Biology is the study of life. Understanding life and life processes depends on mastering the unifying principles and concepts applicable to all life forms. Biology emphasizes the fundamental unity in the diversity of life forms. Eight unifying themes are presented in this course. Classical experiments and demonstrations, computer simulations, and traditional lecture and discussion lead students to an understanding of these themes. Simultaneously, students develop a greater appreciation for all life and the obligation that we share with it in its various forms. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## Chemistry

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

Students study the changes of composition, structure, and properties of chemical substances. Instruction is accomplished through a lab-based curriculum that stresses chemical lab skills, theoretical chemical concepts, qualitative and quantitative study, and practical applications of chemistry. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## Physics

Grade 12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Pre-Calculus with a grade of C or higher

Students study the rules or laws that govern the motion and action of objects in three-dimensional space and time. This course studies the principles of physics and mathematical tools needed to analyze system interactions, motion, waves and optics, electricity and magnetism, and how they are related to situations from their everyday existence. Students are highly encouraged to have completed chemistry prior to taking physics or be concurrently enrolled in the course.

## CIS Human Physiology, Technology and Medical Devices (BIOL 1015) (\$)

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Human Anatomy or instructor approval and with a B or better in Chemistry

This course examines specific topics in human anatomy and physiology, such as fitness, disease and body systems such as the respiratory, muscular, and cardiovascular systems. Students engage in a wide range of learning activities, such as cooperative learning groups, computer enhanced learning, anatomical model building, and inquiry-based lab activities. Students at Bethlehem Academy may enroll for 4 credits for BIOL 1015 from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities through its College in the Schools program. Fee for this course is set by the University of Minnesota at \$145 (\$195 for international students).

## Human Anatomy

Grades 10-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Biology or enrolled in Biology; limited class enrollment, preference to grade 11-12 students.

This course examines specific topics in human anatomy. Students will explore the anatomy of the human body and its body systems such as the skeletal, muscular, respiratory, and cardiovascular systems. Students engage in a wide range of learning activities, such as cooperative learning groups, computer enhanced learning simulations, anatomical coloring, and anatomical model building. Memorization is a key skill that students will learn in this course and through a variety of teaching strategies students will learn ways to help them retain all the Human Anatomy the body contains. This course provides the prerequisite needed to fully grasp the concepts that are covered in CIS Human Physiology, Technology and Medical Devices.

## Introduction to Engineering

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit (Semester 2)

*Prerequisite:* Students must be enrolled in Algebra II/Trigonometry, or with instructor approval. Students in Introduction to Engineering will be introduced to mechanical engineering, hydraulics, and electrical engineering. They will also explore career opportunities in the engineering field.

## Field Biology and Ecology

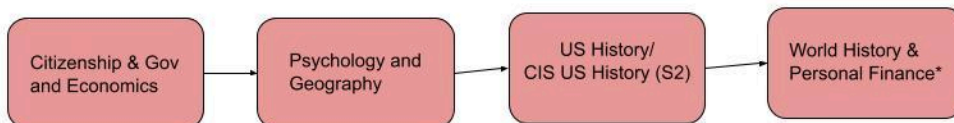
Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

Students will study Minnesota's natural diversity. This course will cover Minnesota wildlife and their habitats. A portion of this course will be spent outdoors studying the ecosystem surrounding Faribault and comparing it to other ecosystems around the state. Students will study how organisms interact with their environments locally and globally. Students may look at trends and changes to environments and the effects that occur on the organisms that rely on the habitat. Students should develop a respect for the delicate balance for all life on Earth.

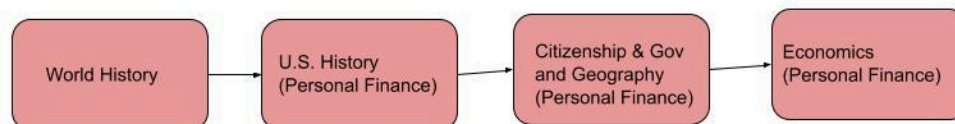
## Social Studies

*High school students must complete 4 years of social studies including U.S. History, Geography, Government and Citizenship, World History, Economics, and Foundations of Personal Finance to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*

### Class of 2025:



### All Other Classes:



## Class of 2025 Social Studies Pathway

### World History

Grade 12 • 1.0 Credit

The chronological survey of World History will help the student acquire a descriptive knowledge of World History including relevant facts, key ideas, and themes. Students taking this course will understand events, trends, individual and group movements that shaped the history of regions, nations and people. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## **Foundations of Personal Finance**

Grade 10-12 • 0.5 Credit

This course is designed specifically for high school students to learn financial literacy. The curriculum provides students with sound financial principles that will guide them into adulthood. Students will learn to avoid the dangers of debt and how to build savings. Topics include budgeting basics, credit and debt, consumer awareness, career readiness, college planning, financial services, insurance, income and taxes, housing and real estate, investing and retirement, and global economics. **\*This class is required for graduation, however the Class of 2025 may waive this class if necessary to allow for more advanced opportunities on their schedule.**

## **Class of 2026-2028 Social Studies Pathway**

### **World History**

Grade 9 • 1.0 Credit

The chronological survey of World History will help the student acquire a descriptive knowledge of World History including relevant facts, key ideas, and themes. Students taking this course will understand events, trends, individual and group movements that shaped the history of regions, nations and people. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### **United States History**

Grade 10 • 1.0 Credit

This chronological survey of U.S. history will help students acquire a descriptive knowledge of U.S. history including relevant facts, key ideas, themes and critical thinking skills through which the history of our nation's past may be interpreted. Students taking this course will understand events, trends, individual and group movements that shaped the history of the United States. The course will begin with a brief review of pre-Columbian America and end examining the challenges of modern times and the global economy. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### **Citizenship & Government**

Grade 11 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This course is designed to give the students a background of American Government. Students will develop an appreciation and understanding of how our political system came about and how it works. The course will also include current issues and how America is linked to the issues by foreign and domestic policy. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### **Geography**

Grade 11 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

In this course, students will study the physical features of the Earth as well as how those features affect humans and the development of civilizations. There will be an emphasis on how geographic features influence the development of human systems (cultural, economic and political systems), as well as how natural resources influence the development of cultures and civilizations. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### **Economics**

Grade 12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This course is designed to give the student an introduction to basic economic concepts and principles. The course will be devoted to how people cope with the problems of scarcity. Students will understand why and how economics helps solve that problem. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## **Foundations of Personal Finance**

Grade 10-12 • 0.5 Credit

This course is designed specifically for high school students to learn financial literacy. The curriculum provides students with sound financial principles that will guide them into adulthood. Students will learn to avoid the dangers of debt and how to build savings. Topics include budgeting basics, credit and debt, consumer awareness, career readiness, college planning, financial services, insurance, income and taxes, housing and real estate, investing and retirement, and global economics. **This class is required for high school graduation and may be taken any time Grades 10-12.**

## **Social Studies Elective Courses**

### **Psychology**

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This course introduces students to the scientific study of human behavior. During this course the students have the opportunity to learn and apply the general theories of psychology as they relate to human behavior, the motivation behind it, and our control over it. Students also have the opportunity to research issues in psychology and conduct experiments to illustrate various principles.

### **Current Events**

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 Credit • Semester 2

This course will cover domestic and global current events through an analytical lens. Topics include media literacy, comparing and contrasting ideological perspectives, current political debates in Saint Paul and Washington, D.C., global conflicts and American involvement, and current topics in science, literature, and the arts. Students will also take an in-depth look at several topics of their choice throughout the semester.

### **History of Warfare**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit • Semester 1

The course will cover a brief history of warfare in the world, focusing on a few of the many wars, societies and cultures that have been uniquely involved in warfare. In depth studies of some of the major events in world history will be the core of the course. Although attempting to show a variety of cultures around the world starting with ancient times, the focus will be on US involvement in warfare from 1776 on.

### **AP European History (\$)**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

AP European History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university European history course. In AP European History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in four historical periods from approximately 1450 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing historical evidence; contextualization; comparison; causation; change and continuity over time; and argument development. The course also provides six themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction of Europe and the world; poverty and prosperity; objective knowledge and subjective visions; states and other institutions of power; individual and society; and national and European identity. Students are required to take the AP exam in May; there is a \$98 fee for the exam.



## **CIS Global America: U.S. History-1865 to Present (HIST 1308) (\$)**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

*Prerequisite: Previous social studies courses with a 3.25 GPA or better, or instructor approval*

This course will examine American History, focusing on the differences of how events in our past have been interpreted by various historians. This is not a typical high school history course, and the workload requires a great deal of reading and writing assignments. The course will cover American History from the end of the Civil War to the year 2007. There will be a midterm and final exam, two major papers, and required readings weekly. Students at Bethlehem Academy may enroll for 3 credits for HIST 1308 from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities through its College in the Schools program. The fee for this course is set by the University of Minnesota at \$145 (\$195 for international students) plus textbook fees.

## **History of Cinema\***

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This course offers the opportunity to examine history through film and cinema. Students will learn to analyze films critically in an attempt to understand the cultural and historical influences that affect popular culture. A timeline format will be used to study the development of film. Students will view films throughout history and analyze history through the cinematic lens of the time period.

## **Comparative Government\***

Grades 10-12 • 1.0 Credit

This course will focus on comparing and contrasting different forms of government and political systems around the world. Topics of discussion will include political structures, parties, elections, political economy, and social challenges related to the study of comparative politics. Students will also gain an understanding of how the American system of government fits into global patterns of governance.

## **AP Comparative Government and Politics\***

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

This course uses a comparative approach to examine the political structures; policies; and political, economic, and social challenges of six selected countries: China, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, Russia, and the United Kingdom. Students cultivate their understanding of comparative government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like power and authority, legitimacy and stability, democratization, internal and external forces, and methods of political analysis. Students are required to take the AP exam in May; there is a \$98 fee for the exam.

## **CloseUp Trip - Spring 2026**

Grades 9-12 • Spring Break 2025 (offered alternate years, last offered Spring 2023)

Open to any student 9-12, Close Up is a national program that allows students to travel to Washington, D.C. and take part in hands-on tours and discussions that teach young people about our American governmental system. Offered alternating years during spring break, the trip usually includes a weekend in New York City sightseeing. Find more information on the CloseUp program here:

<https://www.closeup.org/high-school/programs/>

# Theology

*High school students must complete 4 years of Theology to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*

## Revelation of Jesus Christ

Grade 9 • 1.0 Credit

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of Sacred Scripture and introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In the first semester, students will learn about the Bible, authorized by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and books included in each section, paying particular attention to the Gospels. In the second semester, students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who He is, the students will also learn who He calls them to be. **This class is required for high school graduation at BA.**

## Christian Morality

Grade 10 • 1.0 Credit

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plan for their lives. Students will learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples. Topics that will be addressed include decision-making, freedom, sin, conscience, character, and grace. The majority of the course is an in-depth look into the Ten Commandments and how we can apply them today. The class will finish with discussion into current social justice issues which includes the seven social teachings of the Catholic Church. Throughout this course students will be challenged to think about the possibility of living a Christian life in a secularized world. **This class is required for high school graduation at BA.**

## The Church and Sacraments

Grade 11 • 1.0 Credit

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that in and through the Church, especially the sacraments, they encounter the living Jesus Christ. In the first semester, students will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. They will come to know that the Church, which has both human and divine elements, is the living Body of Christ today. Students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church. In the second semester, students will understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the sacraments, and especially the Eucharist. They will examine each of the sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life. **This class is required for high school graduation at BA.**

## Discipleship of Jesus Christ in Society

Grade 12 • 1.0 Credit

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church's social teaching and give them the opportunity to live as disciples of Christ in society. In the first semester, students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social mission. In the second semester, students will live as disciples of Christ in society through service at placements around the Faribault community. They will spend two-three days a week at their service sites. One day every month will be spent in

class reflecting upon and discussing how their service relates to Christ and the social teaching and mission of the Church. **This class is required for high school graduation at BA.**

## Theology Elective Courses

Note: Campus Ministry is a co-curricular club open to all middle and high school students.

### Church History

Grades 10-12 • 1.0 Credit

Students in this course will explore the vastness of the nearly 2000-year history of the Catholic Church. In this course, students will follow the USCCB Framework Curriculum Framework for the history of the Catholic Church. Through readings and projects, students will dive into the nature and meaning, images, marks, life and ministry, moral life, and role of prayer as they are developed and presented through each era of the Church's two millennia. Course content includes the Church's divine origins, Catholic reformation, the development of social teaching, and the Epoch of the Second Vatican Council.

*PLEASE NOTE: High school students must complete at least 1 year of Fine Arts to fulfill BA graduation requirements. The Fine Arts requirement can be met through: Intarsia, all music classes and all art classes. High school students must complete at least 7 credits of electives to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*

## Agricultural Science & Shop

### Fish and Wildlife

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

This course is designed to explore the broad field of fish and wildlife/natural resources. Students will look at careers, wildlife of Minnesota, and natural resources involving our water, soil, trees and air. Guest speakers, field trips, classroom participation as well as many other aspects will play a role in this course.

### Plant Science

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

This course provides a foundation of plant science knowledge and skills. Students will experience various plant science concepts through hands-on activities, projects, and problems. Student experiences will include the study of plant anatomy and physiology, classification, and the fundamentals of production and harvesting. Students will learn how to apply scientific knowledge and skills to use plants effectively for agronomic, forestry, and horticultural industries. Students will discover the value of plant production and its impact on the individual, the local, and the global economy. Students will work on major projects and problems similar to those that plant science specialists, such as horticulturalists, agronomists, greenhouse and nursery managers, and plant research specialists, face in their respective careers.

## **Veterinary Science (2024-2025; 2026-2027)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

*Prerequisite:* Animal Science

This course focuses on production and large animals within the animal science content area. It provides a variety of experiences that will give an overview of the field of agricultural science with a foundation in animal science. Students will explore hands-on projects and activities to learn the characteristics of animal science specialists, such as veterinarians, zoologists, livestock producers, or industry personnel face in their respective careers.

## **Animal Science (2025-2026; 2027-2028)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This course is a prerequisite for Veterinary Science. This course focuses on all animals and pet care. It is structured to introduce students to a variety of experiences that will provide an overview of the field of agricultural science with a foundation in animal science. Students will explore hands-on projects and activities to learn the characteristics of animal science specialists, such as veterinarians, zoologists, livestock producers, or industry personnel face in their respective careers.

## **Work-Based Learning**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

Students that enroll in the class will gain valuable hands-on experience through placement in the workforce. Students will secure an approved job at a business where a supervisor can work with them on expanding their employability skills. Throughout the class and their site placement, students will keep daily records of work experiences, determine short and long term employment goals, create documents for job seeking and placement, explore and research the employment outlook in selected career areas, describe current work related laws, and apply effective problem-solving strategies in employee-employer situations. Students will be required to work a minimum of 6 hours/week and they must have their own transportation. The instructor will seek out placement sites for those students who do not have one. Please contact the Ag instructor in advance if you need a placement site.

## **Online Ag Study (\$)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

This course is mainly offered to students who can't take an in-person class with the Ag instructor. This class is designed to explore the broad field of agriculture. Students will briefly look at FFA, Animal Science, Plant Science, wildlife of Minnesota, and natural resources involving our water, soil, trees and air. Online weekly assignments, field trips, classroom participation as well as many other aspects will play a role in this course as we explore the different areas within agriculture.

## **Shop**

### **Intarsia (\$)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

In this limited enrollment class, students create a picture made from wood, using the following woodworking machines: sander, drill press, and scroll saw. Students can design their own Intarsia or use an already designed plan. Fee assessed for amount of wood used.

## **Small Gas Engines (2024-2025; 2026-2027)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This is a limited enrollment introductory class that is designed to educate and develop skills in better understanding the operation of small gas engines, troubleshooting, career options, safety, consumer purchasing and publications. Safety skills will be learned and demonstrated. Small gas engine parts will be identified and researched for best use practices and projects. Shop time will be allocated for individual and team project work.

## **Electricity (2025-2026; 2027-2028)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This is a limited enrollment introductory course that is designed to educate students about basic electricity, practical wiring, and the physics behind electrical systems. Students will create, repair, and troubleshoot different circuits. Safety skills will be learned and demonstrated. Electrical circuits will be researched, created, and tested. Shop time will be allocated for individual and team project work.

## **Woodshop I (\$)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 credit - Semester 1

This limited enrollment class is an introductory class that is designed to educate and develop skills in wood design, measurements, construction and finishing. Safety skills will be learned and demonstrated. Wood samples will be identified and researched for best use practices and projects. Class projects will be researched, designed, built and constructed. As a class everyone will construct a toolbox and night stand, with the remaining time in the term other projects will be chosen; some examples would be an Adirondack chair, step stool, etc. Shop fee for the class is \$50 which covers the material cost for the toolbox and night stand, but costs may fluctuate with the cost of lumber. Additional fees are assessed for extra project wood used.

## **Woodshop II (\$)**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 credit - Semester 2

*Prerequisite:* Woodshop I or instructor approval

This limited enrollment class will expand on the skills learned from Woodshop I and develop more advanced woodworking capabilities. Advanced concepts such as determining accurate roof pitch while building a dog house or inlays for detailed cabinetry work are taught. Time will be allowed for students to develop, research, and create a project for themselves with pre-approval from the teacher. Fee assessed for amount of wood used.

## **Business Electives**

### **Consumer Math**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1 - limited size

Students taking this course will be learning about concepts that, as consumers, will be part of their everyday lives for the rest of their lives. Topics covered include gross and net income, record keeping, checking and savings accounts, credit cards and charge accounts, loans, and vehicle transportation.

### **Introduction to Business**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

This course will provide a broad overview of the functions of the for-profit business. The course will cover business organization & management, business law, ethics & social responsibility, economics, entrepreneurship & types of

business ownership, human resources, marketing & sales, and finances & banking. Case studies, SWOT analysis & teamwork will also be utilized in this course.

## **Introduction to Accounting**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

This course will be focused on Financial Accounting principles and concepts following GAAP. The course will cover accounting procedures including entering transactions into journals, posting to ledgers, completing worksheets, preparing financial statements, recording adjustments, & completing closing entries. Financial Statement analysis for management and investment purposes will also be covered.

**Foundations of Personal Finance:** moved to Social Studies

## **Fine Arts: Music**

### **High School Band**

Grades 9-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Band experience or summer lessons with the band director and an instrument diagnostic test. Students are required to enroll for the entire school year. The band plays concert, pep, and jazz band music. All band members are expected to perform at various sports events and all concerts. Each student has lessons with the band director. All students must take part in the summer band rehearsals, with exceptions to be approved by the band director. add pep band language from MS All grade 8-12 band students take part in summer band rehearsals with exceptions to be approved by the band director. *Additional opportunities include earning a MSHSL letter, Gopher Conference Honors Band, jazz band, etc.*

### **High School Concert Choir**

Grades 9-12 • 1.0 Credit

Students are required to enroll for the entire school year. This course is designed to provide students with continued vocal instruction and general musicianship skills. Instruction will include the study of proper vocal technique, music notation and theory, sight singing, and part-singing. Students will learn to recognize musical elements and demonstrate expressive qualities in various styles of choral music while contributing to the blend, balance and quality of the ensemble by developing the ability to sing a part securely. Students will also learn appropriate rehearsal and audience behavior. Course requirements include performing in school concerts, the MSHSL Large Group Contest, school Masses, and graduation festivities. *Additional opportunities include earning a MSHSL letter, Gopher Conference Honors Band, MSHSL Solo & Ensemble Contest, etc.*

### **Music History (2024-2025; 2026-2027)**

Grades 10-12 • 1.0 Credit

This course will explore the historic context for the development and performance of music throughout the ages. Covering music from antiquity through the modern age, students will learn about the politics, personalities, arts, and humanities in each age of western music development.

## **AP Music Theory (\$) (2025-2026; 2027-2028)**

Grades 11-12 • 1.0 Credit

AP Music Theory is an introductory college-level music theory course. Students cultivate their understanding of music through analyzing performed and notated music and they explore concepts like pitch, rhythm, form, and musical design. Students take the AP exam in May; there is a \$98 fee for the exam.

## **Fine Arts: Visual Arts**

### **Drawing I & II**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

Drawing I & II are designed to address a very broad interpretation of drawing issues and media. Light and shade, line quality, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, and illusion of depth are drawing issues that can be addressed through a variety of means, which could include painting, printmaking, mixed media, etc. Abstract, observational and inventive works may demonstrate drawing competence. Any work that makes appropriate use of appropriate other artists' works (including photographs) and/or published images must show substantial and significant development beyond duplication. This is demonstrated through manipulation of the formal qualities, design and/or concept of the source.

### **Painting I & II**

Grades 9-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

Students taking Painting I & II engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics and production that lead to creation of portfolio quality works. Students create abstract and realistic paintings using a variety of materials such as mixed media, watercolor and acrylics, as well as techniques such as stippling, gouache and wash. They reflect upon and refine their work, explore cultural and historical connections, analyze, interpret, theorize and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art. They will also relate art to other disciplines and discover opportunities for integration as well as incorporate literacy and presentational skills. Students utilize the resources of art museums, galleries and other online arts related sites during the course to enhance and expose themselves to the world around them.

### **Studio Arts**

Grades 11-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

*Prerequisite:* At least one Drawing or Painting class, or by instructor's approval.

Studio Arts is a course designed for students who have developed a solid background in basic art skills through taking the Painting & Drawing courses offered at Bethlehem Academy. This course will encourage students to seek a deeper understanding of who they are and to discover through their own processes what their potential is in the works they create. Through the exploration of different mediums, styles, and ideas students may discover something new, or they may further their understanding of something familiar. Art elements and principles should be evident in their compositions, as well as a solid understanding of the meaning behind their work. New ways of "seeing" through direct observation are constantly reinforced within the classroom, as well as the encouragement and introduction to a variety of mediums such as gouache, oil pastel, clay, ink/printmaking, and others.

## Introduction to Photography

Grades 9-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

Students in this course will explore the history and mechanics of photography with the goal of understanding why we take photographs and the influences images can play in visual communication. Course content will include the history of photography from the heliograph in 1826/27 to digital photography in the 21st Century as well as learning about and practicing the skills of good photography. Through their own class photos, students will explore and showcase their knowledge of composition, the Rule of Thirds, and different types of shots from close up to canted angle.

## Physical Education & Health

*High school students must complete 1 semester of PE and 1 semester of Health to fulfill BA graduation requirements.*

### Physical Education

Grades 9-10 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 1

The physical education course focuses on the importance of lifetime fitness through instruction including body awareness, flexibility, strength, aerobic conditioning, and team building. It is the intent of the course to develop a lifetime fitness plan. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

### Health

Grades 9-10 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

The health education program concentrates on content areas in mental, physical, and social health. It is through a holistic approach that we tackle the tough issues that face today's youth and promote decision-making skills that focus on building a healthy lifestyle. We are geared towards presenting students with realistic issues and the time to learn and practice necessary skills to live a healthy lifestyle. **This class is required for high school graduation.**

## Physical Education & Health Elective Courses

### Leadership & Health\* (2024-2025; 2026-2027)

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 - Semester 1

Students in this dynamic and engaging health course will cultivate essential skills in leadership, interpersonal communication, decision-making, and advocacy. As students navigate the complexities of health-related issues, they will develop a profound understanding of their role as leaders in promoting well-being within their communities.

### Lifetime Sports & Activities (2025-2026; 2027-2028)

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 - Semester 1

Registration priority given to students who have not previously taken this course.

Lifetime Sports and Activities is a class that provides students with an opportunity to explore different team and individual sports that can be done all throughout life. The goal of this class is to provide a positive experience of the physical realm that students can carry with them throughout their lifetime.



## **Speed & Strength Training I, II, III**

Grades 10-12 • 0.5 Credit - Semester 2

Registration priority given to students who have not previously taken a weightlifting or strength training class. The purpose of this class is for students to understand and apply concepts on ways to build and maintain muscular strength and power. Students will learn to create their own fitness plan based on their goals, and work to reach them before the end of the semester.

## **Female Strength Training I, II, III**

Grades 10-12 • 0.5/1 Credit - Semester or Year

The purpose of this class is to introduce and develop muscular endurance, strength, and power for female athletes and those wanting to learn how to lift weights. This class will also offer opportunities to develop speed, agility, and flexibility. Students will develop personal goals and work to reach them before the end of the semester.

## **World Language: Spanish**

*All high school students planning to attend a four-year college are encouraged to complete at least 2 years of a World Language.*

### **Spanish I**

Grades 9-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* Demonstrate proficiency in grade level language arts classes.

The emphasis of this course is on language acquisition with the goal of connecting, communicating, and developing a lifelong love for the language and culture. This course aspires to give learners courage to interact and engage using the language in student-centered, natural situations in a way that they feel supported, successful, and become invested in their own learning. The focus will be on acquiring high frequency word structures first through listening and reading. The course will be based on a combination of personalized stories, music, novels, videos, and games, providing opportunities with real needs to interact and communicate. Our mission each day is to connect with each other in an authentic community and discover the compelling content so rich and interesting we forget we are even learning a language. Interaction and engagement through listening and active participation is emphasized. *A minimum proficiency level of Novice Mid must be earned in the 2nd semester in order to advance to Spanish II.*

### **Spanish II**

Grades 9-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* This level includes those students who have completed the Spanish I program with a proficiency level of at least *Novice Mid*.

Authentically and linguistically rich opportunities for students to use the language are further developed in level two. Students are supported and challenged in their language development from where they're at just as they learn their first language. This course continues to provide important opportunities for students to explore the language in interconnected ways within rich, intriguing contexts that range in a variety of culturally authentic contexts and subjects from arts and humanities to social and natural sciences to daily topics of interest in students' lives. *A minimum proficiency level of Novice High must be earned in the 2nd semester in order to continue to Spanish III.*

### **Spanish III**

Grades 9-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* an ACTFL proficiency of Novice High

Using story retells, film and text comparisons, adapted authentic pieces, grammar in context, storytelling, interactive technology, and novels, students will further develop their proficiency in reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Culture and stories come together simultaneously using comprehension-based strategies that encourage natural output as students progress on their path to language proficiency. *A minimum proficiency level of Intermediate Low must be earned in the 2nd semester in order to continue to Spanish IV.*

### **Spanish IV**

Grades 9-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* an ACTFL proficiency of Intermediate Low

This fourth-year Spanish course is designed to start developing intermediate skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking through conversations, discussions, authentic readings, and composition writing. Through the lens of global challenges, culture, communication, personalization and comparison are simultaneously intertwined in conversation for students to make connections with authentic materials, real world events, and their own lives.

### **Spanish V**

Grades 10-12 • 1.0 Credit

*Prerequisite:* an ACTFL proficiency of Intermediate Mid

This fifth-year Spanish course is designed to continue developing intermediate skills of listening, reading, writing, and speaking through conversations, discussions, authentic readings, and composition writing. Through the lens of global challenges, culture, communication, personalization and comparison are simultaneously intertwined in conversation for students to make connections with authentic materials, real world events, and their own lives.

# Activities

## Activities & Service Groups (year-long)

Campus Ministry  
Chess Club  
FFA (Middle and High School)  
International Cultural Club  
Knowledge Bowl (Middle and High School)  
National Honor Society  
SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions)  
Student Council (Middle and High School)  
Theater Club (Middle and High School)  
Tutoring  
Veritas Yearbook  
Vex Robotics Team (Middle & High School)

## Extracurricular Activities

### Fall Activities

Football  
Trap Shooting  
Volleyball  
\*Cross-Country (Girls & Boys)  
\*Soccer (Girls & Boys)  
\*Swim & Dive (Girls)  
\*Tennis (Girls)

### Winter Activities

Basketball (Girls & Boys)  
\*Dance Team  
\*Gymnastics  
\*Hockey (Girls & Boys)  
\*Swim & Dive (Boys)  
\*Wrestling

### Spring Activities

Fastpitch Softball  
Trap Shooting  
\*Baseball  
\*Golf (Girls & Boys)  
\*Tennis (Boys)  
\*Track & Field (Girls & Boys)

\*Athletics offered through Faribault Senior High School. See [www.faribaultfalcons.com](http://www.faribaultfalcons.com) for more information.

# Credit Check Sheet (Grades 9-12)

## 9th Grade:

### Semester 1

- English 9
- Earth and Space Science
- World History
- Revelation of Jesus Christ
- Geometry
- PE
- Elective
- Elective

## 10<sup>th</sup> Grade:

### Semester 1

- English 10
- Biology
- U.S. History
- Christian Morality
- Math
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade:

### Semester 1

- English
- Chemistry
- Citizenship & Government
- The Church and Sacraments
- Math
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

## 12<sup>th</sup> Grade:

### Semester 1

- English
- Science/Elective
- World History
- Discipleship of Jesus Christ
- Math/Elective
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

### Semester 2

- English 9
- Earth and Space Science
- World History
- Revelation of Jesus Christ
- Geometry
- Health
- Elective
- Elective

### Semester 2

- English 10
- Biology
- U.S. History
- Christian Morality
- Math
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

### Semester 2

- English
- Chemistry
- Geography
- The Church and Sacraments
- Math
- Elective
- Elective
- Elective

### Semester 2

- English
- Science/Elective
- World History
- Discipleship of Jesus Christ
- Math/Elective
- Foundations of Personal Finance
- Elective
- Elective