





The Mod Schedule

In the fall of 2020, Duchesne Academy implemented a six-term modular ("mod") schedule in a continued effort to ensure that our students receive an education that is transformational and engages each learning style and ability. Our intention is to provide electives chosen by the students, coupled with core academic courses, in order to motivate their love of learning.

The mod schedule provides curriculum and experiential learning opportunities unlike any other school in Texas. Each year, the course offerings are updated to provide more choices and adapt to student interests.



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Frequently Asked Questions

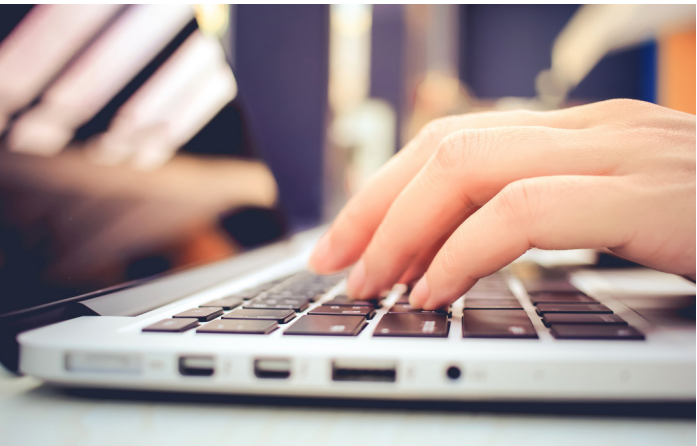
What is a mod schedule?

A mod schedule is a school schedule organized into multiple terms that each have fewer, but longer class periods. A module, or mod, is the period of time the academic year is divided into. The Duchesne school year will be divided into six mods, each lasting 28 to 30 school days or about six weeks total. Think of a "mod" as a term or a mini-semester.

- Mod 1: Aug. 8 - Sept. 16
- Mod 2: Sept. 20 - Oct. 27
- Mod 3: Nov. 1 - Dec. 16
- Mod 4: Jan. 3 - Feb. 10
- Mod 5: Feb. 14 - Mar. 31
- Mod 6: Apr. 3 - May 18

What is a bin?

A bin is time spent each day in class or an activity. The Upper School day is divided into five bins. Think of a "bin" as a class period. A, B, C, and D bins are 80 minutes. The O bin is 45 minutes and will be held in the morning before regular classes begin at 8:30 a.m.



What are some factors I should consider when registering?

We believe an important part of the registration process is you taking ownership of your schedule. The questions on page 3 should help you decide what courses to register for. You should reflect on your responses and be true to yourself. These courses will help define your high school experience and your college aspirations.

What is the add/drop policy?

It is not easy to make schedule changes in the mod system. Therefore it is imperative that you notify your Academic Dean if you wish to drop or change classes within the first two days of each Mod. While some situations may work, your overall schedule may make some changes difficult or impossible.

How will the schedule impact homework?

In the mod system, students will take fewer classes at one time. Therefore, a student will typically be managing homework for fewer courses at one time. This shift to studying and learning more intensely in fewer areas at a time will reduce the homework burden on students.

How will AP courses work?

A year-long course is three mods, so an AP course is covered over three mods. Each department uses its own expertise to design their courses and determine the appropriate length of their bins and AP courses.

Will students have a free period?

A free period could be replaced by elective classes that are being offered due to popular interest from the student body. With potential free periods and breaks built into the schedule, we are intentionally slowing the pace of the day in order to create a more balanced experience for students while retaining academic rigor. We also believe that this schedule will allow students to make better use of the time they spend in class interacting with their peers and teachers.

How will the college application process work in the schedule?

College advisors will have allotted times to work with students both in groups and individually, as they do now. The college advising curriculum will be woven into the junior and senior year. Please see General Electives as possible interests specific to the college process.

Goals and Growth

As you consider your registration for next year, we invite you to participate in a reflection on your ambitions and how your classes will support your goals and personal growth.

Motivation

Duchesne's mod schedule is all about choices. We offer a vast array of class options to allow you to identify and pursue your passions, even if they change over the course of your high school career. What area of study interests you the most and motivates you to learn?

Challenges

Personal growth is all about challenging yourself to do things and take classes that will stretch you in ways that will ultimately serve you well. What is something in Upper School you know will be difficult but that you want to tackle because it will be good for you?

New Experiences

Achieving goals is also about trying new things. Perhaps it's taking an elective in a subject you know nothing about, trying out for a sports team, or participating in a new co-curricular activity. What is a new academic or co-curricular experience that you want to pursue in high school?

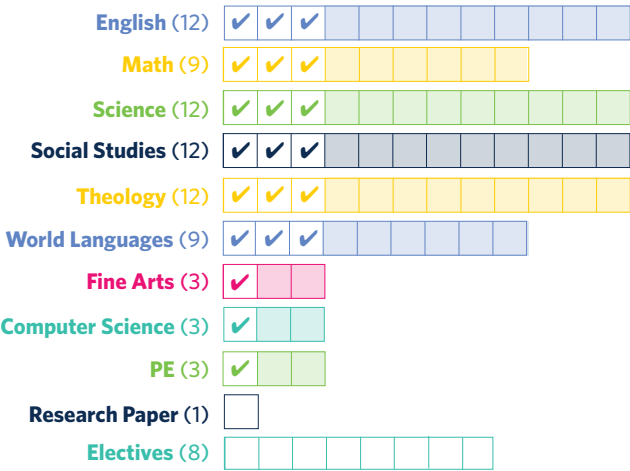
Co-Curricular Commitments

Perhaps you participate in off-campus activities such as dance or club sports. Maybe you plan on joining a time-intensive club such as speech and debate, or playing on a sports team. As you choose various electives, advanced courses, or AP courses, consider your seasonal commitments. What are your commitments outside of class?

Graduation Requirements

These progress bars show a distribution of graduation requirements. The check marks represent a typical student's progress before the start of each school year. However, each student's schedule may be different and will not necessarily follow these exact paths. Each check mark represents a bin, with most courses requiring 3 bins per year. The numbers in parentheses show the number of bins required for graduation in that subject. Students must take at least 18 bins per academic year and a total of at least 84 bins to graduate. Refer to the course descriptions for required courses at each grade level.

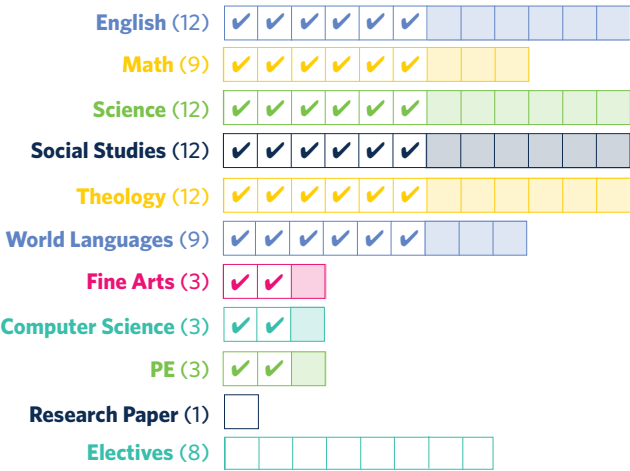
FRESHMAN: 21 Bins This Year / 63 Bins Remain



JUNIOR: 21 Bins This Year / 21 Bins Remain



SOPHOMORE: 21 Bins This Year / 42 Bins Remain



SENIOR: 21 Bins This Year / 0 Bins Remain



CORE COURSES

Unearthing Ideas Through Writing

Writing takes practice. To build writing stamina, it is important to write every day without restrictions. In this course, we will uncover our ideas by method of stream of consciousness writing. Using a variety of writing prompts, from photographs to poetry to artwork, each day will be devoted to the craft of writing and the process necessary to develop a polished piece. Periodically, students will workshop chosen pieces, experiencing revising and editing methods that will be the foundation for subsequent 9th grade English bins. Prerequisite: none

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 1 Bin

Demystifying the Essay

An essay is not five paragraphs with an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Its purpose is not to persuade, argue, or inform. Rather, the essay is a journey through one's thoughts in search of truth and meaning in life. Michel de Montaigne, a French writer during the 16th century, coined the term *essais* which means "little attempts." Although his essays are often autobiographical, they transcend his own personal experiences and explore the human condition. In this course, we will deconstruct the essay, processing our own experiences into "little attempts" at not only understanding ourselves, but on a larger scale, connecting with others and uncovering new layers of truth or life lessons.

Prerequisite: Unearthing Ideas Through Writing

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 1 Bin

Now Analyze This

Authentic analysis inspires us. It is passionate and captivating, evoking emotions and making us think. Although literary analysis papers are a hallmark of the English classroom and certainly important, they are not the only form of analytical writing. In fact, if we take a close look at published writing that permeates our world today, it examines music, movies, television, art, politics, sports, psychology, science, philosophy, and much more! In this course, the tools of analysis will be examined: passion, ideas, structure, and authority. Prerequisite: Demystifying the Essay

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 1 Bin

Required for all sophomores:

In Theory...it's Star Wars!

From *A New Hope* to *The Rise of Skywalker*, students will learn to analyze and apply a variety of literary lenses to the iconic *Star Wars* film saga. This, in turn, will broaden their ability to critique literature and culture in future academic courses. Emphasis will be placed on an examination of these various lenses and the practical applications to the study of media-based literature. Students will compose critical essays based on research, analysis, and application of their preferred perspective on understanding and evaluating an installment of the *Star Wars* saga.

Prerequisite: none

Grade Level: 10th
Length: 1 Bin

Sophomores will choose two of the following courses from pages 5-6. Any junior or senior may take these courses in addition to their grade level required courses.

Shakespeare in Love and Action

In this course, students will savor the rich complexity and timeless beauty of Shakespeare's romantic language. We will start with his sonnets, including "Shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" and "My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun." We will discuss how the sonnets are more than just love poetry—they also deal with mortality and how poetry affords the poet the chance to "cheat" death. From there, we will consider *Macbeth*, the twisted tale of an ambitious married couple dealing with unexplained supernatural forces, and numerous romantic comedies. Students will engage in storytelling workshops as they seek to demystify Shakespeare for younger audiences. Prerequisite: In Theory...it's *Star Wars*!

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

In Search of Ourselves

In search of ourselves, we will read and analyze stories of exploration and how authors connect the earth to an understanding of the very essence of humanity. In this class we will read fiction and nonfiction texts to explore authors' arguments and stylistic strategies to present compelling arguments about how we come to understand ourselves through our ties to the earth and travel. Students will read contemporary authors as well as classic narratives and poetry. Suggested readings: *Life of Pi* (Martel), *Into Thin Air* (Krakauer), *Wild* (Strayed), *Old Man and the Sea* (Hemingway), poetry by Keats and Frost. Prerequisite: In Theory...it's *Star Wars*!

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Brontës in Depth

Students will study the novels of Anne, Charlotte, and Emily Brontë alongside works (fiction and film) influenced by or creating a contrast to their authorial visions: *Wide Sargasso Sea* (Rhys), *Rebecca* (Du Maurier/Hitchcock), *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* (Rowling), and *Twilight* (Meyer). Among other questions, we will discuss the role of Romanticism and Gothic genres, imagination, and feminism. Students will study historical context to evaluate how the Brontës shaped English Literature for ages to come. **Prerequisite:** In Theory...it's *Star Wars*!

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin



Monsters, Inc.

In *The Ocean at the End of Lane* by Neil Gaiman, a character tries to explain monsters to a small child: "Monsters come in all shapes and sizes. Some of them are things people are scared of. Some of them are things that look like things people used to be scared of a long time ago. Sometimes monsters are things people should be scared of, but they aren't... monsters are scared... That's why they're monsters." This bin will explore how literature grapples with these monsters among us and, perhaps more frightening, the monsters within us. If literature helps us deal with problems, then the literature in this course (including *Beowulf*, *Grendel*, *Paradise Lost*, and the poetry of Robert Browning) deals with the problems of evil and what makes someone or something monstrous. As Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* so elegantly puts it, "We don't like what we don't understand; in fact, it scares us." **Prerequisite:** In Theory...it's *Star Wars*!

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

I am Woman, Hear Me!

What does it mean to "throw like a girl?" This course will interrogate the notion of female outliers and outsiders within society. We will examine literature—both prose and poetry—from various time periods to determine how society and authors perceive women who are relegated as social misfits and "other." What voice emerges as uniquely feminine through these works? How does society shape our assumptions, reactions, and practices where social deviance is concerned? Students will study biblical stories as well as canonical female authors and even some on the "fringes." Biblical studies: Eve, Ruth, and the Marys, Poetry: Plath, Shelley, Keats, Rich, Olds, Authors: Austen, Honeyman. **Prerequisite:** In Theory...it's *Star Wars*!

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Walk Two Moons in Her Moccasins

From Sharon Creech's acclaimed children's novel *Walk Two Moons*, we too are asked not to "judge a man until you have walked two moons in his moccasins." Often marginalized or completely left out of "American" literature studies, this course will seek to orient you with the rich history, literature, and folklore of indigenous peoples of America. We will read poetry and stories from a small sampling of Indigenous authors, while also looking at Native American representation in film and pop culture. Students will consider the long-term effects of ongoing colonization, Native sovereignty, and the ramifications of cultural appropriation. **Prerequisite:** In Theory...it's *Star Wars*!

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Required for all juniors not in AP:

Rhetoric: Language & Persuasion

Language can be powerful. It can express incredible ideas, change the way people think, and persuade masses of people to do things. In this course, we'll examine literature, speeches, and media and analyze how they influence their audiences. For example, how did Martin Luther King persuade his audience to continue to have hope, despite the discrimination they faced? And why do we feel patriotic when we listen to the national anthem? It's due in part to the way the writers used language effectively. We'll also look at everyday situations to consider how messages influence us. For instance, how does a pop-up ad convince us to prefer one brand of shoes over another one? Once you learn the strategies, you can use them to persuade your own audiences. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin

Juniors not taking AP must choose two of the following four courses:

Short Stories - Purpose and Craft

In this bin, we'll read some of the best short stories out there, and we'll try to discover what makes them tick. How do writers convey a complex story in such a small space? Is it really possible to create three-dimensional characters in a few phrases? Or to fully explore a conflict and then resolve it, all in just a few pages? Why do writers even write short stories in the first place? These are some of the questions we'll consider as we analyze short stories and write some of our own. **Prerequisite:** Rhetoric: Language & Persuasion

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin

American Greats

This course surveys some of our most important American thinkers, to see how they addressed the issues of their day: classic authors such as Thoreau, Emerson, and Hemingway, as well as more contemporary writers like Toni Morrison, Annie Dillard, and Joan Didion. We'll examine what makes their arguments so strong, and we'll practice constructing arguments to address student-chosen issues of today. **Prerequisite:** Rhetoric: Language & Persuasion

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin

The American Dream

The American Dream is a powerful part of our country's mythology. The promise of a better life inspires people to work hard and to achieve greater things. But what exactly is The American Dream? Is it a guaranteed feature of our "land of opportunity," which is founded upon "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness"? Or is it simply an illusion with no connection to reality? This course examines how The American Dream has shaped our country and considers how—or whether—we should believe in the dream today. In addition to visual imagery and poetry, we'll read F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. **Prerequisite:** Rhetoric: Language and Persuasion

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin

Virginia Woolf and Modernism

During the 1920s, people started to see life differently. Change was in the air: World War I had ended, women gained the right to vote, and jazz rocked the music scene. Artists and writers began to represent life in new ways, emphasizing how one's perspective determined how they experienced life. This class focuses on one important writer from this period: Virginia Woolf. It examines the stream-of-consciousness technique she developed to represent modern life in her landmark novel *Mrs. Dalloway*. **Prerequisite:** Rhetoric: Language & Persuasion

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin

Required for all seniors not in AP:

Writing for Change

English class is more than just literary analysis. In this course, students will identify a problem in their local, regional, national, or global community and find a means to educate people about that problem and propose possible solutions. Besides writing traditional papers, students will educate and inspire change in a variety of media including videos or podcasts. With college around the corner, students will ultimately have to confront where they fit within the world and how they want to impact that world. They will choose how they want to live Goal III: "A social awareness which impels to action." **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th

Length: 1 Bin

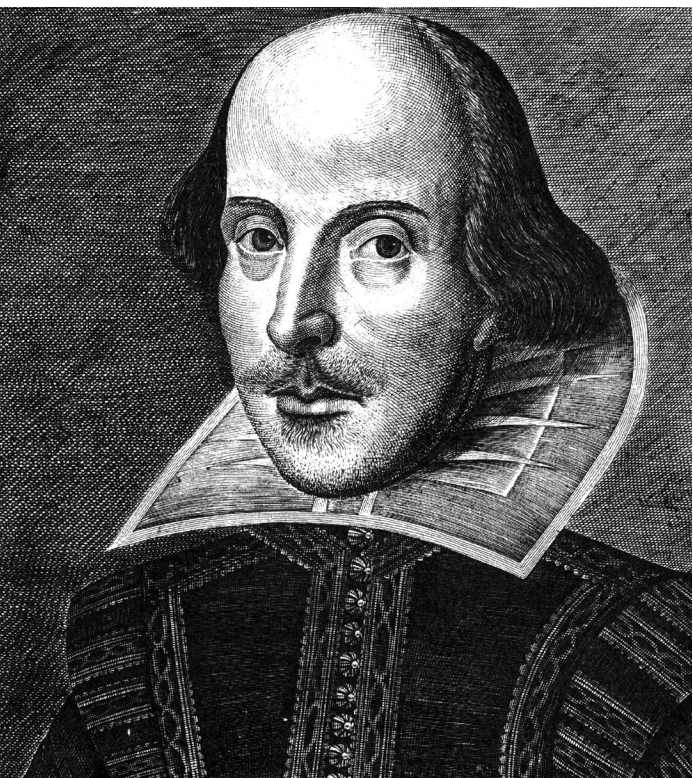
Seniors not taking AP must choose two of the following courses on pages 8-9:

The Book Was Better

This course covers seminal works of Western Literature and explores their resonance in today's globalized and technologically changing world. Texts include canonical works, such as *A Study in Scarlet*, coupled with more modern works, such as *The Namesake*, *Jurassic Park*, or *The Handmaid's Tale*. Students will investigate the importance and the impact of selected readings, analyzing film or television adaptations and how performed texts differ from the written word. Is the series *Sherlock* retelling Arthur Conan Doyle's stories or creating something totally new? For that matter, what makes Doyle's novels and short stories so remarkable? In this class, students will debate such questions and consider what is gained and lost in the afterlives of great texts. **Prerequisite:** Writing for Change

Grade Level: 12th

Length: 1 Bin



The Luck of the Irish

“Irish eyes are smiling” as we discuss the works of some of the greatest Irish poets and novelists. Students will explore the wacky genius of James Joyce (focusing on some of the short stories in *Dubliners*), the imaginative poetry of W.B. Yeats, the hilarity of Oscar Wilde (particularly *The Importance of Being Earnest*), and the lyrical majesty of Seamus Heaney. We will end the course with students picking a novel to study from a contemporary Irish author (suggestions include Sally Rooney, Colum McCann, or Tana French). **Prerequisite:** Writing for Change

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Indiana Jones and the Epic Bin

An exceptional hero, encounters with monsters, and a trip to the underworld are all features of traditional epics (including *The Odyssey*, *The Aeneid*, *Paradise Lost*), but they are also the features of the iconic 1980s Indiana Jones film series. Using *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* as core texts and supplementing with readings from traditional epics, students will explore the style of an epic narrative and make critical arguments about the longevity of the genre. Students will ultimately explore why the epic genre continues today and why a form once so popular in oral and later written tradition has now become more synonymous with film. And then, of course, there’s another question to answer: “Snakes. Why did it have to be snakes?” **Prerequisite:** Writing for Change

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

“Still I Rise”: Black American Women Writers

In her poem, “Still I Rise,” Maya Angelou powerfully captures her worth in a country that tries to devalue and oppress her: “You may shoot me with your words, / You may cut me with your eyes, / You may kill me with your hatefulness, / But still, like air, I’ll rise.” Starting with this poem and the poetry of Amanda Gorman, we will explore some of the rich literature (poetry and novels) from prominent Black American women writers. Together as a class we’ll analyze and discuss a novel from Toni Morrison or Zora Neale Hurston, and then students will have the opportunity to work in small groups on books by Jesmyn Ward, Austin Channing Brown, Alice Walker, or Brit Bennett. **Prerequisite:** Writing for Change

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Shakespeare’s Friends (and Enemies)

In the 1623 First Folio of Shakespeare’s works, contemporary playwright Ben Jonson wrote, “Reader, look not on his picture, but his book.” Although unkind about Shakespeare’s face, Jonson clearly respected the talent of his friend Shakespeare as he urged readers to read the plays of one of the greatest writers of all time. Because of the focus placed on Shakespeare, however, we often miss the talent of Shakespeare’s friends (and enemies), not only Jonson (probably even better at writing comedy than Shakespeare), but also Thomas Kyd, Christopher Marlowe, and John Webster. This course invites students to explore these other Renaissance writers, considering plays as varied as *The Alchemist* (Jonson), *The Spanish Tragedy* (Kyd), *Tamburlaine* (Marlowe), and *The Duchess of Malfi* (Webster) as well as reading poetry from the time period. **Prerequisite:** Writing for Change

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

AP COURSES

AP English Language and Composition

AP English Language combines a survey of American Literature and a systematic preparation for the Advanced Placement English Language and Composition Exam. In this course, students learn to read complex texts analytically and to construct effective arguments efficiently. Readings range from classic American texts to contemporary pieces, with a focus on persuasive prose. Students will also study two short American classics: *The Scarlet Letter* and *The Great Gatsby*. Part 1 focuses on the AP rhetorical analysis and argument essays and multiple-choice questions. Part 2 introduces the AP synthesis essay. Part 3 reviews all AP essay types, along with the multiple-choice questions. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Literature: Studies in Africa

Exploring the wealth of literature coming from and about Africa, students will be introduced to the fundamental ideas of AP English Literature: character, setting, structure, narration, and figurative language. We will explore how American and European authors have written about Africa (Barbara Kingsolver’s *Poisonwood Bible* and Joseph Conrad’s *Heart of Darkness*) and how African authors like Chinua Achebe (*Things Fall Apart*) have responded. We will consider the portrayal of African women in the works of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (*Purple Hibiscus*) and Yaa Gyasi (*Homegoing*). We will conclude with the recent film portrayal of Africa in *Black Panther*. This course will satisfy one bin of AP English Literature and Composition. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

AP Literature: Shakespeare and the Meaning of Life

“To be or not to be. That is the question.” Shakespeare’s most famous line captures Hamlet at a particularly low point; should he revenge his father’s death if it means he must kill his own uncle and his king? In asking “To be or not to be,” Hamlet asks, “What’s the point?” – not just the point of his revenge, but also, even more significantly, of his life. This course will tackle *Hamlet*, one of Shakespeare’s greatest dramas and one of the greatest pieces of literature. As we explore Hamlet’s complicated and emotional journey, we will ask essential questions about “the meaning of life.” After studying *Hamlet*, students will work on some contemporary metaphysical poetry and Shakespeare’s sonnets. This course will satisfy one bin of AP English Literature and Composition. **Prerequisite:** AP Literature: Studies in Africa

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

AP Literature: Blockbusters

What makes a novel, a play, or a movie popular? Students will read and watch a variety of “blockbusters” to analyze how characters, narrators, settings, or language have spoken to their contemporary audiences but have also resonated with later audiences. This course not only asks students to consider what defines viewers or readers, but also what defines the texts themselves. Why was *The Spanish Tragedy* by Thomas Kyd the third most performed play during the English Renaissance, far surpassing the performances of his fellow playwright William Shakespeare? Why did Tim Burton’s 1989 *Batman* smash box office records and usher in a new era of superhero movies (a genre still thriving more than 30 years later)? Why have *Lord of the Rings* and *Harry Potter* each sold more than 100 million copies? This course will satisfy one bin of AP English Literature and Composition. **Prerequisite:** AP Literature: Shakespeare and the Meaning of Life

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

ELECTIVE COURSES

Mythology: From Athena to Zeus

Mythology appears throughout our popular culture from Percy Jackson to Marvel movies. But what are the original stories? Who was Athena? Or Zeus? What’s the difference between the Greek Aphrodite and the Roman Venus? What’s in Pandora’s box? We will answer these questions and more by exploring Greco-Roman Mythology. Then we’ll turn our attention to Norse Mythology (Who is Odin? Thor? Loki?) and explore some West African myths. It will be an epic journey! **Prerequisite:** 9th Grade English

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Humans of Duchesne: Community Connection Through Photo Stories

Inspired by photographer Brandon Stanton’s Humans of New York (HONY) photoblog and book, this bin will explore human interest stories in the Duchesne Academy community through photojournalism. Learn how to effectively interview a subject, ask the right questions, craft an insightful story caption, photograph the person in his or her element, and tie it all together to create a powerful personal story. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

The Literature of England

Over the summer, allow literature to come to life in this study abroad opportunity. Travel to England and visit the hometowns of some of the English language’s most influential works. Students will have the chance to explore Rydal Mount, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Bath, London, and Haworth as they study the works of Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Austen, and the Brontë sisters. Students will consider the influence of history and culture on literature with firsthand experience of truly global education. **Prerequisite:** 10th Grade English

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Mathematics

CORE COURSES

Algebra I

Algebra I, often defined as the language of physics where physics is the explanation of life, gives students a foundation for all future mathematics courses by emphasizing the study of multiple representations of linear and non-linear functions. Students will explore the fundamentals of algebraic problem-solving: solving equations, solving inequalities, exponents, polynomials and factoring, quadratic equations, and radical expressions and equations. Throughout the course, students will learn how to apply these concepts to real-life situations. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 3 Bins

Geometry

Geometry is a place for students to showcase their algebra skills through logic and spatial reasoning. Students encounter real-world scenarios and use deductive reasoning to guide them through the problem-solving process. The course includes a thorough treatment of the foundations of geometry: points, lines, and planes; properties of polygons and circles, as well as areas of figures and volumes of solids. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I

Grade Level: 9th, 10th
Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Geometry

Students will showcase their algebra skills using logic, spatial reasoning, and problem-solving in collaborative real-world scenarios. When working through challenging problems, students will formulate a simpler problem, work backwards, and recall strategies from previous scenarios. This course includes foundations of geometry: inductive and deductive reasoning, properties of polygons and circles, and volume calculations. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I

Grade Level: 9th, 10th
Length: 3 Bins

Algebra II

Algebra II provides a conceptual bridge for topics from Algebra I and Geometry. Some of the concepts covered will include functions, equations and inequalities, logarithmic and exponential relationships, conics, quadratic and polynomial equations, and matrices. Topics that were introduced in Algebra I will be expanded and applied to questions that require higher-order thinking skills where students will need to justify and explain their thought processes. Additional topics will be introduced through independent activities, group projects and presentations, and teacher-led discussions. Computers and graphing calculators will be used to introduce and expand upon these concepts. **Prerequisite:** Geometry

Grade Level: 10th, 11th
Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Algebra II

The second year of Advanced Algebra focuses intensely on the study of types of numbers and functions. The goal of the course is to develop a strong numerical, algebraic, and graphical sense while building a verbal fluency of the mathematics. We will go beyond the linear and quadratic to explore radical, rational, exponential, logarithmic functions, and the topics of probability and statistics. Our analysis will include a wide range of applications from carbon-dating to space exploration. **Prerequisite:** Geometry

Grade Level: 10th, 11th
Length: 3 Bins

Pre-Calculus

Pre-Calculus is designed to intertwine and deepen understanding of topics from Algebra and Geometry in preparation for further mathematical studies in Calculus. With a focus on numerical, graphical, algebraic, and verbal analysis, we will explore three main themes:

Bin 1: The Function Machine: Linear, Polynomial, Radical, and Rational Functions

Bin 2: Thinking in Circles: Analytical Geometry and Trigonometric Functions

Bin 3: Explaining Nature with Mathematics: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, Conic Sections, and Probability

Students will work collaboratively and learn via a combination of direct instruction, discovery, and project-based inquiry. **Prerequisite:** Algebra II

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Pre-Calculus

In Advanced Pre-Calculus, students will study the theoretical aspects of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions, and get a sense of how these functions are lurking in the world around us. Attention is given to precise communication of mathematical ideas in proofs and written and oral explanations. Students will move easily between graphical and algebraic representations of solutions and they will be able to articulate why an answer makes sense in more than one way. Upon the completion of all three bins, students will have acquired a strong foundation for the study of AP Calculus. **Prerequisite:** Algebra II

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

Calculus

To study calculus is to study how quantities change. You have already studied the linear relationship that occurs when a quantity changes at a constant rate. In this course, you will learn how to determine instantaneous rates of change of quantities that do not vary at a constant rate. You will use technology as a primary tool for discovery of rules, properties, and theorems about the derivative and the integral. **Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP COURSES

AP Calculus: AB

The AP Calculus AB course answers the questions “How fast...?” and “How much ...?” by an in-depth study of the derivative and the integral. In the process, we will study curve properties, optimization, rate of change, motion, and what it means to accumulate change. Students will work with functions represented in numerical, graphical, tabular, and algebraic forms and they will learn to connect these representations. Students will be taught to present their findings in clear verbal and written format. We will use many types of software and technology to visualize the calculus concepts. Upon completion of all three bins, students are prepared to take the AP Calculus AB exam. **Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Calculus: BC

AP Calculus BC covers all the topics of AB Calculus along with the addition of several topics that include sequences and series, vectors and parametrics, polar area and arc length, as well as extension of integration techniques. The major topics of derivative (rate of change) and integral (accumulation of changes) are emphasized throughout the course. As with the AB course, AP Calculus BC emphasizes not only procedures but also the reasons and understandings behind the procedures. This course pushes for connections between topics and fosters the learning of a variety of mathematical techniques with which to analyze problems with diverse contexts. **Prerequisite:** Pre-Calculus

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Statistics

The news and media are filled with numerical information. Have you ever wondered where the information comes from, and if it is even valid? AP Statistics is a course designed to give you a thorough understanding of random events, probability, data collection and its analysis. Each day we look at a real-world scenario and come closer to finding the truth. Does Beyoncé write her own lyrics? Can some people really smell Parkinson’s Disease? Does the store brand have as many chocolate chips as the name brand? Let’s find out! By the end of the class, you’ll be 99% confident and prepared for the AP exam.

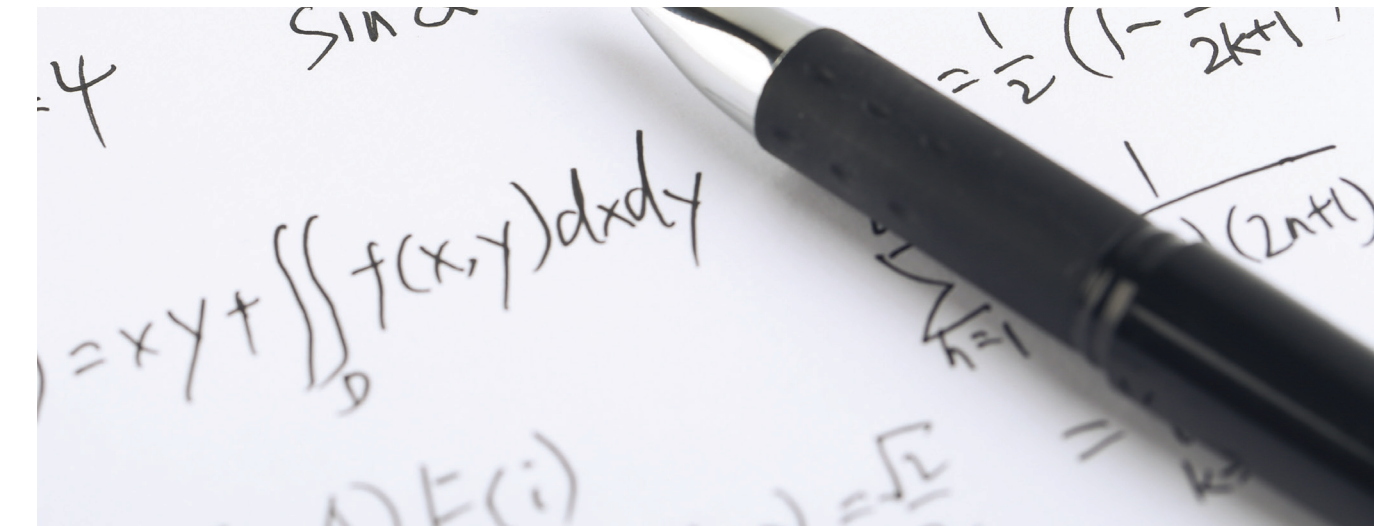
Bin 1: Collecting and Describing Data and its Distributions

Bin 2: Probability, Sampling Distributions, and Statistical Inference for One Group

Bin 3: Statistical Inference for Two or More Groups, and Review for the AP Exam

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins



ELECTIVE COURSES

Trigonometry

Mount Everest's peak is 29,029 feet above sea level, but how does anyone actually measure this? In Trigonometry, students will encounter the type of functions that make this measurement possible. In addition to reinforcing concepts encountered on the ACT, the skills practiced in this bin have applications in naval and aviation industries, cartography, and satellite systems. **Prerequisite:** Algebra II

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 2 Bins

History of Mathematics

The course will explore major mathematical developments beginning with ancient Babylonians and Greeks and tracing the development through Hindu-Indian mathematics, Arabic mathematics, and European mathematics up to the 20th century. Very little is known about mathematics of the Mayan culture as well as Far East. The course will also allow research into those lesser known works. **Prerequisite:** Algebra II

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

More About The Matrix Than Keanu Reeves Could Teach You: An Introduction to Linear Algebra

Linear algebra is heavily used in modern mathematics, particularly in statistics and data science, with applications in many fields, including economics, physics, and engineering. In this course, we will learn to solve systems of linear equations with matrix operations, and provide an understanding of the processes used in computer software designed to solve systems. We will explore applications of matrices and linear algebra with a combination of traditional direct instruction and project-based learning. **Prerequisite:** Algebra I, Geometry, and concurrent enrollment in or previous completion of Algebra II

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



CORE COURSES

Biology

Biology is a field of inquiry and investigation. The underlying themes of continuity and diversity, as well as the common threads of evolution and genetics, unify the fields of study. Students explore the cell, the way cells interact to produce the many forms of successful organisms, and how these organisms interact with the environment. Biochemical and physiological studies highlight the fundamental relationship of form and function. Both individual and group research and laboratory work are integral to the course. In part one, students will explore biochemistry and cell biology, while part two will focus on genetics, both Mendelian and molecular. The course will conclude with a third unit of study with topics including evolution, ecology, and human body systems. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 3 Bins

Chemistry

This course is a study of the concepts and models upon which modern chemistry is based. In the footsteps of the scientists before them, students will explore the concepts integral to chemistry, such as properties of matter, chemical reactions, behavior of gases, stoichiometry, and the energy involved in chemical systems. Models are then developed to help explain and understand those concepts. Our work is guided by three main questions: 1. How do we view matter (from a particle standpoint); 2. How does matter behave; and 3. What is the role of energy in the changes we observe? As we work toward answering these questions students will improve their ability to measure, organize, and communicate scientific information as well as increase development of critical thinking skills. **Prerequisite:** Biology, Algebra, and concurrent enrollment in Geometry or Algebra II

Grade Level: 10th, 11th
Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Chemistry

Advanced Chemistry I is an accelerated version of Chemistry I. Scientific problem solving, the properties of matter, energy changes in chemical systems, gas laws, chemical reactions, and stoichiometry are the main topics, with additional focus on acids and bases, periodicity, and solution stoichiometry. Our guideposts are three main questions: 1. What does matter look like (from a particle standpoint); 2. How does matter behave; and 3. What is the role of energy in the changes we observe? As we work toward answering these questions students will improve their ability to measure, organize, and communicate scientific information as well as increase development of critical thinking skills. **Prerequisite:** Biology, Geometry, and concurrent enrollment in Advanced Algebra II

Grade Level: 10th, 11th
Length: 3 Bins

Physics

The Physics course investigates the essentials of mechanics (including kinematics and dynamics), energy, momentum, circular motion, and gravitation. Additional topics of heat and thermodynamics, harmonic motion, optics, electricity, magnetism, and modern physics will be examined. Mathematical and conceptual relationships will be used as guides for thinking and in all aspects of scientific inquiry. Students will use a variety of techniques, including real and virtual laboratory investigations, inquiry, and scientific problem-solving, to make informed decisions and think critically and logically about physics concepts. Emphasis will be on designing and conducting scientific investigations to gather, interpret, and analyze data, and to form relationships between evidence and explanations. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry or Advanced Chemistry and concurrent enrollment in Algebra II or higher

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Physics

The Advanced Physics course explores mechanics, energy, momentum, circular motion, gravitation, and advanced topics of fluids, heat and thermodynamics, and optics. A variety of methods, tools, and technology will aid students in developing models of understanding and applying those constructs to real-world problems. Mathematic and conceptual interconnectivity will be used to build depth of understanding and to guide thinking in unique situations. A variety of techniques, including lab investigations, inquiry, and problem-solving will be used to foster logical and critical thinking of concepts. Emphasis will be on designing and conducting experiments to interpret and analyze data as well as on application of mathematics to everyday problems. Content will be covered at a faster pace and in greater depth than in the on-level physics course, requiring strong computational and applied mathematics skills to thoroughly analyze the topics. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry or Advanced Chemistry and Algebra II or higher

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins



AP COURSES

AP Biology

AP Biology is an accelerated course designed to integrate and enhance the skills and knowledge acquired in Biology I. Emphasis is placed on evolution, genetics, and the physiological and biochemical interactions of organisms within the environment. Students will develop an understanding of key science practices as well as advanced reasoning and inquiry skills through course work and laboratory investigations. **Prerequisite:** Biology, Chemistry, Algebra II

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Chemistry

AP Chemistry is designed to be equivalent to a first-year chemistry course at the college level where students build a foundation of chemical knowledge through both traditional and inquiry-based investigations that allow them to collect and analyze data and connect concepts across the Big Ideas. Students will: use models to describe scientific phenomena and solve problems; use appropriate mathematics; engage in scientific questioning to extend thinking and guide chemical investigations; plan and implement data collection strategies based on scientific questions; hone their abilities to create a scientific claim, based on evidence and scientific reasoning; and connect knowledge across the various content areas both within, and outside, the course. In this Algebra-based course, students will use theoretical and physical models, simulations, and mathematical relationships to process information and expand their understanding of chemistry. **Prerequisite:** Biology, Chemistry, Algebra II, and concurrent enrollment in Advanced Pre-Calculus or higher

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Physics I

The AP Physics I course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students will cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study, in-class activity, and hands-on, inquiry-based investigations as they explore concepts of systems, fields, force interactions, change, conservation, and waves. The mathematical basis of this course is Algebra and Trigonometry (functions and equations). Mathematical relationships will be used as guides for thinking and in all aspects of scientific inquiry. Students will use a variety of techniques, including real and virtual laboratory investigations, inquiry, and scientific problem-solving, to make informed decisions and think critically and logically about physics concepts. Emphasis will be on designing and conducting scientific investigations to gather, interpret, and analyze data, and to form relationships between evidence and explanations. **Prerequisite:** Advanced Chemistry and concurrent enrollment in Advanced Pre-Calculus or higher

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Environmental Science

The goal of the AP Environmental Science course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Specific topics include ecosystems, biodiversity, populations, Earth systems and resources, land and water use, energy, air pollution, aquatic and terrestrial pollution, and global change. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry, Algebra II

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

ELECTIVE COURSES

Environmental Science

This course introduces students to the study of the environment. The goals of the course are to develop an understanding of the earth as a system, its components and how those components interact; to be able to identify, analyze, and assess various human and non-human impacts on the environment; and to review and examine the environmental regulations and environmental policy that impact the current state of the environment. Students will utilize scientific problem-solving to think critically and logically about environmental challenges. Emphasis will be on understanding and relating environmental concepts to real-life situations. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

Introduction to Human Anatomy

Introduction to Human Anatomy is a course that will enable students to develop an understanding of the relationships between the structures and functions of the body. Students were introduced to body systems in Biology as freshmen and this course will build on their existing knowledge. Students will learn to identify and describe anatomical structures through inquiry, observation, and dissection. This course will allow students to learn more about the human body and will also provide a foundation for those interested in health-related careers. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Marine Biology

Marine Biology is the study of marine organisms, their behavior, and their interaction with the environment. In this course students will explore the many varieties of saltwater ecosystems and life they support. Emphasis will be placed on understanding the ecology of the ecosystem, the physiology and identification of the organisms that use the ecosystem as a habitat, and the current threats to the ecosystem. Students will spend a portion of time discussing current events, watching documentaries, and deciding the ways in which they can improve awareness about the importance of healthy oceans. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

Ecology: In Your Own Backyard

Using the plants, animals, weather conditions, and the Briar Branch Bayou (the stream behind Duchesne) throughout the MOD, we will learn how fascinating your backyard can be. We'll go on walk-about, adventure through our bayou, and identify different aspects of Southeast Texas ecology. We'll learn how plants and animals defend themselves, why we don't have polar bears in the wild down here, and even how hurricanes can impact our neighborhoods. We'll also bring examples from our backyards and try to figure out what they are and why they are there. It will truly be an adventure! **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

The Physics of Harry Potter

The Physics of Harry Potter course evaluates the scientific validity of various aspects of the world of Harry Potter, including the Sorcerer's Stone (as related to alchemy), Hermione's Time Turner (time travel), prophecy (entropy and chaos), Wingardium Leviosa (levitation and flying), herbology and potions (plant chemistry and pharmacology), the Pensieve (memory transfer and teleportation), Lumos (behavior of light), and the invisibility cloak (camouflage and refraction), among other proposed magical ideas. A variety of methods, tools, and technology will be used to develop students' understanding of scientific ideas to arm them to answer the question, "Is this scientifically possible?" Students will utilize a variety of techniques, including whole class discussion, research-based arguments, written reflections, small group problem solving, and experimental design to make informed decisions and think critically and logically about science in the real world. Emphasis will be on examining scientific evidence to form fact-based explanations for seemingly "magical" occurrences. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Genetic Disorders

There are endless possibilities for the pattern of one's genetic material, but how do genetic disorders appear when the chances of them are quite rare? In this course, students will unravel the genome and discover how mutations in DNA sequence can greatly affect an individual. Students will use knowledge of DNA, protein synthesis, cellular processes, and inheritance patterns to study the cause of various genetic disorders and the physical effects they have on an individual. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Forensic Science

Forensic Science is the application of science (chemistry, physics, and biology) to the criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. It includes the investigation of fingerprinting, fiber analysis, ballistics, arson, trace evidence analysis, poisons, drugs, blood spatters, and blood samples. Students are taught the proper collection, preservation, and laboratory analysis of various samples. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Epidemiology

Have you ever wondered how diseases can suddenly appear and quickly affect populations? Epidemiology is the study of diseases in populations of humans or other animals, specifically how, when, and where they occur. Students enrolled in this course will study and research infectious diseases to determine what factors are associated with diseases and what factors may protect people or animals against diseases. **Prerequisite:** Chemistry

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin



CORE COURSES

Introduction to Global Studies

The global studies course is an introduction to the vast discipline of Social Studies. By approaching global studies through the lens of history, geography, economics, political science, anthropology, etc., students will develop the tools to identify relevant connections between the historical foundations of the modern world and current global issues. Foremost, the class will cultivate the skill sets needed to bolster their academic readiness beyond their freshman year, meaning students will have extensive practice with evaluating evidence in support of argumentation and inquiry, writing complex and creative thoughts, interpreting historical events and their outcomes, synthesizing information and analysis, and hopefully, developing a joy and deep understanding of the discipline. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 3 Bins

Modern World History

The past five centuries have been an incredibly dynamic era in our history, which has been marked by periods of immense political, social, cultural, and economic change in nations across the world. The class will analyze key historical themes, concepts and patterns to understand the history of our world and recognize the significance of the daily application of this knowledge. Understanding of the material covered in this course serves as a building block for understanding current and future international affairs and will help the Duchesne Academy student to take an active role in the world around her. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Global Studies

Grade Level: 10th
Length: 3 Bins

Ancestry and Immigration

The United States is uniquely comprised of immigrants from around the world, and this course provides students with the opportunity to conduct research on their family heritage and study American immigration through the lens of their ancestors. Students will conduct research, chart their family history, and then examine the waves of immigration that are pertinent to the time periods their ancestors arrived in the United States. By exploring America's complex origins, students will develop an understanding of how the nation is a cluster of immigrants from many origins, appreciate historical trends across the time periods examined, and develop research and analytical skills through this hands-on history course. Students will subscribe to an account with Ancestry.com, or sign up for the site's free trial. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 1 Bin

American History Through Film

Since Thomas Edison patented America's first motion picture camera in 1891, interpreting America's history through film has become a large part of our culture, and for many people it is how they have come to narrate our nation's story, irrespective of the accuracy of the films. This is not an eat-popcorn-and-watch-movies class; rather the course will focus on analyzing what the films conveyed from an academic perspective. By examining a collection of films that interpret our history, students will be exposed to themes of the past – lifestyles, values, and beliefs. They will also become familiar with the concept of historiography — the history of history — because the relatively simple motivational depiction of the stories reveals how people interpreted historical personalities and events during different time periods. **Prerequisite:** Ancestry and Immigration

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 1 Bin

Money Talks

This course examines the American economy from a historical perspective to gain an appreciation of how pertinent the largest economy in the world has been in shaping our lives and America's position in the modern world. This class uses basic economic concepts to describe and explain overall economic growth and developments in specific sectors of the economy, such as agriculture, transportation, industry and commerce, money and banking, and public policy. The course focuses on events, trends, and institutions that fostered or hindered the economic development of our nation. By course end, the student should have a better understanding of how the United States rose to prominence, how it has changed over time, and what drives the economy today. **Prerequisite:** American History Through Film

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 1 Bin



American Government

A group of citizens once approached Benjamin Franklin as he was leaving the Constitutional Convention in 1787 and asked him what form of government the new American country would adopt. He famously replied “A Republic, if you can keep it.” This course will examine the foundation, structure, and modern-day workings of that Republic. You will develop a robust understanding of our government system including the three branches and their institutions, the role of political parties and interest groups, your fundamental civil rights and liberties, and the many layers and institutions that help make our government function. We will explore considerable connections to modern current events in the United States so that after this class, you will be a more informed and civic-minded American. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Economics

Fundamentally, economics is the study of choice and constraints. This course will serve as a broad introduction to the field of economics (macro and micro), but the course is ultimately designed to expose students to the thinking, tools, and wonder of economics. Students will complete this course with a fuller understanding of economics as it applies to their lives, their government, and their future. Students will develop a framework of core macroeconomic principles and their application to current problems and issues faced by policymakers. The course will emphasize the macroeconomic policy challenges faced by governments and central banks and describe the various tools available to meet these challenges. Students will also develop the tools of personal financial literacy in order to become competent and capable economic actors. **Prerequisite:** American Government

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

America's Interplay Between Government and the Economy

This course is a culmination of both government and economics to round out the credit requirement students need in addition to their American Government and Economics courses. It is impossible to divorce politics from economics, and America is no exception. This class examines some of the fundamental pillars of American society that mesh the dual institutions of democracy and the market system. Some of the issues explored by the class include: What is fiscal policy? What does the Federal Reserve do? What does it mean to be a citizen in the world's largest economy? How does money impact our government elections and policy decisions? In order to address these questions, we will identify and evaluate key features of the American experience including: the market system, macroeconomic indicators, role of lobbyists, national and personal budgets, etc. **Prerequisite:** Economics

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

AP COURSES

AP European History

This is a college-level survey course that covers modern European history, beginning with the later Middle Ages and continuing through the Cold War and into the contemporary world. The course is designed to promote critical thinking and writing skills and is organized around seven historical themes, ranging from political, social and economic developments to national and international relationships and intellectual and technological innovations, and four time periods, spanning 1450 to the present. In addition to preparing the student for the AP European History exam, the course will provide her with a foundation for understanding current and future political, economic, intellectual and social issues. **Prerequisite:** 9th Grade History

Grade Level: 10th
Length: 3 Bins



AP United States History

This is a college-level survey course designed by the College Board that covers the foundations of our nation, continuing through the rise of the United States as a world power, and into the contemporary world. AP US History places extra emphases on persuasive writing, critical thinking, and document analysis skills which will be tested on the AP US History exam in May. In addition to preparing the student for the AP exam, the course is designed to prepare thoughtful citizens that have a cultivated appreciation for how our nation has the trends that shape current and future political, economic, intellectual and social issues. **Prerequisite:** 10th Grade History

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Comparative Government and Politics

A comparative study of six countries form the core of the course: China, Great Britain, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, and Russia. Examining these countries allows students to move beyond concepts of abstract definition to concrete example. The Comparative Government and Politics course introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in various countries. The course aims to illustrate the diversity in international political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. Comparison assists in identifying problems, analyzing types and effectiveness of policymaking, and in explaining differences between countries, which allows students of U.S. Government to look at the politics of their own country differently, inspiring them to reflect and interpret with greater depth and understanding. **Prerequisite:** 11th Grade History

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 2 Bins

AP US Government and Politics and AP Macroeconomics

This course provides an opportunity to study the foundation of the U.S. political system; to analyze the political institutions, processes, and values of the system; to trace the development of the United States governmental system; and to analyze the structure and functions of government on local, state, and federal levels. This course will also give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole as well as to individuals and firms. It is designed to encourage critical analysis and economic literacy and enable us to become more informed participants in our governmental system. **Prerequisite:** 11th Grade History

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 3 Bins

ELECTIVE COURSES

Genocide Studies: Overview of the 20th Century in Conflict

The term genocide wasn't formally defined until 1948 by the United Nations Genocide Convention, but genocide has unfortunately defined geopolitics in the 20th and 21st centuries. In this course, we will examine some of the most tragic and dark chapters in modern history, so that by learning from this horrific past and its present impacts we may be best prepared for our future. We will begin by exploring the Holocaust during World War II, but also consider instances of genocide in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Soviet Union, and China. We will utilize film, literature, philosophy, psychology, religion and history as we grapple with a world that is still imprinted by genocide. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Global Studies

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Duchesses of Duchesne

This elective course will examine all things royal, beginning with the House of Hanover and continuing through the current House of Windsor. We will delve into all aspects, including the daily life of the current Buckingham Palace chef, the relationships Queen Elizabeth upheld through modern history, and the origins of dog breed names based on Royal preference. So if you are interested in discussing those along with royal fashion choices, blueprints of castles and summer palaces, conspiracy theories, mandatory tea party etiquette, royal family drama, and the traditions behind Royal weddings, then this course is for you! **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Global Studies

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

The Genius of Women

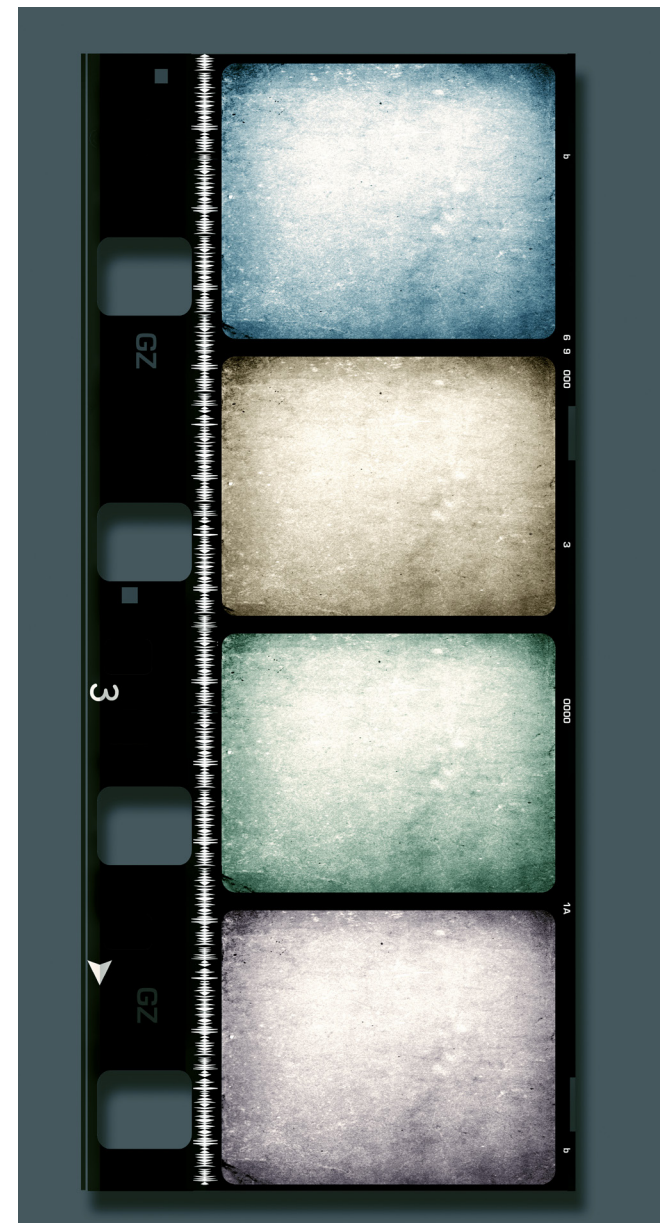
What can feminism look like today from the Catholic faith perspective? How do Catholic women and other women of faith interact with intellectual and academic feminists? Learn how to work towards women's equality at the U.S. or global level and where humanity is in the history of women's rights. What work is being done from a Catholic perspective and other faiths? Is there a way forward amidst our differences? In this course, students will hear the unlikely conversion story of a professor and former Postmodern Feminist to the Catholic faith and discuss the perspectives driving views around women's rights issues in modern culture today. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Global Studies

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

The Holocaust through Literature and Film

This course examines the Holocaust through the lens of powerful, creative works in an attempt to address essential questions of humanity and history: How could such an event happen? How could such evil exist? What was the role of perpetrators and bystanders? What is the story of victims and survivors? How do we honor and remember the people and lessons of the Holocaust? We will examine various texts (*Night*, *Man's Search for Meaning*, *Maus*), journals (*Salvaged Pages*), films (*Schindler's List*, *Life is Beautiful*, *God on Trial*) and other artistic works as we dive into one of the most heinous events in human history and consider how these works attempt to wrestle with the overwhelming enormity of the Holocaust. **Prerequisite:** 10th Grade History

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin



Intro to Psychology

Have you ever wondered how eyewitness testimonies can be so flawed? Or whether nature or nurture has more sway over how you turned out? This course is designed to introduce you to the fascinating world of psychology and inspire you to take more psychology courses in college. By the end of this mod, you will have a broad overview of many interesting psychological topics and have completed a deep dive project on a specific area of research that especially interests you. **Prerequisite:** 10th Grade History

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

The Women Who Paved the Way... in Sports

Sports make the world go around. Throughout history important women have made a huge impact on sports. Their determination, hard work, and advocacy have paved the way for future generations. In this course we will learn about these important women in their respective sports and how they changed the game for all of us. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

World Area Studies

What is going on in the world today? What major political, social, intellectual, and economic upheavals are occurring that are shaping our world and our future? Why is it important to understand what is happening not only in the United States, but around the world? In this course, we will examine current events in the news around the world so that we may better understand our place in the world. We will trace the development of key issues in modern geopolitics (e.g. Israel/Palestine, Brexit, China's Belt and Road Initiative, global elections, climate change) and what current issues engage the world in 2022. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Global Studies

Grade Level: 10th - 12th **Length:** 1 Bin

Through the Eyes of the World: A Close Look at International Film

In this course, we'll travel to different destinations around the world that can offer other perspectives on culture, style, and reality that differ from Hollywood depictions. Next, we'll explore different elements of storytelling and various narrative styles as well as cinematographic aspects and how those elements are reflected in acclaimed international films. By the end, students will have had their eyes and feelings opened to the world through the artistic interpretation of the camera lens. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Global Studies

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



Computer Studies

COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSES

Computer Science for the Curious

Long before the 2020s, computer technology has been an essential component of daily life on Earth. This course is a broad survey course that will dive into the evolution and history of computing, applications of computer science in various disciplines and careers, and an introduction to the principles of coding, so you can finally answer the question, "What's the big deal with Computer Science?" **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Introduction to Java

A piping hot cup of Java might just be the most important step in your morning routine, but Java also happens to refer to one of many industry-standard programming languages utilized in Computer Science applications such as the Internet of things, game development, big data analysis, and sensors for self-driving cars! This intro course intends to provide students with a reliable foundation of computer science and the basics of programming in Java with a focus on problem solving and algorithm development. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Maker's Arduino Applications

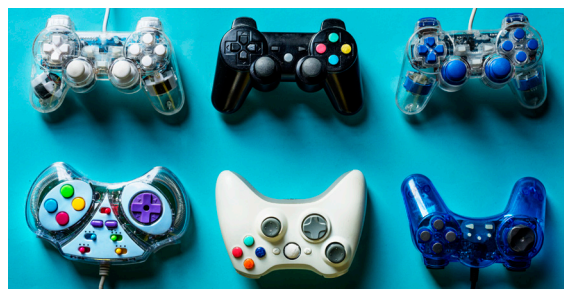
Have you ever wanted your own pet robot? In this project-based course, we will get hands-on with various types of circuits designed to play music, detect intruders, play games, etc. Circuits will include components such as potentiometers, capacitors, resistors, diodes, LEDs, transistors, and relays. Students will write their own code and create circuit diagrams to facilitate their understanding of programming, circuits, current, and power flow. The final project will be your very own autonomous robotic pet! **Prerequisite:** Any Computer Science Course

Grade Level: 9th - 12th **Length:** 1 Bin

Game Design

In Game Design, students will utilize previously developed programming skills to create video games such as snake, breakout, crazy ball, and helicopter. The final project for the course will require students to identify a game they would like to create, then design it, code it, and play it by employing advanced concepts such as timers, mouse click events, key events, and creating functions and managing their parameters. Students will present their final projects as playable video games where they will challenge classmates. To the victor go the spoils! **Prerequisite:** Instructor recommendation

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



Digital Product Design

In this course, students will learn how to design in three dimensions using Autodesk Fusion 360. Fusion is an intuitive program designed for first time CAD (Computer-aided design) users to create 3-D designs. In this class students will use a data-driven approach to create products they would like to make or own themselves. Students will employ the engineering design process to create, iterate, and improve upon their product designs through a review and feedback loop with the course instructor and develop their technical communication skills. Students will use a Prusa 3-D printer to print completed designs of their choosing. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th **Length:** 1 Bin

Introduction to Robotics

Intro to robotics uses robots to teach valuable STEM principles that make engineering approachable and exciting for everyone – no prior robotics or computer science experience required! Hone your critical computational thinking skills while you learn and work as a team to combine science, engineering, and programming to complete robotic challenges simulating actions such as delivering medication to patients in a hospital, bowling, loading packages for delivery, dancing, and more. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Engineer Your World I, Design, and Analysis

In this course designed by the University of Texas in Austin, students will explore mechanical, chemical, civil, electrical, and aerospace engineering through a series of design challenges that illustrate how engineering can improve people's lives and health, meet the specific needs of different groups, and enable creativity in the arts. In EYW, students discover the engineering design process, make data-driven decisions, and collaborate in teams to solve complex challenges. EYW design challenges include an investigation on how to brew the perfect cup of coffee, an analysis and redesign of a building to support earthquake resistance, engineering a system designed to capture aerial images of a disaster zone, and more! **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP Computer Science A

AP Computer Science A is an introductory, college-level course that looks into the world of Computer Science. This course is intended for both students who are curious about computer science and those who are seriously considering a career in the field. Students will learn the concepts of object-oriented programming and be able to implement them in Java, the industry standard language. In addition, students will also learn how to design, implement, debug, and document computer programs. Students learn how to use and create their own programming algorithms as well as methodologies on how to approach programming-related problems. Also covered are the ethical and social implications of computer science. This course will be a mixture of lecture and hands-on lab experiences. **Prerequisite:** Instructor recommendation

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 3 Bins

DIGITAL DESIGN AND MEDIA COURSES

Yearbook

Have a flair for writing, love photography, or interested in journalism? Be on the L'Esprit yearbook staff and help capture your high school years in print. You will learn the basics of desktop publishing using page layout software and photo composition using Adobe Photoshop. You will plan page production for specific deadlines, coordinate the distribution of books, and help to organize staff coverage of all-school events. Participation on the yearbook staff requires a commitment of time after school for photography and interviews, as well as organizational skills, a strong sense of personal responsibility, and the ability to work both independently and on a team. *Students will be required to attend a two-day training workshop, on campus, in August.* The course may be taken once for Computer Science credit and multiple times for Elective credit. Scheduling is subject to teacher and student availability.

Grade Level: 9th - 12th **Length:** 1, 2, or 3 Bins

Digital Media I

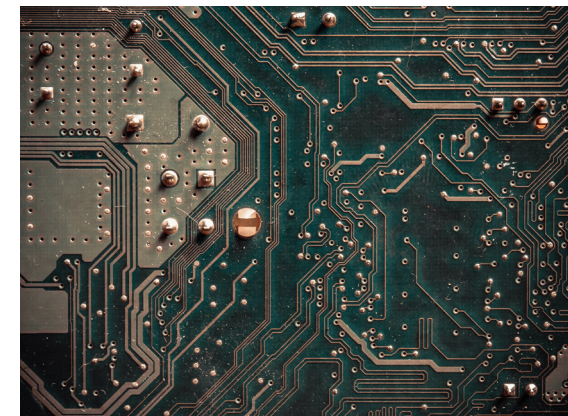
Gain foundational knowledge and skills in several digital mediums, including photo editing, digital drawing, video production, and desktop publishing. Explore the basics of design, color, and typography in creating original digital art, or for enhancing projects and presentations now and in the future. Students will explore these Adobe Creative Cloud applications: Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, Audition, After Effects, and InDesign. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Digital Media II

Harness the knowledge gained in Digital Media I and expand it in a variety of captivating ways. With lessons in more advanced techniques and the guidance of the instructor, students will conceive, organize, and execute projects of their own design, created in one or more of the applications from the Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, Premiere Pro, Audition, After Effects, and InDesign). Students choose their area of interest—drawing, photo editing, desktop publishing, film, animation, or a combination, in creating a small body of works showing their theme or concept. This class may be repeated for credit. **Prerequisite:** Digital Media I

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INTERNSHIP (CAVE)

Running a helpdesk takes patience, focus, teamwork, independence and strong customer support skills, all which will be learned and practiced by our student IT interns when running the CAVE (Computer Audio Visual Education) helpdesk. IT Interns are responsible on a daily basis for staffing the CAVE help desk and for performing regular maintenance and service of campus computers and audio/visual equipment. Participation in this course requires strong organizational skills, a strong sense of personal responsibility, the ability to work both independently and with a group, and a strong desire to learn the technical aspects of the computer. IT Interns must demonstrate respect and patience, as they will be working with both faculty and students. Interns will be required to attend a 3-day training workshop in August.

Information Technology Internship

IT Interns will be immersed in the fundamental knowledge of information technology and perform real-world tasks by working in the helpdesk. They will learn PC hardware and software, basic networking, and maintain CAVE resources and outreach. This class may be repeated as needed. **Prerequisite:** 1+ years in Duchesne's 1:1 program or approval from technology department

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 2 Bins

Information Technology Intern Apprenticeship

IT Apprentices will deepen your knowledge of Information Technology by pursuing a Microsoft or Test Out certification in combination with working the helpdesk. **Prerequisite:** Information Technology Internship

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 3 Bins

Physical Education

TheraP.E.

It is scientific fact that physical and mental health are intertwined. Regular exercise releases happy hormones, leading to a mood boost, better sleep, lower rates of depression, and more. In this class we will practice multiple types of exercise including walking, running, strength training, yoga, crossfit, and sports. As a result, these activities will challenge your mental health and emotional awareness in order to connect mind with body. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

EmPOWERment

Women are intelligent. Women are intuitive. Women are creative. And women are POWERFUL! In this class you will learn safe and proper techniques for lifting weights and performing such lifts like the squat, leg press, bicep curl, tricep extension, and more in order to get stronger and feel empowered in what your body (and mind) can accomplish. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Lawn Games

This course will give students the opportunity to learn about and play lawn games that range from active (Spike Ball) to more relaxed and strategic (Bocce Ball). Students will also get to play Horseshoes, Cornhole, Hunny Ball, Kan Jam, and Ladder Toss. This class will give students the opportunity to learn about games and activities that aren't typically considered mainstream. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Climbing

This class is designed for beginners to experienced climbers who want to gain more knowledge and understanding. Climbing helps improve power, strength, and cardiac endurance and serves as a great way to destress and support mental health. Learn to boulder, top rope, speed climb, belay, and more. Instructors will help improve technique, refine skills, and increase difficulties to ensure a fun and relaxed environment. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Nutrition: Health and Wellness

By the end of this class, you will understand how to better track caloric intake and expenditure. Each student will learn the proper way to track calories, understand the concept of healthy eating, and properly balance physical activity. The ease of working out can be as simple as a 30-minute video or a brisk walk. This class will show you how easy it can be to maintain good health and wellness from high school into the transition to college life. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Yoga

In this course, students will learn about yoga and the different types practiced in Houston. Led by a certified yoga teacher, every day you will do a physical practice to increase your strength and flexibility. Once a week students will practice yin yoga, a slower more contemplative type of practice. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



Zumba

Exercise in disguise with Zumba! This Latin-inspired dance-fitness class welcomes all backgrounds with no previous dance experience necessary. Zumba combines fast and slow rhythms that tone and sculpt the body using an aerobic/fitness approach. The cardio-based dance movements are easy to follow and target areas such as the glutes, legs, arms, core, abdominals and most importantly the heart! This course will break down the four basic rhythms (Merengue, Cumbia, Reggaeton, Salsa) in easy-to-follow steps before progressing into a complete Zumba workout. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

PE Credit if you play a team sport: If you participate for an entire season of an after school sport, you will receive one graduation credit towards PE. One season counts for one bin of PE. After your third bin is accomplished through after school sports, a Physical Education class can only count as an "elective" towards your graduation requirement.

Fine Arts

FOUNDATIONAL VISUAL ARTS COURSES

Foundations of Art

Foundations of Art is a course that provides a basic introduction to Visual art. This course teaches the key elements of drawing and painting. In drawing, students will explore graphite and colored pencils. Students will learn the various steps to developing a detailed drawing. Painting will be primarily focused on watercolor and serve as the foundation of color studies. The elements of art and principles of design will be introduced and reinforced throughout this course. Students will create artist statements and document ideas in their sketchbooks. We will explore several art movements that will be inspirations for some of the art images that the students will create throughout the course. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Concepts of Art and Design

This course builds on the knowledge gained in the foundations of art class and reinforces the use of elements and principles of design to create strong compositions. This course teaches the basics of 2-D and 3-D design through drawing, printmaking, and sculpture. Knowledge of color theory will be developed through the use of colored pencil and clay. Sculpture will include hand building techniques and modeling. Students will engage in critiques of their art images and learn the vocabulary needed to discuss, create, and appreciate different types of visual art in a formal setting. **Prerequisite:** Foundations of Art

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

2-D STUDIO COURSES

Drawing I

Students will increase their perceptual skills while using a variety of drawing tools and techniques. The primary focus of this course is drawing from life and learning how to look at spatial relationships to transfer knowledge onto a two-dimensional plane. Types of drawings will include contour, gesture, still life, linear perspective, and portraiture. Media will include graphite, charcoal, conté crayon and ink. Outside of class sketchbook assignments are part of this course. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Drawing II

Building upon skills learned in Drawing I, students will further study compositional elements while working both realistically and abstractly. Increased figurative work will provide opportunities for content considerations and greater technical skills. Historic, modern, and non-traditional approaches to drawing will be explored. Students' media choices will expand to mixed media, pastels, and colored pencils. Assignments will be aimed at producing larger scale and more detailed work. Research and sketchbook documentation are a key part of this course. **Prerequisite:** Drawing I

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Painting I

Students will gain experience using acrylics to paint from observation. This course will focus on color theory and composition, reinforce the understanding of the elements and principles of design, and develop the student's perceptual skills. The painting experience will be enhanced through exposure to historic precedents and modern approaches to painting. Students will create 2-3 finished paintings. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 9th - 12th **Length:** 1 Bin

Painting II

Students will continue to develop perceptual and technical skills using acrylic or watercolor. Further exploration of painting styles and art movements will be included. Students will have more choice in the subject matter they choose to paint. Sketchbook research beyond the classroom is required. Students will create 2-3 finished paintings. **Prerequisite:** Painting I

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Digital Photography

In this beginning digital photography class, students will learn the basics such as the exposure triangle, the purpose of the camera settings, optimal natural light situations, and composition techniques. Students will need to use their own DSLR cameras that include AV, TV, ISO, and manual settings. Assessments will be various photo assignments that focus on skills learned in class. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Stained Glass

Explore the history and creation of stained glass works from early churches to the famous lamps of Louis Comfort Tiffany and the innovative works of modern artists. Then use your knowledge of design to create two-dimensional stained-glass projects. Students will create their original design, pattern, cut and piece glass into stunning and unique creations. This course can be repeated for credit. Repeat students can explore advanced 2-D projects or 3-D projects such as lamps. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Mixed Media

This course will offer in-depth exploration of techniques and new ways to see, use, and interpret found objects. Students will create multi-directional compositions with a variety of materials, images, found objects, and drawing & painting media. Techniques will include collage, printing, drawing, painting, assemblage, stamping, modeling, etc. The elements of art and design will be reinforced with a particular emphasis on color, mood, texture and composition. Students will develop technical skills and personal style. Projects include art journals, up-cycling, found objects, and mixed media on canvas. This course may be repeated for credit. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

3-D STUDIO COURSES

Hand-Built Ceramics

This studio course is an introduction to the clay medium. Students explore the nature of clay and glazes, in a variety of hand-building projects, decorative processes and glaze applications. Students will learn the four basic methods of hand-building construction—pinch, coil, slab, and drape—and use them in functional and sculptural works. Students will take the clay from plastic to bisque, learning terminology, tools, stages of clay, how to slip and score, texture, and the firing processes. Students apply their knowledge of art and design and good craftsmanship to realize their artistic vision. This course may be repeated for credit. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Wheel-Thrown Ceramics

In this course, ceramics students will explore techniques for creating functional and sculptural forms using the potter's wheel. Students will learn to make a variety of forms—cups, bowls, teapots, containers—shaping the clay with the potter's wheel. Students use advanced techniques (texture, glaze, under glaze, graffito), good craftsmanship and the elements and principles of art to realize their artistic vision or concept. This course may be repeated for credit. **Prerequisite:** Hand-Built Ceramics

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Sculpture I

Students will learn how to envision and create art in the 3rd dimension. Students will design and construct realistic and abstract sculptural forms using a variety of materials, tools, and techniques. Their understanding of the elements and principles of design is reinforced as they examine, analyze, and interpret traditional and contemporary works of art and artifacts. Students will document ideas, process, problems, and solutions in a visual journal. **Prerequisite:** Concepts of Art and Design

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Sculpture II

Students will sculpt with clay, plaster, wood, wire, and found objects using additive, subtractive, casting, carving, and construction techniques. Coursework will focus on the human form and natural environment, as well as cultural and historical contexts. Students will document ideas, process, problems, and solutions in a visual journal. Students will be responsible for developing a digital portfolio to showcase their work and providing written artist statements. **Prerequisite:** Sculpture I

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

PORTFOLIO VISUAL ART COURSES

Idea Development

Students will continue to explore and develop techniques and processes learned in their studio classes. Students will independently design and implement a body of work that synthesizes their knowledge of media, tools and techniques. Artist voice and demonstration of skill are the main focus. Students will document ideas, process, problems, and solutions in a visual journal. The 'Final' for this class is a mini Portfolio submission consisting of 3-4 finished works of art from a selected theme or concept. All work done will be original in conception. **Prerequisite:** Five bins of studio art courses excluding Foundations and Concepts and instructor permission

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

AP Studio Art

Through studio practice, application of design concepts, and informed decision making, students will assemble a body of artwork demonstrating a high level of knowledge of technique and process, quality, and evidence of growth. Students should have previously been exposed to basic skills including drawing, design, and creative thinking. Students will address two components in their portfolios: quality and concentration. Students will submit this body of work to the College Board for grading and possible college credit in May. Students are expected to display artistic integrity throughout the course. Students will have the opportunity to showcase some of their work in the Jones Gallery at Duchesne in a culminating show. **Prerequisite:** Idea Development and instructor permission

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

ART HISTORY COURSES

Art History: In the Beginning

Art History is the study of people and the art they create. Find out why there are so many statues in Ancient Rome and how to talk about them. Learn about the history of art from the beginning of known human expression through the fall of the Roman Empire. This mod focuses on Prehistoric art from around the world, art of the Ancient Near East, and Ancient Mediterranean cultures. In a discussion-based format, examine the development of art and analyze it in the context of the culture that created it. **Prerequisite:** concurrent enrollment or completed European History or Modern World History

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Art History: Ages of Innovation

Art History is the study of people and the art they create. Find out why the 'Dark Ages' weren't dark at all and how trade with the Middle East helped Europe to ultimately colonize the world. This chapter focuses on the Middle Ages, Renaissance, Baroque, and the Enlightenment in Western Europe in addition to the art of Islamic cultures. In a discussion-based format, examine the development of art and analyze it in the context of the culture that created it. This mod is a continuation of Art History: In the Beginning, but you can take it independently. **Prerequisite:** concurrent enrollment or completed European History or Modern World History

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



Art History: Rise of the Individual

Art History is the study of people and the art they create. Find out why modern art is so different than traditional art and why contemporary art is so abstract. This chapter focuses on Neoclassical & Romantic movements, Impressionism, and contemporary art in Western Europe in addition to the indigenous art of the Americas, Asia, Africa, and India. In a discussion-based format, examine the development of art and analyze it in the context of the culture that created it. This mod is a continuation of Art History: Ages of Innovation, but you can take it independently. **Prerequisite:** concurrent enrollment or completed European History or Modern World History

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

MUSIC COURSES

Treble Choir

Christmas Concert, ISAS Fine Arts Festival, Combined Pop Concert with St. Thomas HS Choir, Region and State Choir, Solo and Ensemble contest, singing the anthem at the Houston Astros game—these are just a few of the performance opportunities for the Treble Choir! Experience the benefits of singing with a large group. Students are taught proper vocal technique and sight-reading skills while learning to sing as an ensemble. Open to all Upper School students. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Advanced Choir

This ensemble is an auditioned performing group of 16-24 singers. It is open to students who have one or more years of experience in the Duchesne Treble Choir. This ensemble will perform highly challenging 4-part (SSAA) music, most of which is sung a cappella. Students are required to submit an audition for the TPSMEA All-State competition as well as prepare a vocal solo and ensemble for the TPSMEA Solo & Ensemble competition. Concurrent enrollment in Treble Choir required. **Prerequisite:** Treble Choir

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Guitar

Have you ever wanted to be able to play along to your favorite song on the radio? This course introduces the student to basic acoustic guitar skills. Students will be taught basic strumming patterns, chords, and chord progressions. We will explore music of the Beatles, folk, classic rock, country, and modern pop. No prior knowledge needed. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Song Writing

Do you like to perform? How would you like to write your own songs and be able to perform them in front of a live audience? Or maybe get your song recorded? Sign up and learn how to take control of your musical destiny in this songwriting course! Join the fun as we learn how to construct a song. We will explore elements of theory, form, melody, instrumentation, lyric writing and more. Once we complete our songs, we will perform them live. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Vocal Development

Students receive instruction in advanced vocal technique, posture, breathing, diction, foreign language, and music theory. Performance and audition techniques and opportunities are explored. A variety of genres will be studied concluding with a solo recital at the conclusion of the class. Instructor permission required. This course is repeatable for credit. **Prerequisite:** Instructor permission

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Handbells

Have you ever wanted to be in a musical ensemble and perform in an instrumental group? No prior music skill is needed, just a desire to learn a new skill. This course is designed for students who wish to develop basic ringing skills or to expand their existing skills. Emphasis will be placed on learning proper ringing methods as well as key musical elements. The handbell choir will perform at various liturgies and concerts throughout the year. **Pre-requisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Music Theory

Curious about all the symbols and markings in a piece of music? Learn to speak the language of written music. This course covers the foundations of beginning music theory. Topics center around melody, harmony, rhythm, and dynamics. Included will be analysis from music literature to show how music theory functions in all styles of music. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

AP Music Theory

AP Music Theory is an introductory college-level music theory course. Students cultivate their understanding of music theory through analyzing performed and notated music as they explore concepts like pitch, rhythm, form, and musical design. **Prerequisite:** Must have taken 2 years of Choir/Advanced Choir OR be actively studying with an outside private instrumental teacher

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

THEATRE COURSES

Introduction to Theatre

Theatre is the art of collaborative storytelling and has a history going back thousands of years. Students in this course will learn about theatre traditions, explore a variety of acting techniques, experience various movement and vocal techniques, and try their hand at design and production work. The skills and knowledge acquired will enable the student to go on to more advanced theatre courses and excel onstage and backstage. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Musical Theatre

Explore your creative self through the art of musical theatre. Training in acting and singing, specific to the musical theatre genre, as well as the opportunity to build individual repertory/audition pieces, is included. Topics focus on vocal and body awareness for stage and public settings; acting (intention, obstacles, use of movement, focus, pace, timing); singing (including placement, pitch, and sight reading), as well as adding to cultural knowledge and appreciation for musical theatre and shows. Field trips to live shows may be included. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Theatre, Treble Choir, or Dance I

Grade Level: 9th - 12th Length: 1 Bin

Improv Theatre

This course introduces students to the magical and wonderful world of improvisational comedy and the power of “Yes, And” in theatre. Through a variety of group exercises and games, students will explore the structure of short-form improv (3-5 minute scenes inspired by Whose Line Is it Anyway, Second City, ComedySportz) and develop their comedic talents through practice and play. By focusing on effective communication and commitment to characters and relationships in scenes, students will build foundational improv skills that will allow them to find humor and joy in an environment that encourages collaboration and risk-taking. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Theatre

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Scene Study

This course is for the theatre student who wants to build their acting skills. We’ll spend our six weeks together selecting, analyzing, memorizing, rehearsing, and presenting a series of scenes drawn from the theatrical genres and periods that most interest the class. Students will learn how to create characters and tell stories effectively in collaboration with a partner or ensemble. The class will include a performance for friends and family. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Theatre

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Advanced Theatre Production

Let’s put on a show! This class is centered on the production of a full-length play as part of the Duchesne Fine Arts Season. As a curricular production, this show and production process will be designed to put the creative process in the hands of the student ensemble, so that they can learn and grow as artists. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Theatre

Grade Level: 9th - 12th Length: 1 Bin

Theatre Technology and Design I

In this course, students learn basics of theatrical lighting and sound, with an emphasis on supporting events in the Cameron Theatre. Students operate and repair a range of lighting equipment, program and run our Ion XE light board, and create sound designs in QLab, the same software used on Broadway. Assessment is primarily through a series of equipment qualification tests, at the end of which the students are fully qualified Cameron Technicians (CamTechs) eligible to design and run events like the pop concert, all-school musical, and the dance show. This course involves working independently in the booth and catwalk and using a range of electrical and rigging tools. Accordingly, students must demonstrate a high level of personal responsibility to be successful. Instructor permission required. **Prerequisite:** Introduction to Theatre

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Theatre Technology and Design II

In this course, students apply the skills learned in Theatre Tech and Design to events like the all-school musical, US theatre productions, the dance show, US and MS pop shows, and LS Christmas. Students work as lighting and sound designers and technicians and learn advanced techniques and additional skills in both areas. Students may also engage in class-specific design projects. Students take an active role in maintaining and improving the equipment in the Cameron Theatre. Note – this course involves working independently in the booth and catwalk and using a range of electrical and rigging tools. Accordingly, students must demonstrate a high level of personal responsibility to be successful in this course. Instructor permission required. **Prerequisite:** Theatre Technology and Design I

Grade Level: 10th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

DANCE COURSES

Dance I: Dance Foundations

This course is for beginner to advanced beginner level dancers, or dancers with a little experience who are wanting a review of the basics. Experience is not required, only an excitement and interest in dancing! Students will learn a foundation of technique and dance terminology, how to count music for dance, and beginner level choreography. Dancers will learn a variety of styles such as jazz, contemporary, jazz funk, and musical theater. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin



Dance II

Dance II is for dancers who are ready to build upon their existing foundation of dance at an advanced beginner/intermediate level. In this course dancers will develop a strong foundation of technique through ballet warm-ups, strengthening and conditioning. Dancers will also build their technical repertoire of turns, jumps, and leaps, such as double pirouettes, chaines, pique turns, jetes, and more. Dancers will learn a variety of dance styles, such as jazz, jazz funk, contemporary, and musical theater at an advanced beginner/intermediate level. Dancers will improve their ability to pick up choreography quickly as well as their ability to understand nuances of style. Participation in the Fall Dance Show is required. **Prerequisite:** Instructor permission

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Dance III

Dance III is an Advanced level dance class for dancers with many years’ experience in dance. Advanced dancers will work on technique and will learn a dance piece for our annual dance show in the Fall. Dancers will also learn how to create a dance class plan, how to notate choreography, and by the end of the course will have created their own dance piece to be performed live. **Prerequisite:** Dance II

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Advanced Dance III

Advanced Dance III takes a deeper dive into the concepts learned in Dance III, allowing dancers to specialize in choreography, teaching, and/or technique. This course is project based and asynchronous, giving each student the opportunity to focus on where their dance passions lie. Each individual dancer will discuss with the instructor ahead of time what they would like to focus on so we can create an individualized plan that will best serve each dancer. By the end of Advanced Dance III, dancers will have professional level experience to take with them moving forward. **Prerequisite:** Dance III

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Music Video Dance

Have you ever wanted to dance in a music video? Now is your chance! In Music Video Dance, dancers will learn choreography for a Music Video that will be performed and filmed at the end of the class. Dancers will learn what it takes to make a music video from choreography to sets, costumes, shot lists and more. Dancers may be asked to meet outside of school hours occasionally for certain film shoots, but the majority of filming will be in class. **Prerequisite:** Instructor permission

Grade Level: 9th - 12th
Length: 1 Bin

History and the Bible

What is the history of the Bible? Who wrote it, and what do we know about its purpose for its earliest readers? After learning about the Bible's foundations, students will delve deeper into the Old Testament, surveying the stories of the Patriarchs, Twelve Tribes of Israel, kings, and prophets. Along their journey, they'll learn to tell these stories in their own way, creating a children's book on Salvation History. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 1 Bin

Jesus' Message

Central to freshmen Theology is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We begin with the Nativity stories in Matthew and Luke, before studying Mark, the framework for the Synoptic Gospels. By comparing the Parables in the various Gospels as well as the Crucifixion stories, students will deepen their understanding of Jesus' message, and what that timeless message means to them today. **Pre-requisite:** History and the Bible

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 1 Bin

Choose one of the following two:

Ready, Set, Action

Freshmen now have a wealth of stories to call upon from their study of Scripture, and this class gives them the opportunity to tell their story in a unique way through film. First, they will learn the basics of filmmaking – camera angles, framing a scene, shot design, script-writing, lighting... This isn't TikTok, this is serious filmmaking, and your masterpiece will be pulled together with a real, professional editing program, Premier. Fun yet demanding, you may need some weekends to make this project come to life. If you're not afraid of a little work and want to learn how to really make a quality video, this class is for you! **Prerequisite:** Jesus' Message

Grade Level: 9th **Length:** 1 Bin

Acts, Paul, and The Early Christian Community

How did the Apostles go from weak and often clueless fishermen to powerful, brilliant preachers willing to die for their faith in Christ? Follow their path as they move from a tiny sect within Judaism to the worldwide Church we know today. **Prerequisite:** Jesus' Message

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 1 Bin

Restorative Justice and Redemption

This course explores our lives' most important values such as love, freedom, and redemption. We believe that God is Love itself, and we are created in the image and likeness of God. We are created by Love so that we also may love: sharing in a right relationship with God, one another, and all of creation. Sadly, we can also observe that our relationships are in fact wounded. Nevertheless, God's Divine Mercy is greater than our pain and sin and God's restorative justice heals us so that we may again be free, sharing in a Covenant relationship with God and the people of God. We will examine God's plan of salvation through the messages of the prophets which call us to return to the Covenant which God writes on our hearts. In their writings, we will also see passages which hint at a promised Messiah who will bring the reign of God. **Pre-requisite:** none

Grade Level: 10th
Length: 1 Bin

The Gospel and What it Means for Us

The life and public ministry of Jesus embodies the reconciliation of humanity and God. Through the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ, we are transformed and we participate in his suffering, death, and resurrection by the working of the Holy Spirit. As disciples, we carry forward the messianic ministry of Christ. **Prerequisite:** Restorative Justice and Redemption

Grade Level: 10th
Length: 1 Bin

We are the Sacrament of Christ, the People of God

Jesus Christ continues his messianic ministry and presence in the world through the Church as the Sacrament of Christ and the People of God who experience the presence of Christ in community and participate in his redemptive ministry. Students will read and analyze texts from the Bible and Church tradition in order to grow in their understanding of the nature and mission of the Church as well as its relationship with other traditions and faiths. Students will also reflect on the importance of community in their own lives. **Prerequisite:** The Gospel and What it Means for Us

Grade Level: 10th
Length: 1 Bin

Global and Social Awareness

From service learning in the Greater Houston community to domestic and international travel opportunities, students will take part in fulfilling Goal III of Duchesne's Sacred Heart Goals and Criteria, which invites them to develop a "social awareness that impels to action." This course aims to fulfill two main objectives: 1) to create a reciprocal link between students and "people who are poor, marginalized, and suffering from injustice"; and 2) to "prepare and inspire students to be active, informed, and responsible citizens locally, nationally, and globally." With this in mind, students will engage in a variety of service-oriented opportunities that span from local volunteerism at a wide array of organizations to service-learning tours within the United States and abroad. Each service opportunity will include a reflection and expository component so that students have the chance to both show and tell the ways in which their experiences have allowed them to live out Goal III. **Required for all 11th and 12th graders.**

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Justice and Morality

This course focuses on the Scriptural basis and Church teachings involving morality. What does it mean to honor your parents as you finish high school and go off to college? How does one continue to develop her conscience in a world dominated by celebrity and social media? What are our responsibilities to those less fortunate? In a world where everyone strives to belong, how do we recognize and reach out to those who feel like outcasts? Students begin by studying Church teachings on morality and justice and later apply those teachings to issues in poverty, immigration, and human trafficking. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 1 Bin

Sacraments

This course is designed to improve students' understanding of the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. At the end of the course students should be able to: (1) recognize the sacramental elements and sacramental moments in everyday life though written work and presentations while acquiring a deeper sense of appreciation for the sacraments; (2) identify key symbols used in each sacrament; (3) understand the effects of each sacrament; (4) link the symbols and rituals to their foundations in Scripture and Tradition; and (5) recognize the roots and parts of the Catholic Mass and the Liturgical Year. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th
Length: 1 Bin

World Religions: Asian Traditions

This course seeks to introduce the students to basic ideas, worldviews, and practices of the main Asian religious traditions. First, the students explore central concepts and methodologies in religious studies, as well as the basic philosophical differences between Western and Eastern religious traditions. Traditions examined in this course are selected from Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, and Confucianism. We will discuss some primary texts, as well as participate in creative projects intended to engage the students' imagination. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

World Religions: Indigenous Traditions, Judaism, and Islam

We will study the stories of some indigenous traditions and discuss how these worldviews differ from our own Abrahamic traditions. Then, we inquire into Judaism, its history, practice, and diversity. Finally, we will survey central holy texts and teachings of Islam, how it has developed historically, and how it is lived today. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Peacemaking

We will start with an analysis of the meaning of peace, and then learn how to analyze conflicts and the roots of conflict. From there, we will consider various strategies that are necessary for peacebuilding. Next, we develop our understanding of these principles as we identify and analyze a current conflict/crisis and suggest appropriate, concrete, meaningful strategies for moving forward to build a sustainable peace. Finally, we will consider how to become peacemakers ourselves, because it is one thing to engage in intellectual analysis, and it is another thing to actually practice peace. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th **Length:** 1 Bin



Prayer and Worship

How are you called to pray? Are there different ways of worship? Do you have a plan for continuing your prayer life as you go off to college? What are different styles of prayer? Can technology be incorporated in your prayer life? Prayer and Worship centers around the theology of prayer and prayer traditions that have evolved over the centuries. Students will explore the writings of many people seeking God throughout the ages to learn what these seekers can teach us about our own search for God.

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

Bioethics

The course examines the ethical dimensions of critical beginning of life issues raised by contemporary advances in the fields of medicine, bio-technology, and genetics. Some of the issues we tackle are genetic engineering, prenatal development, stem cell research, cloning, and artificial reproductive technologies, including IVF, pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, surrogacy, and gamete donation. We will explore moral development and offer the students the moral guidelines and teachings of the Church as a framework within which they can examine the facts, conflicts, and implications of these issues. **Pre-requisite:** none

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 1 Bin

World Languages



FRENCH

French I - Tout de Moi

Did you know Houston has a huge francophone (French speaking) community? French is also the only language other than English spoken on every continent. Most excitingly, French I is all about you! Learn how to introduce yourself, talk about the things you like, your family, your home, your classes, your favorite foods, and your hobbies while you learn about the same in francophone communities. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th
Length: 3 Bins

French II - Ma Communauté et Moi

Expand your understanding of our lifestyle in Houston and in francophone communities. Design your dream house, plan a party, and lay out your ideal city. This class takes what you learn in French I and broadens it: learn about your neighborhood, your body, traveling, and how to make plans. **Prerequisite:** French I

Grade Level: 9th, 10th
Length: 3 Bins

French III - L'amour est dans l'air

How better to express feelings than in the language of love? Students of French III will explore the world of personal relationships and its presence in film, music and photography. Students will practice their creative writing skills by composing their own France-themed love story. They will also develop their analytical design skills via creation of tv, magazine and radio advertisements marketing products in French. Finally, we will take a virtual trip abroad to Africa and other not so distant francophone destinations such as Québec, Haiti, and Louisiana. **Prerequisite:** French II

Grade Level: 10th, 11th
Length: 3 Bins



French III Advanced - Silence, moteur, action

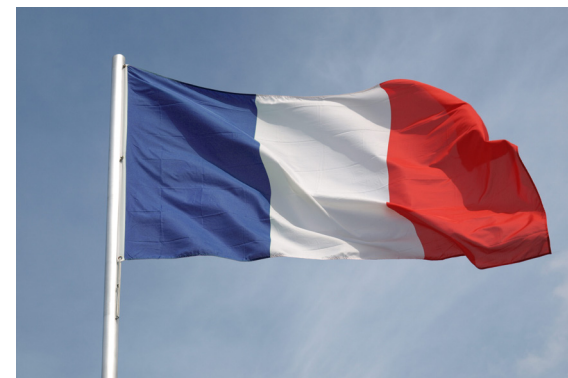
Let's explore the world of personal relationships and its presence in film, music and photography. Students will practice their creative writing skills by composing their own France-themed love story. They will also develop their analytical design skills via creation of tv, magazine and radio advertisements marketing products in French. We will take a virtual trip abroad to Africa and other not so distant francophone destinations such as Québec, Haiti, and Louisiana. We'll conclude our travels by exploring the marvelous universe of *Le Petit Prince*, a must-read of modern French literature. This is a more in-depth French III course that starts your preparation for the international French test DELF B1. **Prerequisite:** French II

Grade Level: 10th, 11th
Length: 3 Bins

French IV/V - French for Travelers - Destination Quebec

Let's pack our backpack for an incredible budget friendly weekend in Montreal. You all will be journalists and you will prepare everything: places to visit, where and what to eat, transportation, timings, and a video to show the city. We will practice common, practical and useful conversations so when you are there you will easily communicate! Students of any other French IV class are welcome to join this short trip. Please be aware that an additional travel charge will be assessed should you choose to travel to Montreal. **Prerequisite:** French III

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin



French IV/V - French Movies and Art

From the origins of film making with the Lumière brothers to more contemporary and charming movies like *Amélie*, we'll explore the evolution of French and other French-speaking cinema. Watching and analyzing cinema and art movements like avant-garde, new wave, impressionism, and realism will help us to better understand francophone societies. Plus, the variety of perspectives should stimulate everyone's curiosity! **Prerequisite:** French III

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

French IV/V - la Dégustation Francophone

Finally! The food-based course you've wanted your whole life! Grocery shopping and meals look different around the world. Compare your American eating habits to those of a variety of francophone cultures and try your hand at making some of their best-known meals. Find out where to get the best French pastries, Moroccan tajine, and Belgian-style fries in Houston before hosting a French speaking party for your peers to broaden their palate. **Prerequisite:** French III or Advanced French III

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

French IV Advanced - DELF B1

From French impressionists to different types of architecture and symmetrical French gardening, we'll start our year exploring different manifestations of art. Our second mod will bring many cultural questions to the table such as how family roles can change according to the community or how traditions can reflect years of heritage in a society. The simple question of what makes you feel part of a community will make a link with our last mod, where we'll tackle the relations between language, culture and geography. This class will prepare students to take the international French test DELF B1. **Prerequisite:** French III Advanced

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 3 Bins

AP French: Crème de la Crème

As the crème de la crème (best of the best), take the equivalent of a sophomore-level college course to expand your horizons! In this discussion-based course, make connections between your personal experience and that of the francophone world regarding technology, environmental concerns, systematic challenges to society, and other contemporary real-world issues. Hone your AP skills with plenty of practice and feedback. This course specifically prepares you to excel on the AP French Language and Culture Exam in May. **Prerequisite:** French IV Advanced

Grade Level: 12th
Length: 3 Bins

l'Histoire de la France

Over the summer, learn about the history of France from its prehistoric people to the current Fifth Republic. This course is taught in French and begins with an intensive 2 days of French History overview. From there, we travel to France and visit Paris, Versailles, the Loire Valley chateaux from the Renaissance, prehistoric Lascaux caves near Sarlat, the medieval city of Carcassonne, Provence, and the Côte d'Azur. You'll have French speaking tour guides and use the French that you learned in class. **Prerequisite:** French III or Advanced French III

Grade Level: 11th, 12th
Length: 1 Bin

SPANISH

Spanish I

Embark on a beautiful new journey in Spanish and be part of the second most spoken language in the world. Share with us everything about you, tell us what you like, and learn about your friends' hobbies. Let's go visit a restaurant and learn how to order from a menu. Let's follow that up by spending birthday money to find the perfect gift for you and your friends. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th

Length: 3 Bins

Spanish II

This course will guide you through the process of learning Spanish to increase comprehension and fluency. Find your way around Madrid using the internet and maps, and discover the city underground by taking a tour in the subway. After this long journey in Madrid, treat yourself with a nice afternoon at the spa and learn how to give yourself a break and talk about your well-being. **Prerequisite:** Spanish I

Grade Level: 9th, 10th

Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Spanish II

Engage in conversations to increase your comprehension and fluency in Spanish and develop skills to understand and be understood. Write reports, tell stories, and watch a TV series completely in Spanish. In this Spanish class, you will become a real estate agent and will sell us our dream house, and on another day you will become the best advisor for your friends. Tell us the story of your life and learn about your friends' lives and experiences... maybe even learn some secrets. **Prerequisite:** Spanish I

Grade Level: 9th, 10th

Length: 3 Bins

Spanish III

This is a culturally enriched Spanish program that allows students to improve skills and communicate through conversation, language, and grammar. Enter the worlds of artists and learn how to talk about painting, music, and cinema. After talking about their work, learn how to talk about your future dream job and immerse yourself in the professional world. **Prerequisite:** Spanish II

Grade Level: 10th, 11th

Length: 3 Bins

Advanced Spanish III

Embark on Spanish and Latin American short stories and be involved in class discussions; get into real life situations; watch short movies and "El tiempo entre costuras" series to expand language and culture knowledge of the Hispanic world, while reviewing essential grammatical structures. Have you ever wanted to be part of a fairy tale? Well, here's your chance! Be part of a wonderful class where you write a fairy tale in which you can be the main character. We'll talk about love, friendship, and adventures, and you could also meet with Sira, a Scarlett O'Hara type lady during the Civil War in Spain. **Prerequisite:** Advanced Spanish II

Grade Level: 10th, 11th

Length: 3 Bins

Spanish IV

We will spend time discovering culture through short stories, listening to authors and seeing the beauty of Spanish speaking countries. Here's your chance to experience community life, and how to make connections through comparison and communication. This course is designed to help you learn how Spanish is your key to knowledge. Prepare yourself to go on different trips where you will see beautiful places and enjoy new cultures, food habits, and scenery. Embrace nature and the outdoors and explore its nurturing aspects. Identify world problems to start making a difference and recommend solutions. **Prerequisite:** Spanish III

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 3 Bins

Pre-AP Advanced Spanish IV

Expand your vocabulary and learn to communicate efficiently in both writing and speaking. Use the Spanish language in meaningful, creative, and engaging contexts. Read magazine and newspaper articles, and analyze literary works as well as short lectures. Watch the Spanish Series "Gran Hotel" and get ready to enter a world of love, mystery, and suspense set in the early 1900s Spain. In this class you will also create oral presentations and share with the class your own analysis of current world topics. **Prerequisite:** Advanced Spanish III or heritage speaker

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 3 Bins

Spanish Literature for Spanish Speakers

Do you speak Spanish but never had a formal Spanish language education? This class is for you! Discover different periods of Spanish literature. Read, analyze, and discuss in a comfortable class setting, and learn how to express your thoughts in writing. **Prerequisite:** native speaker

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 3 Bins

AP Spanish Language and Culture

In this course, students develop skills in the three modes of communication (Interpersonal, Interpretative, and Presentational) defined in the Standards for Foreign Language Learning in the 21st Century. This is a second-third semester college level course and students will study, discuss, and analyze texts based on the six core themes determined by the College Board. Students write essays as well as perform oral presentations on a weekly basis. **Prerequisite:** Pre-AP Advanced Spanish IV or heritage speaker

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 3 Bins



World Languages

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

American Sign Language I

American Sign Language (ASL) introduces students to the language and culture of Deaf people in the United States. The course will focus on specific language and cultural behaviors, as well as introduce students to the grammar of ASL. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th

Length: 3 Bins

American Sign Language II

This course utilizes classroom instruction, real-life scenarios, and an increase in fluidity within a signed-only conversation. ASL II is designed to gain a deeper knowledge of Deaf culture, grammar, and an increase in vocabulary. This course will also emphasize differences in dialogue, language learning, oral v. non-oral, occupations, and family life. **Prerequisite:** ASL I

Grade Level: 9th - 12th

Length: 3 Bins

American Sign Language III

This is a 3-Bin course that will provide students with the opportunity to further their advanced studies of American Sign Language. ASL I students learned first to participate in exchanges, comprehend exchanges, and present on a variety of topics using the vocabulary and grammatical structures learned. This course will improve speed and fluency, and reinforce appropriate grammar usage and conversation skills. Students will also continue to gain knowledge of Deaf culture. Students will be encouraged to interact with Deaf people in social contexts and a variety of other situations. ASL III will be taught with no voice. Students will be evaluated through various techniques including class participation, classwork, homework, expressive assignments, and receptive assignments. **Prerequisite:** ASL II

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 3 Bins



General Electives

Cake Art

Students will apply their foundational knowledge of art and design to the tasty medium of cake. Students will learn the fundamentals of cake art from baking to filling, icing, and decorating. Using the elements of art, they will elevate their sugary creations into impressive works showcasing their skill. Take a dive into a new medium, learn an impressive new skill, have your cake, and eat it, too! This course fulfills a general elective, not a fine arts requirement. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

How to Adult

What is a credit score and how can I get one? How do I file taxes? The hem is coming out of my favorite dress – how do I fix it? Is it possible to cook a healthy meal for one in my tiny dorm room with no real kitchen? How do I write a resume? I dropped my Duchesne ring down the drain – is it lost forever? This course will take the mystery out of the world of “adulthood” and equip students with life skills in personal finance, career, health, and household maintenance so they can build confidence and independence as they transition from high school into the adult world. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Quilts for a Cause

Do you love Goal 3? Do you like using your creativity to help other people? Me too! In this bin, you'll learn the basics of quilting. After you make a small project for yourself, we'll all collaborate, and you'll use your new skills to help make a quilt or two for Angela House. Join us, and use your crafty side for a good cause. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin



Disability Studies

Disability Studies is an interactive and educational disability awareness course designed to teach students the differences that people with disabilities may have. We will learn how a Deaf person wakes up in the morning, or how an individual who is in a wheelchair gets into the car. To understand the life of an individual who has different challenges than able-bodied individuals, we will simulate some of these specific disabilities. In addition to in-class lessons, it is important we hear from those who truly live it, so guest speakers will be visiting throughout the course. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Mapping the Future: Intro to GIS

Why did a Starbucks open in my neighborhood instead of yours? Which areas of the beach should be closed for turtle nesting season? How do they decide where to build the new hospital? It's not random. Investors pay people to figure it out using GIS software. It's a growing career field that joins technology with business and science. This bin is an introduction to the world of GIS mapping and its function in solving real-world problems. The class will focus on introducing students to the basics of ArcGIS software and will culminate in an issue-driven project of their choosing. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th, 12th

Length: 1 Bin

College Essays and Convos

Common app essays, supplemental essays, personal statements. . . College admissions can be stressful for anyone, and this course will help you navigate through the process. Taken during junior year, this course will provide practical tips to writing your essays and providing colleges with a complete picture of you beyond your transcript. By the end of the course, students should have several skills to tackle their essays efficiently and effectively. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin

General Electives

SAT/ACT Prep

SAT, ACT, IDK!! College admissions testing is confusing, but it doesn't have to be. Once you know which test to take and how to approach it, you'll be able to enter the testing room with confidence. In this course, you'll get an overview of the SAT and ACT so you can decide which one suits you best. You'll also learn helpful hints for taking each exam, as well as practice with questions from the different sections of the tests. You'll also learn about the essay sections: are they really optional? This course will arm you with all the skills you need to conquer the test. You'll be able to relax and smile, LOL. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Communications Internship

Work as an intern for Duchesne and get real-world experience! You'll work with staff from the offices of Marketing & Communications and Admissions. Projects will include writing articles for the Duchesne website, creating content for Duchesne's social media platforms, taking photos, managing assets in Duchesne's media database, and assisting with admissions events. Participation in this internship course is selective and requires teacher recommendation and approval. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Open Your Own Business

Launch your business! In this course students will be provided with practical insights into basic aspects of leadership, business, and marketing. A market research template will be used to spark an idea, in hopes of creating a reality. With the use of a well thought out business model, students will be able to execute a possible business launch. Dream BIG! **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

Introduction to Culinary Arts

The course will be an introduction to classical and modern cuisine. Through a combination of hands-on and theory/lecture, students will learn the basics of food safety and preparation. The course will allow students to explore cultural and social aspects of food, including social issues, mass food production vs. organic sustainable farming, food waste, accessibility, and more. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 10th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin



Introduction to Debate

Introduction to Debate provides students an overview of the fundamentals of speech and debate, preparing students to be adept practitioners in argumentation, rhetoric, logical reasoning, and effective communication. Students build a foundation of speech and debate skills in class through research, practice, and reflection. Then, students further develop those skills through a variety of speech and debate events that introduce numerous topics ranging from social issues to domestic and international events. Students in the course will be invited to participate in the nationally ranked Duchesne speech and debate program, involving competition at local, regional, and national travel tournaments. Ultimately, it is the goal that students leave the course more prepared, more competent, and more comfortable in any academic or professional setting where effective communication is necessary. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 9th - 12th

Length: 1 Bin

RESEARCH PAPER

Mastering the Art of Research

Beginning with an essential question of their choice, students will research a topic, develop a thesis, and complete a college level argumentative research paper. This carefully guided process will teach students essential skills in research, writing, and documentation. This course is required to be completed by the end of Junior year. **Prerequisite:** none

Grade Level: 11th

Length: 1 Bin



Active Faith Joyful
Intellectual Values
Community Service
Compassionate
Personal Growth
Wellbeing Immersive
Innovative Bold
Respect
Independent Sisterhood
Catholic Strong
Character
Designer Thinkers
Technologist
Confident
Articulate
All-Girls