

# *SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS HIGH SCHOOL*

2022-2023  
Curriculum Guide



2121 Reno Drive NE  
Louisville, Ohio 44641  
Phone: 330-875-1631      Fax: 330-875-8469  
[www.stahs.org](http://www.stahs.org)  
SCHOOL CODE/CEEB NUMBER: 363082

## *MISSION STATEMENT*

*As a Roman Catholic High School, in the Diocese of Youngstown, in honor of St. Thomas Aquinas, we value truth, scholarship, and excellence.*

*We are a college preparatory high school whose primary purpose is to educate and prepare our students in all areas of academics, extracurricular activities, and service activities.*

*We are firmly rooted in Christian values, so that all students may reach their potential becoming fully engaged in mind, body, and spirit.*

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*School code: 363-082*

**President**  
**Principal**  
**Assistant Principal**

**Fr. Don King**  
**Tim Neary**  
**Tersea Castera**

St. Thomas Aquinas High School is an educational community of students, faculty, parents, and clergy committed to seeking Truth and Excellence as an extension of the Catholic Church community. The school provides an environment in which the teaching, learning and application of Christ-centered values in the Catholic Faith traditions encourages and fosters religious maturation, academic growth, and social development among all members of the St. Thomas Aquinas High School community. The school is committed to serving the spiritual and educational needs of the community. It exists to serve by preparing its students to become effective members of the Christian community as well as the larger world community of which they are a part. “QUALITY CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN A UNIQUE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY SETTING” is truly what makes St. Thomas Aquinas High School an institution striving for excellence.

This booklet contains descriptions and other pertinent information regarding course offerings at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. This includes: information about graduation requirements, the guidance department, advanced course programs, the Post Secondary Enrollment procedure, dual credit, and the policy on course failures. Course descriptions are listed alphabetically by department: Art, Business and Technology, English, Health Education, Languages, Mathematics, Music, Religious Education, Science, and Social Studies. Course work has been developed to provide a spectrum of required and elective classes. The St. Thomas Aquinas High School curriculum is designed to meet the needs, goals, and skills of a diverse student body.

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## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

Twenty-six academic credits in the following areas are required for graduation for students graduating in 2014 and after. One additional credit of service is required.

- 4 credits of Religious Education (1 unit for each year of attendance at St. Thomas Aquinas)
- 4 credits of English
- 3 credits of Social Studies
- 3 credits of Science
- 4 credits of Mathematics
- ½ credit of Physical Education
- ½ credit of Health
- 5 credits of Electives
- 1 credit of Art/Fine Art to be taken during the four years
- 1 credit of service over four years

### **SERVICE LEARNING CREDIT**

The call to Christian service is a part of our mission. All St. Thomas Aquinas students are required to participate in service work each year they attend St. Thomas Aquinas. Students receive one quarter (.25) credit for each year's successful completion of the service component. This is a requirement for graduation from St. Thomas Aquinas. Completed service hour information is due the beginning of May each year to Campus Ministry.

Freshman    10 hours  
Juniors      20 hours

Sophomore   15 hours  
Seniors       30 hours

**Honors Grading System**

|    |           |      |
|----|-----------|------|
| A+ | 100%-98%  | 5.0  |
| A  | 97%-95%   | 5.0  |
| A- | 94%-92%   | 4.67 |
| B+ | 91%-89%   | 4.33 |
| B  | 88%-86%   | 4.00 |
| B- | 85%-83%   | 3.67 |
| C+ | 82%-80%   | 3.33 |
| C  | 79%-77%   | 3.00 |
| C- | 76%-74%   | 2.67 |
| D+ | 73%-71%   | 2.33 |
| D  | 70%-68%   | 2.00 |
| D- | 67%-66%   | 1.67 |
| F  | Below 66% | 0.00 |

**Grading Scale**

|    |           |      |
|----|-----------|------|
| A+ | 100%-98%  | 4.00 |
| A  | 97%-95%   | 4.00 |
| A- | 94%-92%   | 3.67 |
| B+ | 91%-89%   | 3.33 |
| B  | 88%-86%   | 3.00 |
| B- | 85%-83%   | 2.67 |
| C+ | 82%-80%   | 2.33 |
| C  | 79%-77%   | 2.00 |
| C- | 76%-74%   | 1.67 |
| D+ | 73%-71%   | 1.33 |
| D  | 70%-68%   | 1.00 |
| D- | 67%-66%   | .67  |
| F  | Below 66% | 0.00 |

## **PHILOSOPHY OF GUIDANCE**

We believe that each student in our school is a unique individual and is capable of significant growth and development. We assist the child in this growth and development, in cooperation with the parents, and by our educational programs developing the spiritual, intellectual, moral, social, cultural, and physical aspects of each student. We believe in the integrity, worth, and dignity of each child, in his/her uniqueness and individuality; we strive to plan and execute those educational programs which will develop in each child an appreciation of himself/herself and others.

We endeavor to nurture attitudes, concepts, skills, and talents that will help in developing self-discipline, accepting responsibility for the direction of his or her life, striving to attain a meaningful role in the world, and becoming part of society's mainstream. The effectiveness of this philosophy depends upon the cooperative efforts of the administrators, the classroom teachers, parents, and other pupil personnel workers.

## **GUIDANCE OBJECTIVES AND GOALS**

The guidance and counseling department has developed objectives and goals for each grade level. The following serves as a representation of some of the activities but is not intended to be all-inclusive:

- Transition to high school
- Course selection for four years
- Explanation and interpretation of tests (PSAT, ASVAB, Iowa, Aspire)
- Distribution of college admission test information (ACT, SAT)
- Job search skills/career exploration
- College search and application review
- Development of study skills
- Processing of applications, transcripts and recommendations
- Academic and personal counseling
- Interviews with parents, teachers and students
- Post Secondary Enrollment Option/Dual Enrollment Credit
- Arranging tutoring with Special Services

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM**

An Advanced Placement course is a special college-level experience that most often takes a full academic year. It can take the form of an honors class, a strong regular course, a tutorial, or an independent study, taught or supervised by teachers trained by the College Board. Advanced Placement courses provide the student with the opportunity to do college work on the high school level. These courses are geared to challenge and stimulate interested, motivated, and gifted students. They are demanding courses very often involving independent study. In May of

each year, the College Board administers Advanced Placement tests. Depending on his/her score on this test, the student may receive advanced placement in that field. In some cases, the student will receive actual college credit as well as advanced placement.

While many colleges recognize Advanced Placement scores, **the student should check his/her college's catalog to determine its policy on Advanced Placement scores.** Besides the possibility of gaining college credit or advanced placement in college courses, Advanced Placement courses enable the student to pursue in greater detail a subject or subjects in which he/she is interested. These courses provide excellent preparation for college work.

## HONORS PROGRAM

The highly motivated and gifted student will be invited to take honors courses. This invitation will be extended based on standardized test scores, academic performance and teacher recommendation. Admission to this program does not ensure that the student will be invited into other honors courses since each course is considered on an individual basis.

## COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS

St. Thomas Aquinas High School, in collaboration with Walsh University, offers a Post-Secondary class to qualifying seniors in English and Psychology. Students receive both high school and college credit while taking the class at St. Thomas Aquinas. Students receive a weighted grade for the St. Thomas Aquinas grade point average, but not for Walsh University.

In addition, St. Thomas Aquinas participates in Ohio's College Credit Plus Program (CCP) with local colleges and universities. **Both St. Thomas Aquinas and the college/university have requirements and deadlines.**

## HONORS COURSES/AP COURSES/CCP

Freshman: Honors Foundations of Science  
Honors World History  
Honors Geometry

Sophomore: Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry  
Honors Biology  
Honors World Literature  
AP United States History

Junior

Honors Chemistry  
AP Literature & Composition  
Honors Pre Calculus

Honors Anatomy & Physiology  
Honors Spanish 3 and 4  
CCP American Government

Senior:

Honors Spanish 4  
Honors Spanish 5  
AP Biology  
AP Physics  
AP Chemistry  
CCP American Sign Language

CCP Sociology  
CCP/Honors Anatomy & Physiology  
CCP/AP Calculus AB  
CCP English  
CCP Psychology  
CCP Statistics  
Honors Religion 12

## **POLICY ON FAILURES**

Any required course not passed in full during the school year must be made up in summer school prior to the start of the following school year or that student may not be re-admitted to St. Thomas Aquinas High School, subject to administrative decision. Students and parents are given information regarding options for completing the make-up work.

## **TOP HONOR STUDENT(S)**

The following criteria will determine our Senior Top Honor Student(s) Class of 2021:

1. Student(s) must take 15 Honors/AP/CCP (on site) level courses on the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior years, that must include CCP English.
2. Students(s) must have all A's (semester grades) in all classes for 8 semesters.

If no senior obtains all A's, the Top Honor Student for that year will be determined by the grade point average based on a 4.0 scale. Summer school, CCP classes off campus, or independent classes cannot be substituted for classes in our Honors/AP Program. Grade point averages are calculated without pass/fail credits. Students transferring to St. Thomas Aquinas after the freshman year will be reviewed on an individual basis by the Administration.

Prerequisites for these classes are included in this booklet. **Final decisions regarding course placements are at the administration's discretion.**

| <b>COURSE NAME</b>                 | <b>CREDIT VALUE</b> | <b>LEVEL</b>  |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| <b>ARTS/FINE ARTS</b>              |                     |               |
| Art 1                              | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Art 2                              | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Art 3                              | 1.0                 | 10, 11, 12    |
| Art 4                              | 1.0                 | 11, 12        |
| Ceramics                           | .5                  | 10, 11, 12    |
| Digital Art                        | .5                  | 10, 11, 12    |
| Sculpture and Design               | .5                  | 10, 11, 12    |
| Painting                           | .5                  | 10, 11, 12    |
| Speech/Oral Interpretation         | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Drawing 1 & 2                      | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Theater                            | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| <b>ENGLISH</b>                     |                     |               |
| Literature and Composition         | 1.0                 | 9             |
| Honors Literature and Composition  | 1.0                 | 9             |
| Introduction to Mass Media         | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| World Literature                   | 1.0                 | 10            |
| Honors World Literature            | 1.0                 | 10            |
| American Literature                | 1.0                 | 11            |
| AP Literature and Composition      | 1.0                 | 11            |
| Visual Communications              | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| British Literature and Composition | 1.0                 | 12            |
| Honors/CCP English 101, 102, 201   | 1.0                 | 12            |
| <b>HEALTH EDUCATION</b>            |                     |               |
| Health                             | .5                  | 8, 9          |
| <b>LANGUAGES</b>                   |                     |               |
| Spanish 1                          | 1.0                 | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Spanish 2                          | 1.0                 | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Honors Spanish 3                   | 1.0                 | 10, 11, 12    |
| Honors Spanish 4                   | 1.0                 | 11, 12        |
| Honors Spanish 5                   | 0.5                 | 12            |
| <b>MUSIC</b>                       |                     |               |
| Chorus                             | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| Instrumental Music                 | .5                  | 9, 10, 11, 12 |
| <b>MATHEMATICS</b>                 |                     |               |
| Algebra 1                          | 1.0                 | 8, 9          |
| Geometry                           | 1.0                 | 10            |
| Honors Geometry                    | 1.0                 | 9, 10         |
| Honors Algebra 2/Trigonometry      | 1.0                 | 10            |
| Algebra 2                          | 1.0                 | 11            |
| Algebra 2/Trigonometry             | 1.0                 | 11            |
| CCP/Honors Pre Calculus            | 1.0                 | 11, 12        |

|                               |     |            |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Pre Calculus                  | 1.0 | 11, 12     |
| Math Applications             | 1.0 | 12         |
| Technology                    | 1.0 | 10, 11, 12 |
| CCP Statistics                | 1.0 | 12         |
| CCP/AP Calculus AB            | 1.0 | 12         |
| <b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>    |     |            |
| Religion 9                    | 1.0 | 9          |
| Religion 10                   | 1.0 | 10         |
| Religion 11                   | 1.0 | 11         |
| Religion 12                   | 1.0 | 12         |
| <b>SCIENCE</b>                |     |            |
| Foundations of Science        | 1.0 | 9          |
| Honors Foundations of Science | 1.0 | 9          |
| Biology                       | 1.0 | 10         |
| Honors Biology                | 1.0 | 10         |
| Honors Chemistry              | 1.0 | 11         |
| Chemistry                     | 1.0 | 11, 12     |
| Earth Science                 | 1.0 | 11, 12     |
| CCP Anatomy and Physiology    | 1.0 | 11, 12     |
| Honors/AP Physics 1           | 1.0 | 12         |
| AP Biology                    | 1.0 | 12         |
| AP Chemistry                  | 1.0 | 12         |
| CCP Chemistry                 | 1.0 | 12         |
| <b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b>         |     |            |
| World History                 | 1.0 | 9          |
| Honors World History          | 1.0 | 9          |
| United States History         | 1.0 | 10, 11     |
| AP United States History      | 1.0 | 10, 11     |
| CCP Sociology                 | 1.0 | 12         |
| Current Events                | .5  | 11, 12     |
| Youth and Law (1 & 2)         | .5  | 11, 12     |
| Sociology I                   | .5  | 11, 12     |
| Sociology II                  | .5  | 11, 12     |
| Psychology I                  | .5  | 12         |
| Psychology II                 | .5  | 12         |
| CCP Psychology                | 1.0 | 12         |
| CCP American Government       | 1.0 | 11         |
| American Government           | .5  | 11         |
| Financial Literacy            | .5  | 11         |

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

\* Please note: For those classes that require a prerequisite, the prerequisite must be **passed**, not merely attempted.

## **ARTS/FINE ARTS**

Our Art Education program provides an opportunity to foster personal expression. Students are exposed to a variety of media and visual experiences that help foster Christian values, personal development, and creativity.

**ART I** is a one-semester foundation course which will provide basic studies in art techniques, craftsmanship, and concepts of the visual arts. Students will be introduced to a variety of media and will create art projects from observation, memory, and imagination. Each project will focus on one of five elements and principles of art-line, color, value, shape, and texture. The course is also a general introduction to art history and art critique.

*.05 credit*

*(9, 10, 11, 12)*

**ART II** is a one-semester course and is a continuation of Art I, emphasizing technical skill and craftsmanship. This course will further explore a variety of media, including drawing, painting, and illustration. Students will begin to work on sketch books and start to generate their own ideas, while making creative decisions. Students will continue to view past and current art works and expand their art vocabulary.

*0.5 credit*

*Prerequisite: Art I*

*(9, 10, 11, 12)*

**ART III** is an advanced level art course. Students will choose their own projects and select their art media and content. Students will be able to demonstrate proficient level technical skills and craftsmanship, with emphasis on creative expression. A sketch book will be required at the end of each quarter. Students will increase their art vocabulary and knowledge of art history through discussion and art critiques. Students will have the opportunity to participate in art exhibitions and competitions, and create a digital portfolio. This course is recommended for students who are considering art as a career.

*1 credit*

*(10, 11, 12)*

*Prerequisite: Art I & II, Teacher Recommendation*

**ART IV** is an advanced level high school course for students, who can demonstrate a proficient level of drawing and design. Students will increase technical skills and craftsmanship and create a strategy of projects for the semester. Each student will develop a personal style and philosophy. Students will have an opportunity to select, organize, and prepare artwork for shows, exhibits, and competitions. In this course, students will begin to access their own skill and develop a strong digital portfolio. This course is recommended for students who are considering art as a career.

*1 credit*

*(11, 12)*

*Prerequisite: Art I, Art II, Art III, Teacher Recommendation*

### **CERAMICS**

This course is intended for those studying ceramics for the first time and is a comprehensive introduction to the craft of clay working. Hand techniques such as pinch, slab, and coil forms, as well as potter's wheel techniques are explored. Students become proficient in glazing and firing. During this class students understand and appreciate how ceramics has been used in other cultures and throughout history.

*0.5 credit*

*(10, 11, 12)*

**SCULPTURE AND DESIGN** is a one semester course. Students will have the opportunity to express their individual talents by completing a variety of 3-D projects in a multitude of 3-D media, with emphasis in clay. Assignments emphasize design, craftsmanship, and problem solving. Each lesson will explore the fundamentals involved in tile mosaics, relief paintings, paper mache, and architectural design. Students will be introduced to the history of sculpture, and discover its functional and aesthetic purposes.

0.5 credit Prerequisite: Art I

(10, 11, 12)

**DIGITAL ART** is a one semester course that will introduce students to digital imaging and computer-based fine art. Students will learn how to use basic art software tools and concepts. The computer software and other technology will be used to enhance their ideas and concepts. Areas of interest will include logo design, advertising, digital photography, and illustration.

0.5 credit Prerequisite: Art I

(10, 11, 12)

**PAINTING** is a one semester course designed to give students an experience in painting techniques and media usage. Students will develop an understanding of realistic, abstract, and non-objective painting styles. In addition to art production, students will use a variety of learning strategies including reading, writing, and analyzing to develop a deeper understanding of art.

0.5 credit Prerequisite: Art I, Art II

(10, 11, 12)

### **SPEECH/ORAL INTERPRETATION**

This course stresses the principles and practices of public speaking and communication of information and ideas. Historical and contemporary materials are used for analysis and performance.

0.5 credit

(9, 10, 11, 12)

## **ENGLISH**

**LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION** is a course which integrates literature and writing. The student will practice and develop essential reading skills as he/she explores the various types of literature. General characteristics of each type will be studied. As the student studies the literature, he/she will sharpen his/her writing skills while going through the writing process. As the student edits and revises his/her work, he/she will review essential grammar information. The focus will be on writing effective sentences, paragraphs and compositions.

1 credit

(9)

**WORLD LITERATURE** is a study of the literature of the Western World including: Ancient Greece, the Renaissance, and Modern Europe. A general review of grammar and punctuation in preparation for the ACT. The course also includes an overview of the six parts of a novel and a study of composition, culminating in the writing of a research paper.

1 credit

(10)

**HONORS WORLD LITERATURE** is a course designed for the highly motivated and competent student in English. This is an in depth study of the literature of the Western World including: Ancient Greece, the Renaissance, and Modern Europe. The students will also receive a general review of grammar and punctuation in preparation for the Ohio Graduation Test. In addition, the students will develop extensive writing skills, culminating in the writing of a research paper.

1 credit

(10)

*Prerequisites: Upon completion of the freshman year, the student must have a 3.75 quarterly grade point average in Literature and Composition. A summer reading of a novel and play, with beginning of year*

*in class assignment. Failure to maintain a B average on the 4.0 scale during the first semester of sophomore year may result in placement in a regular World Literature class for the second semester.*

**AMERICAN LITERATURE** is a chronological study of our literature from colonial to contemporary times. This course examines the cultural and historical forces that shaped and continue to shape our literature and the writers who have created and continue to create national literature. Writing skills continue to be developed within the context of the writing process.

1 credit

(11)

**HONORS/AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION** This course is designed to prepare students to take the AP exam in May. We will focus on close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature spanning from the sixteenth to the twenty-first centuries and a variety of genres. Students will read a few works deliberately and thoroughly to take time to understand each text's complexity, to absorb its richness of meaning, and to analyze how that meaning is embodied in the literary form. This curriculum emphasizes the craft of literary artistry as well as considerations of the social and historical implications of a work and the necessary critical thinking and writing skills required to successfully comprehend and complete the AP exam. Students may receive college credit depending on the score earned.

(11)

*Prerequisites: 3.75 quarterly averages in English classes through freshman and sophomore years. Summer reading of How to Read Literature like a Professor and a novel or play, with writing assignments due during the first few weeks of school. Failure to maintain a B average on the 4.00 scale during the first of junior year may result in placement in a regular American Literature class for the second semester.*

**BRITISH LITERATURE** is a chronological study of the literature of Great Britain. While studying the literature, the student will analyze the writing process from pre-writing to composing to revising. In the process of understanding and mastering this process, the student will learn ways of achieving adequate development, conciseness, coherence, and unity in his/her papers. This course culminates with the writing of a research paper.

1 credit

(12)

**CCP ENGLISH** is an on-site college post-secondary course, taught by a Walsh University faculty member. Students in this class will receive three semester hours of college English credit from Walsh University for each semester of this course, in addition to receiving high school English credit. Students are required to take both semesters. The students in this course will be enrolled at Walsh University with all the privileges given to any full-time student. English professors from Walsh will be guest speakers at different times throughout the year.

**CCP ENGLISH 101** is a course in both writing and British literature. The writing will be an exploration of self and will involve many modes of personal writing, and these different modes will lead to argumentation. The literature will be a survey of British literature. Therefore, the course will emphasize: the thought patterns and processes which students need to develop in order to write successfully, the steps of the writing process, and an in depth study of British literature. The course will culminate with the writing of a literary analysis essay.

3 semester hours college credit

(12)

1.0 high school credit

**CCP ENGLISH 102** is the introduction to techniques of argumentation. The course includes an analysis of a variety of texts, summary writing, and library research skills. The students will learn how to read critically and to evaluate the arguments they read in order to form their own arguments on controversial issues. The students will receive extensive practice in writing summaries, argumentative essays, and both historical and argumentative research papers. The course will culminate with a two hour in school assessment writing test which will evaluate how well the students have mastered the skills of summary, argumentation, and self analysis of their writing.

3 semester hours college credit

1.0 high school credit

(12)

**ENGLISH 201** is a tier 1 course that focuses on the Literature of British Isles I. 3 sem. hrs.

A study of literature of the British Isles from its beginnings to the 18th century. Emphasis on the major literary periods, highlighting significant authors and genres. Attention to multicultural influences, where appropriate. Fulfills Tier I requirement

1.0 high school credit

**INTRODUCTION TO MASS MEDIA** is a one semester preliminary course designed to acquaint the student with different forms of media in today's society. The student will gain experience in the use of all iLife 08 programs while working with digital video and still cameras, video production, and editing, iWork and keynote presentations. Fundamentals of journalism, public relations, and ethics will be discussed.

0.5 credit

(10, 11, 12)

**VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS** is a one semester course that builds on applications learned in Intro to Mass Media. Projects will be produced in iLife and iWork programs on our iMac computers. Extensive video projects in various subject areas along with pod casting, and web page design will be produced by each student. Fundamentals of copyright will also be covered.

0.5 credit

(11, 12)

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

**HEALTH EDUCATION** is a one semester course designed to introduce the student to the concept that health is a lifelong process. This course is also structured to enhance and expand the knowledge relating to health that the student may have been exposed to in previous courses. Health is a course that touches upon many facets of the student's life (physical, mental, and social) and attempts to offer problem-solving techniques or knowledge for use in his/her life in the present and in the future.

0.5 credit

(9)

## **LANGUAGES**

**SPANISH I** is a course which provides the student with an opportunity to acquire the basic communication skills of the language. The students are introduced to listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. The students will be introduced to the culture, customs and ways of life of the people whose language they are studying.

1 credit

(9, 10, 11, 12)

**SPANISH II** is a course which continues to develop the four language skills in Spanish I: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. This is done through a study of language patterns and grammatical structures. Knowledge of all basic grammar learned in Spanish I is essential. The students continue to gain knowledge of the civilization, culture, customs, and ways of life of the people whose language they are studying.

1 credit Prerequisite: Spanish I

(9, 10, 11, 12)

**HONORS SPANISH III** is a course that provides the students with the opportunity to apply the skills learned in Spanish I and II in a class conducted extensively in Spanish. Reading skills are developed through the use of short story selections. The video series, “Destinos”, is used to practice listening skills. Question-and-answer sessions continue the development of listening and speaking skills. The students enhance writing skills through journal writing. Advanced grammar and the geography, culture, and customs of the Spanish-speaking world are studied.

1 credit Prerequisite: B average in Spanish II

(10, 11, 12)

**HONORS SPANISH IV** is a course that provides the students with the opportunity to continue developing listening, reading, writing, and speaking skills in a class conducted extensively in Spanish. A selection of short stories is used to enhance reading skills. Through the use of Part II of the video series, “Destinos”, listening skills are enhanced; question-and-answer sessions continue the development of listening and speaking skills. Writing skills continue to develop through the use of telecommunications (e-mail pen pals). The history, culture, customs, and lifestyle of the Spanish speaking world are studied.

1 credit Prerequisite: B average in Spanish III

(11, 12)

**HONORS SPANISH V** – This course provides the opportunity for the student to master the mechanics and rhythm of the Spanish language. Students will be encouraged to first begin speaking, rather than mentally translating their English statements into Spanish before speaking. These skills will be acquired through a diverse set of activities: Q & A, improvisational and prepared skits, reading aloud, humor and games, proverbs and idioms, movies, current events, and small group discussion. This is for the student who desires to polish their Spanish pronunciation, as well as their listening skills and comprehension.

1 credit Prerequisite: B average in Spanish IV

(11, 12)

**AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE(College Credit Plus)-** This course is the first in a series of courses designed to develop the skills and knowledge needed to communicate in American Sign Language. ASL 101 is an introductory level course that establishes a novice range of communication skills. This course emphasizes the cultural practices distinct to those that approach the world from a visual perspective. Topics include: historical events that have impacted the language and culture of the D/deaf community; the distinct cultural practices; and, comparison of language features. This course carries Ohio General Education World (Foreign) Language credit.

## MATHEMATICS

**MATH COURSE PROGRESSION:** The following presents the various math sequences in which a student may be enrolled. Based on assessment, a student begins freshman math in one of the courses marked with an asterisk, and proceeds through courses to the right for the following years. Movement up or down within a column is possible, based on student assessment.

|                  |                 |                  |                                  |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| Algebra 2        | College Algebra |                  |                                  |
| *Algebra 1       | Geometry        | Alg 2/Trig       | Pre Calc                         |
| *Honors Geometry | Hon Alg 2/Trig  | CCP Hon Pre Calc | CCP/AP Calc AB<br>CCP Statistics |

College Credit Plus Honors Pre Calc, Stats, & through Walsh University is available for juniors and seniors.

**ALGEBRA I** stresses the basic structure of the real number system. It provides an opportunity for the student to apply algebraic concepts and skills and encourages the student to appreciate the need for precision in language.

1 credit (9)

**GEOMETRY** is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the structure of plane geometry. The course stresses both deductive and inductive reasoning from information provided visually as well as axiomatically. Algebraic skills related to geometry are reinforced.

1 credit (9, 10)

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

**HONORS ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY** follows Algebra I and Geometry. It is a course which emphasizes linear and quadratic equations. Accuracy in working with exponents, variables, and rational expressions is developed for use in science and advanced math. Word problems are used to emphasize the application of algebraic skills in practical problems. Trigonometry stresses the application of the trigonometric relationships from both the unit circle and right-angle definitions. **A graphing calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit (10)

*Prerequisite: Algebra and Geometry*

**ALGEBRA 2** is a third-year course which follows Basic Algebra and Basic Geometry. It is a course which emphasizes linear and quadratic equations. Working with exponents, variables, and rational expressions is developed for use in science. Word problems are used to emphasize the application of algebraic skills in practical problems. An introduction to trigonometry is included in this course.

1 credit (11)

*Prerequisite: Basic Algebra, Basic Geometry, and Teacher Recommendation*

**ALGEBRA 2 WITH TRIGONOMETRY** follows Algebra I and Geometry. It is a course which emphasizes linear and quadratic equations. Accuracy in working with exponents, variables, and rational expressions is developed for use in science and advanced math. Word problems are used to emphasize the application of algebraic skills in practical problems. Trigonometry stresses the application of the

trigonometric relationships from both the unit circle and right-angle definitions. **A graphing calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(11)

*Prerequisite: Algebra and Geometry*

**HONORS PRE-CALCULUS with CCP** is designed to prepare the student for college level calculus. Emphasis is placed, not only on computational skills, but on the understanding of the concepts underlying the mathematical procedures. The major content areas include the real number system, analytic geometry, sequences, limits and functions (polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic). This course is taught on site by a St. Thomas Aquinas High School faculty member who is also an adjunct instructor at Stark State College. Students completing this course and meeting the Stark State College criteria receive one credit from St. Thomas Aquinas and 5 semester hours from Stark State College. **A graphing calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(11)

*Prerequisite:*

*Geometry and Algebra II with Trigonometry, Teacher Recommendation . Students must meet criteria set by Stark State College in order to receive college credit.*

**MATH APPLICATIONS** is a course designed for the college-bound senior who has either had little exposure to or little retention of algebra concepts. In this course, most concepts are redeveloped through the use of applications from the real world.

1 credit

*Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation*

(12)

**PRE CALCULUS** is designed to prepare the student for college level calculus. Emphasis is not only on computational skills, but on the understanding of concepts underlying the mathematical procedures. The major content areas include: the real number system, logic, sequences, and functions (polynomial, exponential, and logarithmic). **A graphing calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Geometry, Algebra II with Trigonometry, Teacher Recommendation*

**CCP/AP CALCULUS AB** is designed for the student with a demonstrated interest in engineering, economics, life sciences, mathematics, or the physical sciences. It is intended to present enough subject matter with sufficient conceptual depth to allow the entry-level college student the option of testing out of Calculus I. The course offers a review of important algebraic and geometric constructs needed for a study of calculus. This background lends itself to a complete examination of three major topics: limits, differentiation, and integration. These topics are looked at separately and then in relation to specific functions such as logarithmic, exponential, and trigonometric. Special consideration is given to practical applications relative to each idea. This course is recommended for the high ability student only. **A graphing calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(12)

*Prerequisites: Minimum B average in Honors Pre-Calculus, Teacher Recommendation*

**STATISTICS with CCP** is a course designed for the student who has completed pre-calculus or demonstrated high success in Algebra II with Trigonometry. It may be taken instead of, or in conjunction with, AP Calculus AB or Pre-Calculus. This course is taught on site by a St. Thomas Aquinas High School faculty member who is also an adjunct instructor at Stark State College. Students completing this course and meeting the Stark State College criteria receive one credit from St. Thomas Aquinas and 3 semester hours from Walsh University. The content of the course will include representing data graphically, summarizing data statistically, and analyzing samples, measures of central

tendency, the normal distribution, confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing. It will also include basic concepts of probability. **A graphing calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(12)

*Prerequisites: Algebra 2 with Trigonometry, Teacher Recommendation. Students must meet criteria set by Walsh University in order to receive college credit.*

**TECHNOLOGY** is an introduction to Computer Science course. This course explores a variety of essential computational thinking and programming concepts through a project-based learning environment.

## MUSIC

**CHORUS** is a course designed to teach the basics of voice production. Ensemble singing will be stressed through the use of music of different styles and historical periods. Some music theory will be included. A small number of out-of-school performances are required.

0.5 credit per semester

(9, 10, 11, 12)

**INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC** is a course designed to teach the basic fundamentals of instrumental music. The course consists of marching band (first semester) and concert band (second semester).

0.5 credit per semester

(9, 10, 11, 12)

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 9:** In the first semester of the year, students study an introduction to the Old Testament, designed to deepen each student's appreciation of God's care and activity in his/her life. Concentrating on Genesis, the Prophets, and the story of God's covenant with the Chosen People, the freshman student will understand more fully the connection between the Hebrew people, God and him/herself as a person of faith. In the second semester, the student encounters the origin and development of the Catholic Church historically. The student traces the history of the Church from Pentecost to the major changes of Vatican II and the present. A detailed study of the Reformation is presented with an ecumenical spirit. It is believed that the student's faith can develop on a more solid base through a knowledge and understanding of the Church's history.

1 credit

(9)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 10** begins with an introduction to the New Testament that concentrates on Jesus as the centerpiece of faith. Beginning with an overview of Christian Scriptures that includes the origin, content, development and purposes of the gospels and epistles, the student will explore the message and meaning of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection in the early church and for us today. In the second semester, the study of morality is designed to communicate to the student the principles on which Christian morality rests and to support him/her in the effort to apply these principles in daily life. It also looks at the process of decision making and moral development.

1 credit

(10)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 11** begins with a survey of eastern, western, and primal religions. It intends to open the student up to other traditions, as well as, provide him/her with a fresh look at his/her own by comparing Christian practice and belief to other religious expressions. This is followed in the second semester by a study of social justice designed to awaken the student to the social dimensions of Christian faith and to empower him/her to begin to respond to the issues of our day through critical

reflection and conscience formation. The course is structured around the essentials of a just society namely shared power and equitable distribution of resources. Scripture, Papal Encyclicals, and statements by USCCB enrich the presentation.

1 credit

(11)

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 12** is designed to reflectively challenge seniors to embrace a more adult Catholicism as they prepare to graduate into an adult world. By discussing the components of Catholic spirituality that include our philosophical

foundation found in the writings of St. Thomas Aquinas and others, we will investigate prayer life, virtuous living, Catholic mission and identity as portrayed in the saints of past and present through which students will further confirm their religious faith. The course will also cover a contextual interpretation of the Book of Revelation to round out the first semester. In the second semester, students will demonstrate how to apply practically the concepts and practice of Catholicism in adult life learned in the first semester. Taking Jesus as a role model, students will identify and reflect upon the virtues, character traits, and skills necessary to find their vocation among the vocations found in priesthood, vowed religious, married, and single life. Personality tests, the semester ending lifestyle project, and a final in-depth reflective essay on who they are, where they are going, and why they are heading there as young Catholics will finish the course.

1 credit

(12)

**HONORS SENIOR RELIGION** Catholicism is grounded in a multi-faceted theological world view. The goals of this course are to think philosophically, critically reflect through discussion and writing in a collegiate fashion, and to challenge one's theological presuppositions within a Catholic support system. The texts used herein specifically address philosophical thinking and the skills needed to do it. Also, Catholic spirituality in a Jesuit framework demonstrates how to build a spiritual foundation for life. Finally, a book that recounts Catholic doctrine, traditions, people of faith, and Catholic impact on the world is used to round out the year. Many of the features and components in the second semester of regular senior religion are blended in as well, including the personality tests and the lifestyle project. 75% of each quarter's grade is determined by a single collegiate-style paper. **Students are required to purchase additional textbooks for this course.**

1 credit

(12)

*Prerequisite: 3.75 average in Religion and English at the end of the first semester of junior year, Teacher Recommendation including both English and Religious Education junior level teachers.*

## SCIENCE

**FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENCE** is an introductory course which stresses a generalized understanding of all the sciences. This course will focus on the study of chemistry, earth science, and physics including: metric conversions, basic chemical properties and laws, basic chemical reactions, forces of nature, work, energy, heat, electricity and magnetism, earth materials, weather, and astronomy. It is required for all incoming freshmen as a foundation for later courses.

1 credit

(9)

**HONORS FOUNDATIONS OF SCIENCE** covers the same topics as does Foundations of Science, but covers them in more depth and at a higher mathematical level. It is intended for the freshman with an outstanding skill in this area, based on entrance exam scores, interview, and teacher recommendation.

1 credit

(9)

**BIOLOGY** is the study of living organisms and the environment in which they exist. Topics covered in class range include: characteristics and structure of life, how heredity is a successful method of passing on genetic traits, the unique diversity and interdependence of life, and the grand unifying theory of evolution. Biology is a laboratory science and is required for graduation.

1 credit

(10)

**HONORS BIOLOGY** follows the same syllabus as Biology but focuses on solving problems to new situations by acquiring knowledge, facts, and techniques in different ways. Students must independently research, compile information, analyze their findings, and create alternative solutions to problems in the field of life science.

1 credit

(10)

*Prerequisites: 3.0 quarterly average in Honors Foundations of Science or a 3.5 semester average in Foundations of Science and a Teacher Recommendation*

**CHEMISTRY** is a course which emphasizes the broad spectrum of chemical knowledge including English to metric conversion, atomic and electron structure, atomic symbols with periodic trends and functions, chemical naming and bonding, equation writing by rules and problem solving, gas laws, acids, bases and salts, solution process and organic chemistry of hydrocarbons. Lab work is an integral part of this course. **A scientific calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Biology and Enrollment in or completion of Algebra II*

**HONORS CHEMISTRY** is a course which emphasizes the broad spectrum of chemical knowledge including English to metric conversions, atomic and electron structure, atomic symbols with periodic trends and functions, chemical naming and bonding, equation writing by rules and problem solving, gas laws, acids, bases and salts, solution process and organic chemistry of hydrocarbons. This course meets the curriculum requirements for an introductory course in chemistry. Lab work is an integral part of the course. The research and problem solving in this course is done in greater depth than in a regular chemistry course. The students also deal with the topic radioactivity. **A scientific calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(11, 12)

*Prerequisites: Advanced Biology with a 3.0 quarterly grade point average, completion of Algebra 2 with a 3.5 or higher, enrollment in Pre Calculus, and teacher recommendation.*

**EARTH SCIENCE** The Earth and Space Science course is a course focusing on the study of space, geologic structures and forces, the waters on our planet, and the atmospheric forces that shape our world. Students will explore the Earth's spheres including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere, and the cycles of the Earth such as the water and carbon cycle. Students will learn about scientific inquiry, geologic time, space exploration, the solar system, and the universe. Upon completion of the course, students will be sensitized to various moral and environmental issues being brought to the fore by research of the universe and other areas of earth and space structure and function of the various cells, tissues, and integrated systems of the body. The course is designed to lay the groundwork then move into various human systems.

1 Credit

(11, 12)

**AP PHYSICS 1 with CCP** is a course that focuses on preparing students for the AP Physics 1 Examination. Students will use strong mathematical skills to calculate phenomena seen in the physical world. Students will learn about motion, Newtonian mechanics, rotational motion, energy, waves, electrical forces, and simple circuitry. Students taking this course will be required to take the AP physics examination in the spring.

**A graphing calculator is required for this class.**

1 credit

(12)

*Prerequisites: Honors Chemistry, Algebra II with Trigonometry, Completion of or enrollment in an Honors Math Class, and Teacher Recommendation*

**HONORS ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY with CCP option.** Is a survey course that covers all of the systems of the human body, following the same syllabus as “general” anatomy and physiology but focuses on examining and breaking down information into parts by identifying cause and effect relationships. The students will be able to make inferences and find evidence to support medical “generalizations.” Honors students will be able to independently compile information together in different ways by

combining elements in new patterns or proposing alternative solutions to common physiological problems.

1 credit

(11, 12)

*Prerequisites: 3.5 semester average in Honors Foundations of Science, Honors Biology, and Honors Chemistry. (Juniors must be enrolled in Honors Chemistry also.)*

**AP BIOLOGY** is the capstone life science class offered at St. Thomas Aquinas. It is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors their first year. AP Biology differs from the sophomore level Biology with respect to the textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, the type of laboratory work done by students, and the time and effort required of students.

1 credit

(12)

*Prerequisites: 3.5 semester average in Honors Foundations of Science, Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry, and Honors Anatomy and Physiology.*

## **AP CHEMISTRY**

The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. For some students, this course enables them to undertake, in their first year, second- year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or to register in courses in other fields where general chemistry is a prerequisite. For other students, the AP Chemistry course fulfills the laboratory science requirement and frees time for other courses. Students will attain a depth of understanding of fundamentals and a reasonable competence in dealing with chemical problems. The course will contribute to the development of the students’ abilities to think clearly and to express their ideas, orally and in writing, with clarity and logic. The college course in general chemistry differs qualitatively from the usual first secondary school course in chemistry with respect to the kind of textbook used, the topics covered, the emphasis on chemical calculations and the mathematical formulation of principles, and the kind of laboratory work done by students. Quantitative differences appear in the number of topics treated, the time spent on the course by students, and the nature and the variety of experiments done in the laboratory. **A scientific calculator is required for this course.**

1 credit

(12)

*Prerequisites: Honors Chemistry, Teacher Recommendation, Summer Assignment*

## SOCIAL STUDIES

**WORLD HISTORY** is a survey of the political, economic, social, and intellectual forces which have shaped the contemporary world. The primary emphasis of this course will be the people, events, and ideas which relate to the modern era.

1 credit

(9)

**HONORS WORLD HISTORY** is a more in depth survey of the political, economic, social, and intellectual forces which have shaped the contemporary world. The primary emphasis of this course will be the people, events, and ideas which relate to the modern era. This course is intended for a freshman who has exemplified outstanding skills in social studies. Acceptance will be based on middle school social studies grades (A/B Average), standardized test scores (Advanced or Accelerated levels and/or a 7 or above on state standardized or IOWA Tests) and teacher recommendation.

1 credit

(9)

**UNITED STATES HISTORY** is a survey of the economic, political, social, and intellectual forces which have shaped the unique character of the American nation. It focuses on the people, ideas, and events that have played a role in this process from 1877 to the present, with an emphasis on the 20<sup>th</sup> century along with the study of historical documents in the founding of the nation.

1 credit

(10, 11)

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY** is a survey course of American history from European discovery to the modern day using chronological and thematic approaches to the material. The course exposes students to extensive primary and secondary sources and to the interpretations of various historians. Students will be expected to meet the demands of an introductory college survey course. Students are expected to read historical material critically and learn to think and write persuasively and analytically. It is crucial that students in this AP course be able to evaluate primary sources and historical interpretations and arrive at conclusions on the basis of logic and the weight of the evidence, rather than belief or bias. Additionally, students must demonstrate the ability to interpret and apply knowledge gained from maps, tables, graphs, and political cartoons. Students taking this course should be prepared to take the AP Exam for United States History.

1 credit

(10,11)

**CURRENT EVENTS** is a one semester survey of contemporary issues based on major news events of the recent past. The course will provide a survey of the necessary background and information so that the student will be able to understand and interpret these issues and develop his/her own opinions regarding them. \*Note: students may elect to enroll in this course for one or two semesters.

0.5 credit per semester

(11, 12)

**Political Science (American Government) AND Financial Literacy with CCP Option** is a survey of the American system of government and the political forces which make it operate. The student will learn the historical background of the American political system and be able to compare it to the

political systems which exist in other nations. In addition, the course examines the nature of the American economic system and America's role in the global economy.

1 credit

(11)

**YOUTH & LAW & YOUTH & LAW II** is an introduction to the legal system. It focuses on the steps in the legal process, criminal law, civil law, and major Supreme Court decisions. The course also examines how the law is applied in everyday situations with an emphasis on consumer law, family law, housing law, and constitutional rights. This course promotes student participation in legal argumentation regarding controversial court decisions and student discussion of present legal cases.

0.5 credit

(11, 12)

**PSYCHOLOGY I** is a semester course designed to introduce students to the study of human behavior and mental processes as it affects the individual. The course will examine: the history of psychology, the development of the major "schools" of psychology, research methods, the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, cognition, motivation, and emotion.

0.5 credit

(12)

**PSYCHOLOGY II** is a semester course designed to introduce students to the study of human behavior and mental processes as they relate to individuals as a member of society and numerous groups. The course will examine: developmental psychology, personality, testing and individual differences, abnormal psychology, the treatment of psychological disorders, and social psychology.

0.5 credit

(12)

**SOCIOLOGY I with CCP Option** explores the basis of the sociological perspective and sociological investigation. The course will also examine social aspects as they apply to culture, socialization, deviance, social stratification, and gender stratification. Emphasis will be placed on the significance of the global perspective, cultural diversity, gender roles, and social experiences as the key to humanity.

0.5 credit

(11, 12)

**SOCIOLOGY II** explores social concepts and processes including race and ethnicity, groups and organizations, social interaction, and social class. It analyzes collective behaviors and social movements, as well as social change, as it applies to population, urbanization, and the environment. The course will also examine the social aspects of such institutions as family, education, economic systems, and government.

0.5 credit

(11, 12)

**CCP PSYCHOLOGY** It is taught by Walsh faculty members on Walsh University campus. It is a one semester course..Students completing this course receive one credit from St. Thomas Aquinas High School and three semester hours from Walsh University.

#### **ADMISSION INFORMATION FOR SOME STATE COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES IN OHIO**

Colleges have varying criteria used in evaluating a student's application for admission. Some programs have different recommended high school courses. Students and parents/guardians should seek additional information from specific colleges and from the St. Thomas Aquinas Guidance Department.

Many colleges strongly recommend the following core curriculum:

- 4 Units of English
- 3 Units of Math (including Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2)
- 3 Units of Science
- 3 Units of Social Studies
- 2 Units of Foreign Language (must be in the same language)
- 1 Unit of a Fine Art

### STUDENT-ATHLETE COLLEGE ELIGIBILITY

The National Collegiate Athlete Association (NCAA) has requirements a college freshman must satisfy to practice or play in a Division I school. A student who is considering practicing or playing in a Division I, II, III, or NAIA school should contact the St. Thomas Athletic Director or Director of Guidance for more information. Listed below are the 16 core courses required for college freshmen to have completed in high school to be eligible for Division I schools only.

- 4 Units of English
- 3 Units of Math (Algebra 1 or above)
- 2 Units of Natural Science (with at least one lab)
- 1 addition core unit in any of the above
- 2 Units of Social Studies
- 4 additional units in any area

Here is some additional information to assist your prospective student athlete (PSA) with NCAA eligibility.

- Student athletes must have ACT/SAT scores sent directly to the Clearinghouse by using Code 9999 on the ACT/SAT registration sheet. NCAA will not accept scores sent from the high school.
- NCAA Clearinghouse registration can only be completed online ([www.ncaaclearinghouse.net](http://www.ncaaclearinghouse.net)) and does include a registration fee.