

Aurora Central Catholic Curriculum Guide

2024 – 2025



Aurora Central Catholic High School
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“Home of the Chargers”

*A Legacy of Catholic
Educational Excellence
in the Fox River Valley
since 1926*

PHILOSOPHY

Aurora Central Catholic High School is a Christ-centered faith community which exists as a response to the mandate of Jesus: “Go and teach all nations...” Our purpose is to stimulate and guide students in their spiritual, intellectual, moral, emotional, social, and physical development through the acquisition and use of knowledge.

In accord with the truths of the Catholic tradition, we base our teaching mission on the existence of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as proclaimed by the Roman Catholic Church. Aurora Central Catholic High School also affirms the inherent dignity of every person; the God-given rights and consequent duties of citizens in society; the sacred right of the child of God to a Christian education; and the primacy of the parents in the education of their children.

GOALS

- To develop a faith response to God within the context of a Christ-centered educational community.
- To encourage the discovery and development of individual potential so as to deepen self-knowledge and self-esteem.
- To encourage and stimulate academic success in all areas of study.
- To foster an awareness of the individual’s responsibility to self and to the community in order to deepen a commitment to peace and justice.
- To cultivate a caring educational environment conducive to Christian growth.
- To offer programs which integrate school, civic, and Church communities.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from Aurora Central Catholic High School, a student must successfully complete the minimum requirements listed for the various classes.

Theology	4 credits
English	4 credits
Math	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits
Fine Arts/World Language	1 credit
Physical Education	1 credit
Health	.5 credit
<i>Elective Courses</i> (minimum)	8.5 credits

The block schedule at Aurora Central Catholic facilitates the opportunity to explore a wide variety of courses and academic disciplines. In addition, the academic expectations for graduation are considerable.

**THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF COURSE CREDITS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION FROM
AURORA CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IS 28 CREDITS.**

GRADE CLASSIFICATION

Freshman: 0-5 credits	Junior: 13-18 credits
Sophomore: 6-12 credits	Senior: 19 or more credits

ACADEMIC CONTRACTS AND CREDIT RECOVERY

A student whose credits fall below the required number because of multiple failures will be given an academic contract. Students on an academic contract will be required to earn credits through an approved program at the student's expense. No more than four credits through such coursework may be counted toward graduation. If a student does not meet the requirements of the academic contract and the minimum credit requirement for their grade, the student will be asked to withdraw from Aurora Central Catholic High School.

REQUIREMENTS BY GRADE

The following list indicates the required courses for Aurora Central Catholic students at specific grade levels.

FRESHMEN

Theology I
English I
Math
Physical Ed./Comp. Lit.
Science
World History or Geography
2 Electives

JUNIORS

Theology III
English III
U.S. History
Science
Math
3 Electives

SOPHOMORES

Theology II
English II
Math
Physical Ed./Health
Science
3 Electives

SENIORS

Theology IV
English IV
Pol. Science/Con. Ec.
5 Electives

ACC GRADING SCALE

A+	99-100	C+	83-84
A	95-98	C	79-82
A-	93-94	C-	77-78
B+	91-92	D+	75-76
B	87-90	D	72-74
B-	85-86	D-	70-71
		F	69 and below

ADMISSION TO COLLEGE

Aurora Central Catholic is accredited by AdvancED, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the National Catholic Education Association. Course credits earned at Aurora Central Catholic are acceptable to any college or university in the United States. However, a high school diploma is not a guarantee of admission to a specific college or university. Being accepted to a college or university depends upon many things, among these items are the following:

- Whether or not you meet all the basic entrance requirements established by the college or university.
- A combination of subjects taken, level of scholastic achievement, and applicable college entrance examination scores.
- Whether or not you qualify in terms of items such as character, personality, and activities.
- The fulfillment of all collegiate entrance requirements and the prerequisite paperwork.

To get into the college or university of your choice, it is essential that you start planning early enough to meet all requirements. College and university catalogs should be carefully studied. If you are interested in playing a sport at an NCAA Division I or II school, please check ACC's approved core courses on the NCAA Eligibility Center website. In addition, the Guidance Department is eager to assist parents and students in planning for college and university.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

The Illinois Board of Higher Education adopted minimum entrance requirements for all Illinois colleges and universities. Students should be aware that different majors may require higher minimum requirements. Consequently, it is important to consult prospective college and university catalogs for a detailed list of these requirements.

Most colleges and universities require the following:

English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Studies	3 credits

In addition to the previous requirements, some colleges and universities require the following:

Foreign Language	2 credits
<i>and/or</i>	
Fine Arts (Art, Music)	1-2 credits

COURSE SELECTION AND CAREER PLANNING

Selecting courses which will meet your needs is sometimes a challenge, particularly when you are unsure of your future profession or educational plans. The single most important guideline in making course selections is to be open to a variety of options. Give yourself as broad a selection of courses as possible with a challenge level that is consistent with your abilities. Seek help and advice from others, and talk with parents, teachers, and counselors about courses of study. For more information contact the schools you are interested in attending after high school.

A. For a career in scientific or technical fields, such as medicine, engineering, mathematics, computer science, etc.

English	4 credits
Mathematics	4 or more credits
Science	4 or more credits
Social Science	3 credits
Foreign Lang.	2 or more credits in the same language.
<i>Others</i>	Choose a variety of electives. Explore areas such as art and music.

B. For a career in non-scientific fields, such as business, education, social work, fine arts, law, politics, language, etc.

English	4 or more credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	3 credits
Social Science	3 or more credits
Foreign Lang.	2 or more credits in the same language
<i>Others</i>	Choose a broad range of electives. Do not limit your future options.

C. For a career in a technical field, apprenticeship, military service, or entering the work force, etc.

English	4 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Science	2 credits (lower than ACC requirements)
Social Science	3 credits
Foreign Lang.	Not required, but 2 credits in the same language are recommended.
<i>Others</i>	Make your electives work for you. Do not limit your future options.

The block schedule at Aurora Central Catholic High School allows students the opportunity to earn additional academic credits in preparation for collegiate and career goals. The minimum number of course credits required for graduation is 28 credits, but many students graduate with 32 to 36 credits.

ATTENDANCE AT A LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

- Students need written permission from their counselor to take college classes at one of the local community colleges or universities for dual credit. However, courses offered by Aurora Central Catholic High School may not be taken at a college in place of a required course and/or for dual credit.
- Grades from college courses must be turned in to the Guidance Department to receive credit.
- Grades from college courses will not be factored into the student's GPA. Academic progress in these courses will be recorded as a non-weighted grade of pass or fail.
- Tuition for college courses is the responsibility of each student.
- Typically, a 3-4 semester hour college course is equivalent to one (1) course credit at Aurora Central Catholic.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Each student's selection of classes involves input from students, parents, and the student's assigned counselor. Due to the effort involved in the selection, the dropping, adding, or substituting of classes will be kept at a minimum after class schedules are issued. Students wishing to make a schedule change must adhere to the following guidelines:

- No schedule changes are guaranteed. Some class sizes may be at their maximum capacity and students may not be able to enroll in those classes. Likewise, some students' schedules may be changed to balance class sizes.
- Any questions regarding a student's schedule not answered by the classroom teacher should be directed to the counselor or administrator.
- Students are encouraged to schedule an appointment with their counselor to discuss a change in the schedule.
- At Aurora Central Catholic High School, students must make schedule changes within the first three days of the semester. After that time, schedule changes will not be permitted.
- Once the school year has started, students must obtain an Add/Drop form to facilitate a schedule change. All areas of the form must be completed, including teacher(s) and parent/guardian signatures. Completing the form does not guarantee said change; it is merely a request.
- If a student completes any semester of a full-year course, the student's grade will be recorded on the report card and will be used in the cumulative grade point average.
- Aurora Central High School expects students to have made careful, well-informed decisions during the course selection process as they have received guidance throughout each step from their content area teachers and guidance counselors. However, if a student has made every effort to seek academic support and the course content still poses too challenging for the student's ability, a level change may be considered. The student and his/her teacher, parent/guardian, and counselor will confer regarding the change and complete the Add/Drop form.
- Changes will not be made to accommodate the personal preference of a teacher or class period and/or if seats are not available. Students must remain in class until the level change is approved and scheduled by the counselor.
- To an effort to curtail the number of schedule changes, guidance counselors meet with each student during course selection time, teachers provide students with course recommendations, and parents are notified of their student's course choices prior to schedules being finalized.
- **The cost for a schedule change is \$50.00.**
- See the Student & Family Handbook for information regarding the Course Withdrawal Policy.

COMMENCEMENT ACTIVITIES

For a senior to participate in the commencement activities, the following criteria must be met:

1. All academic requirements must be successfully completed.
2. Successful completion of 6 courses during the senior year.
3. Good standing according to the discipline code.
4. Completed a minimum of one hundred (100) hours of community service.
5. All financial obligations have been met.

COMPUTER & TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Interdisciplinary Skill Building

½ credit

Freshman Level

Students will develop proficiency in the three most common Microsoft Office Programs: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. They will create a variety of projects through presentations, spreadsheets, and word processing skills. Students will also learn effective communication habits through proper email etiquette and be introduced to new note-taking and study strategies. Lastly, the class will focus on the important topic of Growth Mindset and how to apply it to their academic pursuits.

Introduction to Computer Science (dual credit course through WCC)

1 credit

Sophomore-Senior Level

Prerequisite: Geometry

This course introduces students to computer science concepts such as computer architecture, networks, and the Internet. Students use object-oriented programming, event-driven processes, modular computer programming, and data manipulation algorithms to produce finished software programs. They use the design process to create many programs by determining specifications, designing the software, and testing and improving the product until it meets the specifications. By the end of this course, students will have a solid foundation for further study in computer science.

Engineering I (Introduction to Computer-Aided Drafting)

1 credit

This is a beginning class for students interested in architecture, design, engineering, or manufacturing. Students will learn how things are designed, drawn, and made using 2D AutoCad Software. Students will also learn about the latest advancements in technology, computers, and 3D printers. In addition, reverse engineering skills are introduced. This knowledge is useful for students who want to learn practical skills that are in high demand in today's economy.

Engineering II (Computer-Aided-Drafting II)

1 credit

Prerequisite: Engineering I

This is an intermediate level class where students will learn to design and draw mechanical and architectural objects. Emphasis is placed on learning the software as a tool to display mechanical parts and communicate ideas. Students will learn to expand 3D drawing, design, and reverse engineering skills.

ADVANCED Engineering III

1 credit

Prerequisite: Engineering II

This is an advanced level class where students will learn to design and draw mechanical and architectural objects. Emphasis is placed on learning the software as a tool to display mechanical parts and communicate ideas. Students will learn to expand 3D design and drawing skills using Fusion 360 Software.

ADVANCED Engineering IV

1 credit

Prerequisite: Engineering III

In this course, the instructor and student will mutually agree on a project that involves the student's specific area of interest in Engineering. The student will complete background research and present methods to overcome the shortfalls of real-life engineering projects. The student will create a sketch of their re-engineered design, use AutoCAD software to draw the design, and 3-D print the design. The design will be subject to structural load tests.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

English I – Foundations (full-year course)

2 credits (freshman level)

This is an English course with an emphasis on developing both fiction and nonfiction reading skills and improving reading comprehension. Semester 1 focuses on nonfiction reading skills including finding main ideas, sequencing, summarizing, paraphrasing, and identifying cause and effect. The fiction unit's focus is on character, plot elements, setting, theme, symbolism, and irony in both short stories and novels, as well as an introduction to literary devices used by authors. Students will learn strategies to make them more effective readers. Students will develop grammar skills and review effective paragraph writing as a transition to essay writing. In addition, students will study Greek and Roman roots and prefixes to aid their ability to determine the meaning of unfamiliar words. Students will read the same core texts as students in English I, but the full-year course allows for a slower pace and more in-depth instruction. This class prepares students for subsequent English courses.

English I

1 credit (freshman level)

This course is designed to provide instruction for students in the continued development of grammar, literature, writing, and vocabulary skills. Students read short stories, poetry, dramas, and novels. Reading both fiction and nonfiction, students learn to analyze literary text, themes, symbols archetypes, and genres.

English I – Honors

1 credit (freshman level)

Prerequisite: Above level proficiency on the placement test and/or teacher

recommendation

This course covers the areas of literature, composition, speaking, vocabulary, and grammar. The students read short stories, poetry, dramas, and novels. Students learn to analyze literary works and to identify themes. Each quarter has an independent project requirement.

Students in this course are expected to take initiative and complete assigned readings independently. Literary analysis will focus on authors' use of various writing strategies and literary devices, not solely to identify those elements but also to analyze their purpose and effectiveness.

English II: Foundations (full-year course)

2 credits (sophomore level)

This is a developmental course designed both to teach reading strategies and to help students improve reading comprehension so that students may achieve expected competencies in core literacy skills. Its instructional pacing is much more tempered than regular or honors level courses since it is taught for a full year rather than in one semester. In this class, the students also will work to develop more proficient writing and grammar skills, they will continue to acquire and practice vocabulary (including Greek and Roman roots, prefixes, suffixes, etc.), and they will practice public speaking. The course subject matter involves both fiction and nonfiction—novels, plays, speeches, memoirs, and poetry, for example. The course fosters the students' ability to grapple with challenging texts to identify and analyze theme, symbol, archetype, and rhetorical strategies such as figurative language. Additionally, this course serves to help students practice and improve upon their study habits and organizational skills.

English II

1 credit (sophomore level)

Prerequisite: English I or English I – Reading and Essentials with instructor's approval

This course is designed to help the student develop basic reading, writing, and speaking skills through work based on themes in literature, poetry, and nonfiction text. Students will read short stories, poetry, nonfiction, dramas, and novels. Grammar and vocabulary will also be integrated into the curriculum.

English II – Honors

1 credit (sophomore level)

Prerequisite: C or higher in English I Honors or instructor's approval

This course offers the student the opportunity to develop advanced reading, writing, and speaking skills through work based on ideas he/she has received from a deep analysis of nonfiction and literature. The students read short stories, poetry, nonfiction, dramas, and novels. Grammar and vocabulary will also be integrated into the curriculum.

English III

1 credit (junior level)

Prerequisite: English II

This course is essentially an American Literature class beginning with Native American literature and continuing through the Post-Modern Era. Students will read non-fiction works, short stories, poetry, dramas, and novels. Emphasis is placed on analyzation of symbols, characters, archetypes, and themes, along with literary analysis. Additional emphasis is placed on vocabulary acquisition and writing techniques. A research project is required.

English III Honors

1 credit (junior level)

Prerequisite: C or higher in English II Honors or instructor's approval

This upper-level, college-preparatory course uses as its subject matter canonical works of American literature—past and present. Intense focus is paid not only to reading challenging texts, but upon the students' ability to learn to develop critical responses to such texts, notably using the written word. Students write a major research paper, compose response journals, create visual presentations, and craft literary analyses—all with the intent of getting ready for undergraduate-level studies. Students will examine, for instance, the theme, symbol, and myriad rhetorical strategies authors employ in their works. Grammar skills and vocabulary lessons are also incorporated weekly.

AP® Literature & Composition

1 credit (junior level)

Prerequisite: C or higher in English II Honors and instructor's approval OR B or higher in English II and instructor's approval

This course prepares students for college level reading and writing through the critical analysis of poetry, short stories, novels, and plays. Students will write weekly in-class analysis and persuasive essays that are literature based. In addition, students will write formal essays based on required course readings. SAT-based vocabulary is taught as well as a focus on advanced literary terms. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam for college credit. Long-term projects are assigned including a research paper using MLA format. College credit is dependent on the AP test score. Much independent reading is required.

English IV

1 credit (senior level)

Prerequisite: English III

This course concentrates on contemporary works of literature in the genres of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and drama. The course will examine the themes and literary elements that are prevalent in fiction and nonfiction written in the past twenty years.

English IV – Honors

1 credit (senior level)

Prerequisite: C or higher in English III Honors or instructor's approval

Much like English III Honors, this upper-level, college-preparatory course uses as its subject matter canonical works of English literature—past and present. Intense focus is paid not only to reading challenging texts of the British Isles, but upon the students' ability to learn to develop critical responses to such texts, notably using the written word. Students write a major research paper, compose response journals, create visual presentations, and craft literary analyses—all with the intent of getting ready for undergraduate-level studies. Students will examine theme, symbolism, and myriad rhetorical strategies authors employ in their works. Grammar skills and vocabulary lessons are also incorporated weekly.

AP® Language & Composition

1 credit (senior level)

Prerequisite: C or higher in AP Lit and instructor's approval OR C or higher Junior Honors or a B or higher in English III

This course prepares students for college level reading and writing through the study and analysis of nonfiction and world literature. Students will write weekly in-class analysis, synthesis, and persuasive essays. In addition, students will write out of class essays based on the various patterns of development studied throughout the course. A multimedia research project is required. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

Creative Writing

1 credit (sophomore-senior level)

This course is designed for students with an interest in expressing ideas and thoughts in a creative way. Students can expect to grow as writers by engaging in creative exercises, experimenting with writing styles, workshoping with peers, and critically revising work toward the goal of creating unique original pieces of writing. The semester will be devoted toward flash and short fiction, poetry, script writing, nonfiction writing and creating blogs and podcasts.

Graphic Novels & Dystopian Literature

1 credit (freshman-senior level)

This elective English course studies two distinct genres of modern literature: dystopian literature and literature that is pictorial in nature. First, students will spend the opening academic quarter exploring dystopian fiction—stories, for example, in which heroes/protagonists are pitted against oppressive regimes, in which they exist in desolate wastelands, or even endure systems dominated by wholly technological entities. Students delve into these stories to thoroughly evaluate current societal, personal, political, or economic challenges. Students practice writing and reading skills to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate dystopian stories. Skill-based lessons on grammar, punctuation, and vocabulary also apply to this course.

Second, in the latter academic quarter, students not only define but dissect the nature of graphic novels as an ever-growing, increasingly popular genre of literature. Through class discussions, literary analysis papers, and cooperative presentations, students will investigate visual storytelling; they will study how authors use the combination of words and images to deliver meaningful, complex tales. The reading list is comprised of multicultural texts, adventure tales, biographies, and compelling historical narratives. Great emphasis is placed on understanding the graphic novel's form and its content.

Mythology

1 credit (freshmen-senior level)

This course is designed to go beyond just Greek/Roman mythology. Students will examine the mythologies of many different cultures including Native American, Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Norse and more. Students will conduct an in-depth literary analysis using the mythologies of different ancient civilizations. Students will also be able to identify themes that apply across cultures.

Speech

1 credit (freshmen-senior level)

This course focuses on the writing and presentation of formal and informal speeches. Research based informative speeches, persuasive speeches, and a radio show project that includes interviews and commercials are a few examples of the speeches students will make. A fundamental goal of the course is to provide strategies to help write interesting and entertaining speeches, to give those speeches with confidence and poise, and to learn methods of effective communication.

Shakespeare Studies

1 credit (sophomore-senior level)

This course will introduce students to critical study of Shakespeare and provide students with the basic historical context needed to understand and appreciate Shakespeare's poetic and dramatic works. Examination of the conventions of tragedies, comedies, histories, romances, and problem plays will be examined. Literary criticism and literary theory will also complement our readings.

Film as Literature

1 credit (sophomore-senior level)

This class teaches students how to interpret and analyze story structure, theme, character, and narrative technique through the medium of film. Students will read screenplays, analyze shots, research film history, study, and critique directors, retool and rework existing scripts, compose story treatments, pitch ideas in a group setting, revise and improve existing dialogue, compose action sequences, draft their own screenplays, and learn filmmaking techniques

MATHEMATICS & BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Algebra I Foundations

2 credits (TI-30 or TI-30x calculator required)

Prerequisite: Placement test and/or grade school recommendation

This course begins with a Pre-Algebra review and is taught over two semesters and is equivalent to an entire Algebra I course. The fall semester of Algebra I includes a review of basic number concepts such as fractions, ratios, percents, and proportions. The course covers properties and operations using the real number system, and introduces the topics of expressions, multi-step equations and inequalities, and solving and graphing linear equations and inequalities. The spring semester covers fundamental topics such as exponents, radicals, basic operations and factoring with polynomials and rational expressions, linear functions, simultaneous systems of equations and inequalities, quadratic functions, and equations. This course provides a foundation for further mathematical studies in Algebra II Foundations.

Algebra I

1 credit (TI-30 or TI-30x calculator required)

Prerequisite: Placement test and/or grade school recommendation

This course improves performance with the real number system including rational and irrational numbers, their properties, and operations. Studies will cover solving and graphing of linear and quadratic equations and inequalities in one and two variables, systems of simultaneous equations, properties of exponents, operations and factoring using polynomials, introduction to topics from coordinate geometry, working with radicals and radical equations, and simplifying rational expressions. Completion of this course prepares the student for further math studies by developing core concepts.

Algebra I Honors

1 credit (TI-30 or TI-30x calculator required)

Prerequisite: Placement test and/or grade school recommendation.

This course covers all topics offered in Algebra I while providing an opportunity for independent thinking in a fast-paced learning environment. The expectation is that the students will learn to further apply each concept in assignments to gain an in-depth knowledge base that will allow them to continue the mathematics honor's track for multiple college credit opportunities during their high school career.

Geometry Foundations

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: Algebra II Foundations

This course offers a simple introduction to fundamental concepts of Geometry using short, readable lessons, many examples, and sufficient practice. An understanding of the properties of angles, segments, parallel lines, polygons, area, volume, circles, right triangles, and trigonometric ratios are provided as geometric concepts throughout the year. This class does not

fulfill the requirement to continue into either Precalculus or Trigonometry but does prepare the student for real world geometry applications found in vocational and/or technical careers.

Geometry

1 credit (TI-30 or TI-30x calculator required)

Prerequisite: C or higher in Algebra I or instructor's approval

This course is a study of traditional, plane, Euclidean Geometry which develops the ability to think using deductive logic. The topics of 2-column proofs; logic; properties of angles, polygons, and parallel lines; congruence; similarity; inequality; right triangles; circles; area and volume formulas; coordinate geometry; and trigonometry will be presented and discussed. Students will be prepared for the incorporation of geometric topics in advanced Algebra studies.

Geometry Honors

1 credit (TI-30 or TI-30x calculator required)

Prerequisite: C or higher in Algebra I Honors or instructor's approval

This fast-paced course emphasizes logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills with full coverage of the concepts of Euclidean Geometry including all topics covered in the geometry course described above. This course provides the foundation for further advanced math studies.

Algebra II Foundations

2 credits (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: Algebra I Foundations

This course builds upon all the concepts in Algebra I Foundations, but with less analytical rigor than a regular Algebra II course and presented in a yearlong (two semesters) course format. There will be a greater emphasis on the use of the graphing calculator to master the ideas of functions including linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical, and exponential functions as well as application in real world situations. An understanding of the properties of angles, segments, parallel lines, polygons, area, volume, circles, right triangles, and trigonometric ratios are provided as geometric concepts throughout the year. This class does not fulfill the requirement to continue into either Precalculus or Trigonometry.

Algebra II

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: C or higher in Geometry or instructor's approval

This course provides a brief review of Algebra I concepts including linear and absolute value equations, inequalities, and systems. The course then introduces advanced topics such as matrices; determinants; quadratic equations; complex numbers; functions; exponents and radicals; exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions; polynomial operations and functions. Completion of this course prepares the student for Precalculus.

Algebra II Honors

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: C or higher in Geometry - Honors or instructor's approval

This fast-paced course provides a solid foundation in advanced Algebra content and concepts including in-depth discussion and rigorous study of the topics covered in Algebra II. The successful completion of Algebra II Honors prepares the student for studies in MATH 129/MATH 130 dual credit courses.

Precalculus

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: C or higher in Algebra II/Algebra II Honors or instructor's approval

This course provides students with a solid foundation for the study of mathematics at the college level, including calculus. Topics studied include: 1) Learning how to analyze a function including linear, radical, absolute value, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic functions. 2) solving equations and inequalities systems in two or more variables; 3) other topics that will be covered include matrices, sequences, and series, counting principals, combinations, permutations, probability, and conics. If time permits, we will investigate limits, an introduction to the study of Calculus.

Trigonometry

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: C or higher in Algebra II/Algebra II Honors or instructor's approval

Trigonometry provides students with a solid foundation for the study of mathematics at the college level. Topics studied include finding the lengths of sides and the measurement of angles of all types of triangles using the trigonometric functions. Trigonometric proofs of identities are included. Graphing trigonometric equations by hand and in function mode, parametric mode, and polar mode using a graphing calculator are included. Angles are studied in both degrees and radians. Algebra is used to solve trigonometric equations. Vectors will be studied if time permits.

Business Mathematics

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: 3 required high school math credits

A course that presents an introduction to mathematical concepts and applications in both commercial business and consumer situations. Topics covered include basic operations in accounting, banking, finance, marketing, sales, and simple analytics as well as a framework for solving real world business problems. Basic mathematical skills in fractions, decimals, and percentages are reviewed in the course as the framework for the topics covered.

Promotional Marketing

1 credit (*No prerequisite*)

A course that introduces the fundamental concepts of marketing, defines the marketing mix variables (product, price, place, and promotion) as well as target markets, and presents integrated marketing communications. Promotional topics are explored through advertising, media, and sales promotions then applied in a final promotional marketing project.

DUAL CREDIT MATHEMATICS COURSES

The 2023-24 section of dual credit courses will take place here at ACC by an ACC teacher who is also a Waubensee professor. There is a fee for course materials.

Prerequisites for all Dual Credit:

- Senior with a 3.0 GPA and a C in Algebra II (any level)
- OR**
- ACCUPLACER score of 262 and instructor's approval.

MATH 107 Basic Statistics

1 high school credit (TI-84 calculator required) and 3 college credits.

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the principles of descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics will include types of data, frequency distributions and histograms, measures of central tendency, measures of variation, probability, probability distributions including binomial, normal probability and student's t distributions, standard scores, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, correlation, and linear regression analysis.

MATH 109 Algebra for Business and Social Science

1 high school credit (TI-84 calculator required) and 3 college credits.

Prerequisite: dual credit requirements listed above

This course is designed to provide the students interested in programs of study including business, nursing, education, or other non-STEM students with basic algebraic concepts necessary to continue in non-STEM related mathematics courses. Topics include real numbers, using algebraic methods to find solutions of inequalities and equations, coordinate systems, functions, polynomials, rational functions, radical functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, graphing and transformations of functions, and algebraic methods to solve systems of equations.

MATH 129 Precalculus I

1 high school credit (TI-84 calculator required) and 3 college credits

Prerequisite: dual credit requirements listed above

This course is designed to provide the STEM student with basic algebraic concepts in a rigorous manner needed to continue to MTH130. Topics include real numbers, complex numbers,

algebraic methods to find solutions of inequalities and equations, coordinate systems, functions, polynomials, rational functions, radical functions, absolute value of functions, and graphing and transformations of functions.

MATH 130 Precalculus II

1 high school credit (TI-84 calculator required) and 3 college credits

Prerequisite: dual credit requirements listed above

This course in trigonometry of the plane concentrates on trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions and their applications in a rigorous manner. Topics covered include the trigonometric functions, solution of right triangles, radian measure, fundamental identities, angular measure, graphs, logarithms, functions of composite angles, oblique triangles, trigonometric equations, inverse trigonometric functions, and complex numbers (including powers and roots).

ADVANCED PLACEMENT MATHEMATICS

AP® Calculus (AB)

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: B or higher in both MATH 129/130 or instructor's approval

This course is the equivalent of the first semester of calculus at the college level. A review of lines, functions, graphs, and logarithms is followed by the study of limits and continuity, derivatives, applications of derivatives, the definite integral, differential equations and mathematic modeling, and applications of definite integrals. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

AP® Calculus (BC)

1 credit (TI-84 calculator required)

Prerequisite: AP Calculus - AB or instructor's approval

This course is the equivalent of a second semester of Calculus at the college level. The course study includes L'Hopital's Rule, improper integrals, and partial fractions; infinite series; parametric, vector, and polar functions; and a review for the AP Calculus AB & BC Tests. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

ACC FOUNDATIONS

MATHEMATICS PATH

This path is for those students looking to strengthen their math skills as well as confidence by taking concepts at a slower pace.

1

Algebra I Foundations

- Freshman Year
- Pre Algebra Review
- Year Long Curriculum (2 Credits)

2

Algebra II Foundations

- Sophomore Year
- Year Long Curriculum (2 Credits)
- Geometry Introduction

3

Geometry Foundations

- Junior Year
- Semester Long Curriculum
- Required to fulfill graduation requirements

4

Additional Math Courses

- Business Mathematics
- College Algebra (Dual Credit)

While the placement exam is used in path selection, our instructors will use the student's course success to evaluate future path placement to ensure the student is accurately challenged.

ACC STANDARD

MATHEMATICS PATH

This path is for those students looking to build on their foundational math skills in preparation for college-level math courses their senior year.

1

Algebra I

- Freshman Year
- Semester Long Curriculum

2

Geometry

- Freshman Year (recommended)
- Semester Long Curriculum
- Doubling up allows for maximum math credits

3

Algebra II

- Sophomore Year
- Semester Long Curriculum
- 3rd Required Math Credit

4

Additional Courses

- Precalculus
- Trigonometry
- Business Mathematics
- College Algebra (Dual Credit)
- Basic Statistics (Dual Credit)

While the placement exam is used in path selection, our instructors will use the student's course success to evaluate future path placement to ensure the student is accurately challenged.

ACC HONORS

MATHEMATICS PATH

This path is for those students wanting to build critical thinking skills and learn advanced math topics in a fast-paced, rigorous environment though dual credit and advance placement courses.

1

Algebra I Honors

- Freshman Year
- Semester Long Curriculum

2

Geometry Honors

- Freshman Year (recommended)
- Semester Long Curriculum
- Doubling up allows for maximum math credits

3

Algebra II Honors

- Sophomore Year
- Semester Long Curriculum
- 3rd Required Math Credit

4

Upper Honors Courses

- MATH 129 Precalc I (Dual Credit)
- MATH 130 Precalc II (Dual Credit)
- AP Calculus AB/BC

5

Additional Courses

- Basic Statistics (Dual Credit)
- College Algebra (Dual Credit)
- Business Mathematics

While the placement exam is used in path selection, our instructors will use the student's course success to evaluate future path placement to ensure the student is accurately challenged.

MUSIC AND DRAMA

Freshman/Transfer/Beginning Band

½ credit

This introductory and intermediate performance course is offered to any incoming Freshman or any student who would like to learn or relearn to play a band instrument. Students will learn how to care for their instrument, read music, play scales, and play band music. Students will need to secure their own instrument or rent a school instrument. A regular practice routine must be established. Guitar, piano, violin, and cello may be taught in this course at the instructor's discretion. Students who already play an instrument but would like to learn to play an additional instrument are also welcome in this class. Students are required to perform in the concert at the end of the semester. Students are encouraged to join the Symphonic Band after completing this course.

Symphonic Band

½ credit (before school course)

Prerequisite: Audition and instructor's approval

Symphonic Band is a performance course that is open to any student who plays one of the following instruments: flute, oboe, bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet/cornet, French horn, trombone, baritone, tuba, string bass, percussion, guitar, or piano. Students who play string instruments should first speak with the instructor. Prior musical training on one or more of these instruments is expected before registering for this class. Students will work on more difficult pieces and learn more advanced musical ideas. Students will have the opportunity to gain experience in concert and solo/ensemble work. This ensemble performs at school masses, special events, home football games, home basketball games, a winter concert, and a spring concert. This class meets before school on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

Jazz Band, Combos

½ credit (before school course)

Prerequisite: Audition and instructor's approval

Jazz Combos are performance-based groups for advanced musicians who can handle varied styles of music such as, but not limited to, rock, swing, country, and Latin. With guidance from the instructor, the musicians in this course will help decide the pieces of music played. In addition, this group will work on improvisation. Members of this group will need to be available for the winter and spring concerts, and Super Saturday Night. All traditional band instruments are welcome in addition to guitar, bass, drum set, piano, and vocalists. This class meets before school on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Music (Singing, Ukulele, Hand Bells)

1 credit

This class is offered to students who enjoy music. Students will learn proper music techniques. Through singing, learning basic ukulele, and playing hand bells students will learn introductory music theory ideas that will help them succeed in band and advanced choir. They will be exposed to a variety of music literature ranging from popular to classical and will perform in a concert towards the end of each semester. First semester music will go Christmas caroling to area Catholic grade schools

Advanced Choir

½ credit (after school course)

Prerequisite: Chorus and Instructor's approval

Advanced Choir is a class designed for experienced singers. Students will work on more difficult music and higher-level musical ideas than are taught in Chorus. This course gives advanced choral students the opportunity to sing with a group of like-minded students who have reached beyond the level of the regular chorus course. This class meets after school on Tuesdays and Thursdays and performs a concert each semester.

Drama Tech

½ credit (after school course)

Prerequisite: Instructor's approval and application

Drama Tech is a class that teaches the four major components of theatre production: lighting, sound, costuming, and set building. In class, the students learn the safe use of tools, how to set up and run sound equipment, how to design costumes, and how to run a lightboard. This is all accomplished collaboratively. A parent signed permission slip is required for the use of some of the tools. The class is on Mondays from 3:00-4:30 and starts on Saturday. The Saturday schedule is given out on the first day of class. Drama Tech students are responsible for any crew needs for ACC Drama performances, concerts, masses, and any other assembly that needs Drama Tech expertise.

Drama Production

½ credit (after school course)

Prerequisite: Drama Tech, Instructor's approval, and application

Drama Production is a class that puts students into design and tech leadership positions. Their focus is on stage management and designing sound systems, sound, lights, costumes, and sets. In class, the students take their knowledge acquired from Drama Tech and lead these design areas applying them to the current semester's production of either the Fall Play or the Musical. This is all accomplished collaboratively and in conjunction with Drama Tech. The class meets on Mondays from 3:00-4:30 and participates in running auditions, participating in rehearsals, and running performances.

Acting I

1 credit

This class introduces acting principles and is designed for students who have never acted and students who have been in shows before. Students will learn basic acting techniques through improvisation and the teachings of Stanislavski. Students will learn the process of how an actor prepares for a role starting with warm-ups, theatre games, and improvisations focusing on 10 core acting ideals. These ideals will culminate in the performances of short duets and trio scenes. The class will also read three scripts and learn how to analyze them, learn basic theatre concepts, and write original scenes based on improvisations. Their project week's focus will be on creating a "Who's line is it anyway" style improvised performance.

Acting II

1 credit (sophomore-senior level)

Prerequisite: Acting I and instructor's approval

Acting II is a class that incorporates the ideas learned in Acting I and expands on them with a focus on observation, creating realistic characters, and Stanislavski's core concepts. The students each are given multiple opportunities to direct short scenes, and through that direction, apply the acting concepts that they have learned. Major projects will be scene performances, a monologue, and one student-directed scene.

Costuming / Beginning Sewing

1 credit (freshman-senior level)

The first half of this class focuses on costuming, and the second half focuses on. Students will read the upcoming play or musical and through research and analysis; learn how to plot, design, put together looks from existing stock. Depending on skill level we may even make costumes for the production. This class will also teach basic sewing techniques using sewing machines and needle work. Our projects focus on practical techniques that can be used to make useful items like pillows, blankets, and pants while also learning how to maintain clothing that has lost buttons, broken zippers, or has been damaged in some way.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Physical Education I

½ credit (freshman required)

This class is meant to prepare students to use leisure time effectively and to be physically, socially, and emotionally well. The program is designed to enable each student to enjoy physical activity through improved fitness levels and obtain a better understanding of various recreational activities. This course aims to help each student meet credit requirements, raise individual fitness

levels, improve knowledge and skills of team sports, and to gain a foundation for participation in lifelong wellness.

Physical Education II

½ credit (sophomore required)

Prerequisite: Physical Education I

Physical Education II is the continuation of Physical Education I. This class will further emphasize the teaching techniques of physical education for students to improve their personal and overall fitness.

Health

½ credit (sophomore required)

Health class emphasizes the importance of knowledge, attitudes, and practices relating to personal health and wellness. The course is designed to expose students to a broad range of issues and information relating to the physical, social, emotional, spiritual, and environmental aspects of health. Students will also receive training on how to properly administer cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and how to use an automated external defibrillator (AED).

Team Sports

1 credit (sophomore-senior required)

This class is designed for students interested in learning skills and strategies of team sports. This course will include daily skill instruction and implementation of these skills into a competitive game setting. Activities may include, but are not limited to, softball, navy football, basketball, volleyball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, badminton, and rugby. In addition, students will learn and practice principles of aerobic, anaerobic, and flexibility exercises.

Advanced Fitness

1 credit

Prerequisite: Participating in an athletic sport here at ACC

This semester long course is designed for students who want to greatly improve their health-related fitness levels and gain a better understanding of the anatomy and physiology of exercise through various advanced weight training techniques. During the course, students will design their own fitness programs based on personal goals. Using in-class activities, students explore such concepts as body composition, cardiovascular fitness, and training principles. Students will use the fitness center and will train with free weights, select machines, and cardiovascular equipment. This is highly recommended for varsity athletes, allowing them to train and improve their skills outside of practice time.

Wellness, Nutrition, and Exercise

1 credit (junior-senior level)

This course integrates Family and Consumer Sciences, Health, and Physical Education. Students will participate in nutrition and fitness assessments and learn cognitive skills of nutrition, stress

management, and exercise. The Family and Consumer Sciences and Health components will emphasize strategies to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The Physical Education portion will emphasize exercises that will improve personal fitness levels in flexibility, muscular fitness, and cardiovascular endurance. Workouts include exercise flows that increase concentration, balance, and strength, and stretches to increase the range of motion in joints.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Environmental Systems and Physical Science (year-long course)

2 credits (freshman level)

This is a course specifically designed for all students with an interest in the overall environmental structure of our universe, water and air pollution, toxic and hazardous wastes, control and management, and preservation and protection of the ecosystem and our natural resources. This is a laboratory, project, and hands-on oriented course that utilizes a tremendous variety of activities in all areas of science. Many concepts and theories of basic chemistry, earth science, physical science, and physics will be introduced and applied throughout this course.

The Physical Science semester will acquaint students with scientific methods and procedures. This course incorporates strategies to develop critical and creative thinking for developing informed decision-making skills. This will be accomplished by conducting investigations, collecting, and interpreting data and observations through the study of sub-atomic particles, atoms, and molecules and the physical forces of nature with an emphasis on chemistry.

Biology

1 credit (freshmen/sophomore level)

Prerequisite: Placement test and/or grade school recommendation

Biology is devoted to the study of living things and their processes. This course provides an opportunity for students to develop scientific process skills, laboratory techniques, and an understanding of the fundamental principles of living organisms. Students will explore biological science as a process, cell structure and function, genetics and heredity, evolution and classification, diversity of living organisms and their ecological roles, and an introduction to animal structure and function.

Biology - Honors

1 credit

Prerequisite: Above level proficiency on the Placement Test and/or grade school recommendation

Honors Biology is a hands-on laboratory course that explores living things and their fundamental processes. Students will develop critical thinking skills and learn scientific techniques while studying the nature of living organisms. In alignment with the Next Generation Science Standards, students will learn about interdependent relationships in ecosystems, matter and energy in organisms and ecosystems, structure and function relationships, inheritance, and variation of traits, as well as natural selection and evolution.

Chemistry

1 credit

Prerequisite: Biology and Algebra I

Chemistry is a lecture and laboratory course designed to introduce basic chemical concepts and principles. This knowledge will help students better deal with a world in which every aspect of their lives is affected by technology. In our modern world, there is no human activity which does not involve chemical processes or contact with chemical products. Citizens are required to make decisions on chemical issues such as: toxic and radioactive waste, acid rain, air and water pollution, drug and alcohol abuse, and scarcity of natural resources. *Required Knowledge:* TI 83-84 Plus

Chemistry – Honors

1 credit

Prerequisite: Honors Biology and Honors Algebra I

Chemistry - Honors is a lecture and laboratory course which presents essentially the same basic concepts and principles of regular chemistry with additional laboratory and lecture material designed to permit students to “discover” the fundamental underlying “why” of the concept. Accelerated students will have a deeper understanding of more complicated material with more memorization of chemical concepts. *Required Knowledge:* TI 83-84 Plus

Physics

1 credit

Prerequisite: Chemistry (before or same year) and Algebra I & Geometry

The purpose of this course is to teach students that the physical universe is knowable through observation and investigation. From these observations and investigations, the student scientists will make models and solve problems that deal with motion, forces, energy, work & power, electricity, light, relativity, and quantum mechanics. There are many investigations (labs) in this course. Working as a team is especially important. Math problems are incorporated into every topic. Finally, students need a sense of curiosity and an openness to ideas that may be counter-intuitive to the way they think the universe works.

Physics – Honors

1 credit

Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry, Honors Algebra I, Honors Geometry, and Honors Algebra II; Honors Trigonometry is highly recommended as being taken concurrently or before Honors Physics

The purpose of this course is to teach students that the physical universe is knowable through observation, investigation, and mathematical models. Students need a sense of curiosity and openness to ideas that may be counter-intuitive to the way they think the universe works. Physics is the foundation of all other areas of science. They will see a relationship between the mathematics they have previously learned, and the application of mathematics to physical systems. Students should have a solid foundation in Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry. This course has many labs so formal write-ups will be expected. The subject matter will emphasize

classical physics topics including motion (linear & circular), forces (Newton's Laws), energy (KE, PE, work-energy theorem), electricity, waves, vibrations, and light. Scattered throughout the course are ideas on the Standard Model of particles, relativity, and quantum mechanics.

Earth Science

1 credit (junior and senior level)

This course is an exploration of our planet and its place in the solar system and ultimately the universe. The students will gain an understanding of how the earth operates and renews itself. Students will investigate such topics as geology, the solar system, meteorology, and oceanography.

Anatomy and Physiology - Honors

1 credit (sophomore – senior level)

Prerequisite: Honors Chemistry or Chemistry

Anatomy and Physiology is an honors course which is designed for those students who will be pursuing a career in medicine, biology, and/or for those interested in learning the parts and their function of a human being. The course is a strenuous survey of human anatomy that parallels anatomical characteristics of other animals. The course focuses on anatomical terminology, anatomical identification, and physiological processes of the human body systems. MUST have at least regular chemistry.

AP® Biology

2 credits (Full Year Class) (junior – senior level)

Prerequisite: Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry

AP Biology is the continuation of Biology I, involving in-depth study in four big ideas of evolution, biological systems, metabolism (energy and matter), and information transfer and usage. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

AP® Environmental Science

1 credit (junior – senior level)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry or Honors Chemistry concurrently

Students will explore and investigate the interrelationships of the natural world, identify, and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

ACC FOUNDATIONS

SCIENCE PATH

This path is for those students looking to strengthen their science skills as well as confidence by taking foundational courses.

1

Environmental Systems & Physical Science

- Freshman year
- Both courses are required for those students below grade level in both subjects

2

Biology

- Sophomore Year

3

Earth Science

- Junior Year

4

Chemistry

- Senior Year (Optional)

While the placement exam is used in path selection, our instructors will use the student's course success to evaluate future path placement to ensure the student is accurately challenged.

ACC STANDARD

SCIENCE PATH

This path is for those students looking to build on their foundational science skills in preparation for college-level science courses their senior year.

1

Physical Science

- Freshman Year

2

Biology

- Sophomore Year

3

Chemistry

- Junior Year

4

Physics

- Senior Year

5

Additional Courses

- Earth Science
- Anatomy and Physiology Honors
- AP Environmental Science

While the placement exam is used in path selection, our instructors will use the student's course success to evaluate future path placement to ensure the student is accurately challenged.

ACC HONORS

SCIENCE PATH

This path is for those students wanting to build critical thinking skills and learn advanced science topics in a fast-paced, rigorous environment through honors and advance placement courses.

1

Biology Honors

- Freshman Year

2

Chemistry Honors

- Sophomore Year
- Doubling up allows for maximum science credits

3

Physics Honors

- Junior Year

4

Upper Honors Courses

- Anatomy and Physiology Honors
- AP Environmental Science
- AP Biology - year long curriculum (2 Credits)

While the placement exam is used in path selection, our instructors will use the student's course success to evaluate future path placement to ensure the student is accurately challenged.

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Geography

1 credit (freshman or sophomore required)

Geography is a social studies course that studies the physical and cultural aspects of our world. Students will learn about the 5 themes of geography, the physical processes of the world, and the physical and human geography of each formal region in the world. Students will also look at the various cultures around the world, and how humans interact with one another. This material will be explored through maps, reading assignments, discussions, and projects.

World History

1 credit (freshman or sophomore required)

This class presents a chronological narrative of World History from the earliest civilizations, both ancient and medieval, and focuses on their impact on future civilizations, especially paying attention to their impact on the Americas. It traces the historical developments in various parts of our world. The course will integrate several themes. Among these themes are political change, economic development, the influences of geography on various cultures, and the development of nation states. Also included is the development of technology, the effect of contact between cultures, and creativity in the arts.

U.S. History

1 credit (junior requirement)

American History is approached as a suspenseful story, whose turning points and consequences are revealed in a narration that both analyzes and compares. Knowledge of geography is important, and global connections reflecting our national experiences are highlighted. We will seek to integrate social studies with the humanities. This class is a general analysis of the noteworthy events critical to the development of the United States of America. Topics discussed include the following but are not limited to The Age of Discovery, The Colonial Era, The Revolutionary Period, Jacksonian Democracy, Henry Clay's American System, The Civil War, The Gilded Age, World War I, Jazz Age, World War II, Korean Conflict, Cold War, Vietnam, Détente, and International Terrorism in connection with American Diplomacy.

AP® United States History

1 credit (junior requirement)

Prerequisite: Instructor's approval

The advanced placement course provides a comprehensive review of U.S. History from the pre-colonial period to the 21st Century. The course includes full discussion of the development and importance of the nation's political, economic, and judicial system, and its relationship with the rest of the world. In several special sections, detailed and practical instruction about preparing for the AP exam will be discussed with a focus on planning and writing an essay that receives a high score. The course includes document-based questions and multiple readings requiring students to demonstrate historical knowledge and understanding. Each chapter includes a list of key names, events, and terms with a variety of review questions modeled on actual AP test questions. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

AP® European History

1 credit

Prerequisite: A or B in English I Honors and World History and/or instructor's approval
In AP European History, students investigate noteworthy events, individuals, developments, and processes from approximately 1450 to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical connections; and utilizing reasoning about comparison, causation, and continuity and change over time. Special attention will be given to preparing for the advanced placement exam where students can possibly earn college credit based off their performance. For success, students must complete a considerable amount of reading, both in the major text and in supplementary sources as well as spend extra time outside of class reviewing concepts.

Consumer Economics

½ credit (senior requirement)

Consumer economics is a required class for high school seniors. The purpose of this class is to prepare students for the time following their educational training. Students will explore various topics such as money management, establishment of credit, insurance (life, auto, home & health), medical care, investments, management and purchase of property, factors related to the cost of living, and taxes. The activities in this class will nurture the skills needed to become a contributing, responsible, and productive member of American society. This quarter long course is designed to be paired with the quarter long Political Science course.

Political Science

½ credit (senior requirement)

This course is designed to acquaint the student with the differing political systems in the world today. Concentration will be on the principle of democracy and republicanism as well as the constitutional complexities existing in the United States political system. This course will include an examination into the origins, personalities, ideologies, and principles of the constitutional process, and a critical look at the United States' Constitution itself. Discussion topics will include, but not be limited to, the similarities and differences of our two major political parties, domestic concerns, foreign policy issues, the different political and legal responsibilities of the three branches of government, and the duties and responsibilities of the U.S. democratic citizenry. This quarter long course is designed to be paired with the quarter long Consumer Economics course.

Current Issues

1 credit (all levels)

The class is designed to cover a variety of issues in the political, social, and economic realms. Students will consider such topics as the federal government and budget, constitutional issues, crime and drugs, the economy, education, energy, health care, immigration, society and discrimination, technology and public policy, defense, democracy and human rights, the global environment, global security, and international trade. Students will present projects and participate in debates.

World War I & II

1 credit (all levels)

This course examines the causes, course, and consequences of World Wars I and II in Europe and the United States. We will trace the origins of the conflict back to World War I and II, and we will see how its effects on Europe and the world have persisted to the present day. In addition to military history, this course will discuss wartime diplomacy, the Holocaust, life on the Home Front, and the social and political changes during the 1920's and Great Depression.

Sociology

1 credit (junior-senior level)

Sociology is an elective social studies course that studies human society and social behavior. Students will seek to understand how people relate with each other and influence the behavior of others. We will begin with an introductory unit to sociology and then explore diverse topics such as culture, socialization, social control and deviance, inequality, racial and ethnic relations, the family, and American society. This exploration will take place through discussions, lectures, group activities, films, readings, quizzes, tests, and projects. The activities of the class will build into a greater understanding of ourselves and the society that influences our behavior.

Art History

1 credit (sophomore – senior level)

The study of art history invites students to discover the diversity in and connections among forms of artistic expression throughout history and from around the globe. Students learn about how people have responded to and communicated their experiences through art, by exploring art in its historic and cultural contexts. The course welcomes students into the global art world as active participants, engaging with its forms and content as they research, discuss, read, create, and write about art, artists, art making, and responses to and interpretations of art. This class is a social studies elective.

Cultural Anthropology

1 credit (sophomore – senior level)

Anthropology, as stated by the American Anthropological Association, “is the study of what makes us human.” In Cultural Anthropology, students will explore the elements of cultures such as language, art, marriage, social-hierarchy, religion, etc. Students will learn how different groups have been impacted by and adapted to these cultural elements and discuss similarities and differences between groups around the globe. This course is designed for students to investigate, ask questions, and discuss.

Introduction to Business [Dual Credit Course through Waubonsee Community College]

1 credit - 3 three semester hours WCC credit (junior/senior level)

This course provides the foundation for developing concepts, attitudes, and philosophies about business operations. The following topics are introduced: management, marketing, accounting, finance, securities markets, economics, ethics and social responsibility, human resources, advertising and promotion, distribution, and international business.

This course will take place here at ACC but be taught by a Waubonsee professor. There is a cost of \$98 per credit hour (\$294 total). This is at a reduced rate.

Psychology

½ credit (sophomore – senior level)

This semester course is the scientific study of human behavior and will include an overview of the basic psychological principles and concepts that attempt to explain and predict human behavior. This course examines the history of the field, research methods, statistics, the link between nature and nurture, functions of the brain, sensation and perception, and social interactions.

*This course lays the foundation for the students' success in the Child Development course (See FACS).

AP® Psychology

1 credit (junior-senior level)

Prerequisite: A or B in regular or honors English and A or B in regular or honors World History or instructor's approval

AP Psychology is a challenging course on the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation, and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual difference, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, analyze bias, evaluate claims, and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. Students can possibly earn college credit by scoring well on the AP exam. Solid reading and writing skills, along with a willingness to devote considerable time to substantial amounts of vocabulary are necessary for success.

Child Development

½ credit (sophomore-senior level)

This semester course includes further learning about psychological concepts that relate to the sequence of a child's development. Child development is the scientific study of the biological and emotional changes that occur in human beings between birth and the end of adolescence. This course explores how an individual progresses from dependency to increasing autonomy in four major areas: the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social. *This course is preceded by Psychology (See Social Studies)

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Theology I

1 credit (freshmen requirement)

Part 1: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

Part 2: Who Is Jesus Christ?

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn who he calls them to be.

Theology II

1 credit (sophomore requirement)

Part 1: The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)

The purpose of this course is to help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

Part 2: Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church, but about the sacred nature of the Church.

Theology III

1 credit (junior requirement)

Part 1: Foundations of Catholic Morality

Students will learn the art of character building by living a virtuous life. They will be given processes by which they can discern what is right in a complex world. Students will connect happiness, virtue, truth, and strength with a life lived in Christ. They will be invited to live fully God's plans for their lives.

Part 2: Catholic Social Teaching

This course will introduce students to the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching. Students will explore the Cardinal Virtue of Justice. Beginning with Old Testament teachings and commandments of God concerning the treatment of the poor and most vulnerable of society and expanding in knowledge of Jesus' teachings of love for one another—a life lived for others.

Theology IV

1 credit (senior requirement)

Part 1: History of the Catholic Church

This course places the teachings of the Catholic Church within an historical context. The purpose of this course is to supply the students with a general knowledge of the Church's history from apostolic times to the present, including key theological developments. Students will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him throughout history through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today and, as such, has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn about the Church's 2,000 years of history and about how the Church is led and governed by the successors of the Apostles.

Part 2: Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ

The purpose of this course is to help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and authentic way in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine the true meaning of the word "sacrament" and each of the sacraments in detail to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

World Religions

1 credit (junior – senior level)

This elective course is a survey of the major religions of the world. Using Christianity as a foundation, the students explore the other religions of the world such as Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Students are encouraged to increase their own religious understanding considering the truths present in other traditions.

VISUAL ARTS

Ceramics

1 credit

The Ceramics course will consist of using stoneware clay to create a variety of vessels using different hand-building methods, glazing techniques, and using a kiln. Students will receive a short introduction to using the Potters Wheel. All pieces in this course will be three-dimensional. There is a \$75 fee for this course.

Ceramics 2

1 credit- Prerequisite C or higher in Ceramics 1

This ceramics course will continue the use of stoneware clay to create a variety of vessels using both hand-building techniques as well as wheel-throwing. Projects will be more complex as they use their skills from Ceramics 1 and gain more expertise at the wheel. All pieces in this course will be three-dimensional. There is a \$75 fee for this course.

Art I (Intro to Art)

1 credit

Art I is an introductory course into the Visual Arts. Students will learn about and apply the elements and principles of design, organize visual content, and develop skills in the use of tools and materials to produce two and three-dimensional works of art. This course is a pre-requisite for Art II-III and Art Portfolio. There is a \$35 fee for this course.

Art II (2D/3D Design)

1 credit

Prerequisite: C or higher in Art I

Students will advance in their ability to apply the elements and principles of design. Observational drawing, figure and color theory will be explored in depth, giving students the opportunity to work in many mediums including paint and sculpture materials. The primary focus of this course is to strengthen the students' drawing skills to prepare them for future art courses. There is a \$35 fee for this course.

Art III

1 credit

Prerequisite: B or higher in Art II

Students will utilize their knowledge of art to identify problems and explore original solutions to produce finished works of art in two and three-dimensional media. This course is mostly observational drawing and painting, and students will be taught advanced drawing and painting techniques. Students will employ creativity, higher level thinking skills, and insightful responses to visual stimuli. There is a \$35 fee for this course.

Art-Portfolio

1 credit

Prerequisite: B or higher in Art III

Art-Portfolio is for the serious art student that is planning to attend a college program to focus on an art career. This course will be focused on fleshing out the student's portfolio for acceptance into a university program. The students will be working on fine art projects of their own to show the breadth of their skill, sketchbook work, and a digital portfolio. This class may be taken more than once. The fee for this course is \$35.

Digital Photography I

1 credit

Students will learn the fundamentals of photography to begin to understand the elements and principles of art. Students will learn how to use a camera, effectively compose an image, understand light and start to develop their own photographic style, all while understanding how photography became an accepted artform in society. This course fulfills one art credit and there is no prerequisite. This class does not replace Art I as a prerequisite for Art II. Each student will be required to pay a \$75 fee to participate in this class.

Digital Photography II

1 credit

Prerequisite: C or higher in Digital Photography I

Students will further develop and advance their skills from Photo I by learning the history of photography, how to edit their photos in both Adobe Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop, and how to properly work with studio and natural lighting in their photography. Students will continue to develop their personal photographic style as well as push the message and emotion they are trying to represent in their images. Each student will be required to pay a \$75 fee to participate in this class.

Digital Photography - Independent Study

1 credit

Prerequisite: C or higher in Digital Photography II and instructor's approval

Students will further their understanding and practice of photography by using their technical and conceptual skills to push their personal photographic technique. Students will continue to advance their understanding of the creative process by advancing their knowledge about distinctive styles and careers in photography. Students will learn to develop an individual style to create a diverse photographic portfolio. Each student will be required to pay a \$75 fee to participate in this class.

Yearbook

½ credit (after school course)

Yearbook is an after-school course that is responsible for producing the highest quality ACC yearbook possible. Students will learn how to meet deadlines, improve their writing skills, learn how to interview a person, learn strong design and layout practices, and learn how to be a positive contributor to the staff. This is a rigorous course demanding self-motivation and independent work.

WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

Spanish I

1 credit

Prerequisite: Enrollment in English I or English I - Honors

This course introduces Spanish language and culture, with an emphasis on conversation in the present and simple future tenses. We use ACTFL based standards that support a meaningful integration of the five C's: Communication, Communities, Culture, Comparisons, and Connections. Students will receive extensive training in combining listening, writing, reading, and speaking skills as well as cultural awareness.

Spanish for Heritage Speakers

1 credit

Prerequisite: Enrollment in English I or English I - Honors

This course accommodates students that comprehend Spanish but are not able to speak fluently and/or read or write the language. It focuses on the development of communicative competence in reading, writing, speaking, and listening as well as understanding Hispanic cultures and identity issues of Spanish speakers in the United States. Students will also develop an awareness and understanding of the various Hispanic cultures, including language variation, customs, geography, history, and current events.

Spanish II

1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish I

This course provides a more in-depth study of the Spanish language and culture, with an emphasis on conversation in past, present, tense. Class is conducted primarily in Spanish. We use ACTFL based standards that support meaningful integration of the five C's: Communication, Communities, Culture, Comparisons, and Connections. Students will receive extensive training in combining listening, writing, reading, and speaking skills, as well as cultural awareness.

Spanish III - Honors

1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish II and instructor's approval

Spanish III Honors is the third course in the sequence in preparing students for the Advanced Placement Test. Grammar, reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills are covered at a faster pace in this course. In addition, students will do research and presentations on various cultures in groups, partners, and as individuals. Greater focus on pronunciation and oral proficiency become areas of emphasis. This class offers the next step for students hoping to communicate effectively in the Spanish speaking world.

Spanish IV - Honors

1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish III and instructor's approval

Spanish IV Honors is the fourth course in the sequence in preparing students for the Advanced Placement Test. Grammar, reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills are covered at an accelerated pace. Students will do research and presentations on various cultural topics. These projects and presentations will be completed in groups, partners, and as individuals. Greater focus is put on pronunciation and oral proficiency, as well as more emphasis on listening and speaking skills. The classroom experience will provide an appreciation and development of cultural awareness through various readings, media resources, and authentic materials. Students should be able to turn the skills and knowledge acquired in the classroom into a functional experience that can be used to excel by communicating effectively in the Spanish speaking world.

AP® Spanish Language and Culture (Spanish V)

1 credit

Prerequisite: Spanish IV Honors and instructor's approval

The AP Spanish Language and Culture course takes a holistic approach to language proficiency and recognizes the complex interrelatedness of comprehension and comprehensibility, vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. Students will learn language structures in context and use them to convey meaning. The instructional focus is on function and not the examination of irregularity and complex grammatical paradigms about the target language. Language structures will be addressed because they serve the communicative task and not as an end goal unto themselves. The AP Spanish Language and Culture course strives to promote both fluency and accuracy in language use and not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught in the target language. The three modes of communication (interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational) are foundational to the AP course, and students are expected to demonstrate proficiency of the three modes in the intermediate to pre-advanced range. Students who complete this course are expected to take the Advanced Placement Exam for college credit. College credit is dependent on the AP test score.

MISCELLANEOUS COURSES

Introduction to Criminal Justice System [Dual Credit Course with Waubonsee Community College] (CRJ1010)

1 ACC pass/fail credit and 4 semester hours of college credit through Aurora University
Junior/Senior Level

This course explores the administration of criminal justice in the U.S. with a general overview of the total system. Students will explore the role of the police, criminal courts and corrections while learning about the increasing number of careers available within criminal justice. Students also will be expected to conduct “field experiences” of their choice to better explore the broad field and multidisciplinary nature of criminal justice.

The 2022-23 section of this course will take place here at ACC, but by a Waubonsee professor. There is a cost of \$98 per credit hour (\$294 total). This is at a reduced rate.

Driver’s Education

No Credit

Prerequisite: Qualifying age

The State of Illinois provides two Driver’s Education courses for Aurora Central Catholic students through the local public school district (*viz.*, West Aurora). Classes are offered once in the Fall Term and later in the Spring Term. The successful completion of this course satisfies all the State of Illinois requirements necessary to obtain a driver’s license. Eligible students must be sixteen years old by June 30th of the school year in which enrollment occurs. Class enrollment is determined based on age as well as the successful completion of a qualifying exercise.

Community College Courses

1 credit

Prerequisite: Approval of a counselor

Students may earn both high school and college credit at Waubonsee Community College or one of the other local community colleges. One three (3) hour course at a community college is equivalent to one (1) high school credit. High school credit will not be earned for community college courses that are offered at Aurora Central Catholic.

Aurora Central Catholic High School

Four Year Educational Plan

<u>Freshman Year</u> Theology I English I Math Science World History or Geography P.E./Computer Literacy Elective 1 Elective 2	<u>Sophomore Year</u> Theology II English II Math Science P.E./Health Elective 1 Elective 2 Elective 3
<u>Junior Year</u> Theology III English III Math Science American History Elective 1 Elective 2 Elective 3	<u>Senior Year</u> Theology IV English IV Consumer Economics/Political Science Elective 1 Elective 2 Elective 3 Elective 4 Elective 5

- A minimum of **28 credit hours** are required for graduation from Aurora Central Catholic High School.