



The Mercy Academy  
of  
Saint Joseph Regional School  
Projected Program of Studies  
2020-2021

# **Fostering Kind, Thoughtful, Joyful Souls**

Saint Joseph Regional School is a Catholic school welcoming families of all faiths from the Monadnock area. Our faith-based school program promotes high academic standards and positive self-esteem, encourages personal responsibility and public service, and instills a sense of community.

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## Purpose of the Program of Studies

The purpose of the Program of Studies is to assist you and your child in making educational decisions that will ensure participating in the appropriate program and ensuring graduation on time. The information in this guide is designed to help students and parents with the selection of courses for ninth through twelfth grades. Students should study this publication and consult with their parents, school counselors, and teachers in planning their individual program of study. School counselors can help with planning by analyzing test scores and records of past achievements and by discussing current interests and long-term goals. School counselors also have up-to-date information available about various training programs, schools, colleges, universities, and employment possibilities.

## Graduation Requirements

The *minimum* graduation requirements are:

- 8 required Humanities Credits: Humanities I, II, III, IV
- 4 required Math Credits that must include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II
- 4 required Science Credits that must include Biology, Chemistry, and Environmental Science
- 4 required Theology Credits
- 4 required Mercy Project Credits
- 1 required Physical Education Credit: PE I, PE II
- ½ required Health Credit
- 2 required Foreign Language Credits
- 2 required Fine Arts Credits
- 2.5 elective credits chosen by the student

Total number of required credits: 32

### Promotion Policies

Promotion to the next grade is based on the total cumulative number (units) of credits earned by a student at the end of the school year. They are:

From Grade 9 – 10	8 credits
From Grade 10 – 11	16 credits
From Grade 11 – 12	24 credits

## Grading Scale

LETTER GRADE	NUMBER RANGE	GPA	AP COURSES
A +	100-98	4.0	5.0
A	97-95	4.0	5.0
A-	94-92	3.7	4.7
B+	91-89	3.3	4.3
B	88-86	3.0	4.0
B-	85-83	2.7	3.7
C+	82-80	2.3	3.3
C	79-77	2.0	3.0
C-	76-74	1.7	2.7
D+	73-71	1.3	2.3
D	70-68	1.0	2.0
D-	67-65	.7	1.7
F	64-0	0	0

## Report Cards

All interim progress reports and report cards will be sent to parents by e-mail through Renweb.

## Test Records

Parents have the right to have their child's test score omitted from his/her transcript for the high school credit course. Should parents choose to omit the test record from the transcript the parents should submit a written request to the principal of the high school where the student attends. Questions concerning this option should be directed to your child's counselor.

## Honor Graduates

Graduates with a numerical average of 93.5 and above will be recognized as Honor Graduates. The top ten percent of students in the graduating class will be recognized separately at graduation in alphabetical order. The top graduates will be further recognized through the following cum laude system:

- 93.5 – 95.9 cum laude
- 96 – 97.9 magna cum laude
- 98 – 100 summa cum laude

# HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM

## General Information

The information in this guide is designed to help students and parents with the selection of courses for ninth through twelfth grades. Students should study this publication and consult with their parents, school counselors, and teachers in planning their individual program of study. School counselors can help with planning by analyzing test scores and records of past achievements and by discussing current interests and long-term goals. School counselors also have up-to-date information available about various training programs, schools, colleges, universities, and employment possibilities.

## Renweb Parent Web

Renweb is a web-based student information system used by Saint Joseph Regional School to maintain student data including attendance, grades, and course information. In order to gain access to Renweb, a parent or guardian must present a picture ID to an authorized school official. At that time a login and password will be assigned. The website to connect to Parent Portal is

## Registration

During registration, students will be given information concerning course selection for the coming year. The information in this guide should be used in planning a program of studies. The courses listed will be offered for the school year only if there is sufficient enrollment and available staff. Grade levels listed for courses indicate the grade(s) in which the course is normally taken. All students will be expected to maintain a full-day schedule of classes in order to meet at least the minimum standards necessary for graduation as mandated by the state of New Hampshire Board of Education.

# ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

## Advanced Placement Courses

An Advanced Placement Course is a college level course taught in the high school context using a standardized course syllabus aligned with the College Board Advanced Placement test for that course. The advanced placement courses are for those students willing to accept the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum. The degree of difficulty, workload, and time required are equivalent to an introductory college course. Students and parents should work closely with counselors to ensure that the four-year plans include the prerequisites and subsequent advanced courses.

Teachers who teach Advanced Placement courses receive specialized training from College Board to ensure preparation to deliver the curriculum. Course syllabi, including content, instructional materials, and activities are suggested by College Board and are designed to prepare students for the optional AP exams at the end of each course. Earning qualifying scores on such exams *may* result in college credits being granted in those subject areas. However, this decision is made by the individual college.

## EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Extended Learning Opportunities provide multiple ways for students to learn outside of the classroom and achieve credit towards High School Graduation. These personalized learning opportunities are founded on student interest and need, and are planned in advance, and include rigorous content. They offer authentic opportunities for students to collaborate with a Certified Teacher and/or a community partner to demonstrate competencies outside of a traditional classroom.

ELO's may take many forms, including independent study, private instruction, performing groups, and internships. ELO's are generated by student interest or need. Extended Learning Opportunities include four components: Research Reflection, Product and Presentation. Assessment is based on achievement and demonstration of High School Competencies.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

The following pages describe Mercy Academy course offerings. Course selection patterns may affect course offerings. Students registered for a class with an enrollment too small or too large are notified by the school counselor and given the opportunity to make another course selection.

## LIBERAL ARTS

Humanities is a year-long course that fulfills both the English and History requirement at Mercy Academy. Each Humanities Course is designed to parallel works of literature with historical time periods and philosophies.

### ***Humanities I***

*2 Credits; Year Long*

This course examines the relationship between the individual and society in a selection of literary texts spanning from Ancient World History up to the Renaissance in Europe. Students study texts in translation. Selected readings may include: Homer's *Odyssey*, the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, the Ancient Indian *Mahabharata*, Saint Augustine's *Confessions*, Confucius' *Analects*, Plato's *Dialogues* among many others.

Humanities I will focus on a study of ancient cultures from the earliest written records through the end of the middle ages, with particular attention to the interaction between humans and their environment and the relationship of philosophy to the development of territories and states.

### ***Humanities II***

*2 Credits; Year Long*

This course continues where Humanities I ended (The Renaissance) and continues chronologically through history with a focus on European History. Students will investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes throughout the world up to and including the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Literary selections will include the works of Shakespeare, Swift, De Bergerac, Milton, Basho, Moliere, Austen, among many others.

### ***Humanities III***

*2 Credits; Year Long*

This course will focus on the political, social, cultural, and philosophical history of America from its foundations in the 16<sup>th</sup> century through the Civil War. Students will also study the history of Native Americans and their cultures. Authors and philosophers will include Jefferson, Paine, Franklin, Emerson, Poe, Hawthorne, Melville, Stowe among others.

### ***Humanities IV***

*2 Credits; Year Long*

This course will continue where Humanities III ended, focusing on the time period following the Civil War to the Present Day. Authors and philosophers will be pulled from a wide variety of cultures, decades, and genres.

### ***Psychology***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Focused on the fundamental facts and principles of psychology, it explores the broader context of contemporary personal and social concerns, including the latest research and medical breakthroughs by neuroscientists in understanding the functions, mapping, and healing of the human brain. The topics covered will also enhance the students' awareness of personality and behavior, group dynamics, learning styles, multiple intelligences, and the impact and treatment of such disorders as depression, autism, and attention deficit hyperactive disorder.

### ***Sociology***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This course introduces the scientific study of human society, culture, and social interactions. Topics include socialization, research methods, diversity and inequality, cooperation and conflict, social change, social institutions, and organizations. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of sociological concepts as they apply to the interplay among individuals, groups, and societies.

### ***Introduction to Film***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This one-semester course will introduce an appreciation of film, exploring the varieties of film experience, and the ways of viewing. Students will learn about the basic cinematic techniques and structures, including mise-en-scene and montage, use of cinematic time and space, the image, soundtrack, and the script. Consideration will also be given to analyzing the fundamentals of film production, directing, acting, and editing; how the elements of the production process are analyzed separately, then brought together to show how they create the emotional and intellectual impact of the film experience.

### ***College Composition***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

In this course, students learn to write clearly and effectively for defined audiences through a variety of strategies. Emphasis is on the writing process from prewriting through drafting, revising, and editing. Students become aware of the variety of strategies, behaviors, habits, and attitudes and choose those that help them improve. Writing nonfiction from personal experience and observation as well as from library and electronic sources, students gain confidence and learn basic writing principles.

# MATHEMATICS

## ***Algebra I***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

Algebra 1 is a traditional course in elementary algebra with an emphasis on solving problems. The course falls into four basic parts: 1) the four operations on real numbers and their use in the solution of simple equations and related problems; 2) polynomials, factoring, and fractions, leading to the solution of more complicated problems; 3) inequalities, functions and relations, and systems of open sentences; and 4) irrational numbers and quadratic functions and equations. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

## ***Geometry***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

This course is an in-depth exploration of the concepts of Euclidean plane and 3-dimensional geometry. The course emphasizes deductive reasoning and rigorous proof which are the foundations of higher mathematics. Students are required to understand and use the vocabulary and concepts of geometry. Students will develop deductive and inductive reasoning skills through the writing of proofs and problem solving. Students will practice solving problems and work on various cooperative and independent exercises, and projects in their day-to-day work. Students will complete daily assignments and maintain an organized notebook. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

## ***Algebra II***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

This course is offered to entering freshman who have demonstrated mastery of Algebra 1 content. The course includes in depth analysis of higher degree polynomials; analysis, interpretation and graphing of rational functions, including asymptotic behavior; an in-depth consideration of the conic sections, including transformations. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

## ***Precalculus***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

Precalculus is designed to give a thorough preparation for college Calculus. Most of the course is an analysis of families of functions and relations – polynomials; rational function; radical functions; trigonometric functions, including an intense study of right triangle trigonometry, its applications to vectors, circular functions, and trigonometric identities; logarithmic functions; exponential functions – and their graphs both algebraically and through the graphing calculator, including an introduction to the fundamental aspects of Calculus and an introduction to limits, derivatives, and general curve sketching. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

## **Calculus**

*1 Credit; Semester long*

This course is designed for the student who is interested in pursuing a college major with a strong emphasis in mathematics. In the first part of the course, the elementary properties of functions and their inverses are reviewed, as well as specific types of functions (exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric). Subsequently, the student is introduced to the concepts of limits and continuity; differentiation and its applications to problems of extreme and related rates of change; anti differentiation and its application to the solution of differential equations; definite integrals and their application to finding areas, volumes, and length of curves. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

## **AP Calculus**

*1 Credit; Semester long*

AP Calculus is meant for the student who is interested in pursuing a college major with a strong emphasis in mathematics. The course will cover three main topics of Calculus: limits, derivatives, and integrals. The course will emphasize a multi-representational approach to calculus with concepts and solutions expressed graphically, numerically, and analytically. The course represents understanding of derivatives, integrals, and limits is a priority, as well as applications of these concepts. In order to develop these concepts, functions and graphs are a fundamental part of this course. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

## **Statistics**

*1 Credit; Semester long*

This course is designed to give students a foundation for further studies in math while emphasizing preparation for majors in psychology, sociology, and other non-calculus fields. The course is intended for students wishing to complete the equivalent of a one-semester non-calculus based college course in statistics and will introduce them to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. A Texas Instruments TI-83 or TI-84 series graphing calculator is required.

# SCIENCE

## **Biology**

*1 Credit; Semester long*

Biology is a life science. This course covers the study of life from its chemical basis to the structure and function of the organism. Areas of study include Scientific Method, Chemistry of Life, Ecology, Cell Structures and Functions, Photosynthesis and Cellular Respiration, Mitosis/Meiosis, DNA, Genetics, Evolution, and the Human Body Systems. This course also aims to develop in students an appreciation for the natural world and our role in its stewardship.

## **Chemistry**

*1 Credit; Semester long*

Chemistry is the scientific study of matter. This course aims to develop students as practicing laboratory scientists who can ask and answer questions of their own about what the world is made of and how and why chemical reactions occur. This course also aims to develop students' conceptual and quantitative understanding of chemical principles. Units of study in this course include the nature of the atom, naming of chemicals and compounds, bonding, the periodic table, reactions and equilibrium, stoichiometry, behavior of gases, acids, bases, and safe laboratory practices.

## ***AP Environmental Science***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

Environmental Science is a life science course in which students will be challenged to develop a knowledge base and demonstrate a mastery of significant environmental issues. Students will investigate local and global events and conditions that impact our planet and will be given the opportunity to enhance their appreciation of Earth's resources and assume or strengthen a lifelong commitment to the care for our fragile planet. Environmental Science will study the relationships between humans, human societies, and their natural and created environments. Topics covered will include ecosystem components and the energy flow within ecosystems, evolution and the development of biodiversity, climate effects on terrestrial and aquatic biodiversity, community ecological structure and the effects on sustainability, and the population dynamics within an ecosystem, survey of environmental problems, their causes, effects, and solutions. Further problems examined include living sustainably, organic and local foods, and fossil fuels.

## ***Physics***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

Physics is the scientific study of the most fundamental laws of nature. This course aims to further develop students' appreciation for and competence in the scientific method. This course also aims to develop students' conceptual and quantitative understanding of physical principles. Students perform experiments to develop proficiency in laboratory technique in applying physical principles to the analysis of experimental data. Units of study in this course include motion, Newton's Laws, collisions, energy, thermodynamics, waves, sound, light, fundamental particles of nature, radioactivity, quantum mechanics, and electricity and magnetism.

## ***AP Biology***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

The AP Biology course is equivalent in content, depth, and complexity to an introductory biology course at the college level. This course is designed to prepare the student to excel on the AP exam offered in May, and follows the AP curriculum closely. AP Biology is an in-depth, content-intensive study of biological principles that allows students the opportunity to engage hands-on in scientific experimentation. Units of study include cell biology, genetics, DNA technology, enzyme catalysis, photosynthesis, ecology, evolution, and physiology. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

## ***AP Chemistry***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

The AP Chemistry course is equivalent in content, depth, and complexity to an introductory chemistry course at the college level. This course is designed to prepare the student to excel on the AP exam offered in May, and follows the AP curriculum closely. AP Chemistry is an in-depth, content-intensive study of chemical principles that allows students the opportunity to engage hands-on in scientific experimentation. Units of study include chemical reactions, modern atomic theory, molecular bonding, hybridization, organic chemistry, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, kinetics, aqueous equilibrium, acids, bases, precipitation, reduction, oxidation, electrochemistry, and nuclear chemistry. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

### ***The Mercy Project***

Part of the students' curriculum is a Year Long class that will be part of their participation in the Mercy Project. The Mercy Project is our interpretation of a Community Service based course in which students will play active roles in both our immediate and extended neighborhoods while embodying the Spirit and values of Jesus Christ.

#### ***Grade 9 - Service***

*1 Credit; Year long*

First Year Students will take Service, where they will study the sociological culture of community, national and global service. Students will organize and participate in events and activities that relate to their studies and interests. This course will be team taught by teachers, clergy, professors, and community servants.

#### ***Grade 10 - Leadership***

*1 Credit; Year long*

Sophomores will study Leadership. In this course, students will learn the psychology and sociology behind leadership, management, and organization, while continuing to develop their personal interest in local, national, and global current events and service opportunities. This course will be team taught by local managers and business owners, city officials, teachers, professors, clergy, and community servants.

#### ***Grade 11 - Business***

*1 Credit; Year long*

Juniors at The Mercy Academy will examine Business. In this course, third year students will learn the workings of accounting, fundraising, credit, and law with regards to participation in the formation of their own Non-Profit Organization that is geared toward service. This course will be team taught by business owners, financial advisors, teachers, professors, clergy, and other experts.

#### ***Grade 12 – The Mercy Project***

*1 Credit; Year long*

In the first semester of their final year, seniors will put their business into Action, culminating in a local presentation of their progress in the service area of their expertise. This project will include an advisor and will be taught in an independent study.

## **THEOLOGY & RELIGION**

#### ***Foundations of Catholicism***

*1 Credit; Year long*

*Grade 09*

The course is designed to provide a foundation of Catholic Christianity. It allows the students to open themselves to God's gift of faith so that it becomes real and meaningful. The course promotes both an intellectual understanding and a spiritual appreciation for the Catholic faith. The course is divided into three components: Word, an examination of Scripture and the Formation of Catholic doctrine; Worship, an exploration of each of the seven sacraments and the summit of worship, the liturgy; and Witness, a discussion of the advantages of establishing good moral habits in order to enhance positive decision-making skills. Finally, students will discover a positive portrayal of love and life within the context of vocation and lifestyles.

### ***Bible/Scriptures***

*1 Credit; Year long*

*Grade 10*

This course provides an overview of Sacred Scripture based on Catholic principles for understanding and interpretation of the Bible. The course highlights the theme of covenant as it draws a path through Salvation History. The different books of the Bible and important events in biblical history are examined to reveal the parts they play in Salvation History and in our world today. Using the narrative approach to reading the Bible, we will focus on the story of salvation history and the theme of God's Covenant relationship with His people beginning with the book of Genesis. Although this semester will focus on the Old Testament, the unity of the Old and New Testaments will be emphasized. Students will see how the mediators of God's covenant with humanity (Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses and David in particular) were "types" of Christ. Students will also gain an appreciation of how the covenants of the Old Testament were perfected and fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Second Semester Focus: The second semester of this Scriptures course will focus on the New Testament. The heart of this course will be the examination of the Incarnation of the Son of God, His life and ministry; His suffering, death, resurrection and ascension (ie. the Paschal Mystery) through a cohesive study both of the Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) and the Gospel of John. Students will also gain an appreciation of the birth of the Catholic Church at Pentecost and its early life through the Acts of the Apostles.

### ***Catholicism***

*1 Credit; Year long*

*Grade 11*

Based on Sacred Scripture and The Catechism of the Catholic Church, this course covers the principles of faith and what it means to be Catholic. Students will discuss the relationship between reason and faith, the mystery of the Trinity, and the structure of the Church. The seven Sacraments as encounters with God's grace, the prayers of the Church, and more specifically the Eucharistic Liturgy as the most important prayer of the Church will serve to highlight the importance of the Catholic Church community as a people of God.

### ***Ethics***

*1 Credit; Year long*

*Grade 12*

Ethics is the study that deals with what is right and wrong, goodness and evil in light of action. We will examine questions proper to ethics: What is happiness? What makes a deed right or wrong? What is human fulfillment? Is there a rational basis for human action? What is human freedom? How does ethics relate to the community? We will reflect on these and other key questions by examining the ideas of Plato, Aristotle, Augustine, Thomas Aquinas, Thomas Hobbes, Immanuel Kant, John Stuart Mills and Friederich Nietzsche. Special attention will be paid to the following ethical concerns: cultural and individualistic relativism, subjectivism, determinism, rationality, and freedom. Finally, we will discuss the role which religion—and Catholic Christianity in particular—play in contemporary ethical debates.

## ***Art I***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This course is a "hands-on" class designed to develop skills in design and composition, a variety of drawing styles, and acrylic painting. Students will receive instruction in a variety of media and will be required to use each of them in the creation of original work. The study of historical examples will be a springboard for the student's creative expression. No previous drawing skills are required to take this class; just come with an open mind!

## ***Art II***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This course is geared to the student who wishes to continue with art in a more challenging direction, but it will still maintain the same level of fun and exploration as Foundations of Art, emphasis is placed on a variety of mediums and techniques. Students will explore drawing, watercolor painting, collage, scratchboard, and sculpture (without clay) to just name a few. Also, independent sketchbook work is required outside of class.

## ***Painting***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

An introduction to the transparent media of watercolor painting, opaque acrylic painting and other paint media. Major emphasis is on experiencing a variety of techniques and creating composition through observation.

## ***Graphic Design***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This course is designed to acquaint students with concepts in the art of graphic design from logo development and messaging to introductory exercises and rendering in Photoshop. Students will use Adobe Illustrator and Adobe Photoshop as the mediums in rendering creative solutions to different digital challenges.

## ***Pottery***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This course is an introduction to pottery making and clay sculpture. Various decorating techniques and glazing will be taught. Students will learn of the diversity of the Ceramic Arts as they study artists both past and present. They will learn how the pottery of other cultures has influenced the creation of contemporary ceramics.

## ***Chorus***

*1 Credit; Year long*

This full credit course will focus on the development of basic vocal skills in a group setting. Students participate in chorus for a full year. Students will explore various styles of vocal music including traditional, popular, blues, rocks, jazz, etc. Rehearsal techniques will be presented, with an emphasis on the development of the vocal ensemble for the purpose of school and/or public performance. Students will also learn basic music reading skills, harmony and theory as it applies to vocal performance. Other music skills that will be developed include part-singing, pitch control, rhythm dictation, breathing, musical interpretation, phrasing and enunciation. Chorus students should be prepared to participate in all public performances. Chorus also serves as the core of our music ministry singers.

### ***Band***

*1 Credit; Year long*

This performance-based class will give students the opportunity to experience ensemble playing in concert band style. Emphasis will be placed on both individual proficiency and ensemble sound. Students may take this course more than one year. Students will perform a variety of musical genres including pop, classical and contemporary music. Students will learn the concepts of sound, blend, intonation, reading, phrasing and other performance considerations. Students will be expected to participate in various school and public appearances. Students are required to provide their own instruments.

### ***Instrumentation***

*1 Credit; Year long*

This year long course is designed for those students who would like to focus their study on a playing specific instrument. Upon completion, students should be able to install, maintain, and tune instrumentation.

## HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### ***Physical Education***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

Physical literacy is the ability, confidence, and desire to be physically active for life. This class encourages these concepts and emphasizes lifelong fitness practices while also providing opportunity for involvement in game play. Personal fitness principles and concepts are introduced and practiced throughout the semester during activities in the gymnasium as well as the outdoors. In addition, strategies, tactics, and concepts necessary for participation in games will be explored. Extended learning is essential in meeting curriculum goals and may include activities ranging from weekly logs to health and fitness projects.

### ***Health***

*.5 Credits; Semester long*

This course will help students acquire an understanding of health concepts and skills to apply when making healthy decisions to improve, sustain, and promote personal, family, and community health. The goal is to increase health literacy to recognize, apply knowledge and skills to enhance personal health and the health of others. A skills-based approach is the practice for this course. Topics, including though not limited to, mental health, substance abuse, consumer health and family life will be explored in this comprehensive curriculum.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGES

### ***French I***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

Level I French focuses on students' communicative competence in French and their understanding of the cultures) of French-speaking countries. In level I French classes, students learn to communicate in real-life context about topics that are meaningful to them. French I concentrates on the development of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is placed on the use of French in the classroom as exclusively as possible and on the use of authentic materials to learn about the language and the culture. An important component of French classes is the use of the French language beyond the classroom in order to apply knowledge of the language in the real world. In many cases, this is accomplished through the integration of technology in the classroom.

### ***French II***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

In French II, students continue to develop their proficiency in the three modes of communicative competence: interacting with other speakers of French, understanding oral and written messages in French, and making oral and written presentations. They are exposed to more complex features of the French language. They continue to focus on communicating about their immediate world and daily life. Emphasis continues to be placed on the use of French in the classroom as well as on the use of authentic materials to learn about the culture.

### ***French III***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

In French III, students continue to develop their proficiency in the three modes of communicative competence. They communicate using more complex structures in French on a variety of topics, including some of an abstract nature, such as social rights and responsibilities. They comprehend the main ideas of authentic materials that they read and hear and are able to identify significant details when the topics are familiar. French is used almost exclusively in the class as students develop the ability to discuss topics related to historical and contemporary events and issues.

### ***French IV***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

In French IV, students continue to develop their communicative and cultural competence, understanding oral and written texts, and making oral and written presentations in French. They are able to exchange and support opinions on a variety of topics related to historical and contemporary events. They comprehend spoken and written French texts from a variety of authentic sources as well as produce compositions containing well-developed ideas on various topics. Students compare and contrast everyday situations with those of our own culture. Additional emphasis is placed on appropriate verbal and non-verbal behaviors. Students will focus on global understanding of the language, will increase accuracy and appropriateness of oral communication, with emphasis on creativity, will examine authentic materials and explore various literary genres, and will refine their creative expression. Students are strongly encouraged to explore individual interest areas in depth and share these interests with the class.

### ***Latin 1***

*1 Credit; Semester long*

This course introduces the students to the basics of Latin language and contributions of Roman civilization to the Western World. Students will demonstrate a mastery of both Latin and English grammar, recognize English derivatives from Latin words and explore various aspects of Roman history, art, and culture. They will make cue cards to develop vocabulary and will submit projects and translations which illustrate the contributions made to Western civilization by the Greeks and Romans.

### ***Spanish I***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

Level I Spanish focuses on students' communicative competence in Spanish and their understanding of the cultures of Spain and other Hispanic countries. In level I Spanish classes, students learn to communicate in real-life context about topics that are meaningful to them. Spanish I concentrates on the development of the four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Emphasis is placed on use of Spanish in the classroom as exclusively as possible and on use of authentic materials to learn about the language and culture. An important component of Spanish classes is the use of the Spanish language beyond the classroom in order to apply knowledge of the language in the real world. In many cases, this is accomplished through the integration of technology into the classroom.

### ***Spanish II***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

In Spanish II, students continue to develop their proficiency in the three modes of communicative competence; interacting with other speakers of Spanish, understanding oral and written messages in Spanish, and making oral and written presentations. They are exposed to more complex features of the Spanish language. They continue to focus on communicating about their immediate world and daily life. Emphasis continues to be placed on the use of Spanish in the classroom as well as on the use of authentic materials to learn about the culture.

### ***Spanish III***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

In Spanish III, students continue to develop their proficiency in the three modes of communicative competence. They communicate using more complex structures in Spanish on a variety of topics, including some of an abstract nature. They comprehend the main ideas of authentic materials that they read and hear and are able to identify significant details when the topics are familiar. Spanish is used almost exclusively in the class as students develop the ability to discuss topics related to historical and contemporary events and issues.

### ***Spanish IV***

*1 Credit; Semester Long*

In Spanish IV, students continue to develop their communicative and cultural competence, understanding oral and written texts, and making oral and written presentations in Spanish. They are able to exchange and support opinions on a variety of topics related to historical and contemporary events. They comprehend spoken and written Spanish texts from a variety of authentic sources as well as produce compositions containing well-developed ideas on various topics. Students compare and contrast everyday situations with those of our own culture.

\*This Program of Studies for the Mercy Academy of Saint Joseph Regional School was freely adapted from Catholic High Schools' curriculum across the United States.

\*\*This Program of Studies is currently (as of 10/18/18) a work in progress and may be adapted or changed based on educational needs and variables.