

# **Trenton Catholic Academy At McCorristin Campus**

## **Upper School Course Offerings and Requirements**



Accredited by Middle States Association

**2009 – 2010**

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# Trenton Catholic Academy

## Mission Statement

*The mission of Trenton Catholic Academy is to educate a diverse pre-K to 12 student body to be responsible citizens of a global society through challenging and relevant curriculum centered in Catholic traditions and values.*

### ACCREDITATION

Trenton Catholic Academy is fully accredited by the Middle States Association and the Diocese of Trenton.

### CURRICULUM GUIDE

Students are expected to consult with their guidance counselors, teachers and parents before selecting courses. Courses should be chosen with college and career goals in mind.

Some courses require prerequisites for admission. No student will be admitted into a course without these prerequisites. Placement is based on past performance, not on a promise of future improvement. The master schedule is constructed in the spring; therefore, qualifying grades for a course are those from the first semester of the previous school year.

Serious consideration should be given to course selection because decisions about the courses offered are based on your selection. Requests for changes after the master schedule is in place may not be accommodated and/or will incur a fee.

This booklet contains brief descriptions of each course offered at Trenton Catholic Academy.

## Credits

Five (5) credits are awarded for each subject held five times a week for a full year. Semester courses receive 2.50 credits. For some courses meeting more or less often, the credits are adjusted accordingly. Science classes with an extra lab period receive 6 credits.

Requirements for GRADUATION are as follows:

Religious Studies . . . . .	4 years
Retreat . . . . .	one per year
Service Requirements. . . . .	90 hours
Freshmen Community Service. . . . .	20 hours
Sophomore Community Service. . . . .	20 hours
Junior Community Service. . . . .	25 hours
Senior Community Service. . . . .	25 hours
English . . . . .	4 years
Physical Education and Health . . . . .	3 years
Social Studies . . . . .	3 years
Mathematics . . . . .	3 years
Science . . . . .	3 years
World Language. . . . .	2 years
*Elective Courses. . . . .	up to 7 courses

\*Depending on the level of classes taken throughout the four years, a student may require up to seven (7) elective courses, one of which must be a Fine and/or Practical Art course.

Trenton Catholic Academy requires that all students schedule seven (7) major subjects.

## College Credits

Students may earn college credit while at Trenton Catholic Academy in two ways:

- Advanced Placement Credits: Students who score a grade of three or above in the Advanced Placement Test may be eligible for college credits at many four-year colleges. Students should check with college advisors for the college's Advanced Placement Testing Policy. Any student may register to take the Advanced Placement Tests administered in the Spring.
- MCCC Credits: In an agreement with Mercer County Community College, certain courses offered at Mercer County Community College will earn credit. Students should check with their guidance counselor for a list of these courses.

### **Academic/Core Units**

Four-year colleges usually require sixteen academic units for entrance. These may be courses in English, Mathematics, World Language, Science or Social Studies. For each “academic” course passed, a student earns one academic “unit”. A minimum of four academic units should be taken each year.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT Prepares selected students to take Advanced Placement Examinations. These are college level courses offered in accordance with the Advanced Placement Program.

HONORS Courses for the exceptional and industrious student who gives evidence of interest and ability and definitely plans to attend a four-year college.

LEVEL ONE Courses for the average and highly motivated student who intends to pursue higher education after secondary school.

LEVEL TWO Courses for the student of average ability who intend to go on to higher education or post-high school training.

### **Religious Education and Religious Services**

Non-Catholic students are welcome at Trenton Catholic Academy. Non-Catholic students are expected to understand and agree that the school exists to educate in the framework of Catholic values and tradition. Non-Catholic students must participate in the religion classes, liturgical services, and daily prayer scheduled during the school year.

### **Scheduling of Courses**

It is very important to schedule courses by March 15<sup>th</sup>. This determines the number of classes of each course and which classes will run for the following year. Any class (except for conflicts) changed after August 15<sup>th</sup> will incur a course change fee of \$75.00. Requests for changes after Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> may not be honored.

## **Honor Roll**

The Honor Roll for the school year is calculated for each marking period, according to the following standards:

1. **HONORS WITH DISTINCTION:** a student must earn an average of 95 with no rounding and no grade lower than a 90.
2. **FIRST HONORS:** a student must earn an average of 90 with no rounding and no grade lower than an 85
3. **SECOND HONORS:** a student must earn an average of 85 with no rounding and no grade lower than 80.
4. **ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION:** a student's GPA must increase by 5 points from the previous quarter. This recognition will be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter.

## **Rank in Class**

Class rank is computed once a year for Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors. Senior rank is computed at the end of the seventh semester. Points are granted according to the difficulty of the subject matter (course level offerings). It is a cumulative ranking. Students may obtain their rank in the Guidance Office. Trenton Catholic Academy offers a rank optional policy for college applications.

PASSING GRADES – 70 to 100 inclusive    FAILING GRADE – 69 and below

## **Quality Points and GPA**

Courses are grouped by level of difficulty: Advanced, Honors, Level 1 and Level 2. A student's grade point average (GPA) is calculated according to the formula:

$$\text{GPA} = \frac{\text{Total Quality Points}}{\text{Credits Attempted}}$$

### **Quality Point Table**

Advanced Courses - Students grade x .045  
Honors Courses – Students grade x .040  
Level 1 Courses – Student's grade x .035  
Level 2 Courses – Student's grade x .030

Note: Quality points are not given if a student fails a course.

## National Honor Society

Trenton Catholic Academy has established the McCorristin Chapter of the National Honor Society. Membership in this prestigious organization “is an honor bestowed upon a student” who exhibits outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Students who meet the specific criteria suggested by the National Office are invited to become members. Students may not apply for membership. Membership is granted only to those students selected by the faculty council who base their selection on the following:

### **Membership**

- Membership is open to sophomores and juniors
- The minimum cumulative grade point average is 90%
- The academic requirement set by the National Council is based on a student’s cumulative grade point average with a specific prerequisite number of academic courses.
  - Being enrolled in a minimum 2 honors courses and 4 Level 1 courses for each year in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Vo –Tech students must be enrolled in one academic course at Honors level and must maintain an “A” average in Vo-Tech School.
- Students who meet the academic requirements are notified and must complete a Student Activity Information Profile.
- The faculty submits recommendations on each student rating each candidate on character, leadership and service.
- A faculty council consisting of five teachers with voting privileges and the Chapter advisor, a non-voting member, reviews all information about each candidate and votes on each. Candidates receiving a majority vote of the Faculty Council may be invited to become members of the Chapter.

Students who hope to be nominated for membership are strongly encouraged to actively demonstrate their leadership skills, give numerous examples of service and always show good, positive character, both in the classroom and outside the classroom in the school community. *Although the academic criteria is important and is considered first, candidates are also evaluated on their performance in the areas of leadership, service and character.*

Students who accept the invitation to become members must maintain the qualities of scholarship, service, leadership and character by which they were selected.

The McCorristin Chapter specifically requires its members to:

- maintain the minimum cumulative grade point average of 90% or above for each marking period of membership;
- complete 60 hours of service to the school, community or church for each year of membership;
- pay \$10.00 dues for each year of membership.

A member who does not maintain these requirements is subject to probation or dismissal from the National Honor Society.

Members in good standing are eligible to apply for a National Honor Society Scholarship during the Senior year, receive special recognition at graduation, and may attend any National Honor Society functions.

**ANY QUALIFIED STUDENT MAY BE ADMITTED TO THE NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY. NO ONE WILL BE EXCLUDED ON THE BASIS OF RACE, SEX, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.**

# ART DEPARTMENT

## **INTRO TO FINE ART – Level 1**

**1.25 credits**

This mini course introduces ninth grade students to the elements of art and the principles of design. Focus on various media for two and three- dimensional art will be discussed as will careers in art. Experimentation with various media will be encouraged. This course will help the student to decide if he or she would like to pursue the fine arts. Students must participate in a field trip to a local art museum.

Grade: 9

## **FINE ART 1 (Two-dimensional Art) – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course concentrates on the elements of art and the principles of design. It focuses mainly on two-dimensional studies using such mediums as graphite, charcoal, conte' crayon, pencil and ink, pastels, watercolor, acrylic, collage and printmaking. An introduction to the three-dimensional media explored in Fine Art 2 will be presented. Drawing instruction will be emphasized. A field trip to a museum and career related activities are organized for the serious art student.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

## **FINE ART 2 – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course is designed for the student to build on the two-dimensional skills learned in Fine Art 1 and for the exploration of three-dimensional medium such as clay, wire, fiber, mask making, and jewelry. Advanced drawing and painting techniques will also be explored. Students are required to attend a field trip to an art museum.

**Prerequisite: Fine Art 1**

Grades: 10, 11, 12

## **FINE ART 3 - Honors**

**5 credits**

This course will allow the student freedom to select an area of personal interest. The instructor will serve as a resource person for those students interested in pursuing an art career. Projects completed in class may be used as portfolio preparation for college applications. Students must be highly motivated and willing to work independently. Evaluation will be based on the quality and number of projects completed. Students are strongly encouraged to attend a field trip to an art museum. In previous years, the class has visited the Princeton Art Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the Philadelphia Art Museum.

**Prerequisites: Fine Art 2 and Teacher Recommendation**

Grades: 11, 12

## **FINE ART 4 - Honors**

**5 credits**

This course is an independent study class. Students continue work on their portfolio for application to art school. Students must complete 15 to 20 of their best portfolio pieces by the end of December. Art schools require portfolio samples to be presented in slide form at the time of application.

**Prerequisite: Fine Art 3 and Teacher Recommendation**

Grade: 12

**HISTORY OF THE CREATIVE ARTS-PART ONE – Level 1                      2.5 credits**

This elective traces human development through the arts and humanities including the visual arts, music and literature. This combined lecture and “hands on” course introduces students to some of the mediums used by people throughout the ages beginning with the prehistoric period and continuing through the Renaissance. Students are strongly encouraged to attend a field trip to an art museum. In previous years, the class has visited The Princeton Art Museum, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and The Philadelphia Art Museum.

Grades: 11, 12

**HISTORY OF THE CREATIVE ARTS-PART TWO – Level 1    2.5 credits**

This elective traces human development through the arts and humanities including the visual arts, music and literature. This combined lecture and “hands on” course introduces students to some of the mediums used by people throughout the ages beginning with the Protestant Reformation and Baroque periods and continuing through modern times. Students are strongly encouraged to attend a field trip to an art museum, such as the Princeton University Art Museum.

Grades: 11, 12



# BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

## **COMPUTER FUNDAMENTALS – Level 1**

**1.25 credits**

This interdisciplinary freshman course meets for one quarter, covering topics such as keyboarding, parts of the computer, saving to disk, formatting reports and letters, use of multiple documents and multiple software. It implements the English Department Style Sheet. The proper method of approaching Internet research is also taught.

Grade: 9

## **COMPUTER APPLICATIONS 1 – Level 1**

**5 credits**

Students use computer software to learn basic keyboarding skills and learn to key personal and business letters and envelopes, memoranda, tables, and short reports with acceptable speed and accuracy. They are introduced to Microsoft Access, Excel, and Power Point, as well as, gaining an in-depth knowledge of Microsoft Word.

Grades: 10, 11, 12

## **PERSONAL FINANCE – Level 1**

**1.25 credits**

This senior elective quarter course covers topics such as checking accounts, saving accounts, and other savings vehicles, as well as, interpreting stock market reports. The course delves into issues such as renting vs. buying a home, car purchases, establishing good credit and how to effectively use credit, investing for the future and the importance of thrift.

Grades: 12

## **ACCOUNTING 1 – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

Basic elements of accounting concepts and theory in record keeping, journals, ledgers, financial statements, banking, payroll and taxes for service and merchandising businesses. Included in this semester course is an introduction to the use of accounting spreadsheets in Excel.

Grades: 11, 12

## **MARKETING/ETHICS – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

Sales and marketing is such an significant arena in job placement today, it is important that students know about all the different forms of marketing including e-commerce, retail, wholesale, international marketing among others. Some specific areas of interest in marketing are pricing policies, consumer behavior, competition and advertising. In addition to marketing, the student will be learning to make responsible and mature moral decisions through instruction in business ethics.

# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

## **LITERARY TYPES - Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course features intense study of grammar, correct usage, and the development of writing skills to prepare students for the variety of written assignments that they will be required to submit throughout high school. Literature consists of exposure to the major literary genres. Course work also includes the study of vocabulary, study skills, and a unit on research skills to enhance their abilities in the area of information literacy.

Grade: 9

## **ENGLISH 1 – Level 2**

**5 credits**

This course emphasizes reading skills and vocabulary development to improve reading comprehension. Students are exposed to a variety of literary genres. Careful reading and participation in class discussions will help develop critical thinking and writing skills. A unit on study skills and essay writing completes the course work.

Grade: 9

## **WRITING SKILLS – Level 2**

**5 Credits**

The study of grammar and correct usage will correlate with the teaching of writing techniques for composing basic paragraphs. A unit on research skills is included in the course work. Intensive instruction in all of the language arts should improve the skills necessary for success in high school courses.

Grade: 9

## **HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE - Honors**

**5 credits**

This course traces the development of American literature and language from the 1600's to the present day. This study includes the summer reading of two selections of American Literature and the reading of two more American novels during the school year. Students continue to improve grammar, correct usage, and vocabulary through the writing of the multi-paragraph essay, with particular emphasis on the research paper.

**Prerequisite: 90 in Literary Types.**

Grade: 10

### **AMERICAN LITERATURE – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This sophomore English course covers this country’s heritage in American literature from the Colonial Period to the Twentieth Century. To strengthen English skills, this course includes vocabulary building, the writing of the multi-paragraph essay as well as drill in the basics of grammar and correct usage.

**Prerequisite: 75 in Literary Types; 90+ in English 1**

Grade: 10

### **ENGLISH 2 – Level 2**

**5 credits**

This course continues to emphasize basic reading skills for better comprehension. Vocabulary development continues throughout the course. The study of grammar and correct usage correlates with teaching of skills for composing basic paragraph types. This course follows a chronological approach to the study of American Literature.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 1**

Grade: 10

### **HONORS BRITISH LITERATURE - Honors**

**5 credits**

This course features a chronological study of British literature as well as the study of several British novels and plays. To prepare for the AP World Literature course and for college writing, students write literary analysis and criticism papers. Students read two novels and complete book critiques during the summer preceding the course.

**Prerequisite: 85+ in Honors American Literature; 90+ in American Literature**

Grade: 11

### **BRITISH LITERATURE – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course traces the development of English literature and language from the Anglo-Saxon Period to the Twentieth Century. This study will include the reading of two British novels. Students continue to improve grammar, correct usage, and vocabulary through the writing of multi-paragraph essay, with special emphasis on the research paper.

**Prerequisite: 75+ in American Literature; 90+ in English 2**

Grade: 11

### **ENGLISH 3 – Level 2**

**5 credits**

This course reinforces basic reading skills. It traces the development of English literature and language from the Anglo-Saxon Period to the Twentieth Century. Students discover a wide selection of genres composed by a variety of authors. Literature-based activities teach skills in all areas of language arts as well as in critical thinking, writing and speaking. This course also concentrates on reinforcing basic writing and research skills. Instruction is provided on the preparation of cover letters and job applications. The study of grammar, correct usage and vocabulary continues.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of English 2**

Grade: 11

## **COMMUNICATION ARTS – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This one semester course consists of units in public speaking, journal writing, and creative writing; i.e. poetry, short story and the one-act play.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Honors English 2 or 3; or English 2 or 3; and submission of writing samples.**

Grades: 11, 12

## **Public Speaking - Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This semester course focuses on the skills necessary to be an effective communicator. Included among many activities are guidelines for introductions, suggestions for building self- esteem, and strategies for developing competence in group communication. Students also write and deliver various types of speeches.

Grades: 11, 12

## **AP WORLD LITERATURE - Advanced**

**5 credits**

To prepare students to take the College Board Advanced Placement Examination in Literature and Composition, this course focuses on the study of masterpieces of world literature. The class emphasizes critical thinking, speaking, and writing skills. At the same time as students are studying selections of challenging world literature; they are also working on strategies to perform well on the examination. During both semesters, students write in a variety of rhetorical modes. Also, students respond to essays that have appeared on previous AP Examinations. Students read extensively and complete four research and/or critical analysis papers during the summer preceding this course. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Literature and Composition.

**Prerequisite: Department Recommendation.**

Grade: 12

## **WORLD LITERATURE – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course explores selections of world literature using a country and/or continent approach. The study begins with African Literacy Tradition, continues through literature of the Ancient Middle East, the literature of Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome, India, China, Japan, Eastern Europe, and concludes with twentieth century selections in literature from the Americas. Review of correct usage and development of vocabulary are included. To prepare for college writing, students review and strengthen composition skills as they gain experience in a variety of rhetorical modes.

**Prerequisite: 75+ in British Literature; 90+ in English 3**

Grade: 12

## **AFRICAN AMERICAN LITERATURE – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This elective introduces students to the wealth of ethnic literature written by classic as well as by contemporary African American authors. To demonstrate the uniqueness yet commonalities of cultures, the course will cover universal themes. A thematic approach includes short stories, nonfiction, poetry and one-act plays. Students will respond in writing and in class discussions on topics that relate the literary works to current , relevant issues.

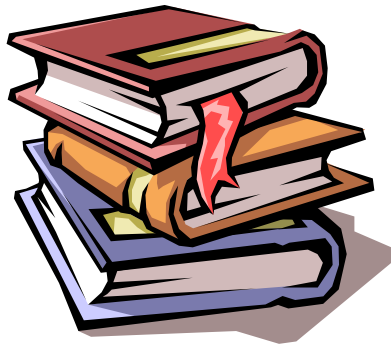
Grades 11, 12

## **HISPANIC AMERICAN LITERATURE – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This elective introduces students to the wealth of ethnic literature written by classic as well as by contemporary Hispanic American authors. To demonstrate the uniqueness yet commonalities of cultures, the course will cover universal themes. A thematic approach includes short stories, nonfiction, poetry and one-act plays. Students will respond in writing and in class discussions on topics that relate the literary works to current , relevant issues.

Grades 11, 12



# GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

The following non-credit mini courses will be integrated throughout the students' curriculum.

## STUDY SKILLS

This one-quarter course focuses on study habits, time management, note taking skills and test taking strategies.

Grade: 9

## CAREER GOALS

This one-quarter course focuses on such topics as interest inventory testing, value assessments and information about the latest careers. This course assists the student in selecting elective courses for grade 11 and 12 as well as in beginning to develop career goals.

Grade: 10

## COLLEGE PREPARATION and READINESS – Level 1

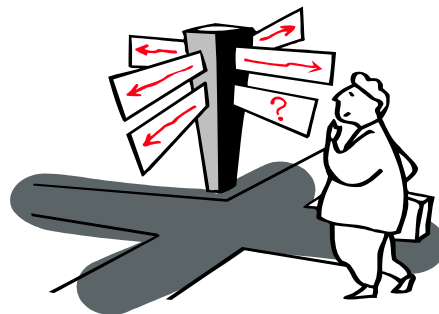
**1.25 credits**

In this quarter class, seniors will have the opportunity to learn about the college application process, including the following: how to request letters of recommendation, register for the SAT or ACT, complete a personalized search for colleges, and help to determine a college major. Students will also learn important college terminology, and how to compare colleges to each other in order to make an informed decision for their future.

Grade 12

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

The guidance department also offers a variety of additional services to our students. These include but not limited to: Field trips to local colleges, applying for scholarships and tuition grants, and scheduling meeting with college representatives regarding programs available at their schools.



# MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

## **ALGEBRA 1-Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course is designed to help students understand the basic structure and language of Algebra. It places emphasis on fundamental mathematical processes and the real number system as well as the techniques of Algebra. This course aims to help students acquire a facility in applying algebraic concepts and skills.

Grades: 9

## **ALGEBRA 1A – Level 2**

**5 credits**

This course is designed to reinforce the student's ability and aptitude in working with whole numbers, fractions and decimals as they move to broad topics of Algebra I. These topics include properties of real numbers, polynomials and fractions, solving linear equations, problem solving and their applications.

Grade: 9

## **HONORS GEOMETRY- Honors**

**5 credits**

This course is designed for students who have successfully completed Honors Algebra. The regular Geometry curriculum content is taught but is accelerated and enriched. The course acquaints students with valuable techniques of logical reasoning and provides a field for creative thinking.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1 and teacher recommendation**

Grades: 9, 10

## **GEOMETRY - Level 1**

**5 credits**

By application of definition, Euclidean theorems and postulates, geometry exposes students, through the process of deductive reasoning, to the proof of key mathematical concepts involving two and three-dimensional figures. In-depth coverage of geometrical ideas places increased emphasis on inductive reasoning and individual discovery.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1.**

Grade: 10

## **INFORMAL GEOMETRY – Level 2**

**5 credits**

Geometry concepts are introduced informally and intuitively rather than through vigorous proofs of geometry theorems. The logical progression of the course will enable students to assimilate material easily and to develop problem-solving skills.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra 1A**

Grade 10

**HONORS ALGEBRA 2/TRIG - Honors****5 credits**

This course provides a rich preparation for advanced courses in mathematics. The study of the real number system, polynomials, relations, functions, higher degree equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry and complex numbers are included in this course.

**Prerequisite: Honors Algebra 1 and Department Approval**

Grade: 11

**ALGEBRA 2 - Level 1****5 credits**

The basics of Algebra 1 are reviewed and the students are presented with more advanced concepts of the subject. Topics include problem solving, properties and operations of the real and complex number systems and the solution of linear, quadratic, polynomial, radical equations. Additional work is covered with systems of equations and real life applications.

**Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Department Approval**

Grade: 11

**GEOMETRY B – Level 2****2.5 credits**

This course is a continuation of Geometry A. Geometry concepts are introduced informally and intuitively rather than through vigorous proofs of geometry theorems. The logical progression of the course will enable students to assimilate material easily and to develop problem-solving skills.

**Prerequisites: Successful completion of Geometry 1A**

Grade 11 – Semester 1

**INTEGRATED MATHEMATICS - Level 2****2.5 credits**

This semester course includes a thorough review of algebraic and geometric concepts and problem solving.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Algebra and Geometry.**

Grade: 11 – Semester 2

**TRIGONOMETRY AND ELEMENTARY ANALYSIS - Honors****5 credits**

This course provides a basic preparation for college courses. It assists the students in expanding and in enriching their mathematical experiences. The study of trigonometric functions, identities, formulas, graphs, as well as circular functions and their inverses and complex numbers are covered. Matrices, vectors, sequences and series and other topics may be included depending on the needs of the students.

**Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Department Approval**

Grade: 12

**HONORS CALCULUS - Honors****5 credits**

This course emphasizes the study of limits, differentiation of algebraic functions and applications of derivatives to maxima and minima. Integration, as the limit of summation is applied to area, volume, and other practical problems. The course closely follows the Advanced Placement Calculus AB syllabus.

**Prerequisite: 80+ in Honors Algebra2/Trig****Grade 12**

# PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION – Level 1**

**5 credits per year**

The Physical Education program is sequentially geared in scope and progression to individual and team activities. Skills, fitness and recreational lifetime activities are taught. Emphasis is placed on growth and development as well as appreciation and participation.

## **DRIVER EDUCATION – Level 1**

This course is taught during the sophomore year in addition to Health. It stresses the theory of good driving procedures based on attitude, knowledge of state laws, and acceptance of the responsibility of driving. The New Jersey State written test for the driving permit is also administered.

Grade: 10

## **HEALTH EDUCATION – Level 1**

The Health Education Program aims to promote optimum health and wellness and focuses on the positive aspects of health. Relevant health concepts include mental and physical growth and development, substance abuse concentrating on drugs, alcohol and tobacco, sex education, A.I.D.S. education, stress management, first aid and nutrition. Topics are presented at the most appropriate developmental levels and in response to the needs of the students and demands of society. Current health problems and topics are presented as needed.

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

## **SPORTS MEDICINE & SPORTS INJURY MANAGEMENT – Level 1 2.5 credits**

Sports Medicine is designed for students interested in fields such as athletic training, physical therapy, medicine, fitness, physiology of exercise, kinesiology, nutrition, and other sports medicine fields. The course includes class work and practical hands-on application in the following areas: prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of sports injuries, taping and wrapping of injuries, first aid/CPR, emergency procedures, nutrition, sports psychology, anatomy and physiology, fitness/conditioning/strength programs and sports medicine careers. The course offers practical experiences with local sports medicine specialists. The Sports Medicine course is designed to be taken in conjunction with the Sports Medicine Practicum (expanded practical experience).

**Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation in the form of a signature on the course selection sheet and department chair approval.**

Grades: 11, 12

## **PERSONAL FITNESS – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This course covers the fundamental and current topics in physical fitness, diet and stress. The program encourages students to develop an individual optimum level of fitness, to acquire knowledge of physical fitness concepts, and to understand the significance of lifestyle in one's health and fitness. Student-centered practical application labs such as a two-mile run, weight lifting and aerobics are required portions of the curriculum.

**Prerequisite: Minimum 80% or above in last physical education course and teacher recommendation in the form of a signature on the course selection sheet.**

Grades: 11, 12

# RELIGION DEPARTMENT

All levels of study foster the students' personal growth in faith, participation in the Church's liturgical and sacramental life, and concern for justice and peace in the world.

## **FAITH AND MORALITY – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course is designed to look at beliefs, practices and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church and their relationship to our basic Christian morality. During their freshmen year, students grow in their awareness of Christ's love. They learn how to respond to His love through prayer, reflection, moral decision making and membership in the Church community. They also experience what it means to be a disciple of Jesus in the service of others.

The specific requirement of the Christian Service Program for freshmen is that they keep a journal according to class instruction, that they assist in class projects for the needy, and that each semester they give 10 hours of supervised volunteer service to family, school and/or Church.

Grade: 9

## **SCRIPTURE – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course focuses on the Scriptures as God's invitation to a covenant relationship. Students explore the major themes of both the Hebrew and the Christian Scriptures in light of recent Scripture scholarship. Special attention is paid to the Torah and the Prophets in the Old Testament and to the Gospels and the Letters in the New Testament

The specific requirement of the Christian Service Program for sophomores is that they keep a journal according to class instruction, that they assist in class projects for the needy, and that each semester they give 10 hours of supervised volunteer service to family, school and/or Church.

Grade 10

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

Students examine contemporary social, economic and political national and international issues in light of the Gospel and of the teachings of the Catholic Church. They research selected topics and then apply methods of social and moral analysis to determine a Christian response.

The specific requirement of the Christian Service Program for first semester Juniors is that they engage in fifteen (15) hours of service to a non-profit organization or institution, and write two letters to legislators regarding a peace or justice issue.

Grade: 11

### **BIOETHICS - Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

Students explore the ethical and moral questions that arise as a result of current developments in technology, medicine, and biology. They examine these developments in light of Gospel values and Church teachings on the sacredness of human life. Special attention is given to those issues surrounding both the beginning and the end of human life.

The specific requirement of the Christian Service program for the second semester Juniors is that they engage in ten (10) hours of service to a non-profit organization, write two letters to legislators regarding a bioethics issue, and write a two page paper reflecting on their experience of service to the community.

Grade: 11

### **WORLD RELIGIONS – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This course examines the world's great religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Judaism, Sikhism, Christianity and Islam. Students explore the rituals, basic beliefs, and ethics of each religion. In addition, student groups investigate and present to the class other religious traditions.

The specific requirement of the Christian Service Program for first semester Seniors is that they engage in 25 hours of service to a non-profit organization and write a two page paper reflecting on their experience.

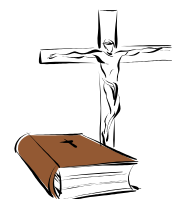
Grade 12

### **CHRISTIAN LIFE STYLES/VOCATIONS – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

Students explore the vocational choices that await them after high school: the single life, the married state, and the consecrated religious state. Within each of these life choices students examine issues of love, self-esteem, relationships, and commitment. Marriage and parenting receive special attention.

There is no Christian service requirement for second semester seniors, other than completion of the first semester requirement.



# SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

## **BIOLOGY – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course develops an appreciation for the complexities and unity among living organisms. Topics covered include: the systems of the body, cell structure and function, genetics, evolution, animal classification and ecology. Emphasis is placed on the human species and their interrelationships with other species.

Grade: 9, 10

## **INTEGRATED SCIENCE 1- Level 2**

**5 credits**

Students integrate the study of topics from biology, chemistry, physics, and earth science. This approach gives the students a fundamental understanding of how various sciences are related and their application to daily life.

Grades: 9, 10

## **INTEGRATED SCIENCE 2- Level 2**

**5 credits**

This second year course integrates the various disciplines of science. The students relate science principles to daily applications in everyday life and see how the various sciences are interrelated. A hands-on approach helps students better understand the concepts presented.

Grades: 10, 11

## **HONORS CHEMISTRY- Honors**

**6 credits with extra lab period**

A course designed to give students an in-depth study of fundamental math-based chemical concepts and laboratory techniques. Students study a wide range of inorganic chemical principles.

**Prerequisites: Algebra 1 and Department Approval**

Grades: 10, 11

## **CHEMISTRY – Level 1**

**6 credits with extra lab period**

This course is designed to develop understanding and lab skills in fundamental chemical concepts beginning with matter and progressing through typical chemistry topics. Chemistry assumes a working knowledge of Algebra 1 and problem solving skills.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1**

Grades: 10, 11

## **HONORS PHYSICS - Honors**

**6 credits with extra lab period**

Students study matter and energy in logical sequence that enables them to achieve maximum comprehension of physics concepts. Students perform laboratory experiments dealing with force and motion, energy, optics, and electricity.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1, Geometry and Department Approval**

Grades: 11, 12

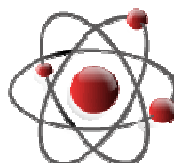
### **PHYSICS – Level 1**

**6 credits with extra lab period**

This course is designed to acquaint students with the methods and ideas used by scientists to describe the physical world. With emphasis on laboratory investigations, basic principles of motion, forces, energy, optics, and light, electricity, magnetism and atomic physics are taught.

**Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry**

Grades: 11, 12



### **ASTRONOMY – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This course investigates current topics dealing with space. Our solar system, various galaxies, and the space program are among various topics studied. Emphasis is placed on recent knowledge gained by technology used in the space program.

Grades 11, 12

### **GEOSCIENCE- Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

Students learn the relevancy of geology, environmental studies and meteorology to modern issues. This course emphasizes the connection between classroom information and the contemporary world in alignment with the National Science Standards.

Grades 11, 12

### **ADVANCED BIOLOGY - Advanced**

**6 credits with extra lab period**

This is an in-depth, college level course that studies living systems. Topics cover cell structure, genetics, physiology, comparative anatomy, energy processes, homeostatic mechanisms, evolution and ecological interactions. .

**Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry and Department Approval**

Grades: 11, 12

### **FORENSICS - Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This course teaches students how evaluate physical evidence by using standard scientific procedures to gather and analyze data. This multidisciplinary course incorporates knowledge from a variety of science fields. Writing is an important part of the course as students analyze case studies and communicate findings in lab reports.

**Prerequisite: At least a “C” average in both biology and chemistry and concurrently or have taken physics.**

Grades: 11, 12

**ANATOMY AND HEALTH – Level 1**

**2.5 credits**

This course is designed for students who wish to expand their knowledge of the structure and function of the human body by studying the skeletal, muscular, nervous, circulatory, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, endocrine, and reproductive systems. An analysis of organ systems and their relationships to each other is stressed along with current health topics of on each system.

Grades 11,12

**LAB ASSISTANT - Honors**

**5 credits**

Individual students learn the proper procedures of preparing solutions, maintaining an inventory of chemicals and equipment and lab maintenance. Students are chosen by review of individual application submitted to the science chairperson. Space is limited.

Grade: 12



# SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

## **WORLD HISTORY - Level 1**

**5 credits**

Trace development of humankind from prehistoric times to the modern period using a thematic approach. The classical, medieval, renaissance and enlightenment periods are explored in light of the cultural and political events which shaped the times. Non-western cultures are addressed as they influenced the developing cultures of Western Europe. Current events are intermingled to make interesting connections between past and present. Writing skills, independent research, and map skills are emphasized to develop critical thinking skills. Computer technology and “hands on” projects keep this class interesting and fast paced. Cross-curricular connections are made with religion and English.

Grade: 9

## **HONORS U.S. HISTORY 1 - Honors**

**5 credits**

This course examines the history of the U.S. from its earliest inhabitants through the reconstruction period after the Civil War. A thematic approach carries the students through the colonial period and the establishment of our Republic with an emphasis on primary and secondary source materials. Analytical and interpretive essay writing is developed as well as map, chart and graph interpretation.

**Prerequisites: 90+ in World History**

Grade: 10

## **U.S. HISTORY 1 – Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course examines the history of the U.S. from its earliest inhabitants through the Reconstruction after the Civil War. Our colonial heritage and the establishment of our federal system of government are explored as well as various trends in our cultural development. A variety of audio-visual, computer technology and research is used to present an exciting look at our nation’s past. Map skills, charts and graphs are also emphasized along with current events.

Grade: 10

## **HONORS U.S. HISTORY 2- Honors**

**5 credits**

This course provides an intense examination of the development of our nation from westward expansion through both World Wars and into the modern era. A thematic approach to the major political and cultural trends that shaped our nation allows students to analyze current trends and events in a more meaningful way. Analytical writing skills, critical thinking and research are emphasized.

**Prerequisites: 85+ in Honors U.S. History 1**

Grade: 11

**U.S. HISTORY 2 – Level 1****5 credits**

This course looks at the development of our nation from the period of westward expansion through both World Wars and into the modern age. Recurring political and social issues and trends are identified and looked at through a variety of audio-visual, computer technology and map, chart and graph interpretation. Current events add to the ability to make connections between our nation's past and present.

Grade: 11

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT U.S. HISTORY - Advanced****5 credits**

This accelerated curriculum is a general narrative of U.S. history from the original colonial settlements to the present. The focus is on historical interpretation of primary and secondary source documents and an emphasis on analytical and interpretive essay writing. Students will analyze U.S. history from a thematic perspective to determine trends and recurring issues and challenges. This course satisfies the U.S. History 2 requirement and may qualify students for college credit. The Advanced Placement test of the College Board is required.

**Prerequisites: 85+ in Honors History; 95+ in previous U.S. History I course, teacher recommendation and writing sample**

Grade: 12

**TWENTIETH CENTURY WORLD – Level 1****2.5 credits**

This “hands on” elective blends world geography and current events in a meaningful way. Students will explore the contemporary issues that continue to shape our world. The emergence of a global economy and community will be explored, using map skills, charts, graphs and computer technology.

**Prerequisites: Department Approval**

Grades: 11, 12

**SOCIOLOGY – Level 1****2.5 credits**

. This course studies relevant contemporary issues related to family, education and health, and poses interesting questions regarding our continued quest to take our place in the world community. This one semester course uses independent research, discussion, graph and chart interpretation, and computer technology to add diversity to the class.

**Prerequisites: 80+ in previous Social Studies courses or Department Approval**

Grades: 11, 12

**PSYCHOLOGY – Level 1****2.5 credits**

This course studies various aspects of the behavioral sciences. Students look into different aspects of human nature and unlock the mystery that surrounds human behavior. Using a combination of lecture, research, discussion, and a variety of methods present the students with challenging data about themselves and others.

**Prerequisites: 80+ in previous Social Studies courses or Department Approval**

Grades: 11, 12

**ECONOMICS- Level 1****2.5 credits**

Students examine the economic systems of other nations while taking an in-depth look at that of the United States. Topics covered include demand, supply, financing a business, government and the U.S. economy, money and financial institutions and the U.S. work force. Special emphasis will be placed on interviewing skills and career research. Students are assisted with this endeavor by an outside business consultant as well as the classroom teacher.

**Prerequisites: First Semester Only and Department Approval Required**

Grade: 12

**SENIOR INTERNSHIP – Level 1****10 credits**

This internship enables qualified students to spend a full semester interning part-time five days per week with a sponsor correlated to the intern's talents, goals and career choice.

**Prerequisites: Economics or another administration approved first semester elective. Course is offered second semester only and department approval is required. Student must provide own transportation.**

Grade: 12

**LAW – Level 1****2.5 credits**

Law is a one-semester course designed to provide a comprehensive overview of the major area of the American legal system. Students study the history, philosophy and organization of our legal system. Students will be required to demonstrate their knowledge of the law in a variety of ways. This course gives students information to meet the usual legal questions that may arise in present and future life.

Grades 11, 12

**GLOBAL ISSUES – Level 1****2.5 credits**

This senior semester elective covers topics such as Middle East issues, the politics of energy, and international trade and our economy. The course will delve into global issues of the day and how they impact all of us here in the USA. Strategies to deal with some of the issues will be discussed.

Grade 12



# WORLD LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

## **SPANISH 1- Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course is an introduction to various beginning Spanish skills. Students acquire the foundation for speaking and understanding the language through choral and individual practice and vocabulary development. Students are also be introduced to Hispanic culture and begin learning the skills of reading and writing.

Grades: 9, 10, 11

## **SPANISH 2- Level 1**

**5 credits**

This course reviews the skills learned in Spanish 1, followed by a continuation of further development of the four communicative skills for mastering Spanish: i.e. understanding, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary building is an essential element of the course. In the process, students also learn about various aspects of Hispanic culture. Emphasis in this course is on the understanding and speaking the language along with the acquisition of action vocabulary.

**Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 1**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

## **SPANISH 3- Honors**

**5 credits**

This course reviews the skills learned in Spanish 2, followed by a continuation of learning the four basic skills, while incorporating elements of culture. Spanish 3 places greater emphasis on mastering skills of reading and writing and learning more complex grammatical structures. Students are introduced to short stories in the target language.

**Prerequisite: 80+ in Spanish 2 or equivalent level of proficiency**

Grades: 10, 11, 12

## **SPANISH 4- Honors**

**5 credits**

This course reviews the skills learned in the first three levels and then focuses on acquiring a higher level of proficiency in speaking and understanding conversational Spanish. Students also learn advanced grammatical concepts, read excerpts of authentic materials, write guided compositions, engage in creative, mini dialogues and present oral reports. Integrated into the course are lessons on culture, geography and history.

**Prerequisite: 80+ in Spanish 3 or equivalent level of proficiency**

Grades: 11, 12

**HOLA!**

**FRENCH 1- Level 1 (Offered on-line to upper classmen) 5 credits**

This course is an introduction to elementary French. Students acquire the foundation for speaking and understanding the language through choral and individual practice of oral French and vocabulary development. Students also are introduced to French culture and begin learning the skills of reading and writing.

Grades: 11, 12

**GERMAN 1 - Level 1 (Offered on-line to upper classmen) 5 credits**

In this course students learn to speak and understand German. They also learn to read and comprehend dialogues in German and write responses in German. Students acquire cultural knowledge about German speaking countries.

Grades: 11, 12



**AP On-Line Courses**

Trenton Catholic Academy offers seniors the opportunity to take AP courses on –line that are not offered by the school. The number of spots available is limited. Courses will be offered to students on a first come – first served basis and will be determined by the re-registration date of the student.

# **Trenton Catholic Academy**

## **Vocational Technical Program**

In partnership with community schools and businesses, the Mercer County Technical Schools offer the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for career success in the technological world. Shared-time, half-day programs in career preparation are available in over thirty high tech areas. Students also receive instruction in interviewing, job search techniques and attitude necessary for obtaining and keeping a job. Help is available in career counseling, technical education and job placement.

### **HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

- Secondary students enroll in a technical program of their choice in the junior year and attend the school from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. Students return to their home school for lunch and remaining academic classes.
- Returning secondary students complete their program by attending the technical school after lunch from 12:45 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Post secondary students may enroll in half day or full day program.

### **GRADUATION CREDIT**

- Up to 20 High School Credits
- A “*Certificate of Proficiency*” in job entry skills.
- Mercer County College Credit

### **CERTIFICATIONS and/or PROFESSIONAL LICENSING**

*Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Institute of America, ARI, GAMA*

*American Association of Medical Assistants*

*American Design Drafting Association*

*American Red Cross CPR and First Aid Certification*

*American Society of Phlebotomy Technicians, ASPT*

*American Welding Society*

*Automotive Services Excellence, ASE*

*Consumer Electronic Manufacturing Association, CEMA*

*Cosmetology License*

*Electronic Industry Association, EIA*

*Emergency Medical Dispatcher*

*Emergency Medical Technician, EMT*

*Fire Fighter I*

*Licensed Practical Nurse*

*Certified Nurses’ Aide*

*National Automotive Technical Education Foundation, NATEF*

*Printing Industries of America, PIA*

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Free of charge from the home school to the technical center.

