



Pope John Paul II High School

Be not afraid to seek the splendor of truth and to live the Gospel of life.

Vision and Mission

- **Vision:** The Vision of this twenty-first century Catholic school will continually be inspired by the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the work of professional educators who keep, first and foremost, the spiritual and educational needs of the global learner. The learning environment will be adaptable to research, will make use of the best practices of education, and will prepare each student to successfully navigate the world of their future.
- **Mission:** Pope John Paul II High School forms Catholic students to be full and practicing members of the Church; is a center of evangelization that calls all to live fully the message of Jesus Christ; and is a center of academic excellence rigorously preparing students to be contributing members of the global community.

Profile of a Graduate

The intention of the four year high school program at Pope John Paul II High School is to prepare and shape each student for a lifetime of success and contribution in an ever changing world. The qualities of the graduate characterize the type of individual who can live as a “Person for Others”. This person is: catechetically formed, open to growth, intellectually prepared, relational and committed to a just and service-oriented lifestyle.

The movement from childhood toward adulthood involves physical, emotional, intellectual, and spiritual development. During the four years prior to graduation, the student experiences both successes and disappointments, which in turn teaches the student to accept the responsibility of maturity. They begin to realize the complexity of the adult world. Despite the inner turmoil of these developing years, the graduate looks out on the adult world with a growing desire to enter that world and to understand those complexities. Although still on the threshold of adulthood, the graduate is able to face a given situation, understand the responsibility and consequences, and make a decision reasonably, intelligently and ethically.

Academic Information

The Office of Catholic Education of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia has established minimum standards for graduation from all archdiocesan secondary schools. In accordance with these standards, Pope John Paul II High School maintains an academic program which includes these required courses.

- 000 **Theology:** four required courses
- 100 **English:** four required courses
- 200 **Social Studies:** three required courses
- 300 **Mathematics:** three required courses
- 400 **Science:** three required courses
- 600 **Technology:** one required course
- 700 **Health:** one required course
- 700 **Physical Education:** one required course
- 700 **Fine Arts:** one required course

Graduation Requirements

Pope John Paul II High School will award a diploma to students for the successful completion of the prescribed course of studies. The minimum requirements are 24.0 credits in grades 9 through 12, they are as follows:

- 4.0 credits Theology
- 4.0 credits English
- 3.0 credits Social Studies
- 3.0 credits Mathematics
- 3.0 credits Science
- 0.5 credits Computer
- 0.5 credits Health
- 0.5 credits Physical Education
- 0.5 credits Fine Arts
- 5.0 credits Electives
- 1.00 credits Christian Service

Freshmen and Sophomores are required to take seven credits each year. Juniors and Seniors are required to take six credits each year. Juniors and Seniors may register for a seventh credit with the approval of the Office of Academic Affairs, and in the event that their schedule permits the overload.

Entrance into elective courses is subject to departmental approval and available space. Students are placed in elective courses according to the date of their registration for the school year in which the course is offered. Elective courses are offered based on the number of students requesting the course at the time of course selection. While individual circumstances may suggest deviation from the standard program, students generally follow the following outline for course work each academic year.

Required and Elective Courses

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Required:** Theology 1, Literary Genres/Composition 1, Understanding Your World, Mathematics (Algebra 1 or Geometry), Science (Honors Biology or Physical Science), Technology, Foundations in English
- Electives:** Instrumental Music, Vocal, Studio Art, Related Arts, Language or Study Skills

SOPHOMORE YEAR

- Required:** Theology 2, World Literature/Composition 2, World History, and Mathematics (Geometry or Algebra 2), Science (Biology or Chemistry), Physical Education/Health
- Electives:** Instrumental Music, Vocal, Studio Art 2, Language or Study Skills

JUNIOR YEAR -- Required to take 6 courses

- Required:** Theology 3, American Literature/Composition 3, American History, Mathematics (Algebra 2 or Trig/Pre-calculus), Science (Chemistry, Physics or Environmental Science)
- Electives:** One or two electives

SENIOR YEAR – Required to take 6 courses

- Required:** Theology 4, Language and Literature for the 21st Century
- Electives:** 4 or 5 electives

Ability Programs

Accelerated/Honors Program and Academic Program

Each student's academic performance is carefully analyzed to determine the appropriate program for the individual. It is possible for a student to be in both programs depending on his/her abilities in varied disciplines.

In addition to the two programs, a unique course of study is offered at the Advanced Placement level in some disciplines. Please review more specifics in the Advanced Placement section of this catalogue.

Assignment of the upper-class students to the programs is made by the current teachers after the first semester assessments, prior to the course registration process. Program placement is re-evaluated each year, and the re-assignment is based on the student's individual development within the assigned program. In general, students requesting consideration for placement in the Accel/Honors program for the following year need to be performing at a level of 90 or above in the Academic program. Further, students performing at a level below 85 in the Accel/Honors program may be recommended for the Academic program.

The final decision about student placement is the responsibility of the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs. Both the classroom teachers and the Office of Academic Affairs invest extraordinary care in making program recommendations and decisions for each student. Therefore, program assignments are ordinarily not reevaluated once the school year has begun.

Ninth-Grade Placement Process

At the time of registration, each incoming freshman has an opportunity to indicate World Language preference—Spanish, French, or Italian. Theology, English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies are all required courses for freshmen. The Office for Academic Affairs, working with the department chairs and the elementary schools, places each freshman in a Ability Program for each of these subjects.

Placement of freshman students is the result of several factors, which are incorporated into a computerized formula. The basis for our placement begins with the *seventh grade final marks, the eighth grade first trimester marks*, and the results of the 7th grade *Terra Nova Standardized Test*. Each academic department at Pope John Paul II weighs these marks and scores to develop an index intended to predict the success the student may experience in that department.

For example, the English Department emphasizes the English, Reading and Spelling marks from seventh and eighth grades, as well as the standardized test scores showing vocabulary and reading comprehension, language mechanics and expression, spelling and study skills. Other departments may consider different variables. Thus a student's English index might differ from the Math index, so the Academic Program for those two subjects could be different.

Pope John Paul II highly regards parental input in the placement process. We believe you know your son/daughter's ability and are a valuable resource for the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.

Course Selection for the Upper-class Students

In February, freshmen, sophomores, and juniors begin the course selection process for the following year. Each student receives a copy of the Course Selection Booklet (which lists the course offerings). An individualized Course Selection Sheet will be posted on Grade Connect. On this sheet are the required courses and electives recommended by the school in light of the student's academic performance to date. For example, the Science course reflects the Program recommended by the school; the electives listed are based on the courses already taken by the student.

Parents are expected to be actively involved in this process. If the courses desired appear on Grade Connect no further permissions from the school is required. Once the registration fee is paid the student prints the form and both parent(s) and student sign and return the form with the finance receipt to the Academic Affairs Office.

To register for a course not on Grade Connect, or to take a course listed but in a different Program, requires an Exception Form. These forms are available from the Academic Affairs Office, and require parent and student signatures as well as signature of the Chairperson of the course department.

Students who register after the deadline often lose opportunities to take elective courses, since priority is given to those who register on time.

Cluster Electives

New at Pope John Paul II are Cluster Electives. These classes run for one quarter each and are designed to offer students the opportunity to experience four (4) courses in a variety of fields. Some possibilities include: Print Journalism, American Law and the 21st Century Citizen, Alice, Microbiology, etc.. Students are expected to take the 4 courses at the cluster period. For the 2011 Academic Year we will only be able to run the most popular Cluster Electives.

Rosetta Stone

Rosetta Stone On-line Program will be offered to juniors and seniors who wish to study any of 25 possible languages not taught at Pope John Paul II. This program also will be available to students who have a roster conflict and are unable to take a language taught at Pope John Paul II.

Scheduling Conflicts

Should a student choose a course for which he/she is under qualified or overqualified, the school administration reserves the right to make adjustments to the roster. The administration also reserves the right to cancel any course or to merge a two program offering into one, if insufficient numbers of students enroll for a course or if qualified personnel are not available for the next school year. Every reasonable effort will be made to discuss such adjustments with all concerned before finalizing the roster. However, if such efforts prove fruitless, the decision will be made at the discretion of the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs.

Course Changes

All courses and programs for the academic year are selected by the student and approved by parents during the spring of the previous year. For this reason, courses (including electives) are not changed, added or dropped in September. In exceptional cases and for valid reasons the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs permits limited roster changes the last week in August. At the end of the first cycle of classes (six class days), the roster conflict and change process is concluded. The steps in the roster change process are meant to ensure that the change is really in the student's best interest, that individual class size and total teacher load are not compromised, and that a "domino effect" is not produced involving course changes or program changes in subjects other than the one requested. Therefore, request for the following reasons are generally unacceptable:

- ❖ Dissatisfaction With a Course/Teacher/Schedule
- ❖ Change of Mind
- ❖ Desire for Early Dismissal/Accommodation for Work Schedule
- ❖ Desire for a Different Lunch or Study Period

During the designated time in August, students may obtain and complete roster review forms. There is a \$25.00 fee for the application, which will be refunded if the change cannot be made. This charge is meant both to emphasize the seriousness with which roster changes should be requested, and to offset the real costs involved—updating the database and producing new rosters for the student and various school offices. The student is notified when the request is approved or denied.

Advanced Placement Program

The College Board sponsors the Advanced Placement Program of study in high schools nationwide. Upon completion of an Advanced Placement (AP) course, students take the Advanced Placement examination in that discipline. At the colleges' discretion, college credits may be earned based on the student's score on the AP exam. These credits may or may not be transferable if the student changes schools in their college years. Students earn one credit toward graduation from Pope John Paul II by successfully completing an AP course.

Every student registered in an AP course must take the "AP Examination" in that discipline in the spring semester. The student's tuition bill is charged before the end of the first semester

Diocesan Scholars Program

In the Spring of Junior year, a select number of superior students at Pope John Paul II are invited to compete for Diocesan Scholars. Candidates for the program take part in a rigorous selection process that includes a review of their high school records, confirming evaluations by members of the faculty, submission of a qualifying essay to the selection board, and a personal interview with the board. Candidates who are recommended through this process to the Office of Catholic Education are assigned a placement at one of the participating colleges. The students take four courses at Pope John Paul II and two courses each semester at the college.

Pope John Paul II Scholars Program

The Pope John Paul II Scholars Program is a unique program that challenges students to achieve success at the highest level of their potential. This program includes:

- ❖ An accelerated program in Mathematics and Science
- ❖ AP courses beginning junior year
- ❖ Qualified students in the Accelerated/honors program may enroll in college courses offered by area colleges during senior year, earning up to 12 college credits

Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Services

Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, offers a program titled Study Strategies. Students whose academic history suggests that they will benefit from these services are registered for this course.

Academic Honesty Policy

Genuine learning depends on an elemental commitment to honesty in the pursuit of knowledge. For this reason, we adhere to a policy of academic honesty that nurtures individual student growth in understanding.

Two forms of academic dishonesty are especially destructive to the learning process: cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating is the deliberate unauthorized use of information or material for the purpose claiming credit for learning that is not one's own. This includes copying or reproducing work accomplished by another; collaborating with another without authorization toward the completion of an assignment or project; using unauthorized aids, especially electronic devices such as calculators, computer programs or files, or internet sources, to assist in the completion of an academic task; or the misrepresentation or fabrication of information in an academic enterprise.

Plagiarism consists of the false representation of the work of another as one's own, and is the failure to acknowledge adequately the sources of information, other than common knowledge, that have been used in the completion of an academic task. Plagiarism includes direct quotation, paraphrase, or the use of ideas or outlines that are not original with the student and which lack appropriate citation and documentation. The standards for appropriate documentation of sources shall be those maintained by the English Department.

The penalty for any act of academic dishonesty may include a grade of "F" for the examination or assignment.

Extended Absence

From time to time, students and their families encounter extraordinary and unavoidable circumstances which require that the student be absent from school for an extended period of time. When a student is to be absent for more than five class days, **it is the responsibility of the student to contact his or her teachers to keep current regarding missed course material.** In the event that a student is unable to contact the teacher, he/she should contact the Academic Affairs Office. **Pope John Paul II strongly discourages the scheduling of vacations during the academic year.**

Progress Reports

Progress Reports are given during each of the four quarters. If the Progress Report states Possible Failure for the Quarter or Semester then a student's quality of work is at the failing point or there is some question as to whether a student's work will be sufficient for a passing grade for the quarter or semester. Progress Reports and/or Failure Warnings can be sent late in the marking period if the student's progress has taken a dramatic change.

Failures

The school follows the Archdiocesan Policy regarding failures. *The passing grade is 70.* **Seniors in danger of failing will be notified by registered mail the first week of May.** Underclassmen will be notified about course failure(s) during special schedules the last week of school. Students who fail for the year must attend On-line Summer School.

Academic Probation

Academic probation is imposed upon any student who has received two or more failing grades. A student with two or more failing grades is suspended from participation in all extra-curricular activities beginning the day report cards are issued until Progress Reports are issued. If the student is passing at the progress report time he/she will be reinstated in the extra-curricular activity.

Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

Pope John Paul II strives to be proactive regarding student success. In order to prevent failure our policy is to conduct Parent-Teacher-Student conferences at Progress Report time. This allows the struggling student to improve before the end of the marking period. These conferences are conducted four times a year a week after the progress report distribution. The dates and times are listed on the official school calendar and on the progress report.

Grading Policies

In the secondary school we adhere to a policy of generating classroom grades by means of testing students on a regular basis in each of the courses in which they are enrolled. In addition to traditional assessment instruments, students complete a summative assessment in each course at the end of each semester.

Numeric grades are reported four times a year, and a report is sent home at the conclusion of each quarter with the student. At the end of each semester the student’s rank in class is calculated, based on the grade earned in each course. Semester grades reflect the student’s performance at each of the two previous quarters and factors in the performance on the semester examination. At the end of the academic year, grades earned in each semester are averaged to create a final grade in each course.

It is the policy of the Office of Catholic Education of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia that no student who makes a reasonable effort shall receive a failing grade.

Class Rank

Class Rank is determined by weighted Quality Point Average, which gives greater “weight” to more difficult courses in the programs. The weighting is accomplished by assigning points to each mark (first semester or final grade) according to the program of the course, as outlined in the following Quality Points Table.

If a student has placed in the top 20% of the class, indication of this accomplishment will be published on the Report Card.

Quality Point Table

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>AP</u>	<u>Ace/Honors</u>	<u>Academic</u>
100	54	48	44
99	53	47	43
98	52	46	42
97	51	45	41
96	50	44	40
95	49	43	39
94	48	42	38
93	47	41	37
92	46	40	36
91	45	39	35
90	44	38	34
89	43	37	33
88	42	36	32
87	41	35	31
86	40	34	30
85	39	33	29
84	38	32	28
83	37	31	27
82	36	30	26
81	35	29	25
80	34	28	24
79	33	27	23
78	32	26	22
77	31	25	21
76	30	24	20
75	29	23	19
74	28	22	18
73	27	21	17
72	26	20	16
71	25	19	15
70	24	18	14
69	23	17	13
68	22	16	12
67	21	15	11
66	20	14	10
65	19	13	9
64	18	12	8
63	17	11	7

62	16	10	6
61	15	9	5
60	14	8	4

Honors

Honors are awarded to recognize achievement in major subjects regardless of the student's course load or Program.

- ❖ First Honors: General Average of 90; no single grade below 85
- ❖ Second Honors: General Average of 85; no grade below 80

Honors are calculated on First Quarter, Second Quarter, Third Quarter, and Fourth Quarter.

THEOLOGY

The primary concern of the Theology Department at Pope John Paul II is to help establish the Kingdom of God in this world and to continue the teaching mission of Jesus Christ which has come down to us from the Apostles. In imitation of the Master Teacher, the members of the Theology Department are dedicated to teaching as He did, which, by necessity, demands personal witness to the Gospel.

The study of Theology is more than the pursuit of an academic discipline. Through the presentation of Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life, students are invited to realize the need for both knowledge of God and a life lived in a faith relationship with Him. In accordance with the teaching of the Fathers of Vatican Council II, the members of the Theology Department aim to "create for the school community an atmosphere enlivened by the Gospel spirit of freedom and charity. It aims to help the adolescent in such a way that the development of his or her own personality will be matched by the growth of the new creation which he or she became in Baptism." (*Gravissimum Educationis*)

Theology 1 Semester One Grade 9

011 Accel/Honors Program

012 Academic Program

The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture

This course gives students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through study of the Bible they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. Students will learn about the Bible, its development and content, and how God is its author. Particular attention will be focused on the Gospels, through which students may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally.

Theology 1 Semester Two Grade 9

011 Accel/Honors Program

012 Academic Program

Who Is Jesus Christ

This course introduces students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God. Students will understand that Jesus, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, is the ultimate Revelation about God, from God. In learning about Jesus, students will also learn about who He calls them to be.

Theology 2 Year Course Grade 10

021 Accel/Honors Program

022 Academic Program

Sacred Scripture

In the first semester, students will explore how God reveals Himself to humanity and how the Canon of Sacred Scripture developed. Different types of Hebrew literature are studied. An examination of Salvation History begins

with Genesis and continues through the writings of the prophets, with special focus on how the Old Testament events and writings find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

The New Testament is the focus of second semester study. Students encounter the person of Jesus as the fulfillment of the divine promise of salvation and redemption, explore the transforming possibility of Incarnation, and are challenged to embrace the Paschal Mystery as a personal vision of the faithful Christian life. Special attention is given to the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles. Overview, of the Epistles and the Book of Revelation are presented and discussed.

Theology 3 Year Course

Grade 11

031 Accel/Honors Program

032 Academic Program

Catholic Morality

This course presents Catholic morality as a personal response to Jesus Christ. It explores grace, sin, forgiveness, conscience and virtue. A practical understanding of the Ten Commandments emphasizes decision making skills needed to make sound judgments about contemporary moral issues. Elements of social justice are discussed within the framework of the Christian call to holiness to be lived out in the context of the human community.

Theology 4 Year Course

Grade 12

041 Accel/Honors Program

042 Academic Program

Church and Vocation

Seniors explore the emergence of contemporary Christian Ecclesiology by means of a thematic approach to the history of the Church. The course studies people of the Church throughout time such as martyrs, mystics, popes, artists, and theologians. Students also will examine the historical development and influence of the Church in North America.

The second semester presents information which young adults need to discern their vocation in the world in order to make a generous, faithful commitment to live out their personal call to Christian holiness. Students will explore the nature of the call to the priesthood, religious life and the single life. Marriage and family are treated extensively, both in their theological and practical dimensions.

Senior Seminar Year Course

Grade 12

046 Academic Program

People of faith and conscience have a duty to respond to events in the world. This course helps students to face the challenges of contemporary society. Issues include: terrorism, religious tolerance (with a focus on Islam), diversity and non-violence, immigration, capital punishment, economic globalization, and bio-technical and environmental issues. The course is discussion based and interactive, requiring personal reflection and independent research. The course is designed to augment, rather than replace, the required senior theology course.

Christian Service Component

All Students

The Christian Service Component requirements for all students:

- ❖ Seniors are required to perform 20 hours per year
- ❖ Juniors are required to perform 16 hours per year
- ❖ Sophomores are required to perform 12 hours per year
- ❖ Freshmen are required to perform 10 hours per year

Community service is a 9th period and receives a Satisfactory “S” or Unsatisfactory “U”.

English

The English Department commits itself to improving academic excellence in thinking, speaking, and writing. This commission is fostered through the emphasis placed on spiritual and moral values as revealed in literature and in debate, and through the mutual recognition of the dignity of all faculty and students in the interchange of ideas, both spoken and written.

The English Department instructional objectives are:

- To heighten student awareness of the need for effective use of language;
- To lead the student to perceive writing as a vehicle for both self-understanding and self-expression;
- To strengthen student ability in self-expression in oral and written modes;
- To further student command of standard conventions in spelling, grammar and punctuation;
- To extend students' range of skills in vocabulary and usage;
- To familiarize students with the range and scope of literary modes and eras;
- To teach students the techniques of personal and scholarly evaluation of literature;
- To foster critical thinking;
- To expand students' skills at library use;
- To simulate students' creativity through imaginative and transactional writing.

Foundations in English and Composition I Year Course

Grade 9

111 Accel/Honors Program

112 Academic Program

Foundations in English is a required class for all ninth grade students, it is designed to help students become critical readers and writers. This course provides students with a foundational understanding of the many literary genres, including short stories, novels, non-fiction, poetry, and epics. This course also serves as an introductory writing course in which students strengthen their understanding of the writing process. Most of the texts read by the students will connect with their other courses; the students will practice active reading strategies along with other strategies that will help them tackle difficult texts. Many of their writing assignments will be given in conjunction with the students' other courses, while others will focus on essential skills necessary for effective writing. Finally, this course will introduce students to the techniques and tools of research and MLA.

World Literature and Composition II Year Course

Grade 10

121 Accel/Honors Program

122 Academic Program

This course is designed to develop awareness of literature as central to human experience; to increase the level of the critical thinking and writing skills of the student; and to broaden understanding of the human condition as central to investigating various world cultures and the talents of their respective authors. Major themes and the analysis of them through the lens of various cultures, authors, and genres are the focus of the course. Students read a variety of texts that relate to other disciplines in order to understand how literature helps one to better understand historical context, national culture and literary influence. Additionally, the course is designed to provide students with further reinforcement of the goals of the freshmen course, while introducing more mature elements of style, including persuasive writing techniques, analysis of text, and MLA documentation of research. Intensive study in organization, style, and usage are major components of the course in order to assist students in gaining mastery of the critical and organizational skills needed for effective writing.

American Literature and Composition III Year Course

Grade 11

131 Accel/Honors Program

132 Academic Program

This course is a chronological survey of American Literature which complements the student's study of U.S. history and other disciplines. The works of major American authors are analyzed and discussed to trace the rise of American Literature, to discover major themes, and to distinguish authors' writing styles. Students learn to analyze texts for author's message and rhetorical function. Strong emphasis is placed on furthering critical thinking, reading strategies, and analysis of literature in preparation for the SAT. In addition, students receive considerable writing instruction that reinforces the learning goals of the freshmen and sophomore courses, while introducing more mature elements of style.

Language and Literature for the 21st Century Citizen Year Course

Grade 12

141 Accel/Honors Program

142 Academic Program

This course examines the significance of language and literature for the 21st century citizen. During the year, each student will strive to answer the question, “Why are literature and literacy essential components of our society?” Students explore both traditional and non-traditional texts from the United States, Great Britain, and other countries around the world. These texts will range from novels to essays, biographies to letters, and Internet writing, including blogs and articles. As part of the learning process, students complete varied types of writing tasks to strengthen analytical abilities and communication skills needed for 21st Century literacy proficiency.

AP English Language Year Course Grade 11

135 AP Program

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

This course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer’s purposes, audience expectations, and subjects as well as the way general conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

AP English Literature Year Course Grade 12

145 AP Program

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

This course engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature. Through the close reading of selected texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As they read, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller-scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone.

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

English Cluster Electives

Who Done It? Discovering the Magic of Mystery/Detective Fiction Grades 11&12

150 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** is designed for students who are interested in reading and studying the classics of mystery/detective fiction. The course encompasses the development of mystery and detective fiction over the past 150 years. Students read representative novels and short stories of the mystery genre. Vocabulary is studied in the context of the literature. Students write a short original mystery as a culminating assignment in this course.

Speak Easy: Skills and Knowledge for Successful Public Speaking Grades 11&12

151 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** is designed for students who have an interest in the public speaking process. Students are given an understanding of all aspects of public speaking with a focus on individualized skill development. Because the class becomes the audience for the speaker, listening skills are an integral component of the course. Students work collaboratively with their peers as they develop their speeches, and both teacher and peer assessment of the oral presentations provide valuable feedback to individual students. Students write and deliver a speech as the final assessment of their learning for this course.

Print Journalism Grades 11&12

152 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** is designed for students who have an interest in the craft of print journalism and who wish to become enlightened media consumers in a democracy. Students learn newspaper terminology and

cooperate in a workshop setting to draft, revise, edit and publish news articles, feature stories, sports stories, opinion columns, reviews, editorials, letters to the editor, humor columns, and advertisements. Students work with desktop publishing programs to practice the principles of modular design.

Shakespeare

Grades 11&12

153 Academic Program

In this **one-quarter cluster elective** literature and discussion course, Shakespeare's comedies, tragedies, and sonnets are examined at an introductory level in relation to the timeless, universal appeal of the works. The plays are reviewed via a range of media: text, film, audio recording, and live performance (as available). Students develop the ability to interpret literature through critical analysis, develop vocabulary related to literary terms, and use internet resources to gain knowledge about Shakespeare's theatre and the Elizabethan Era.

How to Create Print and Electronic Publications for 21st Century Communication

Grades 11&12

154 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** develops students' proficiency in using desktop publishing software to create a variety of printed and electronic publications. Students incorporate journalistic principles in design and layout of publications including integration of text and graphics and use sophisticated hardware and software to develop and create quality materials. Students learn to analyze information and audience to help them choose the appropriate visual signals to communicate the desired message effectively. Applied principles are used to analyze and organize information, set up a design structure, and produce special visual expressions.

Advanced Composition

Grades 11&12

155 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** allows the student to pursue an in-depth study of short story, poetry, feature, and/or editorial writing. Working independently and with other students committed to similar projects, each student must write several compositions each quarter and critique his/ her own work and that of other students. Students will be able to specialize in writing genres that interest them, but they also will be expected to complete writing assignments in other genres. Class topics include editing skills and design principals which students must master.

Cinematic Studies

Grades 11&12

156 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** asks students to view films as a form of literature. Students will examine and analyze selected films from varied time periods and genres. Through their study, the students will gain knowledge of how films reflect, and sometimes share, the culture around them. In addition, the students will learn some aspects of film technology and special effects.

Social Studies

Social Studies is a three (3) year requirement at Pope John Paul II High School. In line with our philosophy, which stresses education in Christian Values as a solid foundation for Christian-American citizenship, the Social Studies department offers courses that explore, among many topics, the development of Christian-Western Civilization, examine the rise of the American nation, and encourage the practice of good citizenship.

Understanding Your World - Geography Semester Course

Grade 9

211 Accel/Honors Program

212 Academic Program

This course engages the learner in the study of geography through an inquiry approach. Students develop geographic skills, including how to ask geographic questions related to their world, how to acquire geographic information, how to organize geographic information, how to analyze geographic information, and how to answer geographic questions. Based on the National Geography Standards: *Geography for Life*, students use maps and geographic technologies to analyze the spatial organization of people, places and environments while interpreting Earth's complexity. Students analyze patterns and processes involved in human interaction with Earth from cultural, economic, and physical perspectives.

Introduction to World History Semester Course **Grade 9**

213 Accel/Honors Program

214 Academic Program

This targeted course is a survey of Western Civilization. Topics covered are Classical Civilization, Medieval Civilization and a transition to Modern Times.

World History Year Course **Grade 10**

221 Accel/Honors Program

222 Academic Program

This targeted course engages the learner in identifying and analyzing significant events, people and places in world history while making connections to the world of today. Students consider continuity and change, conflict and cooperation, and historical evidence as they look to the past to understand the future.

American History Year Course **Grade 11**

231 Accel/Honors Program

232 Academic Program

This targeted course engages the learner in identifying and analyzing significant events, people, and places in Early American History while making connections to the world of today. Students consider continuity and change in America, conflict and cooperation in America, and historical evidence as they look to America's past to understand its future.

Government and Citizenship (Civics) Year Course **Grade 12**

242 Academic Program

This senior elective provides a foundation for students interested in understanding the governing structure of the United States of America and the duties of a 21st century citizen in relation to these governmental structures. Students analyze and evaluate the necessity of government, the sources of American and Pennsylvanian law and government, and the importance of the principles and ideals of 21st Century citizenship. Students also consider the implications of advanced technologies and their impact on government and citizenship.

AP U.S. History Year Course **Grades 11&12**

235 AP Program

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

The AP program in United States History is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students learn to assess historical materials- their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance – and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. The AP United States History course allows students to develop the skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of an informed judgment and to present reasons and evidence clearly and persuasively in an essay format.

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

Social Studies Cluster Electives

Passports to the World (Distance Learning) **Grades 11&12**

250 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** examines world cultures and geographies as students acquire an appreciation for diverse cultures. Learners examine historical and current political, social, cultural, and economic structures of countries such as China, Japan, India, Iraq and Iran.

United States Government**Grades 11&12****251 Academic Program**

This **one-quarter cluster elective** provides students with the origins of the American Governmental System and the Democratic principles upon which it was established. Students explore the United States Constitution; articles, amendments. As part of the course, students evaluate particular Supreme Court cases for their constitutionality and historical significance.

American Law and the 21st Century Citizen**Grades 11&12****252 Academic Program**

This **one-quarter cluster elective** engages learners in understanding American law and the 21st Century citizen as students gain an understanding of their legal rights and responsibilities. Students explore the concepts of lawbreaker and law enforcer as they analyze crime, the criminal justice process, law suits, consumer law, family law, and housing law. Students gain an understanding in how to interpret, analyze and evaluate legal issues.

Contemporary Issues in Our 21st Century World**Grades 11&12****253 Academic Program**

This **one-quarter cluster elective** examines current issues as presented through Web 2.0 technologies. Learners evaluate topics through the lenses of multi-media, global technologies as they evaluate the ways current events are shaped by the technology used to deliver the message. Perspective, cause and effect relationships, historical context, and audience provide the framework for discussion.

Mathematics

“Nature is but the mathematical thoughts of God.” Through an understanding of the structure of mathematics, students are led to experience closeness with God by sharing in the beauty of His creation, the universe. The curriculum is applications-driven, taught with a technology-intensive approach with emphasis on the development of higher order thinking skills. Problem-solving and mathematical modelings are integral components of the learning process. By encouraging students to explore and use their God-given talents, students are prepared for analytical, logical and critical thinking necessitated in our modern technological environment in accordance with the Mathematics Standards.

The Mathematics Department’s instructional objectives are:

- To foster a positive attitude, and to cultivate a love for and enjoyment of mathematics.
- To meet the individual needs of students by developing and challenging their capabilities, thus preparing them for intelligent citizenship and a career choice congruent with their potential.
- To provide students with the opportunity to develop mathematical competence appropriate to their abilities, thus building their self-confidence.
- To develop and strengthen problem-solving skills based on logical thinking, accuracy, articulation and communication, stimulating the thinking process.
- To develop proficiency with mathematical skills and a facility for the manipulative processes in Algebra.
- To foster the development of the students’ character by expecting an effort worthy of their individual abilities and afford them the opportunity to experience and meet challenges.
- To contribute to the development of responsible leadership and a spirit of cooperation among students by providing the structure for group work, study groups and peer tutoring.

Algebra I Year Course**Grade 9****311 Accel/Honors Program****312 Academic Program**

This course includes the basic elements of algebra: first-degree equations and inequalities, quadratic equations, rational expressions, irrational numbers and word problems. The course prepares the way for future courses in mathematics, and acquaints the student with the nature of logical structure where techniques are learned as being meaningful and not merely mechanical. Graphing calculators are required.

Geometry Year Course**Grade 10****321 Accel/Honors Program****322 Academic Program**

This course covers topics in the development of Plane Geometry as a mathematical system. Emphasis is placed on deductive reasoning. Solutions of algebraic equations are applied in geometry-related situations. Topics in solid geometry and transformational geometry may be introduced. Practice in a variety of settings is provided in using definitions, theorems, and postulates to draw conclusions. Graphing calculators are required.

Algebra 2 Year Course**Grade 11****331 Accel/Honors Program****332 Academic Program**

Students in this course receive instruction in the structure of real and complex number systems. Areas of study include linear and quadratic functions and systems, analytic geometry, polynomial operations and equation solving. Students extend their ability to reason mathematically in the context of advanced algebra topics. Problem solving and critical thinking skills are emphasized throughout. Graphing calculators are required.

Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry Year Course**Grades 11&12****341 Accel/Honors Program****342 Academic Program**

A more in-depth study of topics introduced in Algebra 2 is undertaken and new advanced mathematical concepts are studied. Polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric and other classes of functions are analyzed numerically, algebraically and graphically. The curves of trigonometry, trigonometric equations and applications, triangle trigonometry and advanced functions and graphing are studied. Topics in data analysis, statistics and discrete mathematics are explored. Mathematical modeling and applications are emphasized throughout, as well as the use of the graphing calculator to study pre-calculus topics. A graphing calculator is required.

Calculus Year Course**Grade 12****344 Academic Program**

This course is designed for the student who has followed the Academic program in Mathematics. The course covers topics in Analytic Geometry and Calculus including the Limit, Continuous Functions, Derivatives and Integrals of Polynomial Functions, Algebraic Functions, and Trigonometric Functions. Students will use the graphing calculator to explore certain topics in the course of study. Graphing calculators are required.

Departmental recommendation is required for admission to the course. In addition, students may be required to successfully complete a pretest in their junior year.

AP Calculus Year Course**Grades 11&12****345 AP Program**

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

This Advanced Placement course adheres to the guidelines for the Calculus AB level mandated by the College Board and culminates in the students taking the Advanced Placement Calculus Exam offered by the College Board in May for college credit. The course includes a rigorous study of the differential and integral calculus with applications, including limits, continuity, maxima and minima, optimization, with some advanced techniques of differentiation and integration. Graphing calculator is required.

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

Mathematics Cluster Electives

Introduction to College Mathematics

Grades 11&12

351 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** is an introduction to discrete mathematics, it includes the basics of the structures of computer science, proof and theory including inductive proofs, applications to logic, graph theory, algorithms, trees, counting and probability, and recurrence relations.

Statistics

Grades 11&12

352 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** provides students with an introduction to statistical reasoning with an emphasis on concepts rather than in-depth coverage of traditional statistical methods. Topics include sampling and experimentation, descriptive statistics, probability, binomial and normal distributions, estimation, single sample and two sample hypothesis tests for means and proportions.

Alice (Computer programming)

Grades 11&12

353 Academic Program

This **one-quarter cluster elective** is an innovative 3D programming environment that makes it easy to create an animation for telling a story, playing an interactive game, or a video to share on the web. Alice is a teaching tool for introductory computing using geometric concepts. It uses 3D graphics and a drag-and-drop interface to facilitate a more engaging, less frustrating first programming experience.

Science

The Science Department emphasizes the student-centered focus of Catholic education. The student is viewed in the context of his/her relationships to God, others, nature and self. Through the integration of science and Catholic doctrine, the student is provided with the values and skills needed to internalize these relationships. Courses that offer skills and literacy are offered. Such diversity strengthens the student's self-reliance in meeting present demands and future job opportunities. The coordination of lecture and laboratory work establishes an atmosphere characterized by order and structure while simultaneously providing the necessary freedom for the student to develop inner direction and self-discipline. Since the principal aim of science is truth as revealed by God through man and nature, it follows that science education is an integral part of the curriculum.

As a capstone to their study of science in high school, select students have the opportunity to register for AP Chemistry, AP Physics and /or AP Biology. Students must take an entrance exam to qualify for an AP course.

Conceptual Physics Year Course

Grade 9

411 Academic Program

This course places an emphasis on the relationship between mathematics and physical principles as a means of predicting behavior in the physical world. The goal of conceptual physics is to enable students to practice critical thinking and logic that lay the foundation for future science courses. Topics include mechanics, heat, sound, light, magnetism, atomic and nuclear physics and measurement. Lab activities are integral to this course.

Biology Year Course

Grade 9

421 Accel/Honors Program

This course in introductory biology includes discussion of cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany and zoology, ecology, and evolution. Students are instructed in the use of instruments and techniques in laboratory investigation. Emphasis is placed on analysis of data and formulation of logical conclusions.

Biology Year Course

Grade 10

421 Accel/Honors Program

422 Academic Program

This course in introductory biology includes discussion of cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany and zoology, ecology, and evolution. Students are instructed in the use of instruments and techniques in laboratory investigation. Emphasis is placed on analysis of data and formulation of logical conclusions.

Chemistry Year Course **Grade 10**

431 Accel/Honors Program

This course stresses chemical theory and the quantitative aspects of chemistry. Basic chemical principles, laboratory experiences, research, and descriptive chemistry are the focal points in this course. Students are expected to further develop their skills in experimental observation, organization and use of data, and problem-solving. A research report based on student experimentation is required in this course.

Chemistry Year Course **Grade 11**

431 Accel/Honors program

432 Academic Program

This course stresses chemical theory and the quantitative aspects of chemistry. Basic chemical principles, laboratory experiences, research, and descriptive chemistry are the focal points in this course. Students are expected to further develop their skills in experimental observation, organization and use of data, and problem-solving. A research report based on student experimentation is required in this course.

Physics Year Course **Grade 11 & 12**

441 Accel/Honors Program

442 Academic Program

The study of Physics will offer the student an understanding of the fundamental concepts and processes needed to solve problems quantitatively; to further develop skills in experimental observation and organization; to facilitate the ability to analyze data and formulate logical conclusions and to develop an appreciation of the relationships that exist between physics, biology, and chemistry.

Concepts such as velocity, acceleration, forces, vectors, motion, universal gravitation, momentum, work, simple machines, energy, waves, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear physics are studied.

Environment Science Year Course **Grade 11 & 12**

443 Academic Program

Environmental Science is the science that explores the interactions and relationships between human beings and the Earth on which they live. The student of this course will study ecosystems: what they are, how they work and how they are necessary for a healthy environment. Students also will study how population dynamics effect the growth or decline of our world's natural resources and its effect on food production and energy. In order to understand the ethical decisions needed to sustain a healthy environment, the student will study the reasons for biodiversity, kinds of pollution and prevention techniques, and the various methods of municipal waste disposal. Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to make the proper decisions needed in their future stewardship of our planet.

Anatomy and Physiology Year Course **Grade 11 & 12**

444 Accel/Honors Program

This course provides students with an understanding and working knowledge of the structure and function of the human body. The syllabus includes technical terminology which is helpful to anyone interested in pursuing a medical or health-oriented program in college

NOTE: Some nursing schools and all pre-med programs, require physics as a pre-requisite for admission. Therefore, if a choice between the two courses is necessary, physics should be elected.

AP Biology Year Course **Grade 11 & 12**

445 AP Program

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

In this college-level Biology course, students are expected to integrate practical laboratory work with classroom work in accordance with the College Entrance Examination Board for Advanced Placement Biology. Students are prepared for the AP Examination in Biology. Students are required to take the AP Examination.

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

AP Chemistry Year Course **Grade 11 & 12**

446 AP Program

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

In this college-level Chemistry course, students are expected to integrate practical laboratory work with classroom work in accordance with the College Entrance Examination Board for Advanced Placement Chemistry. Students are required to take the AP Examination.

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

AP Physics Year Course

Grade 11 & 12

447 AP Program

Admission Prerequisites: Approval of the Chairperson and teacher recommendation. In addition, students are required to successfully complete a pretest.

The Physics B course includes topics in both classical and modern physics. Knowledge of algebra and basic trigonometry is required for the course; the basic ideas of calculus may be introduced in connection with physical concepts, such as acceleration and work. Understanding of the basic principles involved and the ability to apply these principles in the solution of problems will be the major goals of the course. Placement in AP Physics is dependent on a student's ability in math. Students are required to take the AP Examination

Students enrolled in AP classes are required to take the AP examination in the Spring.

Science Cluster Electives

Microscopy

Grade 11 & 12

451 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** focuses on the study of the microscope and its proper use. Through a series of laboratory experiences, students use the microscope to observe a variety of specimens, completing well-developed, correctly labeled drawings of their observations.

Microbiology

Grade 11 & 12

452 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** involves extensive laboratory work with microscopic organisms such as bacteria, protozoan, algae, fungi, and viruses. Students engage in culturing and observation of these organisms as they analyze and interpret structures and functions of the organisms.

Forensic Science (Crime Scene Investigation)

Grade 11 & 12

453 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** involves critical analysis in a variety of science topics. Students use observations, physical evidence, biology, DNA documentation, and serology to solve problems.

Exploration in Nanotechnology

Grade 11 & 12

454 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** provides students with an introductory exploration of topics on the cutting edge of science technology by examining branches of nanoscience, measurement in nanoscience, and tools of the nonscientist. Students investigate nanoscience from the technological perspective, the biological perspective, and the economic perspective.

Biotechnology

Grade 11 & 12

455 Academic program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** explores the methods used to investigate the sequence and characteristics of DNA..

World Language

The study of foreign languages develops knowledge, proficiencies and attitudes that cannot be acquired through the study of other subjects, and is essential to understanding the political motivation, social institutions, literature and culture of other nations. This study brings with it recognition of the fact that basic human ideals are common to all peoples.

Four-year program of instruction are offered in French and Spanish; a two year program of Italian will be offered.

Rosetta Stone Program will be offered to juniors and seniors who wish to study any of 25 possible languages not taught at Pope John Paul II. This program also will be available to students who have a roster conflict and are unable to take a language taught at Pope John Paul II.

The primary function of modern language learning is communication, first through listening and speaking, and then through reading and writing. A concomitant objective of language instruction is to encourage students to take advantage of the foreign cultural enrichments found within their own environments and thus to gain a better perspective on their own culture through the concept of cultural similarities and differences.

510 French 1 Year Course **Grade 9**

511 Spanish 1 Year Course **Grade 9**

512 Italian 1 Year Course **Grade 9**

Academic Program

Students learn to interact and linguistically survive in the target language. This is accomplished through the use of memorized materials and functions that recur on a daily basis. The students use the language in a manner that is comprehensible to a native speaker.

520 French 2 Year Course **Grade 10**

521 Spanish 2 Year Course **Grade 10**

522 Italian 2 Year Course **Grade 10**

Academic Program

Students are challenged to develop the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in the target language necessary to negotiate everyday tasks in the target culture. This ongoing study results in progressively minimizing phonological and grammatical errors common among novice speakers.

530 French 3 Year Course **Grade 11**

531 Spanish 3 Year Course **Grade 11**

Academic Program

Students move beyond linguistic skills of mere survival, and begin to be able to engage in more complex conversation and writing in the target language. Students develop a sense of fluency as accuracy in grammar and pronunciation grows. Heightened awareness of cross-cultural issues is the result of further exposure to literary works in the target language.

540 French 4 Year Course **Grade 12**

541 Spanish 4 Year Course **Grade 12**

Academic Program

Students in these advanced language classes continue the skill development in fluency, grammar, and pronunciation through ongoing exposure, with increased intensity, to literary works in the target language.

Business & Technology Education

As we enter the 21st century, the Business Department at Pope John Paul II approaches the basic business subjects with an eye to empowering students to explore their options as they make choices toward the world of work and

the world of higher education. The Business Department views its offerings to students as the opportunity to discover and practice the skills necessary for an enjoyable, successful and satisfying career in the ever-changing workplace. Through instruction in and daily use of computer resources, students implement and hone basic skills toward the goal of developing strength and confidence in the use of technology, while deepening their commitment to growth toward maturity in Christian ethical business practice.

Tools for Success Half Year Course

Grade 9

610 Academic Program

Fundamentals of Technology is a semester course that introduces the student to the school's technology. It familiarizes the student with proficient knowledge of the Windows environment, word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software. The Microsoft Office suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) is used. Internet applications also are included in the course. The knowledge gained in this course enables the student to utilize computer resources effectively in other curriculum areas. Ethics regarding copyright laws, responsible and irresponsible use of technology and plagiarism will also be addressed.

Microsoft IT Academy Semester Courses

Grades 11 & 12

681 Academic Program Microsoft Word

682 Academic Program Microsoft Excel

683 Academic Program Microsoft Access

684 Academic Program Microsoft PowerPoint

These courses are designed to provide the student with the comprehensive knowledge and skills necessary for effective word processing, spread-sheeting, and presentation software mastery. The student will be prepared to challenge the Microsoft Word, Excel, Access and PowerPoint and may choose to take the IT Microsoft certification exams

Accounting 1 Year Course

Grades 11 & 12

622 Academic Program

In this course, students are taught the fundamental concepts of bookkeeping using generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). These principles are compatible with those being taught on the post-secondary level and are being used by most American businesses today. Specific topics include analyzing and recording financial business transactions and end-of-fiscal-period reports for both a sole proprietorship and a corporation. They also learn to handle a checking account and other banking activities. Students are introduced to computerized accounting procedures and spreadsheet applications in Microsoft Excel.

Finance and Marketing Semester Course

Grades 11 & 12

642 Academic Program

This **semester long course** is focused on personal finance and marketing. Students learn the identification and classification of markets and the environment as well as the economic, the human resource, marketing, and business foundations necessary to compete in a global marketplace. The course enables students to become intelligent consumers and handlers of their personal finances.

Personal Finance Semester Course

Grades 11 & 12

643 Academic Program

This **semester long course** provides students with information that will enable them to make wise financial decisions as consumers, citizens, and employees. The focus of the course is on investments, budgets, insurance, banking, income tax preparation, and stock market analysis. Also included are topics such as personal marketing, renting/buying, and pensions.

Business Cluster Electives

E-Business

Grades 11 & 12

651 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** is designed to acquaint students with skills needed to perform successfully in a 21st century business economy. The focus is on the information components of major business functions and interrelationships. Practical applications of accounting, marketing and finance are explored using technology.

Technology Communications in a Web 2.0 World

Grades 11 & 12

652 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** uses technology to enhance the effectiveness of communication in a 21st century world. It introduces students to a variety of new and emerging technologies used in today's Web 2.0 online environment. The focus is on design and problem solving techniques: how to think and how to learn.

Multimedia Approaches to Communications

Grades 11 & 12

653 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** introduces students to multimedia communications tools. The media include still pictures, video, animation, audio, CD-ROM, and text. Professional multimedia software, audio capture software, graphics programs, video capture software and animation programs are used by the students as they produce multimedia products.

International Business

Grades 11 & 12

654 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** introduces students to the field of international business and the implications of international trade and globalization upon American business. Topics include the comparison of political economies and cultures, global trade and investment strategies, foreign investments, exchange markets and global marketing.

Fine Arts

The Fine Arts Department strives to enable students to realize that all talents and abilities are God-given gifts to be developed and shared with all God's people. Diversity, confidence and individuality are readily fostered in the Fine Arts curriculum. Students enhance their own creativity and communication skills while learning the importance of critical assessment and commitment in learning environments conducive to the study of Art and Music.

Involvement in the Fine Arts reinforces the understanding that success breeds success in every walk of life. Successful, well-trained artists and musicians approach life with knowledge of "what it takes to get there," and the wisdom of what the arts bring to life.

Fine Arts Fees

Students choosing to enter the music and/or art programs have an added fee for participation. These fees are listed on the 2010-2011 Fee Schedule. Fees must be paid by/on Roster Day.

Art

Related Arts Half Year Course

Grade 9

710 Academic Program

This basic course is designed to develop a positive attitude toward the Fine Arts and arenas for self-expression. Students are taught to observe, listen, think creatively, critically, and to form valid opinions. Lectures, film, recordings, and a textbook are the tools used to foster an appreciation for Art, Music, Theatre, Dance, Poetry and Film.

Studio Art 1 Year Course

Grades 9-12

711 Academic Program

This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of art, design, composition and perspective. The students will analyze the uses of the Elements of Art in their own work as well as others', produce art pieces, observe demonstrations, and participate in group critiques. A wide variety of media will be utilized to explore creativity, including pencil, pen and ink, charcoal, watercolor and printmaking.

Studio Art 2 Year Course

Grades 10-12

712 Academic Program

The students develop technique through practical applications, lectures, demonstrations and group critiques. Figure drawing and portraiture are also introduced. Media used will include those used in Studio Art 1, and additional media such as acrylic paint, ceramics and colored pencil.

Studio Art 3 Year Course

Grades 11-12

713 Academic Program

The students are provided with the opportunity to work on larger long-term projects. The course also encourages experimenting with different media and provides the opportunity to work in three-dimensional media such as clay, plaster and wood. Students work on projects that introduce them to different artists and their styles of creating.

Studio Art 4 Year Course

Grade 12

714 Academic Program

The students are provided with an opportunity to develop a personal imagery and technical proficiency through a wide range of media and techniques. The course is structured around the development of a portfolio for college or school review

Ceramics 1 Half Year Semester One

Grades 11&12

715 Academic Program

This is a first semester course that introduces the students to hand building techniques of slab, coil, pinch and mold pressing, plus related glazing and firing techniques. There is an emphasis on developing each student's potential for personal expression and artistic invention.

Sculpture 1 Half Year Semester Two

Grades 11 & 12

716 Academic Program

This is a second semester course that introduces the students to the technical and intellectual aspects of sculpture. Students will create work that reflects their artistic interests using a multitude of materials, such as clay, paper, plastic, wood and plaster. The departments aim is to provide a sound, balanced exposure to both the formal and creative aspects of three dimensional art.

Ceramics 2 Half Year Semester One

Grades 11 & 12

717 Academic Program

A one-semester course intended to develop and extend clay forming skills that were introduced in Ceramics I. Conceptual design, glaze chemistry, kiln use and ceramic decorating techniques will be emphasized.

Sculpture 2 Half Year Semester Two

Grades 11 & 12

718 Academic Program

This semester course is designed to allow a student to pursue a more in depth understanding of three dimensional art forms. Larger and more complicated pieces will be created with an emphasis on personal expression.

Instrumental Music

Band Year Course

Grades 9-12

721 Academic Program

722 Academic Program

723 Academic Program

724 Academic Program

This course emphasizes an in-depth development of the band student's individual technical skills and ensemble playing. Band literature, sight reading and tuning procedures are taught. Theory is integrated within the context of the study of band literature. The class meets daily for one class period and rehearses one afternoon per week after school. A Band Fee is required.

Rostering for this course requires:

- a weekly lesson
- band membership and attendance at rehearsal one afternoon per week after school
- participation in band activities and Christmas and Spring Concerts

Non-Credit Music Activities

All Grades

A \$50.00 fee is required of students involved in Non-Credit Music Activities who are not rostered for Applied Music Courses.

Chorus

All Grades

The Chorus is open to all students. Membership does not require being rostered for Performing Arts classes. No audition is required but students are expected to be able to sing on pitch. Rehearsal is one afternoon per week after school.

Performing Arts

Please Note: Students interested in vocal should join these classes.

Performing Arts 1 Year Course

Grades 11 & 12

729 Academic Program

This course is designed to introduce to the student the art of theater from the actor's prospective. Through various activities including vocal training, theater games and acting exercises in mime and dialogue, the course will develop in the student a discerning and critical but appreciative attitude toward the theater and the performing arts. This course will also introduce students to various types of dance, from traditional to contemporary. Some examples are Partnering, Hip Hop, and swing. They will learn to recognize how dance and movement are a vital part of society and culture. The students will become more confident and aware of their movements and be able to incorporate posture, poise, agility and flexibility in their everyday lives.

Performing Arts 2 Year Course

Grade 12

730 Academic Program

This course is designed to allow the student to further develop his/her vocal, acting and dance skills. These skills will be developed through various activities that will include the use of scripts, improvisation, and physical games and exercises. The course will also help the student to develop self-confidence and attitudes and skills to aid in daily interpersonal relationships. Opportunities are given to the student to evaluate his/her acting and dance talents and to explore possible career pursuits

Health and Physical Education

The Health and Physical Education Department, in accord with the overall philosophy of Pope John Paul II will attempt to instill in the students a deep appreciation and understanding of the importance of healthful living and physical fitness in a modern society. The course of study will afford each student the opportunity to acquire knowledge about the life skills which will be necessary for each student to achieve an appreciation of individual uniqueness, to promote physical, social, and emotional well-being, and to develop an awareness that will assist in achieving optimum health and physical fitness.

Health Half Year Course

Grade 10

741 Academic Program

This course is a comprehensive and current treatment of critical health areas in today's society. The course will center on the students living in the present-day environment so that they will gain knowledge and information that will better prepare them to make positive choices and decisions about their own health. Areas of study will include an understanding of health and wellness, social drugs, communicable diseases, nutrition, fitness, safety, first aid, stress, and health services and care.

Physical Education Half Year Course

Grade 10

742 Academic Program

Through a variety of indoor and outdoor games, sports and athletic and non-athletic activities, each student will be provided with the opportunity to learn and appreciate the relationship between health and physical fitness, to learn

and appreciate the value of sportsmanship and leadership in individual and team activities which will promote physical fitness, growth and development.

Health and Physical Education Cluster Electives

Personal Nutrition

Grade 11 & 12

751 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** is designed to encourage individuals to achieve a healthy lifestyle through improved nutrition. Students gain the knowledge necessary to develop the skills and behaviors needed to avoid health risks and maintain optimum health throughout their life. Contemporary nutrition topics relevant to today's young adults are explored through individual and cooperative research, guest speakers, demonstrations and special projects. Basic scientific principles of nutrition are explored and applied to real life situations. Self-assessment and monitoring of personal nutrition are integral parts of the course.

Personal Fitness

Grade 11 & 12

752 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** gives students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from comprehensive weight training and cardio-respiratory endurance activities. Students will learn the basic fundamentals of strength training, aerobic training, and overall fitness training and conditioning. Course includes both lecture and activity sessions. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for a lifetime.

Core Stability and Stretch

Grade 11 & 12

753 Academic Program

This **quarter-long cluster elective** about core stability and stretching and introduces a wide variety of concepts and physical conditioning techniques focusing on core muscle groups, balance, coordination, and flexibility. Students use stability balls, resistance exercises, and other movement forms to increase awareness of posture, back comfort, and muscular conditioning.

Special Services

These courses are provided through the *Non-Public School Division* of the *Montgomery County Intermediate Unit*. The school administration reserves the right to assign students in need to these courses and to continue their enrollment over the years as the need dictates.

Study Strategies Half Year Course

All Grades

762 Academic Program

These courses concentrate on the development of vocabulary, concepts and critical reading skills. Improvement in those skills should prove helpful in the regular classroom and on standardized testing. Study skill techniques such as time management, test-taking, memory improvement, note taking, outlining are also taught. Content area tutoring, if needed, is included.

Vo-Tech Programs

Pope John Paul II has agreements with the following Vo-Tech Program:

CAT Pickering

Western Center for Technology Studies

Pope John Paul II participates in a share-time program with the CAT Pickering and Western Center for Technology Studies. The program provides the opportunity for high school students to learn skills necessary to obtain useful and rewarding employment and/or to prepare them for continued career-oriented education in college or technical school. The program is structured for students to take a two (2) year course of instruction.

The students take four (4) courses at Pope John Paul II for one-half of the school day and complete the remainder of the day at the Vo-Tech school. The complementary course of study provides three (3) credits per year, and will qualify the student for a High School Diploma while giving the student entry-level skills in specific trades.

Because of the uniqueness of the Vo-Tech time-shared program, a student may not always be able to obtain the subjects or program level that he/she has requested from either school. Participation in Vo Tech Programs is contingent upon the school district of residence.