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# Oakland Catholic

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## Course Description Catalogue

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*Oakland Catholic High School  
144 N. Craig Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
2021-2022*

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# Scheduling Basics

## *Incoming 9th Grade Students*

Course recommendation sheets are included in the Acceptance Packets for incoming ninth grade students. Students are placed into either College Preparatory or Honors courses based on their performance on the Scholarship/Entrance Exam or an equivalent standardized test, their grade school transcripts, and recommendations of their eighth-grade teachers and principals. Students are not automatically tracked for either all College Preparatory classes or all Honors classes; different levels of courses may be recommended for a student depending upon a student's demonstrated strengths. Instructions on how to select courses, complete forms, and register online are included in the Acceptance Packet and email communications regarding the official new student registration process. This Course Catalogue serves as further clarification on recommended courses, and as an overview of the scope and sequence of the curriculum at Oakland Catholic High School.

## *Transfer Students*

Transfer students will receive an Acceptance Packet similar to the one issued to accepted incoming ninth grade students. The Course Recommendation sheet will be constructed in accordance with transcripts, records, recommendations, an interview with the principal, scheduled courses, and the incoming student's input with regard to preferences and academic pursuits. If the transfer is occurring in the middle of the academic year, a schedule will be constructed very soon after notification of acceptance occurs. If the transfer is scheduled for the start of the next academic year, a schedule will be built over the summer months and will be available to the student by mid-August.

## *Continuing Students*

Currently enrolled students will select courses for the next academic year in the spring via PowerSchool. Students will receive teacher recommendations in all core subject areas and be afforded time to consult with parents, school counselors, and administration. Teachers and a counselor must indicate their approval of a student's course selections prior to officially registering the student for the courses online. Recommendations by teachers will be based on a student's performance in the current course. If a student disagrees with teacher recommendations or does not meet prerequisites for requested course, they must schedule a meeting with their school counselor. Administration will intervene in course selection conflicts if any of the parties deem it necessary. ***It should be noted that the selection of certain courses does not guarantee that the student will receive these courses on her schedule.*** Course availability is dependent on interest from the student body, individual schedules, and school staffing. Students are not guaranteed preference of elective courses. The process for selecting courses online will be explained to all students by school counselors well in advance of the actual time of selection. When students make their course selections in March, changes are unable to be made until schedules are released in August.

## *Schedule Changes*

Students and parents should be cognizant of the fact that the courses selected will play a role in determining the overall academic schedule of the school, the teachers' schedules, and the student body's schedule. Course selection should not be taken lightly since changes to the schedule in the Fall are not recommended. However, there are circumstances that arise which may necessitate a course change. For instance, a schedule change may occur if it becomes apparent that a student has been misplaced in a class. The process stated below and, in the handbook, must be followed in the prescribed order to drop or change a course after schedules are released in early August:

1. OC parent(s) and/or student must submit a schedule change request form available on the website, and clearly state the reasons for the requested schedule change.
2. The School Counseling Department and Administration must both approve of the change. There is an overall number of credits required of each student in order for a student to graduate from Oakland Catholic High School. In addition, a certain number of credits in each department are required. Finally, a student must carry a minimum number of credits each year, and a minimum number of six classes each school day so that the credits are spread over the entire year; the student should have a balanced schedule each semester with no more than two study halls and a lunch period on any given day, *even if that means that the student will carry more than the minimum number of credits stated for a particular year*. Please consult the sample four-year plan for an overview of typical course loads for each year.

Schedule changes will not be made in order to accommodate a student's work, extracurricular schedule, arrival or departure from school, or preference for a teacher or time of class. Schedule changes initiated by the student or parent(s) should occur within the first two weeks of a semester. If a request is made to drop a class after this initial two weeks, the request will be reviewed by the administration. If the request is honored, a withdrawal (W) will be recorded on the student's transcript. No credit will be granted for courses from which a student withdraws.

# Course Levels

## *College Preparatory*

College Preparatory (CP) courses are a part of a comprehensive curriculum that is offered as an option in all content areas to students in grades 9-12. The college preparatory courses are designed to prepare a student for college upon graduation by challenging them within the required program of studies. If a student wishes to move to an Honors level, she must fulfill the prerequisites described in each course description within this course catalogue.

## *Honors*

Honors level courses are more rigorous than College Preparatory courses. The explanation and requirements can be found in the forthcoming pages, according to discipline. All Honors courses are weighted and are available to students in grades 9-12. Acceptances into Honors courses at the ninth-grade level are dependent upon a combination of standardized test scores, elementary school teacher/administrator recommendations, and transcripts.

## *College Equivalency*

College Equivalency (CE) courses are taught at a college-level in association with a local college or university; CE courses are taught at Oakland Catholic and by Oakland Catholic faculty who have been approved and accredited by the college or university. The college or university granting credit for the course determines the syllabus of a CE course. All students who enroll in a CE course **MUST** register with the college or university offering the course for the associated college credit. There is a nominal fee set by the college/university for these courses. College credit is awarded according to the criteria set by the higher education institution.

## *Advanced Placement*

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are college-level courses approved by the College Board and subject to syllabus review every three to five years. Students who register for AP courses **are required** to take the AP Exam in May. The College Board sets the exam schedule and fee. The School Counseling Department and the teacher of the AP course will provide specific information on AP course registration, exam date, and fee to the student. All AP exam fees must be paid by **October 1st**.

# Graduation Requirements

A student must earn a minimum of 26 credits of passing course work in order to receive an Oakland Catholic High School diploma. Each student must carry a minimum of six (6) courses per semester. JOA Scholars have additional course requirements each year and should consult with the Director of the JOA Society of Scholars and School Counseling to confirm that they are complying with all criteria of the program.

Course	Credit	Course	Credit
English	4	Physical Education	.5
Fine Arts *	1	Religion	4
Foreign Language	2	Science	3
Health	.5	Social Studies	4
Mathematics	3	Electives	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>26</b>	

\*The Fine Arts requirement must include one (1) Music Class and one (1) Art Class.

\*\*All students must have a scheduled lunch period each day.

Typical Course Load per Year			
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Religion	Religion	Religion	Religion
English	English	English	English
Physical Education	Health	Elective	Elective
Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies	Social Studies
Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics	Mathematics
Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Elective
Language	Language	Language	Elective
Fine Arts	Fine Arts	Elective	
	Elective		

**\*Please note the following:** The above table is simply a typical example of course loads across all four years. Changes and substitutions to the above are always possible based on the individual student's academic trajectory and interests. Not all electives are 1-credit; many electives are .5 credit semester courses. No student should have more than two study halls on any given day and every student must have a scheduled lunch period per day.

# OC/CC Collaboration

In an ongoing effort to collaborate in various ways, Oakland Catholic High School and Central Catholic High School make certain courses available to students from both schools in a limited capacity. Only Juniors and Seniors are eligible to register for these select courses, with the exception of Band, which is open to students in all grades. As electives, these courses cannot serve as substitutions for the core curriculum of either school. Descriptions of the classes can be found in this catalogue under the appropriate academic department. Below is a list of shared course offerings for the 2018-2019 academic year:

## **Courses taught at Oakland Catholic High School but available to Central Catholic High School Juniors/Seniors:**

Honors Bioinformatics
AP Computer Science A/Principles
AP French
Music Theory I, II, III, IV
AP Music Theory

## **Courses taught at Central Catholic High School but available to Oakland Catholic High School students:**

AP Art History	Seniors only
CAD (Computer Aided Design)	Juniors/Seniors only
Engineering I	All grade levels
Marching/Concert Band	Juniors/Seniors only



# Computer Science

The computer science courses offered encourage students to continue to develop their problem-solving skills. Emphasis is placed on developing algorithms, learning common data structures and algorithms used in programming as well as understanding the basic hardware and software components of computer systems.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Computer Science Foundations	683	One	.5

Computer Science Foundations is an entry-level computer science recommended for all students who use computers. The course introduces many aspects of computer science including how the internet works, algorithms, digital privacy and security, an introduction to programming and strategies for problem solving, and the societal impacts of computing.

Prerequisites: You need to successfully complete Algebra I or receive a strong recommendation from a previous math teacher.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Computer Science A	676	Both	1

The AP Computer Science course will cover the topics in a typical introductory college computer science class with a concentration in problem-solving and algorithm development. This course is a fast-paced advanced level course that focuses on the study of the fundamental principles associated with object-oriented programming using the Java language. Topics include classes, objects, data types, variables, Boolean expressions, methods, looping, and input and output. Advanced topics include searching, sorting and recursion. The objective of this course is to prepare students for the A version of the Advanced Placement (AP) Computer Science examination.

Prerequisites: At least one programming course (or some outside introduction to programming through a robotics team or Girls Who Code), and a strong interest in Computer Science, and proven academic record need to be achieved.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Computer Science Principles	677	Both	1

AP Computer Science Principles is an introduction to the field of Computer Science. It offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cyber security and societal impacts of computing. AP CSP will give students the opportunity to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions. Together, these aspects of the course make up a rigorous and rich curriculum that aims to broaden participation in computer science.

Prerequisites: Completion of Algebra 1 and a strong interest in technology/science.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP or Honors	Computer Aided Design (CAD) and 3D Modeling	681	One	.5

*Note: This elective is taken at Central Catholic High School and only available to OC juniors and seniors. \*This class meets for a double period three days per six-day cycle.*

The engineering design process follows the steps of planning, design, prototyping, testing, and redesign. The use of software programs and 3-D printing to assist in the design, prototype, test, redesign processes shortens the development cycle and provides professional tools to be accessible at the high school level. This course provides students with the fundamentals of computer-aided design (CAD) and 3D modeling that are used in different engineering fields. This course uses AutoDesk Design Academy. It is a comprehensive pre- engineering, pre-architecture, and cross-discipline program developed specifically for secondary schools. The Design Academy's curriculum meets national standards and provides classroom materials that ensure students master the fundamentals of the design process while learning to use the same AutoDesk software that professionals use. An opportunity for certification is available for interested students. Assessments will include design projects, exams, presentations, and a final project. Certification in AutoDesk Inventor is required of students taking the course for Honors credit. There is a \$100.00 fee for this certification. Enrollment is limited to 10 students each semester.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Creativity by Design	690	One	.5

This elective course is highly recommended for any freshman curious about STEM, coding, how creativity influences robotic programming, and how engineering and design require creative approaches and innovative thinking. Guided by the teacher, you will work collaboratively with your classmates, and independently, to build and program robots that respond in real-time. Dive into STEM with this hands-on, interactive semester class designed for students with varying levels of or no experience at all in technology, robotics, and creative thinking. No prerequisite required. Possibly interested in joining OC's FTC Robotics Team? This course serves as a nice foundation to new members of the robotics team, or as an exploration of robotics to determine if you want to join the team in the future!

# English

The English Department's literature, writing, and speech programs teach students the values, ideas, and skills necessary for intellectual growth. The English curriculum fosters appreciation and understanding of literature as a reflection of the values and meaning of human experience by helping students to analyze and interpret works of literature. All courses seek to enable students to write clearly and correctly and to understand writing as an on-going process of discovery and learning. An emphasis on the development of critical thinking skills encompasses a wide variety of assignments in traditional and electronic media, including argument, inquiry, reflection, and research.

Four (4) credits (eight (8) semesters) in English must be completed for graduation.

Three levels of course work are offered. In the first two years students are placed in Honors or College Preparatory classes. Requirements for maintaining that placement for all four years are contained in each course description. Level changes are addressed at the end of this section. In the junior and senior years, students may take some courses for College Equivalency or Advanced Placement credit. Once again, specific prerequisites for these courses are listed with each course.

In the senior year, to complete the required English credit, seniors enrolled in Research Methodology and Academic Writing must also complete one of the following courses: CE Argumentation (241), CE Communications (244), Creative Writing (247, 238), Diverse Voices in Contemporary Literature (239, 237).

**Level changes:** If a student wishes to move from a College Preparatory class to an Honors class, she is required to have a 95% average over four (4) quarters. Her current teacher will recommend her for the Honors class. Students must have successfully completed AP English Language and Composition with at least an 85% or American Literature Honors with a 93% average to be enrolled in AP Literature and Composition.

Each summer, students will have required reading to prepare for the following year.

Changing and/or Maintaining Course Levels	
CP to Honors	A 95% average for the year and recommendation of current teacher.
Honors from one year to the next	Maintain an 85% average for the year.
Honors to AP (Junior to Senior/Sophomore to Junior)	A 93% average for the year and recommendation of current teacher.

## *Freshman Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	English 9	201	Both	1

Students will study the different genres of literature: the novel, short story, poetry, drama, and non-fiction. Composition assignments will consist of reader-response assignments and thesis papers. The grammar study involves review work in correct usage and extensive work in paragraph development. Organizational, study, and listening skills are reinforced in the classroom.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	English 9	200	Both	1

Students will read and study fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction as literary types in this course. Students will complete a variety of writing activities including formal and informal in-class writing, out-of-class and in-class narrative and thesis papers, and blog posts. Students will also study research and will engage in speech activities, which will include simple individual and group work presentations.

## *Sophomore Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	World Literature	223	Both	1

Students will read and study novels, plays, and poems by English and world authors. Writing thesis papers on a literary theme and completing a research paper will be required. The research paper must be successfully completed to receive credit for this course.

Prerequisite: You need to successfully complete English 9.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	World Literature	222	Both	1

Students will read and analyze novels, poems, plays, and short stories by English and world authors. Students must demonstrate the ability to think critically and interpret literature through close textual analysis. Writing thesis papers about literary themes will be emphasized. The research paper must be successfully completed to receive credit for this course.

Prerequisites: An 85% average over four quarters in English 9 Honors, or a 95% average over four quarters in CP English 9, and approval of the English department is required.

## *Junior Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	American Literature	211	Both	1

Students will read and study novels, plays, and poems by American authors. Preparation for the S.A.T. exam will continue. Writing thesis papers on literary themes and completing a research paper will be required. The research paper must be successfully completed to receive credit for this course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World Literature is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	American Literature	210	Both	1

Students will read and analyze novels, poems, plays, and short stories by American authors. Students must demonstrate the ability to think critically and interpret literature through close textual analysis. Writing thesis papers about literary themes will be emphasized. The research paper must be successfully completed to receive credit for this course.

***Prerequisites:*** An 85% average over four quarters in World Literature Honors, or a 95% average over four quarters in CP World Literature, and approval of the English department is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	English Language and Composition	229	Both	1

The AP English Language and Composition course is the equivalent of a typical college composition course. “The purpose of the AP Language and Composition is to enable students to read complex texts with understanding to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers.” Students will read a wide range of non-fiction texts across the disciplines. Writing will focus on expository, analytical, and argumentative writing. This is a college-level class and students must expect an appropriate level of reading and writing. In addition to writing essays and papers, which analyze and respond to various forms of prose, the students will write a research paper. All students enrolled in this course **MUST** take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. In addition, all students must purchase the practice book.

***Prerequisites:*** A 93% average over four quarters in Honors World Literature and approval of an English teacher is required.

### ***Senior Year***

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Research Methodology and Academic Writing	261	One	.5

This is a required class for any senior who is not enrolled in AP Literature and Composition. The objective of the course is to prepare students for college-level research and writing. Students will read non-fiction texts and evaluate them for their use of the principles of rhetoric and composition. Writing assignments are designed to reinforce and extend skills in critical reading, research, and expository writing, which students develop in sophomore and junior years. Students will be guided through the stages of writing a college-level research paper with special emphasis on selecting and utilizing quality sources and the process of revision. **Completion of the research paper for this class (or AP Literature and Composition) is a requirement for graduation.**

***Prerequisite:*** Successful completion of CP American Literature is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Research Methodology and Academic Writing	260	One	.5

This is a required class for any senior who is not enrolled in AP Literature and Composition. The objective of the course is to prepare students for college-level research and writing. Students will read non-fiction texts and evaluate them for their use of the principles of rhetoric and composition. Writing assignments are designed to reinforce and extend skills in critical reading, research, and expository writing, which students develop in sophomore and junior years. Students will be guided through the stages of writing a college-level research paper with special emphasis on selecting and utilizing quality sources and the process of revision. **Completion of the research paper for this class (or AP Literature and Composition) is a requirement for graduation.**

Prerequisite: An 85% average over four quarters in Honors American Literature is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	English Literature and Composition	230	Both	1

The AP English Literature and Composition course is an introductory college-level literary analysis course. “Students cultivate their understanding of literature through reading and analyzing texts as they explore concepts like character, setting, structure, perspective, figurative language, and literary analysis in the context of literary works. In this demanding course, frequent writing assignments will be given to improve the student’s critical abilities and writing style and to prepare the student for the AP exam. All students enrolled in this course **MUST** take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board.

Prerequisites: An 85% over four quarters in AP English Language and Composition or a 93% average over four quarters in Honors American Literature, and approval of the English department is required.

### *Electives – English*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Diverse Voices in Contemporary Literature	239	One	.5

In this semester-long course, taught at both the Honors and CP levels, students will read, discuss, and respond to contemporary (20th and 21st Century) literature written from and about diverse perspectives—with special consideration to those who have been marginalized in American society. Teachers will draw from various short stories, novels, poetry, nonfiction, and film to shape the course. Students will be expected to purchase their own copies of one or two mass-market paperbacks. Annotations and class discussions, both face-to-face and online, will provide ways for students to interact with one another and the texts. Additionally, students will produce academic, informal, and creative writing pieces.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World Literature is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Diverse Voices in Contemporary Literature	237	One	.5

In this semester-long course, taught at both the Honors and CP levels, students will read, discuss, and respond to contemporary (20th and 21st Century) literature written from and about diverse perspectives—with special consideration to those who have been marginalized in American society. Teachers will draw from various short stories, novels, poetry, nonfiction, and film to shape the course. Students will be expected to purchase their own copies of one or two mass-market paperbacks. Annotations and class discussions, both face-to-face and online, will provide ways for students to interact with one another and the texts. Additionally, students will produce academic, informal, and creative writing pieces.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World Literature is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	Argumentation	241	One	.5

This semester long course is offered at a college equivalency level through the University of Pittsburgh. All students enrolled in this course must register with the College in High School program at the University of Pittsburgh. Each student is expected to acquire the skill to analyze policy and value questions, to construct argumentative cases, and to argue these cases against her classmates. Students will discuss issues, which might be appropriate for argument, select topics, develop cases, and engage in a minimum of four oral presentations.

Note: This course is only available to seniors.

Prerequisite: An average of at least an 85% in English or Social Studies in the junior year must be achieved.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	Mass Communications Process	245	One	.5

This semester long course is offered at a college equivalency level through the University of Pittsburgh. All students enrolled in this course must register with the College in High School program at the University of Pittsburgh. Students will examine the history and development of mass communication, “exploring the cultural, technological, and economic history of the media, the changing relationships between media industries, audiences, and cultures, and the theoretical underpinnings of mass communication research.” Using this information as a basis for investigation, students will analyze contemporary issues facing mass communication and how they, as producers and consumers of media, can engage in the critical process of healthy media consumption.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: An average of at least an 85% in English or Social Studies in the junior year must be achieved, or teacher recommendation is needed.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Creative Writing	247	One	.5

In this semester-long course, taught at both the Honors and CP levels, students have a chance to explore creative writing. “A platform or a passion or two” is what Thornton Wilder considered essential for the theater. Likewise, a pen and a passion, plus paper and laptop, will help students become members of this class writing community. Focus will be on expanding and nurturing creativity through a variety of daily and long-term projects in the areas of poetry, fiction, and literary non-fiction.

Note: This course is only available to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Prerequisite: A recommendation of current English teacher is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Creative Writing	238	One	.5

In this semester-long course, taught at both the Honors and CP levels, students have a chance to explore creative writing. Students will be readers and producers of literary art in this creative writing course. Focus will be on expanding and nurturing creativity through a variety of daily and long-term projects in the areas of poetry, fiction, and literary non-fiction. Students should expect workshop and peer review opportunities. A writing portfolio must be submitted for this course final.

Note: This course is available to sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Prerequisite: Recommendation of current English teacher is required.



# Fine Arts

The Music Department lays a foundation that helps to nurture performance. Students learn to read, write and interpret music as an essential dimension of a rich and diverse education. Artistic, literary, mathematic, scientific and historical significances, as well as foreign languages and foundations in faith, are interwoven into both performance and academic courses. Courses that fulfill the Freshman Music Requirement include: Freshman Chorale (a singing ensemble), Music Culture and Appreciation or Theater Arts. Music Theory offers creative avenues for aspiring composers, arrangers, and arts managers. Collaboration with Central Catholic Music Department affords Oakland Catholic students the full Concert Band experience. Educational research shows that students benefit in all academic areas through the development of musical skills.

The Visual Arts Department seeks to instill aesthetic awareness in each student that is involved in the program. The understanding, appreciation, and production of art are developed through practical application and active participation. The core of the program is dedicated to unlocking the imagination, encouraging creativity, and developing critical thinking in each student. As such, the Visual Arts Department hopes to develop the whole person, providing the student with opportunities to grow intellectually, emotionally, and spiritually.

The Visual Arts Program develops in the following manner: each studio is one semester in length and carries the weight of a 1/2 credit. The graduation requirement is to complete Studio I, which is designed to begin building a foundation through the study of basic art theory and technique. Classes beyond Studio I are electives.

## *Art*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Studio I	832	One	.5

This studio course is designed to build a foundation in the visual arts through the study of basic art theory and technique. There is a strong emphasis on developing drawing skills and exploring the elements and principles of art. It is a projects-based course that centers on exploring art as a visual language. Art history and visual culture are integrated throughout the semester. Upon successful completion of this required course, students will be prepared for Studio II, Ceramics, or Painting courses.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Studio II-V	810, 811, 812, 813	One	.5

This mixed media course allows students to continue to develop drawing, painting and design skills through a variety of studio experiences. Students will be challenged to continue refining their skills in fine art media and creative problem solving, as well as expand knowledge of the elements and principles of art.

*Prerequisite:* Successful completion of Studio I is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Pottery	819	One	.5

(5 of 6 cycle days) - This course focuses on various methods of working with clay, both hand- building and wheel-throwing techniques. Students will learn the fundamentals of using the potter's wheel, learning to throw bowls and cylinders. Sculptural and surface design skills are emphasized as well as glazing and firing procedures. The cultural and historical importance of clay/ceramics in art will be explored.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors. Priority is given to seniors.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio I is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Painting	820	One	.5

(5 of 6 cycle days) - This course is designed to build upon the skills, techniques, and ideas developed within the Studio I course. This course focuses on painting techniques and media. Color theory will be studied and applied. Students will develop technical skills in watercolor, oil painting, and acrylic painting. This is a studio-based (project oriented) course.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Studio I is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	AP Studio Art 2-D	802	Both	1

The AP Studio Art course is for students interested in a rigorous and focused study in art. Students will develop a quality portfolio that demonstrates a mastery of concept, composition and execution in 2D design. This course is based on a student creating a body of work (24 pieces) that demonstrates quality, concentration and breadth. This portfolio will be submitted to the College Board for college credit.

Note: This course is by recommendation of art teacher only.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Art History	801	Both	1

This course taught at Central Catholic will engage students at the same level as an introductory college art history survey. Students will be introduced to major artistic developments in the visual arts from Pre-history through the Middle Ages. Paintings, sculptures, architecture and other media will be discussed in a variety of ways including their formal and stylistic characteristics, the cultural and social conditions in which they were produced, and the meanings that have been and can be interpreted from them. Working both chronologically and thematically, we will give special emphasis to: the articulation of world religions (both past and present), the changing function of the visual arts in diverse cultures, the shifting role of the artist in visual production and the tools and techniques involved in arts production. Strategies for analyzing and interpreting art, as a distinct component of visual culture will be discussed in this course. The course will consist of slide-based lectures, class discussions, and student presentations. These will be supplemented with readings in your textbook. Because this is an Advanced Placement Course, there will be emphasis on preparation for the AP exam. The course does not assume prior training or seek primarily to identify students who will major in art

history in college. Students who have done well in other courses in the humanities, such as history and literature, are especially encouraged to enroll.

Note: This course is only available to seniors as part of the OC/CC Collaboration.

## Music

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Chamber Singers	853	Both	1

An advanced-level of Treble choir repertoire will be prepared with emphasis on development of vocal ability, performance practice, advanced vocabulary, and sight-singing skills. Students will develop listening skills, improvisation, performance evaluation, and the relationships between music and other arts and disciplines. Students are encouraged to continue to develop technique through private lessons with a vocal instructor. Evaluations include participation, written quizzes, and concert attendance as well as projects and presentations that may include a mini-recital during the second semester, consisting of one classical, one folk or one Broadway/pops selection.

Note: Students who are accepted into Chamber Singers are asked to purchase a dress which is their required uniform for singing events. Those who show documentation of financial need will be given assistance in this purchase.

Prerequisites: Audition (Jan./Feb. for the following year) and written examination; and one (1) semester of Freshman Chorale or Concert Chorale is strongly recommended.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Concert Chorale	845	One	.5

Concert Chorale is a performance ensemble, open to all upper-class students. Continued development in vocal technique and musicianship are emphasized. Two and three-part treble choir literature is learned with emphasis on sight-singing and understanding of notation, performance practice, and listening skills. Evaluations include participation, written quizzes and concert attendance.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Freshman Chorale	844	One	.5

Freshman Chorale is a training ensemble, in which fundamental musicianship and vocal technique are stressed. One, two and three-part treble choir literature is learned with emphasis on sight singing and understanding of notation, performance practice, and listening skills. Evaluations include participation, written tests covering; rhythm, notation, musical terminology, key signature and time signature recognition, and sight singing, concert attendance is also required. Performance attendance is required during the semester. Skills are developed for Chamber Singers audition/examination. Pianists are most welcomed in this class.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP or Honors	Marching/Concert Band	850/870	Both	1

(Period 9 only)

Capable ninth graders and all upper-class Oakland Catholic instrumental music students are encouraged to take Marching/Concert Band at Central Catholic High School, where full band,

honor-level literature is offered. Participation is based on Director recommendation (jwilson@centralcatholics.com), after demonstrating musical competence and knowledge in an audition. The class emphasizes musicianship and performance. Students are encouraged to improve technique through private lessons with a teacher of their own instrument. The student will participate in all marching and concert band functions, including football game appearances, parades, concerts, assemblies, etc. Evaluation is based upon attendance, aptitude and performances.

Prerequisite: The recommendation if the Director is required, based upon audition.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Music Culture and Appreciation	842	One	.5

Music Culture and Appreciation is a lecture/survey course in music; it fulfills the ½ credit minimum graduation requirement for music. Broad spectrums of musical genres are introduced; Critical listening skills are honed; Presentation skills are incorporated into the course. The origins of music are explored and a deeper connection to our world and a greater appreciation for the music we hear. Evaluations are based upon participation, class work, projects, quizzes, tests and a cumulative final exam or project.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Music Theory I/II	855	One	.5

Entry exam will determine the student's level of previous knowledge, based upon experience in private instruction or in Freshman choir. Each successive semester of Music Theory will be based upon the student's level of achievement in the prior semester. This is a course for the musician who wants to acquire music reading/writing proficiency to prepare for collegiate level music studies. Piano proficiency is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Music Theory III/IV	856	One	.5

Students who have already completed Music Theory I/II may choose to take Music Theory III/IV for one semester. This is a continuation of music theory and covers more in-depth music materials in preparation for AP Music Theory. Piano proficiency is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Music Theory	857	Both	1

Entry exam will determine the student's level of previous knowledge, based upon experience in private instruction or in Freshman choir. Each successive semester of Music Theory will be based upon the student's level of achievement in the prior semester/course. This is an AP course for the musician who wants to acquire advanced music reading/writing proficiency to prepare for collegiate level music studies. Piano proficiency is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Instrumental Seminar	859	One	.5

Open to ALL grades with the prerequisite that you need to OWN or rent and have basic proficiency on your instrument. This course is open to all instruments. The nature of this course will adapt to the instrumentation presented. For example, if 6 flute players, a violinist and a pianist sign up for the class, we may have a flute quartet, flute duo and a violin/piano

combo. The class will focus on different music genres and eras and detail the stylistic variances that each genre presents. Repertoire covered will span from Medieval through Contemporary composers. Performance practice, demonstration of musical skills and rehearsal preparation are all essential components of this course. The course goal is to create and make music collaboratively.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Theatre Arts	840	One	.5

The spectrum of theater arts is presented in the following sections: Voice and Stage Presence; Evaluation; Scene work; Acting; Characterization; Publicity; Production (Lighting, Scenery, Costume, Props); Theater history; Games and Improvisation; Planning for the future. Theory combined with hands-on practice is the style of every unit. Students will learn the basics of theater history, play production, performing and careers in theater.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Theatre Arts II	861	One	.5

Theatre Arts II is a continuation of Theatre Arts with an emphasis on acting and the creative process. Acting with great attention to detail will be explored as well as implementing student writing and creation of monologues, dialogues and scenes. Short Film Composition, PSA's and commercial acting for the screen will also be studied. Students in Theatre Arts 2 will be asked to present at an evening performance during the school year.

# Foreign Languages

The academic atmosphere at Oakland Catholic High School, with its emphasis on global perspectives and the expectation that our students develop into ethical global leaders and agents of change in our world, has fostered a strong and comprehensive foreign language program. The Foreign Languages Department offers a five-year sequence in the areas of French, Italian, Latin and Spanish, and a four-year sequence in Mandarin Chinese. With that said, given the expertise of the instructors, regardless of what level a student enters in a particular language, the student will be able to pursue any foreign language all four years of her Oakland Catholic High School career. (Additional Independent Study courses are not listed in this catalogue but will be made available to those students who complete all levels of a foreign language sequence prior to their senior year, who wish to continue their pursuit of this foreign language, and are able to work out a program of study with the instructor of that language.) In all world language classes, emphasis is placed on the development of skills in aural comprehension, speaking, writing, and reading, as well as the appreciation of the value system and behavior patterns of the people whose language the student is learning. Concentrations on culture, history, translation, and reading are the focus of Latin courses.

Two consecutive years of study of the same foreign language is required for graduation in the State of Pennsylvania. Oakland Catholic High School is a college-prep school; most colleges and universities expect candidates to complete at least three consecutive years of study of the same language. Students are not permitted to change language choice after 1<sup>st</sup> year of study unless approved by Administration. OC students are encouraged to take full advantage of the broad array of opportunities for foreign language study at Oakland Catholic, and to include one or more foreign language sequences in their curriculum.

## Chinese

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Chinese I	461	Both	1

This course introduces the student to the Standard Chinese language – Mandarin, the basics of Pinyin for pronunciation purposes, and culture of the Chinese people. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are reinforced through daily study. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, projects, and presentations. The course is open to incoming Freshmen who have been judged to have the maturity to handle the complexities of the language. For Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors who pursue this course as an elective, not as their principal foreign language course, the student's current foreign language test average must be a 93% or higher, and she must have excellent memory skills to memorize the many Chinese written characters needed for Level One. She must also have the aural ability to tell the differences between the four levels of voice pitch, called tones, used when speaking Chinese. (Upper-level students pursuing Chinese I as an elective are not guaranteed acceptance into the course since scheduling can become an issue.)

**Prerequisites:** A 93% test average in current foreign language course and current language teacher's recommendation is required for upperclassmen.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Chinese II	462	Both	1

This course continues the development of the language and culture of the Chinese people. Grammar is emphasized through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, allowing for more creative oral and written expression. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, writings, projects, and presentations.

*Prerequisites:* A passing grade in Chinese I, and a teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Chinese III	463	Both	1

This course continues the development of the language skills acquired in Chinese I and Chinese II. In this level, the course will place an emphasis on increasing vocabulary to improve higher level conversational speaking, reading, and character writing skills. Oral presentations, classroom performance, homework assignments, and quizzes are major components of evaluation for this course.

*Prerequisites:* A passing grade in Chinese II and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Chinese IV	464	Both	1

This course continues the development and enhancement of Chinese language skills. In addition to increasing vocabulary, higher level conversational speaking, grammar, reading, and character writing skills, this course will also help the student who is preparing to take Chinese SAT II. Progress assessment is done through oral presentations, classroom performance, homework assignments, quizzes, and exams. This course is for the student who is highly motivated and able to work independently at a college level.

*Prerequisites:* A 90% test average in Chinese III and teacher recommendation are required.

## ***French***

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	French I	411	Both	1

This course introduces the student to the language and culture of the Francophone world. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are reinforced through daily study. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, projects, and presentations. All students are required to participate in Le Grand Concours, the National French Exam, for a fee of \$5.00 due at the start of the school year.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	French II	413	Both	1

This course continues the development of the language and culture of the Francophone world. Grammar is emphasized through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, allowing for more creative oral and written expression. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, writings, projects, and presentations.

**Prerequisites:** A passing grade in French I and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	French II	414	Both	1

This course continues the development of the language and culture of the Francophone world with listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills mastered at an accelerated pace. The course is conducted in French in order to maximize exposure to the target language. Evaluation is more stringent in exams, assignments, projects, and presentations. Since oral work becomes more significant at this level, it is important that the student is comfortable with speaking in French in front of others. All students are required to participate in Le Grand Concours, the National French Exam, for a fee of \$5.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in French I and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	French III	416	Both	1

This course covers the same skills and materials as the College-Preparatory course, but in greater depth and at an accelerated pace. The course is conducted in the target language. Unit tests, participation, homework assignments, journals, and oral presentations are major components in determining the grade for this course. Students must purchase an additional grammar workbook for this class at the end of French II. This book will be used for summer assignments, in CE French, and in AP French, in addition to during French III Honors. All students are required to participate in Le Grand Concours, the National French Exam, for a fee of \$5.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in CP French II or an 87% test average in Honors French II, ease with oral participation, and teacher recommendation are all required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	French	419	Both	1

This course is taken at a college equivalency level through the University of Pittsburgh. All students enrolled in this course must register with the College in High School program at the University of Pittsburgh and purchase the text package used by the French department at the university. Taught at Oakland Catholic High School, there is a strong emphasis on speaking and listening skills through conversation, discussion, oral quizzes, and the use of the text's CD's. There is also a concentration on grammar as students learn to integrate structures learned in earlier levels into both their speaking and writing. All students will maintain a weekly journal of writing assignments. Grades will be composed of journals, tests, projects, and class work. Upon completion and a passing grade, students will receive three credits from the University of Pittsburgh for the third semester of college French as indicated on a transcript from the university. There is a fee of approximately \$245 for registration and \$100 for texts. All students are required to participate in Le Grand Concours, the National French Exam, for a fee of \$5.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** An 87% test average in CP or Honors French III and teacher recommendation are required.



Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	French Language	418	Both	1

This course is offered for students who have a strong foundation in the fundamentals of high school French and plan to take the AP French Language Exam at the end of this year. Essentially a college course, it is comparable to an advanced conversation and composition course. AP French prepares the student to take the French Language Advanced Placement Exam in May via reading assignments/discussions of articles and books, journal writing exercises, in-class essays, oral presentations, listening practice with online news reports and structured activities on CD's, grammar practice with the purchased workbook and teacher- provided texts, and numerous other resources. Each student will be required to purchase an electronic version of two AP preparation textbooks at the start of the school year. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. Students earning an acceptable score on the exam will receive college credit according to standards set by the particular college or university to which the student eventually matriculates. The eBooks cost approximately \$40. Students are also required to participate in Le Grand Concours, the National French Exam, for a fee of \$5.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** You need an 87% average in CE French and teacher recommendation.

## *Italian*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Italian I	431	Both	1

This course introduces the student to the language and culture of Italy. Reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills will be reinforced through daily study. Basic grammar and introductory tenses will also be included in the curriculum. Evaluation includes written assignments as well as speaking assignments, exams, projects and presentations. Students are also required to participate in the National Italian Exam, for a fee of \$8.00 due at the start of the school year.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Italian II	432	Both	1

This course continues the development of the language and Italian culture. Grammar is emphasized and developed through listening, speaking, reading and writing skills, allowing for more creative oral and written expression. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, writings, projects and presentations. Students are also required to participate in the National Italian Exam, for a fee of \$8.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A passing grade in Italian I and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Italian II	430	Both	1

This course will cover the same skills and material as Italian II CP while including additional readings, vocabulary, and grammar concepts that are expected to be mastered at an accelerated pace. Students are also required to participate in the National Italian Exam, for a fee of \$8.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 92% test average in Italian I and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Italian III	433	Both	1

This course offers a continuation of the basic skills in Italian with increased emphasis on developing speaking, reading and structural writing skills. This course completes the study of the basic principles and expands on grammar and vocabulary learned in levels I and II. Reading selections on Italian culture are an integral component of this course along with the development of a writing component. Unit tests, daily assignments, oral recordings/presentations, as well as projects will be the components on which students will be evaluated. Students are also required to participate in the National Italian Exam, for a fee of \$8.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in CP Italian II or an 87% test average in Honors Italian II along with teacher recommendation is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Italian IV	434	Both	1

This course will present and explore the Italian syntax as well as other intermediate-level grammar points as they are encountered in the reading of excerpts of various Italian literary works. The student is challenged to be more creative in the use of the language skills acquired, to possess an even deeper appreciation of the Italian culture, and to write and present papers and projects entirely in the Italian language. Students are also required to participate in the National Italian Exam, for a fee of \$8.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in CP Italian III or an 88% test average in Honors Italian III along with teacher recommendation is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Italian Language and Culture	435	Both	1

The AP Italian Language and Culture course, taught in conjunction with Italian IV Honors, is based on developing the student's reading, writing, listening and speaking skills within a cultural frame of reference that reflects the richness of the Italian language and culture. This course will prepare the student to meet the requirements of the Advanced Placement program in the Italian language specific to the guidelines given by the College Board.

Students will listen critically to spoken Italian, speak and write essays on many different topics, and are expected to integrate advanced grammar and vocabulary. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP Italian Exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board and the academic policies of Oakland Catholic High School. A student earning an acceptable score on the exam will receive college credit according to standards set by the particular college or university to which the student matriculates. Students may be required to purchase an ancillary workbook at the discretion of the instructor. Students are also required to participate in the National Italian Exam, for a fee of \$8.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 93% average in Italian III or a 90-92% average in Italian IV, and teacher recommendation are required.

## Latin

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Latin I	402	Both	1

Latin I introduces the student to the world and language of the Roman people. Students will begin to read Latin with understanding and confidence, develop some insights into Mythology and Roman History, sharpen and improve English language skills, and increase and enrich their English vocabulary. Participation in the National Latin Exam is required for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Latin II	403	Both	1

Latin II CP continues and expands the objectives of the first-level course. Students continue to read Latin with understanding and confidence, develop some insights into life during the early Empire, sharpen and improve English language skills, and increase and enrich their English vocabulary. Participation in the National Latin Exam is required for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** You must successfully complete Latin I and receive a teacher recommendation.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Latin III	404	Both	1

While covering the same skills and materials as the college-preparatory course, Latin II Honors includes additional reading, vocabulary, and grammatical concepts mastered at an accelerated pace. Participation in the National Latin Exam is required for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in Latin I and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Latin III	405	Both	1

Latin III Honors completes the introduction of the Latin grammar and vocabulary necessary for reading with confidence short, authentic selections from the works of Catullus, Pliny, Martial, and other Latin authors. Students will also complete a unit on Medical Latin, which explores vocabulary and terms used in the medical profession. Participation in the National Latin Exam is required for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in CP Latin II or an 87% test average in Honors Latin II and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Latin IV	406	Both	1

Students will read selections of Caesar's Gallic War, an account of his military campaign in Gaul, and Vergil's Aeneid, an epic poem recounting the wanderings of the Trojan hero Aeneas. Students will apply the skills of translation, analysis, and critical interpretation to the works studied. The course is open to any Latin III Honors student who meets the prerequisite.

Participation in the National Latin Exam is required for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** An 87% average in Honors Latin III, and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Latin	407	Both	1

This is an intensive course meant for the highly motivated and high performing student. Students will read Caesar's Gallic War, an account of his military campaign in Gaul and Virgil's Aeneid, an epic poem recounting the wanderings of the Trojan hero Aeneas. Students will learn to interpret the text and compare & contrast different aspects of the form, structure, or content. This course is the approximate equivalent of a fourth semester college course in Latin and will prepare students for the AP Latin examination. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. Students earning an acceptable score on the exam will receive college credit according to standards set by the particular college or university to which the student eventually matriculates. Students must purchase AP exam prep materials at the beginning of the school year. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. In addition, AP Latin students are required to participate in the National Latin Exam for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** An 87% average in Honors Latin III/IV and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	Latin and Culture	408	Both	1

This course is taken at a college equivalency level through the University of Pittsburgh. All students enrolled in this course must register with the College in High School program at the University of Pittsburgh and purchase the text package used by the Classics department at the university. Taught at Oakland Catholic High School, students will be introduced to Latin poetry through the epic work of Vergil's Aeneid. Students will read selections from Books I, II, and IV, and will practice reading aloud and scanning Vergil's stately meter, in the dactylic hexameter. Students will also read the whole poem in English for in-class discussion. Grades will be determined by the student's performance on three one-hour exams, a final exam, quizzes, and class recitation. Each exam, including the final, is based on the material covered in each unit. Upon completion and a passing grade, students will receive three credits from the University of Pittsburgh for the third semester of college Latin as indicated on a transcript from the university. There is a fee of approximately \$245 for registration and students may pay up to \$100 for texts. Participation in the National Latin Exam is required for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

**Prerequisites:** An 87% average in Honors Latin III, and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
IS	Independent Latin Study/H	987	Both	1

An independent study in Latin is offered for students who have completed AP Latin before their senior year. Students may choose authors or topics of interest to pursue in this course that meets one day a week/cycle. In addition to weekly translations and grammar review, the student will

create a commentary on one portion of the read text. Possible authors include: Vergil, Livy, Plautus, Seneca, Ovid, Cicero and others. In addition, independent Latin students are required to participate in the National Latin Exam for a fee of \$6.00 due at the start of the school year.

*Prerequisites:* Completion of AP Latin and teacher recommendation are required.

## *Spanish*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Spanish I	421	Both	1

This course introduces the student to the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills are reinforced through daily study. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, projects, and presentations. This course has an online component in which students will be expected to complete activities assigned via the online textbook and workbook. All students are required to participate in the National Spanish Exam, for a fee of \$7.00 due at the start of the school year.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Spanish II	423	Both	1

This course continues the development of the language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world. Grammar is emphasized through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, allowing for more creative oral and written expression. Evaluation includes oral and written assignments, exams, writings, projects, and presentations. This course has an online component in which students will be expected to complete activities assigned via the online textbook and workbook.

*Prerequisites:* Passing grade in Spanish I, and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Spanish II	424	Both	1

While covering the same skills and materials as the college-preparatory course, Spanish II Honors includes additional reading, vocabulary and grammatical concepts mastered at an accelerated pace. This course has an online component in which students will be expected to complete activities assigned via the online textbook and workbook. Participation in the National Spanish Exam is required and the \$7.00 fee will be collected at the start of the school year.

*Prerequisites:* A 90% test average in Spanish I, and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Spanish III	425	Both	1

This course offers a continuation of the basic skills in Spanish with increased emphasis on developing speaking, reading, and structural writing skills. The student is given an insight into the Spanish language and culture in many ways. This course has an online component in which students will be expected to complete activities assigned via the online textbook and workbook.

*Prerequisites:* Passing grade in CP Spanish II and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Spanish III	426	Both	1

This course covers the same skills and material that the college-preparatory course does but additional materials, reading, and grammar concepts are covered. The reading, vocabulary and grammar are of a greater complexity and are mastered by the Honors level student at an accelerated pace. This course has an online component in which students will be expected to complete activities assigned via the online textbook and workbook. Participation in the National Spanish Exam for a cost of \$7.00 is also required and will be collected during the first week of classes.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in CP Spanish II or an 87% test average in Honors Spanish II, and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Spanish IV	427	Both	1

This course provides the student with the guidance needed to continue discovering, learning and using the language in meaningful ways. Students express their ideas in both written and spoken form, and listening comprehension is further developed. The grammar review is a tool for communication. Students read and analyze a variety of texts and are exposed to contemporary authors and their writings. This course has an online component in which students will be expected to complete activities assigned via the online textbook and workbook. Participation in the National Spanish Exam for a cost of \$7.00 is required and will be collected during the first week of classes.

**Prerequisites:** A 90% test average in CP Spanish III or an 87% test average in Honors Spanish III and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	Spanish	438	Both	1

This course is taken at a college-equivalency level through the University of Pittsburgh. All students enrolled in this course must register with the College in High School program at the University of Pittsburgh and purchase the text package used by the Spanish department at the University. Taught at Oakland Catholic High School, there is a strong emphasis on speaking and listening skills through conversation, discussion, oral quizzes, and the use of the text's audio program. There is also a concentration on grammar as students learn to integrate structures learned in earlier levels into both their speaking and writing. All students will maintain a weekly journal of writing assignments. Grades will be composed of journals, tests, projects, and class work. Upon completion and a passing grade, students will receive three credits from the University of Pittsburgh for the third semester of college Spanish as indicated on a transcript from the university. There is a fee of approximately \$245.00 for registration and may have to pay \$100.00 for texts. All students are required to participate in the National Spanish exam for a cost of \$7.00, which will be collected during the first week of classes.

**Prerequisites:** A 92% test average in Honors Spanish III and teacher recommendation are required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Spanish and Language Culture	429	Both	1

This course prepares the student to meet the requirements of the College Board advanced Placement Program in the Spanish language. Students listen critically to extended spoken Spanish, speak and write essays on a variety of topics, and integrate and assimilate advanced vocabulary and idioms. The course will also include additional readings other than those found in the AP workbook. Students are required to purchase the AP Workbook for approximately \$60.00. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. Students earning an acceptable score on the exam will receive college credit according to standards set by the particular college or university to which the student eventually matriculates.

*Prerequisites:* A 92% average in Honors Spanish IV, or a 90% average in CE Spanish, and teacher recommendation are required.

# Mathematics

The Mathematics Department develops the skills needed to discover and apply higher-level problem-solving processes both inside and outside the classroom. Students will utilize these skills as they progress through the sequence of Mathematics courses offered at Oakland Catholic High School. The established sequence of Mathematics at Oakland Catholic High School is: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Trigonometry, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, with electives and unique progressions dependent on the individual student's needs and strengths. A rigorous foundation in Mathematics and integration of mathematical skills across the curriculum are necessary components of preparing students for higher education, STEM fields, financial planning, and 21st Century technical workplaces. The curriculum outlined below ensures that students can think mathematically, communicate by drawing on mathematical ideas, solve complex problems, and use data to look for patterns and develop explanations, hypotheses, and solutions. Our teachers are committed to meeting the needs of our students and providing all the necessary tools for all students to reach their potential.

As outlined in the course requirements, three (3) credits or six (6) semesters in Mathematics must be completed for graduation. Three (3) levels of Mathematics are offered and students are placed based on prerequisites and level of achievement. Although only three years of math is required for graduation in the State of Pennsylvania, Oakland Catholic High School is a college-prep school; OC students are encouraged to take full advantage of the broad array of opportunities for math courses offered. Requirements for changing placement are included in the course descriptions listed below. During sophomore, junior and senior years, students may take Advanced Placement courses if all prerequisites are met.

Each summer, students enrolled in AP classes will have assignments to complete in an effort to prepare for the next year.

## *Algebra I*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Algebra I	601	Both	1

Modeling and problem solving are at the heart of the curriculum. Mathematical modeling consists of recognizing and clarifying mathematical structures that are embedded in other contexts, formulating a problem in mathematical terms, using mathematical strategies to reach a solution and interpreting the solution in the context of the original problem. Students must be able to solve practical problems, representing and analyzing the situation using symbols, graphs, tables or diagrams. They must effectively distinguish relevant from irrelevant information, identify missing information, acquire needed information and decide whether an exact or approximate answer is called for, with attention paid to the appropriate level of precision. After solving a problem and interpreting the solution in terms of the context of the problem, they must check the reasonableness of the results and devise independent ways of verifying the results.

Primary topics of study include multiple representations of linear and non-linear functions, mathematical concepts for working with rational numbers, various expressions, analyzing and solving linear equations & inequalities, data analysis, probability, statistics, and polynomials.



Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Algebra I	600	Both	1

The Algebra I Honors course is designed to provide students with an in-depth level of instruction, an accelerated pace and a cooperative learning environment. The course guides students in the development of critical thinking skills and algebraic problem-solving skills which provide the foundation for real world problem-solving. It is targeted to highly motivated students who have previously had some algebra.

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Primary topics of study include multiple representations of linear and non-linear functions, mathematical concepts for working with rational numbers, various expressions, analyzing and solving linear equations & inequalities, data analysis, probability, statistics, and polynomials.

## Geometry

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Geometry	611	Both	1

Geometry is the study of shapes and their properties. Beginning with the fundamental concepts of geometry (points, lines and planes), definitions and properties of other figures including angles, circles, and polygons will be developed and studied. Logic forms the foundation of this course with an emphasis on precision, explanation and using both inductive and deductive reasoning. Formulas for perimeters, area, surface area, and volume will be studied. The idea of proof, as it relates to logical thinking, will be examined.

Prerequisite: You must successfully complete Algebra I.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Geometry	610	Both	1

Geometry is the study of shapes and their properties. Beginning with the fundamental concepts of geometry (points, lines and planes), definitions and properties of other figures including angles, circles, and polygons will be developed and studied. Logic forms the foundation of this course with an emphasis on precision, explanation and using both inductive and deductive reasoning. Formulas for perimeters, area, surface area, and volume will be studied. The idea of proof, as it relates to logical thinking, will be examined. At the Honors level, the course moves more quickly while also examining additional topics, as well as certain topics being explored

with more depth and rigor.

**Prerequisites:** An 88% or higher in Algebra 1 Honors, or a 93% or higher in CP Algebra 1 must be achieved, and a teacher recommendation.

## ***Algebra II***

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Algebra II	621	Both	1

Algebra II builds upon the concepts in Algebra I. Topics of study include systems of equations and inequalities, linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, logarithmic and exponential functions. Families of graphs and matrices are also addressed. In addition, the study of methods of solutions and their applications are explored.

**Prerequisites:** You must successfully complete Algebra I and Geometry.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Algebra II	620	Both	1

Algebra II builds upon the concepts in Algebra I. Topics of study include systems of equations and inequalities, linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, logarithmic and exponential functions. Families of graphs, matrices, and conic sections are also addressed. In addition, the study of methods of solutions and their applications are explored. A brief explanation of trigonometric functions is included. This course is the same as Algebra II CP, with the exception that the workload is more rigorous.

**Prerequisites:** You must achieve; an 88% or higher in Geometry Honors, or a 93% or higher in Geometry CP, and a 90% or higher in Algebra I. You also need a teacher recommendation.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Algebra II/Trigonometry	619/652	Both	1.5

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry is a combination of a full-year of Accelerated Honors Algebra II and one semester of Honors Trigonometry. This pairing of courses is uniquely designed for eligible Sophomores interested in majoring in Engineering or other subjects requiring a highly developed knowledge of Mathematics. The courses must be taken concurrently as the topics in each class are often related, tests are sometimes given on topics from both subjects, and often times the classes overlap on a day to day basis in the second semester.

The Algebra II class differs from Honors Algebra II in its content and pace. Many topics covered are either in addition to the standard Algebra II curriculum or are covered in greater detail and with a higher level of rigor. Some such topics are Exponential and Logarithmic Functions, Conic Sections, Parametric functions, Polar Function, Sequences, and Series.

The one-semester Trigonometry course covers the same topics covered in the full-year PreCalculus course.

**Prerequisites:** You must achieve a 96% or above in Honors Geometry and teacher recommendation is required.

## Trigonometry/PreCalculus

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Trigonometry/PreCalculus	641	Both	1

PreCalculus utilizes a numerical, graphical and algebraic approach to problem solving. Topics of study include: equations and inequalities; polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trig functions; analytic geometry and trigonometry. Applications of each will also be studied.

Prerequisites: You must successfully complete Algebra II and receive a teacher recommendation.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Trigonometry/PreCalculus	640	Both	1

PreCalculus utilizes a numerical, graphical and algebraic approach to problem solving. Topics of study include: polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trig functions; analytic geometry and trigonometry. Applications of each will also be studied. The Honors level will prepare the student for Calculus in high school or college.

Prerequisites: You must achieve; an 88% or higher in Algebra II Honors or Algebra II/Trig Honors, a 93% or higher in Algebra II CP and a teacher recommendation is required.

## Calculus

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Calculus I	646	Both	1

Honors Calculus provides the student with a rigorous course in calculus with in-depth instruction in the basic concepts of calculus. The course is designed for those students not planning to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Calculus. Calculus brings together many of the concepts and procedures from algebra, geometry and trigonometry. The focus in the first half of the year will be on functions, limits and differential calculus with an emphasis on real world problems in the area of related rates, optimization and motion. The focus in the second half of the year will be on integral calculus with applications that include finding areas enclosed by the graphs of functions, finding the volumes of shapes defined by functions and calculating quantities by integrating derivative functions.

Prerequisite: You must successfully complete Honors Trigonometry/PreCalculus or Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Calculus AB	648	Both	1

Calculus is the study of limits, derivatives, and integrals. Applications of these concepts will be studied. Calculus uses analytical, graphical, numerical, and algebraic methods to find the solutions to problems. This course is equivalent to college Calculus I for students majoring in mathematics, chemistry, or physics. The course's foundation is based upon the AP Calculus AB curriculum. An updated version of this can be found at the College Board website. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. Students are required to purchase the AP Guide.

Prerequisites: You need to achieve a minimum final grade of a 93% in Honors Algebra

II/Trigonometry (both components) or a 93% in Honors Trigonometry/PreCalculus, or a minimum final grade of an 88% in Honors Calculus I, and a teacher recommendation is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Calculus BC	644	Both	1

This course is a continuation of the topics of Calculus I. The course's foundation is based upon the AP Calculus BC curriculum. An updated version of this can be found at the College Board website. This course is equivalent to college Calculus I and II for students majoring in mathematics, chemistry, or physics. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. Students are required to purchase the AP Guide.

Prerequisites: You need a minimum final grade of an 88% in AP Calculus I and a teacher recommendation.

### *Electives – Mathematics*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Engineering I	680	Both	.5

*This course is an elective taken at Central Catholic High School and only available to Oakland Catholic juniors and seniors. (3 of 6 days - double periods)*

Using Math to Engineer a Modern Society: Modern societies are possible in part due to a complex and reliable infrastructure that is able to support large numbers of people living and working near each other. Engineers are the inventors, developers, and maintainers of that infrastructure, and math is one of the foundations which engineering rests. This course is a project-based introduction to engineering and the engineering design process. Course units include engineering design with Auto-Desk CAD software, strength of materials and structures, bridge design and DC circuits. A formal presentation is required at the completion of a major group project. Assessment emphasizes teamwork and successful completion of projects. Some projects will be done in coordination with external competitions. Some project work will require meeting outside of the classroom to complete. The successful completion of this course is a requirement for other higher-level pre-engineering courses that are offered.

Note: Enrollment is limited to 10 students per section; there will most likely be 2 sections available.

Prerequisite: You must achieve an 80% or higher in your previous math classes.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Probability and Statistics	654	One	.5

This course is an elective intended for students who plan to enter such fields as economics, business, education, social sciences, mathematics, science, and medicine, which require statistics for their effective pursuits. Probability will focus on the likelihood of events occurring in the real world. Statistics will focus on the manipulation and interpretation of numerical data. Graphing calculator and computer software will be utilized.

Note: This course is open to Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors.

Prerequisite: You must successfully complete Algebra II.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Statistics	655	Both	1

The AP Statistics course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding.

**Prerequisite:** An 88% or higher in Honors Algebra 2 must be achieved or a 93% or higher in CP Algebra 2 with a teacher recommendation.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	CE Linear Algebra	656	One	.5

Students will earn 3 college credits from the University of Pittsburgh for this course. The principle topics of the course include vectors, matrices, determinants, linear transformations, eigenvalues and eigenvectors, and selected applications. Students are required to enroll with the University of Pittsburgh and there is a fee of \$225.

**Prerequisite:** is successful completion of AP Calculus AB with a score of 4 or 5 on the AP Exam.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Financial Literacy and Entrepreneurship	669	One	.5

This course will introduce entrepreneurship to students, enabling them to learn first-hand the risks and rewards of operating a small business. Students will learn the steps involved in turning an idea into a business, including writing a business plan. Students will gain financial literacy skills including money management, personal and business credit and debt, financial services, and more that may be used both in a personal and business setting.

**Note:** This course is open to all Juniors and Seniors.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
	Math Tutorial	698	Both	0

This class is designed to support students with their day-to-day math assignments as well as to help them prepare for tests. Students are scheduled for Math Tutorial based on referrals from Admissions, Administration, Faculty members, and/or parental requests.

# Health and Physical Education

Currently PA Code requires that upon graduation, all students will have completed one-half credit of health education and one-half credit of physical education.

The Health and Physical Education Department at Oakland Catholic High School is dedicated to the principle of a sound mind in a sound body. Through sports, games and movement experiences, we encourage the acquisition and development of leadership, character, teamwork, motor skills, personal fitness and graceful movement. All students are strongly encouraged to make physical fitness and wellness an integral part of their lives, both now and in the future. Intelligent decision-making and healthy choices are the basis of our health and physical education curriculum.

## *Health*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Health	903	Both	.5

The health curriculum is designed to offer up-to-date information that will enable students to make positive life-style choices. Course of study includes topics such as wellness, nutrition, stress management, healthy relationships, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, CPR and first aid. Health is required for graduation and typically taken during the sophomore year.

## *Physical Education*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Physical Education	901	Both	.5

The Physical Education courses are structured on fitness and improvement of basic motor skills to encourage enjoyment of active lifestyles, teamwork, and good sportsmanship. Activities included are team and individual sports, aerobic activities, yoga, and conditioning in the fitness center. Students must purchase a gym uniform from Schoolbelles to participate in class. Two semesters of Physical Education are required for graduation.

Note: Neither the Pennsylvania School Code nor the State Board of Education allows for waivers for students from the requirements of health & physical education due to participation in a physical activity, such as interscholastic sports.

# Religion

The Religion Department of Oakland Catholic High School seeks to inspire in the hearts of our students a love for the person of Jesus Christ, by leading them into a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith and encouraging them to put that faith into action through service and spirituality.

*“Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope, but do it with gentleness and reverence”. (1 Peter 3:15-16)*

Through learning about Jesus Christ, students are invited to know His love for them and find hope and purpose for their lives. We apply reason to understanding the truths of our faith so that our students are always ready to explain their hope.

## *Freshman Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Introduction to Catholicism	101	Both	1

Introduction to Catholicism is a year-long course through which students learn about the basics of Catholicism through the study of Revelation and the Nicene Creed. Students will leave this course with an understanding of where the truths of Catholicism originate from as well as the core beliefs of Catholicism: The One Trinitarian God, the Incarnation, and Salvation through Jesus Christ. Students will also be challenged to understand their role as a human person to respond to God’s invitation to an intimate and personal communion with Him.

## *Sophomore Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Living in Communion with Jesus Christ	102	Both	1

Living in Communion with Jesus Christ is a year-long course that teaches students about virtue, Christian mortality and the Sacraments. Jesus Christ has opened Heaven for all of humanity and He calls each of us to Heavenly glory: this course will guide students in how to live life along the narrow path so as to enter into the Eternal Kingdom of God. Students will leave this course with a basic understanding of Christian Moral Principles, as well as how to live in a state of Communion with Christ through the merciful love of God, the Sacraments, and virtue.

## *Junior Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	The Mind and Heart of the Church	103	Both	1

Semester 1: FAITH AND REASON - The purpose of this course is to analyze the relationship between faith and reason in the pursuit of truth. Students will discover the fundamental compatibility between theology, philosophy, and science as well as explore a survey of scholarly contributions to the study of truth. In this course, students will be given the opportunity to engage in philosophical, theological and systematic thinking.

Semester 2: THE CHURCH: CHRIST’S SALVATION IN THE WORLD TODAY – Ecclesiology, the study of the nature and role of the Church in Salvation History, is explored in this course. Students will understand the Church’s purpose today in bringing people of all nations into the



New Covenant of Redemption in Jesus Christ. Mary's role and importance in the life of the Church will be explored. Students will leave this course with an awareness of their call to active participation in the Church and Her mission.

### *Senior Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Catholic Worldview	110	One	.5

This semester-long course will introduce students to the Catholic Church's social teachings. In this course students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's mission. This informs how Catholics view and serve humanity and the common good. The students will leave this course with a greater understanding of their responsibility to bring about justice in the world today.

Note: All seniors are required to take this course.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Discovering and Responding to the Call of Christ	113	One	.5

This course offers an in-depth look at the Universal Call to Holiness. Christ's call to "Be holy as your Father in Heaven is holy," leads every Christian to a lifelong path of conversion. This path may take one of four forms: Marriage, Holy Orders, Consecrated Life, and Single Life. Students will explore the unique graces and beauties associated with each state of life. Students will leave this course with a better understanding of discernment, a deeper spiritual life and a clearer understanding of how to foster their personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Ecumenical and Interreligious Studies	114	One	.5

The purpose of this course is to help students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions in the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God's Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which others systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.



# Science

With the burgeoning number of STEM-related opportunities for women, Oakland Catholic is committed to bringing our students to new frontiers in Science. In accordance with Pennsylvania code, students are required to take three years of Science for graduation. As students in a college-preparatory environment, they are encouraged to take advantage of the numerous elective courses offered by the Science Department. The core classes required of all students for graduation are Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Each class has specific prerequisites, which are set to ensure that students are challenged to their highest abilities. By offering a wide range of science electives, we hope to expose students to the diversity of science possibilities. In collaboration with the University of Pittsburgh, we are pleased to offer CE level classes in both Physics and Chemistry. Students can earn four (4) college credits for each CE class and gain valuable exposure to an authentic college course.

## *Biology*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Biology 1	511	Both	1

College preparatory Bio is the foundation for future study of biological systems. This course covers Science Process, Biochemistry, Enzymes, Cell Theory, DNA, and Genetics. Laboratory work will be a major part of this course. A TI84+ graphing calculator is required for this lab science. Evaluation will consist of tests, quizzes, lab reports, projects and homework.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Biology 1	510	Both	1

Honors Biology builds the foundation for further advanced level science courses. Laboratory work will be stressed in the areas of Science Process, Biochemistry, Enzyme Kinetics, Photosynthesis, Respiration, DNA, Molecular Genetics, Ecology and Evolution. Students will be challenged to develop critical thinking skills and to critically analyze scientific information. A TI 84+ graphing calculator is required for this lab science.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Biology	513	Both	1

This rigorous course follows the AP Biology syllabus and prepares students for the AP exam in May. It is available to Oakland Catholic Juniors or Seniors. Students must be able to work at a rapid pace and be willing to cover selected topics independently. Students may be required to purchase a lab book for this course. All students enrolled in this course MUST take and pay for the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board. It is recommended that students take Anatomy Honors before or concurrently with AP Biology. A summer assignment is required and turned in by the assigned dates throughout the summer.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisites: A 93% average in Honors level sciences courses and a recommendation of the

Science Department is required.

## *Chemistry*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Chemistry I	521	Both	1

This is a college preparatory course designed to give students a working knowledge of the vital facts and skills of Chemistry. The course covers the topics of atomic theory, chemical reactions, gas laws, Stoichiometry and acid- base chemistry.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Chemistry I	520	Both	1

Honors Chemistry I is designed to strengthen the preparation of students preparing for a career in science, but may include other students who are college bound for other fields but have the ability to do advanced work in Chemistry. Advanced-level mathematical skills are required to study concepts such as Significant figures, dimensional analysis, stoichiometry, and gas laws.

*Prerequisite:* You must achieve a minimum of a 90% average in Honors Biology I or a 95% average in CP Biology I. These averages are based on the final grade in the Biology course.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Chemistry II	523	Inactive for 2021-2022	1

This course covers an in-depth study of the structure of matter, periodic trends, bonding, thermodynamics, and chemical equilibrium. This course will prepare students for a first semester General Chemistry course in college.

*Prerequisite:* An 85% average in Honors Chemistry I or a 90% average in CP Chemistry I is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	Chemistry	529	Both	1

Students will earn college credit from the University of Pittsburgh and will have five (5) labs, four (4) exams at the University of Pittsburgh campus. This course covers an in-depth study of the structure of matter, bonding, stoichiometry, the kinetic theory of gases, thermochemistry and solutions. Students taking this course must enroll with the University of Pittsburgh for credit and must pay \$320.00 (subject to change) for University of Pittsburgh credit. Students will be required to complete a summer assignment by the required turn in date over the summer.

*Prerequisite:* A 95% average in Honors Chemistry I and recommendation of Honors Chemistry I teacher are required.

## Physics

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Physics I	531	Both	1

This college prep course will cover the main topics of Newtonian (Classical) Mechanics. Topics include the scientific method, measurement, graphing, 1-dimensional motion, free-fall, vectors, projectile motion, and Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, and momentum. Math is an important tool used in physics, but this class will only require a basic understanding of algebra and the order of operations.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Physics I	530	Both	1

This honors course will cover the main components of Newtonian (Classical) Mechanics in more depth and rigor than the college prep class. A double lab period will be held once every six-day cycle. Topics include the scientific method, measurement, graphing, 1-dimensional motion, free-fall, vectors, projectile motion, and Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, and momentum. Additional topics include circular motion, simple harmonic motion, and simple machines. Math is an important tool used in physics, and this class will require algebra as well as trigonometry.

Prerequisite: You must achieve a 90% average in Honors Chemistry I and be enrolled in Honors Algebra II or a higher math class for junior year.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CE	Physics	532	Both	1

Students will earn college credit from the University of Pittsburgh. This is the first semester physics class taught at Pitt. This is a rigorous course that will require at least five to seven hours of work each week outside of the classroom. The topics will expand and add upon material in Physics I honors. Topics include kinematics, projectile motion, Newton's Laws of motion, rotational motion, uniform circular motion, work, energy, universal gravitation, waves, thermodynamics and simple harmonic motion. Students taking this course must enroll with the University of Pittsburgh for credit and pay \$245 (subject to change).

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisites: A 93% average in previous Honors Science classes must be achieved.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Physics II	534	Both	1

This course is a second-year Physics course designed to follow Honor Physics I or CE Physics. It will introduce concepts and principles not seen in our other physics classes. Topics will include circuits, electricity, DC motors, AC generation, magnetism, optics, light and color, wave nature of light, nuclear physics, and quantum mechanics. Students will learn through a hands-on approach and will conduct labs frequently. Evaluation consists of homework, lab work, test scores and a comprehensive midterm and final.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisites: A 90% average in Physics I Honors or 95% average in Physics I CP is required.

## *Electives – Science*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Bioinformatics	519	Both	1

Bioinformatics is an interdisciplinary course focusing on biology, chemistry and computer science while implementing mathematics, statistics, physics and engineering to understand and organize information about biological macromolecules (DNA, RNA & Proteins). Student planning to focus their studies in the fields of medicine (including medicinal technologies) and computational biosciences will benefit from completion of this course. It is an honors course aimed at preparing our students for a career in the computational biosciences. This class will be limited to the top 15 students expressing interest in this course.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisites: A 90% or higher in Honors level science classes or 95% or higher in CP science classes is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Chemistry II	523	Both	1

This course covers an in-depth study of the structure of matter, periodic trends, bonding, thermodynamics, and chemical equilibrium. This course will prepare students for a first semester General Chemistry course in college

Prerequisite: An 85% average in Honors Chemistry I or a 90% average in CP Chemistry I is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Anatomy and Physiology	540	Both	1

This course is a continuation of Human Biology taught in Biology I. It is an excellent course for students who wish to pursue a career in medicine or health-related fields. All body systems are covered in detail, and four major dissections are performed. Evaluation is based on tests, written assignments and labs.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisites: You must successfully complete Biology I and Chemistry I.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Anatomy and Physiology	541	Both	1

This course will be a fast-paced Anatomy course that is designed for students with demonstrated ability in high-level science and will enhance the education of students seriously intending to enter the medical field. All body systems are covered in detail, and four major dissections are performed. Evaluation is based on tests, written assignments, and labs.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors. Students in this course must also complete a Physics course at Oakland Catholic.

Prerequisites: A 90% average in Honors Biology I and a 90% average in Honors Chemistry I, must be achieved.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Engineering Principles Including Challenges (EPIC)	536	One	.5

The goal of this course is to expose high school students to beginning engineering design and prototyping. This course will provide students with the basic knowledge and analytical skills needed to develop a meaningful and practical design based on a relevant problem statement, user needs, and user values. This course utilizes teamwork and will be taught primarily through activities, projects, and problem-based learning. This will serve as a strong foundation to continually hone interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and understanding of the design process. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education. Students will learn how to document their work, and communicate their solutions to their peers and members of the professional, scientific community. A formal presentation is required at the completion of a major group project.

Note: Enrollment for this course is limited to 16-17 students and is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: An 85% average in all math classes is recommended to take this course.

# Social Studies

The Social Studies Department is committed to the goal of providing our students with a solid foundation in history and social sciences. The State of Pennsylvania requires three years of Social Studies. The Social Studies Department at Oakland Catholic High School requires four years. The members of the Social Studies Department feel that it is essential that students have the fourth year to pursue academic challenges that will help prepare them for the transition to college.

The focus of our curriculum in 9th and 10th grades is to present students with a global perspective as they study history. Our department is committed to teaching our students history/social sciences from multiple cultural perspectives. It is paramount that our students pursue learning by thinking critically, speaking intelligently, and writing credibly. These are the goals of every member of this department.

## *Freshman Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	World History I	302	Both	1

World History I traces the prehistoric and historic achievements of western and eastern civilizations from the Stone Age to 1500 A.D. The course explores the impact of geography, the evolution of government, the development of culture, and the reality of conflict and change. Attention is paid to the accomplishments of leaders and prominent figures, as well as the importance of social history. Units of study include: Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome, India, China, Japan, and Europe & the Middle East during the Middle Ages.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	World History I	303	Both	1

World History I traces the prehistoric and historic achievements of western and eastern civilizations from the Stone Age to 1500 A.D. The course explores the impact of geography, the evolution of government, the development of culture, and the reality of conflict and change. Attention is paid to the accomplishments of leaders and prominent figures, as well as the importance of social history. Units of study include: Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, Rome, India, China, Japan, and Europe & the Middle East during the Middle Ages.

Note: Students in Honors World History I will be required to work more independently, complete more in-depth reading assignments, and demonstrate argumentation skills in more debates and writing assignments.

## *Sophomore Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	World History II	313	Both	1

Sophomore year will complete the study of World History started in Freshman year. Beginning with 1500 A.D., this course will examine both western and non-western history up to, and including the present. Research, critical analysis, and writing are important components of the course.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	World History II	312	Both	1

Sophomore year will complete the study of World History started in Freshman World History I. Beginning with 1500 A.D., this course will examine both western and non-western history up to and including the present. This course will place heavy emphasis on research, critical thinking and writing, especially essay testing. Summer reading is an important component in establishing the foundational concepts for the course.

*Prerequisites:*

- A 90% average over four quarters in Honors World History I and the recommendation of your Honors World History I teacher.
- A 95% average over four quarters in CP World History I and the recommendation of your CP World History I teacher.

*Junior Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	American History	311	Both	1

This course is a chronological study of American History from Colonial times to the present. This course will focus on the inter-relationships between the political, economic, social, intellectual and diplomatic forces that have shaped America. Students' thinking and writing skills will be emphasized by requiring students to summarize and analyze information.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	American History	310	Both	1

This course is a comprehensive and chronological study of American History. Students will examine the inter-relationship between the political, economic, social, intellectual and diplomatic forces that have shaped America. Critical thinking skills will be emphasized, requiring students to summarize, and also analyze, synthesize and interpret information. Students will also practice correct research skills. A formal research paper will be required.

*Prerequisites:*

- A 90% average over four quarters in Honors World History II and the recommendation of your Honors World History II teacher.
- A 95% average over four quarters in CP World History II and the recommendation of your CP World History II teacher.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	United States History	309	Both	1

This accelerated course is designed to examine themes in the development of American culture from the first settlement to present day. The student will analyze the inter-relationships between political, social, intellectual, economic, and diplomatic forces in shaping America. Using both primary and secondary sources, the student will investigate historical questions in order to develop arguments and support their validity. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board.

*Prerequisites:* Successful completion of Honors World History II with a 93% average over four



quarters and the recommendation of Honors World History II teacher are required.

### *Senior Year*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Economics and American Government	331	Both	1

**Economics:** One of the purposes of this course is to create an understanding of Economics in general and to more specifically learn about the American economy in both an academic and practical way. Some of the information presented will seem very logical.

Other information will only make sense if learned within the framework of defined economic concepts. The point is, not to take anything for granted. Be attentive to the concepts presented. Think about the questions being asked and try to give thoughtful responses during class discussion. It is important to be informed. Read a newspaper daily. Identify stories, events, etc. which impact on the American economy and/or the global economy. Concepts such as supply and demand, trade deficits, currency values, tariffs, and absolute and comparative advantage will be covered in this course

**U.S. Government:** The purpose of this class is to develop an awareness of, and a responsibility toward, the American system of government. It is important to note that this course will not center on civic responsibility and problems of democracy. Rather, we will study issues that relate to the origins of government, how those origins may have impacted on the formation of the American system of government, and how our Constitution has evolved from the intentions of the Founders to the modern interpretations of constitutional guarantees. We will use the Magruder's American Government text as a supplement. Students must be conscious about note-taking, daily review and active class participation. The concepts presented in government will be abstract, and depending on the topic, debatable.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Introduction to Economics and Political Science	334	Both	1

**Economics:** The text that will be used is Economics, by John B. Taylor and Akila Weerapana.

This is a college-level text. This course is designed for the self-motivated student who wishes to acquire an in-depth knowledge of how the economy functions from the point of view of the market system. Some of the topics that will be covered are: scarcity and choice, the characteristics of a market economy, the dynamics of supply and demand, price elasticity, consumerism, labor markets, investments, and taxation. Students who take this course must be willing to do extensive reading and writing. Critical thinking skills are essential for success in this course.

**Political Science:** This course is designed for the self-motivated student who wishes to explore the topic of politics beyond the usual scope of a high school course. Understanding Politics, Ideas, Institutions and Issues by Thomas Magstadt, is a college text that will be used in this course. This text introduces students to the topic of global politics by identifying and defining different types of government systems. The text then explores the role of politics within the context of a defined system of government. Political philosophy is a large component of this course. Different political models will be explored and discussion of these models will be done using the American political system as context.



Prerequisite: Recommendation of your junior year history teacher is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	United States Government and Politics	347	Both	1

The purpose of this course is to increase the understanding of the self-motivated student in analyzing and synthesizing information on the structure and function of American government. The framework, traditions and values of the American governmental structure will be studied. This course will also cover the main processes and institutions of the American political system. The following themes will be explored: The foundations of government (the historical framework within which the constitution originated, federalism, civil rights and liberties), the institutions of government (a study of Congress, the Presidency and the Federal courts), the politics of government (public opinion, elections, political parties, interest groups, the media), the governance of government (public policy, the economy, foreign policy and world politics, the state of the union). All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam in May according to the schedule set by the College Board.

Prerequisite: Recommendation of your junior year history teacher is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Human Geography	349	Both	1

In his book *The Power of Place*, Harm de Blij observes that “Earth may be a planet of shrinking functional distances, but it remains a world of staggering situational differences”. AP Human Geography addresses these differences (climate, resources, etc.) and the role place plays in the challenges we face in the 21st Century. According to the College Board AP Human Geography course description, “The purpose of the AP Human Geography course is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use and alteration of Earth’s surface. Students learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences”. Topics include urbanization, cultural patterns and processes (language, religion, cultural identity/ethnicity), the causes and effects of migration, the human impact on the environment, the political organization of space, industrialization and economic development, and rural land use.

This is a college-level class and students must expect an appropriate level of reading and writing. Summer reading is an important element of the class, as it helps establish the foundational concepts of course.

In addition to writing essays and papers, which analyze and respond to various topics, the students will write a research paper. All students enrolled in this course are required to take the AP exam in May. In addition, all students must purchase the practice book.

Prerequisite: It is strongly recommended that students registering for this class have successfully completed AP American History and/or AP Language and Literature to be prepared for the level of reading, analysis and writing required in this course.

## *Electives - Social Studies*

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Women Making History	341	One	.5

This semester-long course, taught at both the Honors and CP level, explores the role of women in societies throughout history, including present day. Major course topics include: studying the role of women in government, economics, education, social justice, and media. A variety of sources, both written and visual, will be used to analyze these themes. This class will require students to critically think during frequent class discussions and projects. The course will culminate in an action-oriented final project.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Sophomore World History II course.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Women Making History	342	One	.5

This semester-long course, taught at both the Honors and CP level, explores the role of women in societies throughout history, including present day. Major course topics include: studying the role of women in government, economics, education, social justice, and media. Students will analyze primary sources to enhance their understanding of these themes. This class will require students to critically think during frequent class discussions and writing assignments. The course will culminate in an action-oriented research project.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Sophomore Honors World History II course with an 85% or higher (or 93% in a CP History course), or the recommendation of sophomore or junior history teacher.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Psychology	339	One	.5

Honors Psychology I is a one-semester introductory course into human behavior and the mind. The course exposes students to the field of psychology with current research, important concepts, and key figures. Topics covered include: History and Approaches to Psychology, Research Methods, the Biology of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, Learning and Conditioning, States of Consciousness, and Human Development. To fully explore these topics, students will be expected to engage in critical thinking and frequent discussion. This Honors-level course will move at a fast pace, requiring independent work. Research and writing skills will be important components of the course.

Prerequisites: For rising juniors; maintaining a 95% average in her CP sophomore history course or maintaining a 90% average in her Honors sophomore history course is required.

For rising seniors; maintaining a 95% average in her CP junior history course, maintaining a 90% average in her Honors junior history course, or enrollment in an AP junior history course is required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Psychology	340	One	.5

Psychology I is a one-semester introductory course into human behavior and the mind. The course exposes students to the field of psychology with current research, important concepts, and key figures. Topics covered include: History and Approaches to Psychology, Research Methods, the Biology of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, Learning and Conditioning, States of Consciousness, and Human Development. To fully explore these topics, students will be expected to engage in critical thinking and writing skills, frequent discussion, and research projects.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Sociology	344	One	.5

Sociology is the study of society, social behavior, and interaction. In this one-semester course, we will explore various topics, including; culture, socialization, crime, race, and gender, to better understand how we are both products of and influences on our society. This will be done through discussion, observations, experiments, and research. Emphasis will be placed on appreciating the reasons for similarity and difference among the world's many social groups.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
CP	Psychology II	345	One	.5

This one-semester course offers students the opportunity to continue their study of psychology. Areas of study include Memory, Motivation, Personality, Intelligence, Abnormal Psychology and Treatment, and Social Psychology.

Note: This course is only available to seniors (possibly juniors if Psychology I was taken first semester).

Prerequisite: You must successfully complete Psychology I.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
AP	Psychology	346	Both	1

AP Psychology is a rigorous fast-paced course designed to introduce students to the scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. To accomplish this, the course provides instruction in the following content areas: History and Approaches, Research Methods, Biological Bases of Behavior, Sensation and Perception, State of Consciousness, Learning, Cognition, Motivation and Emotion, Developmental Psychology, Personality, Testing and Individual differences, Abnormal Psychology, Treatment of Psychological disorders, and Social Psychology. All students enrolled in this course MUST take the AP exam according to the schedule set by the College Board.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Prerequisites: You must achieve a 92% average in Honors Psych I or a 97% average in CP Psych I. Recommendation of Psych I teacher is also required.

Level	Course Name	Number	Semester	Credits
Honors	Introduction to Philosophy	350	One	.5

This is a one-semester survey course that will introduce students to the subject of Philosophy. The course content in the first quarter will concentrate on Western philosophy. We will begin the course by studying some of the key figures in Greek philosophy (Socrates, Plato, and Aristotle). The course will also include selected reading on a wide range of topics: religion, morality, knowledge, free will, determinism, and politics. A variety of philosophers will be studied in these topic areas. Students taking this course must be committed to do the required readings and must fully participate in class discussion and projects. Assessment will be done through in-class thesis writing.

Note: This course is only available to juniors and seniors.

Oakland Catholic High School Administration reserves the right to add to or edit this document at any time.  
Administration may also make any exceptions to policy or prerequisites at their discretion.  
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