



**SAN GABRIEL MISSION HIGH SCHOOL
CURRICULUM CATALOG
2009-2010**

ENGLISH

Elements of Literature

9 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: None

Course Description

This course is a writing-based course designed to introduce the basic skills for expository composition, the critical analysis of literature, and the literary terms and figures of speech. Traditional and contemporary literary selections from world authors are used to build critical thinking and reading skills. A research project and a 2-4 page paper are required.

Perspectives in Elements of Literature/Honors English I

9 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: At grade level or above grade level on Entrance Exam and B+ or better in Literature and Language Arts from 8th grade report card.

Course Description

This course is a writing-based course designed to introduce expository essay skills and to learn research project techniques, important literary terms and figures of speech, and the critical analysis of literature. This accelerated course analyzes elements of the epic, fiction, poetry, drama and the essay. A research project and a 3-6 page paper is required.

World Literature

10 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: Completion of Elements in Literature with a grade of C- or better

Course Description

This course is a writing-based course designed to further develop critical thinking reading, writing and oral skills, and the exploration of literary composition. Selections come from classical world myths, novels, and short stories. A research project and a 4-6 page paper is required.

Perspectives in World Literature/Honors English II

10 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: An A- or better in Elements of Literature (both semesters) and B+ or better in Cultural Geography (both semesters) and the approval from the current English instructor and English Department Chairperson.

A B+ or better in Perspectives in Elements of Literature (both semesters) and a B+ in Cultural Geography (both semesters) and the approval from your current English instructor.

Course Description

This course is a writing-based course in the reading and critical analysis of world literature. This accelerated course encompasses Greek and Roman myths, as well as various world literature pieces. A research project and a 6-8 page paper are required.

American Literature

11 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: Completion of World Literature with a grade of C- or better

Course Description

This course is a writing-based course, which further develops critical reading and thinking skills, as well as composition skills. This survey course encompasses the poetry, drama, fiction and non-fiction of the United States from the Native American/Colonial period through the contemporary era. A research project and a 7-10 page paper is required.

Advanced Placement (AP) Language and Composition

11 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: An A- or better in World Literature and World History (both semesters) and the approval from current English and History instructors and English department chairperson.

A B+ or better in Perspectives in World Literature and World History/Honors (both semesters) and the approval from current English and History instructors, and English department chairperson.

Course Description

This course is designed to further demonstrate an understanding of rhetorical situations. In addition to literary comprehension, the student will analyze how authors' control language to create meaning and evoke a reader's response. This course studies the progression of American Literature focusing on Native American creation narratives, Early Colonial prose and poetry, Romanticism, Transcendental essays, and nineteenth and twentieth century novels and dramas. The course refines composition skills in critical and analytical writings. It examines how sentence structure affects readers, how the choice of details contributes to understanding, and how form relates to content.

British Literature

12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: Completion of American Literature with a grade of C- or better.

Course Description

This course emphasis is placed on the reading and critical analysis of literature. This survey course encompasses the poetry, drama, fiction, and non-fiction of Great Britain from the Anglo-Saxon period through the modern era. A research project and a 8-10 page thesis paper is required.

Advanced Placement (AP) British Literature and Composition

12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: An A-average or better in AP Language and Composition or Perspectives in American Literature (both semesters) and approval from current English instructor and English Department Chairperson.

A B+ average or better in AP Language and Composition or Perspectives in American Literature (both semesters) and approval from their current English instructor and English Department chairperson.

Course Description

This is a college-level, writing-based course with emphasis in the reading and critical analysis of British Literature. This course encompasses the poetry, drama, fiction and non-fiction of Great Britain through the contemporary era focusing in depth on the greatest authors of the English speaking world. Special emphasis will be given to in-class, timed essays dealing with the analysis of poetry and fiction. A research paper is required. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the Advanced Placement exam in May, for which there is a fee. Those students who achieve a score of 5, 4, or 3 on the exam are eligible for college credit.

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I

9 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: Minimum C or better in Pre-Algebra or qualifying score on San Gabriel Mission High School entrance exam.

Course Description

Symbolic reasoning and calculations with symbols are central in algebra. Through the study of algebra, a student develops an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and the sciences. In addition, algebraic skills and concepts are developed and used in a wide variety of problem-solving situations.

ACCELERATED ALGEBRA I

9 10 credits Year

Prerequisite: Qualifying score on Entrance Exam and Math Placement Test

Course Description

This course is designed for students who have been exposed to basic Algebra topics. Emphasis will be placed on all concepts listed for Algebra I. This course develops basic understanding of mathematics. Topics covered during the year include: solving/graphing linear equations and inequalities, problem solving, solving systems of equations and applications, graphing and taking roots of quadratics, basic operations of polynomials, and factoring polynomials.

GEOMETRY

9-11 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: Minimum C- or better in Algebra I (both semesters) or qualifying score on San Gabriel Mission High School entrance exam.

Course Description

This course is a study in measurement and manipulation of points, lines, and polygons. This class will look carefully at the attributes and relationships between points and lines, angles and degrees. It examines reasoning and the development of proofs in mathematics to find natural truths. Furthermore, it explores the uses and measurements of lines, triangles, circles, and other polygons. It includes complex formulas to find area, surface area, and volume.

ALGEBRA II

10-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: Minimum C- or better in Geometry (both semesters).

Course Description

This course continues the study of the structure of algebra and provides the foundation for applying these skills to other mathematical and scientific fields. Topics include the review of structure and properties of the real number system, relations, functions, graphs, polynomial and rational expressions, quadratic equations and inequalities, linear equations and inequalities, absolute value, polynomial equations, complex numbers, and word problems.

ALGEBRA II/HONORS

10-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: Minimum B or better in Algebra I (both semesters) and minimum of B+ in Geometry (both semesters).

Course Description

This course provides an in-depth study of the topic of Algebra. Topics include the review of the structure and properties of the real number system, linear equations and inequalities, absolute value, relations, functions, graphs, polynomial and rational expressions, quadratic equations and inequalities, exponents, complex numbers, radicals, conic sections, polynomial equations, logarithms, and work problems.

PRE-CALCULUS

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: Minimum B- or better in Algebra II or minimum C+ or greater in Algebra II honors and approval from current math teacher and department chairperson. Graphing calculator recommended.

Course Description

This course includes the study of a variety of functions and their graphs. These functions are: absolute value, square root, greatest integer, quadratic, cubic, higher order polynomial, rational exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse sine, inverse co-sine, and inverse tangent.

PRE-CALCULUS HONORS**11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved****Prerequisites: B- or greater in Algebra II honors and approval from current math teacher and department chairperson. Graphing calculator recommended.****Course Description**

This course is designed to prepare the student for the rigorous study of AP Calculus. Pre-calculus includes the study of the following variety of functions and their graphs: linear, absolute value, square root, greatest integer, quadratic, cubic, higher order polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, inverse sine, inverse cosine, and inverse tangent.

CALCULUS**11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved****Prerequisites: B or greater in Pre-Calculus and approval from current math teacher and department chairperson. Graphing calculator is required.****Course Description**

This is an advanced course covering the concepts of differential and integral calculus. Calculus is explored on both a theoretical and a practical level, with emphasis placed on real-life applications. Students will learn the appropriate use of a graphing calculator to assist in the solution of higher-level problems. This course provides a useful introduction to college calculus.

SCIENCE**GENERAL SCIENCE****9 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved****Prerequisite: None****Course Description**

This course familiarizes students with basic concepts in matter, energy, global systems, and patterns of life. It discusses the processes of scientific investigations and promotes an awareness of science as an essential human endeavor with moral and human consequences. This course is designed as an introductory course and a prerequisite for Lab Biology.

LAB BIOLOGY**10 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved Fee****Prerequisite: Passing grade in General Science****Course Description**

This course is a one-year college preparatory course. It is designed to introduce the student to the diversity and the inter-relationships of the living world. Students will take part in labs to successfully complete the course. Topics include characteristics of life, cell biology, cell reproduction, genetics, and ecology.

LAB CHEMISTRY

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved Fee

Prerequisite: C or better in Lab Biology, Geometry and must have taken Algebra II or be currently enrolled in the Algebra II course.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to chemistry through the study of matter and energy, elements, compounds, and different types of reactions. A strong emphasis will be placed on the nature and structure of the atom, a study of gases, theories of chemical bonding, and organic chemistry. Problem-solving and laboratory techniques are included in this course.

LAB PHYSICS

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU approved Fee

Prerequisite: B or greater in Lab Biology, Chemistry and must have taken Pre-Calculus or Calculus or be currently enrolled in either Pre-Calculus or Calculus.

Course Description

This course provides a systematic introduction to the main principles of physics and emphasizes the development of problem-solving skills. Students are expected to interpret graphs and use, manipulate, apply scientific equations. In laboratory experimentation, students will investigate, develop, and apply physics concepts into their own experimental design to develop critical thinking skills. Several projects will be undertaken this year as an application of principles.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) LAB BIOLOGY

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved Fee

Prerequisite: B or greater in Lab Biology, Chemistry and must have taken Algebra II or enrolled in Pre-Calculus or Calculus.

Course Description

This course is designed to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. This course is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course. Students are required to take AP Exam.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved Fee

Prerequisite: C- or better in Lab Biology and have taken Geometry or a higher math course.

Course Description

This course borrows from several subjects such as biology, geology, geography, and chemistry with an emphasis on the study of the environment and various factors that affect it, including human activity. The goal of the course is to provide students with scientific principles, methodologies, and concepts in order to understand the relationships of the natural world and to identify environmental issues.

SOCIAL STUDIES

WORLD CULTURES/CULTURAL GEOGRAPHY

9 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: None

Course Description

This course shows appreciation of other cultures and other people with a strong emphasis on geography and the cultures that are present in those regions. This course uses projects, presentations, and homework to stress the importance of knowing cultures from around the world.

WORLD HISTORY

10 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: C-or greater in World Cultures/Cultural Geography

Course Description

This course offers history from prehistoric events to restructuring the postwar world. Close attention is given to the development and requirement of civilization, Ancient Greece and Rome, the Renaissance, Scientific Revolution and Industrial Revolution. This course is intended to cover the history of world events, and to prepare students for upper division courses in American History, U.S. Government, and Economics.

WORLD HISTORY/HONORS

10 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisites: B+ or better in English and approval from current English instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

The course offers an extensive survey of history from prehistoric events to restructuring the postwar world. Close attention is given to the development and requirement of civilization, Ancient Greece and Rome, the Renaissance, Scientific Revolution and Industrial Revolution. While looking at the history of world events, students will discover the intricacies' and the beauties of historical developments. World history is intended to not only cover the history of the world events, but to prepare students for upper division courses in A.P. American History, A.P. U.S. Government, and A.P. Economics.

U.S. HISTORY

11 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: C- or greater in World History

Course Description

This course surveys the major trend and ideas that have influenced the development of the country from early Native American migrations to contemporary times focusing on the problems and issues of the developing and industrialized country. Emphasis will be placed on the political, social, and economic development of our country.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) U.S. HISTORY

11	10 credits	Year	UC/CSU Approved	Fee/AP Exam
-----------	-------------------	-------------	------------------------	--------------------

Prerequisite: B+ or greater in World History and approval from current instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

This is a college level course based on the study and analysis of the United States history through the use of the text, historical essay, and primary source documents. Areas of American history are examined more extensively with an emphasis on analytical writing, group and class document based projects. Emphasis is placed on the primary and secondary sources in order to examine U.S. History, observing major themes that have affected the growth and progression of the United States. This course requires the Advanced Placement exam to be taken in May for full AP credit.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

12	5 credits	Semester	UC/CSU Approved
-----------	------------------	-----------------	------------------------

Prerequisite: C- or greater in U.S. History

Course Description

This course is a semester course designed to include practical experience as the theoretical background concerning the operation of the American governmental system today.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

12	5 credits	Semester	UC/CSU Approved	Fee/AP Exam
-----------	------------------	-----------------	------------------------	--------------------

Prerequisite: B+ or greater in U.S. History and approval from current English, History, instructors and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course is a college level course based on the study and analysis of the United States and its government and politics. The course is designed to include practical experience as the theoretical background concerning the American governmental system. Emphasis is placed on analytical discernment of data, graphs, maps, and information. This course requires the Advanced Placement exam to be taken in May for full AP credit.

ECONOMICS

12	5 credits	Semester	UC/CSU Approved
-----------	------------------	-----------------	------------------------

Prerequisite: C- or greater in U.S. History

Course Description

This is a semester course designed to allow students the opportunity to study concepts of basic economic and their applications in real world situations. Close attention is given to the contemporary economic structure of America in light of the ever-changing governments and economic policies occurring in the world today. Economic methodology is analyzed so that students are able to make personal financial decisions. The role of the government in the United States' market economy and the impact of politics on the economy are presented. Economic theory is studied to allow students to become participants in the American economic system.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

SPANISH I/NON-SPEAKING

9-12

10 credits

Year

UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This course enables students to attain an appropriate level of communicative proficiency in the Spanish language with four basic language skills: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. An introduction to the Spanish culture is complementary to the course.

SPANISH I/BILINGUAL

9-12

10 credits

Year

UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: B+ or greater on the Spanish Bilingual Placement test and oral-aural fluency in Spanish.

Course Description

This course is an introduction to the study of basic Spanish grammar for students who already have knowledge of, or speak Spanish at home, but have limited skills in grammatical rules, reading and writing. This course develops the following skills: speaking fluency, good reading comprehension of the language, an ability to write, translate and incorporate proper academic Spanish, and knowledge of the origin, formation, and history of the Spanish language.

SPANISH II/NON-SPEAKING

10-12

10 credits

Year

UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: C or greater in Spanish I/Non-speaking and approval from current instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course emphasizes mastery of the four language skills and reviews the grammar principles of Spanish I. Emphasis is placed on dialogue and active performance through the appreciation of the customs and traditions presented through the units. Exploration of Spanish cultures and civilization are presented in order to foster genuine interest, respect, pride and love for the Spanish heritage and its people.

SPANISH II/BILINGUAL

10-12

10 credits

Year

UC/CSU Approved

Prerequisite: B or greater in Spanish Bilingual I and approval from current instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course is for students who speak Spanish at home, but need to fully develop speaking, writing, and reading fluency. Emphasis is placed on the acquisition of allowing greater ability in writing techniques and styles, allowing greater ability in writing compositions, essays, summaries, oral presentations and group discussions. The study of the history, geography, and culture of Spain and Latin America is an integral part of this course with aims to promote knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Hispanic heritage.

SPANISH III

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: C+ or greater in Spanish II and approval from current instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course advances the study of Spanish grammar and continues to present new vocabulary and idioms with emphasis on major reading assignments outside of class time. Spanish dialogue is used exclusively by the teacher and student.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) SPANISH LANGUAGE

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved Fee/Exam
Prerequisite: B or greater in Spanish III or Spanish Bilingual and approval from current teacher and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course covers the equivalent of a college course in advanced Spanish composition and conversation. This course requires students to take the Advanced Placement exam in May. Those achieving a 5,4, or 3 on the exam are eligible for college credit.

FRENCH I

9-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This is introductory course with emphasis on oral-aural skills, basic essential grammar, accompanied by its application in speaking, listening, reading and writing. This course will expose the students to French culture.

FRENCH II

10-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: C or greater in French I and approval from current instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course is a continued development of the language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. Most of the French tenses and pronouns are introduced in this course.

FRENCH III

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: C+ or greater in French II and approval from current instructor and department chairperson.

Course Description

This course continues the development of skills learned in the previous levels and has an intense study of the French culture with special emphasis on history, geography, art movements, artists and music. Memorization of selected poems, fables, and other brief literary passages are required. Selected aspects of French culture, provincial life, artists, fairy tales and short stories are studied.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

UNDERSTANDING CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY

9 **5 credits** **Semester**
Required

Course Description

This course is the study of the basic knowledge of Church teachings and a mastery of religious vocabulary. Emphasis will be placed on an overview of essential Church teachings from the perspective of magisterial teaching on various topics. Contents include articles of the Apostles' Creed, an overview of the sacraments, teachings about moral principles, social justice, and prayer concepts.

HEBREW SCRIPTURES

9 **5 credits** **Semester**
Required

Course Description

This course will provide a basic understanding of the formation of the Bible and the content of the Hebrew Scriptures. Students will explore the scriptural theme of creation, call, covenant, law justice, and freedom in relation to their own personal experience.

CHURCH HISTORY

10 **5 credits** **Semester**
Required

Course Description

This course will discover what transpired in the last 2,000 years in the unfolding story of the community of the Catholic Church. Emphasis is placed on the Church's story told from people of the past, so that students can contribute their own gifts and talents to Christ's presence now and into the future.

PRAYERS AND SACRAMENTS

10 **5 credits** **Semester**
Required

Course Description

This course is a study of the seven sacraments and their relationships to living a grace-filled Christian Life. Emphasis is placed on the understanding of the concept of "Church" as the Community of the Faithful along with the historical perspective in the development of each of the Sacraments in the life of the Church. Various styles of prayer are also studied and experimented in order to enrich the full meaning of the sacraments and build a more meaningful relationship with the Lord Jesus.

CATHOLIC MORALITY

11 **5 credits** **Semester**
Required

Course Description

This course is designed to focus directly on Catholic identity and the moral life. Basic logic skills are introduced which will aid the student in making decisions that are good, as opposed to what appears to be good. The vision of Jesus is used as a foundation of our moral living as responsible Christian adults. Sexual morality is one focus of the course.

PEACE THROUGH JUSTICE**11 5 credits Semester****Required****Course Description**

This course will present issues of social justice and peace. Emphasis will be placed on homelessness, health and housing, and third world countries. Projects will be required for this course and are part of the Christian Service Portfolio.

CHRISTIAN LIFESTYLES**12 10 credits Year****Required****Course Description**

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to explore and better understand elements of life. Emphasis will be placed on relationships with self, others, and God in regards to the nature of love, sexuality, human intimacy, communication, listening skills, conflict management and interpersonal relationship styles.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION**PHYSICAL EDUCATION****10 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved****Prerequisite: None****Course Description**

This course is designed to develop fitness and knowledge of movement skills through individual and team activities. Students participate in activities that increase strength, flexibility and cardio-respiratory endurance as well as focusing on cognitive, social and emotional well-being.

HEALTH**9 5 credits Semester UC/CSU Approved****Prerequisite: None****Course Description**

This course is designed to promote understanding of theories, terms, and concepts related to overall health emphasizing the physical, emotional, social, mental and social aspects of health and nutrition.

CHORUS/LITURGICAL Choir

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This course is designed to teach students to become familiar with learning, selecting, and performing music both vocally and instrumentally primarily at school liturgies and other performances. In addition to performances, the student will also learn the theory and history of the music performed in the class.

10-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: None

DRAMA

10-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This course develops student's abilities through a wide range of practical and theoretical skills that emphasis critical thought and independence in a context of challenging cooperative work. Students will develop knowledge and skill in performance, directing, playwriting, and historical research and learn and utilize theatrical terminology. This combination of theory and practice introduces students for a broad range of career opportunities within the art.

DANCE

11-12 10 credits Year UC/CSU Approved
Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This course is designed to develop a appreciation of dance as an art form through various movement experiences and dance related activities.

EARTH SCIENCE

11-12 10 credits Year Not UC/CSU Approved Fee
Prerequisites: C- or greater in General Science and Geometry or higher level math.

Course Description

This course is a laboratory course that introduces the student to the four spheres: hydrosphere, lithosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere. Throughout the course, the students will recognize the interdependence of these systems. This course includes topics in geology, meteorology, oceanography, astronomy, physical geography, energy, and the environment

CONSUMER MATH

11-12 10 credits Year
Prerequisite: Completed two years of math credit including a geometry class.

Course Description

This course is a third year option for students who want to learn about mathematics of everyday life. The topics include unit pricing, budgeting, measurements, insurance, taxes, loans and purchasing on a credit card.

PSYCHOLOGY

12 **10 credits** **Year** **UC/CSU Approved**
Prerequisites: None

Course Description

This course is a general introduction to the study of psychology and is designed to provide students with a better understanding of human behavior. Emphasis is placed on biological, behavioral, and cognitive approaches to psychological science.

COMPUTER EDUCATION**Computer Application I**

9 **5 credits** **Fall/Spring**
Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This course is a hands-on course with emphasis in word processing, keyboarding technique, multi-media presentations, and Internet use. This course is an extension of language arts and designed to provide an understanding of the basics of the computer including the system, its software and hardware, and applications. Students will create and format various documents and discuss the ethics of computers.

Computer Science II

11-12 **10 credits** **Year**
Prerequisite: A C or better in Computer Applications I and department approval.

Course Description

This course is a hands-on course in computer applications and introduction to structured and object programming. Emphasis will be placed on web page building and design and coding scripts for spreadsheets and databases. The student will learn to manipulate, build, and maintain file systems both local and remote.

ACADEMIC DECATHALON

11-12 **10 credits** **Year**
Prerequisite: None

Course Description

This elective course will be an in-depth study of the ten subject areas with a theme for the year. Students in this course develop research skills and acquire college-level study skills. Students will also be challenged in their writing and communication abilities through speech, interview and essay competitions. College and universities seriously view the Academic Decathlon as a very prestigious event for its academic nature and commitment required. An Academic Decathlon team will be formed from the members of this class. The team will consist of 4.0 students, 3.0 students, and 2.0 students. There is a time commitment for extra preparation for team members.