

JMcQUAID **JESUIT**

COURSE DESCRIPTION BOOK

2026 - 2027



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COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

Here is an outline of the steps you need to complete in choosing your courses for next year.

1. Read the policies described on the next page to understand requirements.
2. Review the course descriptions in this booklet and discuss your different options with your parents and subject teachers.
3. At the end of January, students' current teachers will recommend courses for the next school year. Students will be able to view these recommendations in onCampus. Then, students will meet individually with counselors in February to finalize course selections for the upcoming year.
4. Once all courses have been selected, the course approval process begins. At the conclusion of this process, parents will receive a letter in the mail indicating which courses their son has selected and received approval for the following school year.
5. Once courses have been approved and parents and students are notified of the course approvals for the next school year in late March, students will have one week to appeal departmental decisions and/or switch electives. Any student doing so must meet with his counselor and submit a "Course Request Change Form" to make any necessary changes to next year's course selections. Any such changes will require approval and signatures from parents, counselors, department chairpersons, the Dean of Academics, and teachers of specific courses depending on the courses involved. Requests for course changes are not permitted after this until the last week of August. Finally, no course changes are permitted after the first two cycles of classes in September.

DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

Computer Science | Mr. Aaron Schnittman
English | Mr. Daniel Gorton
Fine Arts | Mr. Kevin Karnisky
Foreign Language | Ms. Susan Hickman
Mathematics | Mrs. Kristi Mabelis
Physical Education | Mr. Brian Sprague
Science | Mr. William Hochadel
Social Studies | Mr. James Purtell
Theology | Mr. Andrew Hoelperl

POLICIES ON ACADEMICS

The high school credits required for graduation are as follows:

Subject	Credits	Subject	Credits
English	4	Foreign Language	3*
Lab Science	3	Mathematics	3
Fine Arts	1	Social Studies	4
Physical Education	2**	Theology	4
Electives	6	Health**	½

*Three credits or the third-year course of the same language are required for graduation.

**Students take a half-credit course in Physical Education each year. Sophomores take a combined Health/Physical Education course that earns them a full credit.

Students must take a full schedule of courses each year and must pass all courses, required and elective, to be eligible for promotion or graduation. Students enrolled in three or more Advanced Placement courses may forgo a full elective credit and substitute an open period in their schedules. At the school's discretion, some students may be enrolled in a resource/academic intervention period in place of their elective credit.

Certain courses have prerequisites (usually a minimum grade in that subject and approval of the department). Advanced Placement courses may have additional prerequisites.

Some course requests may not be able to be honored due to over-subscription, course cancellation or course conflicts.

Please note that requests for specific teachers cannot be honored.

In order to graduate or to be promoted to the next grade level, a student must successfully complete all his courses by earning a passing grade for each course within the designated time limits. Since McQuaid Jesuit does not allow a student to repeat any course in the next academic year, remediation of a failure must be made prior to the start of the next fall semester. McQuaid also does not allow a student to repeat an entire year at McQuaid.

Philosophy on Selection of Course Materials

“Curriculum and instruction prepare students to be critical and creative thinkers, providing them with the knowledge, understanding, and skills to become socially responsible global citizens.” – Standard 9.4, Our Way of Proceeding: Standards & Benchmarks for Jesuit Schools in the 21st Century

McQuaid Jesuit teachers understand that all education takes place in the greater context of the surrounding community and the world at large. Therefore, educational materials should reflect a diversity beyond students’ personal experience, empowering them to think about and question their own lives while also discerning the realities in the world around them both good and evil, inspiring and daunting. To this end, the academic syllabi of McQuaid Jesuit—including the selection of texts and other media for each course—are created by the teachers, department leaders, and administrators who are best positioned to accompany students through this journey of discernment. McQuaid Jesuit does not endorse all views that students will encounter within their academic coursework, yet all aspects of this coursework serve an educational purpose and serve the School’s mission by inviting students to cultivate critical thinking skills and to strengthen their relationship with God.

“In educating, a balance must be maintained, your steps must be well balanced, one step on the cornice of safety but the other into the zone of risk. And when the risk becomes safe, the next step must venture into another area of risk. Education cannot be confined to the safety zone.” – Pope Francis in an address to students of Jesuit schools (June 7, 2013)

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Nativity Prep Practicum

This course is designed for seniors interested in pursuing a career in education or a related field. McQuaid Jesuit students enrolled in this course will be paired with a classroom teacher at Nativity Preparatory School in Rochester. Students will work closely with their mentor teacher in the classroom and with individual or small group tutoring. Students enrolled in this course will start their day at Nativity Prep one day per cycle (time tbd) and will finish their day at Nativity Prep one day per cycle (time tbd). Students will participate in a 3-week "Education 101" orientation mini-course in early September before being placed at Nativity Prep. Note that this course is an independent study and graded on an S-U (Satisfactory - Unsatisfactory) scale.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Enrollment by application only

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

McQuaid Jesuit offers an array of courses related to the field of engineering, including courses affiliated with the Project Lead the Way® (PLTW) program in partnership with its New York State higher education affiliate, the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). PLTW is a nationally recognized organization dedicated to providing opportunities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) subjects. The PLTW courses offer students the opportunity to explore engineering as a career option while at the same time earning college credit. Students enrolled in engineering classes participate in a hands-on, activity oriented program that utilizes team efforts, reinforces their study of math and science, and explores a major career path that, if they wish to continue, will prepare them for further education in the field of engineering. Students completing PLTW courses may elect to earn college credit through RIT. To do so, a student must attain a final course average of at least 85 and successfully pass an end-of-year PLTW examination. A student has until the following November after successful completion of the course to register with RIT for credit.

Gateway to Engineering

This course is an introduction to the makerspace classroom focused on design and construction, including an introduction to different materials, different fasteners, tool usage, and specific build parameters. Autodesk Fusion, 3D printing, and traditional workshop skills will also be developed. Students will be able to use both drills and impact drivers, ratchets and sockets for specific bolt size in Metric and Imperial units. Safety in cutting tools, hand tools, and material usage will be covered. Basic materials will be tested, including lumber, aluminum extrusions, basic concrete pours. The build kits will be both open-ended and instruction based. Iteration on open-ended designs will incorporate an introduction in data collection. This course serves as a vital entry into McQuaid's engineering program.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Robotics

Interested in robotics but not sure where to begin? This course gives you experience with the four pillars of competitive robotics: Design it, Build it, Program it, Drive it. Using both Lego Spike Prime, and VEX V5 hardware, students work in teams to thoughtfully conceptualize and assemble autonomous and driver-controlled robots following parameters from international robotics leagues. Lego robotics will focus on the infinite amount of coding that is vital to control the machine. VEX robotics will focus on advanced building, motor control, gear ratios, and maneuvering to control the machine.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Engineering Design

This is a Project Lead the Way® certified course designed to help students discover if a career in engineering meets their interests and abilities. This hands-on, project based, technology enriched course concludes with a PLTW end-of-course examination. The course includes the following units of study: design process, technical sketching and drawing, measurement and statistics, modeling skills, geometry of design, reverse engineering, documentation, advanced computer modeling, design team, and design challenges. This is a project-based course which also includes traditional lecture and teacher demonstrations, and team engineering challenges. Students will complete physical and virtual two-dimensional and three-dimensional models, learn team concepts, complete oral presentations, use spreadsheet and computer aided design (CAD) software to store, manipulate, represent, and analyze data, learn and incorporate engineering design principles, and apply mathematical and scientific methods to guide, test, and evaluate prototypes and solutions. Students successfully completing this course may earn RIT credit. To earn college credit, a student must attain a final course average of at least 85 and successfully pass an end-of-year PLTW examination.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Principles of Engineering

This is a Project Lead the Way® certified course designed to help students discover if a career in engineering meets their interests and abilities. This hands-on, project based course concludes with a PLTW end-of-course examination. Major topics include Energy and Power (energy applications and mechanisms) Materials and Structures (statics and material testing), Control Systems (machine control, machine design and fluids), and Statics and Dynamics. This is a project-based course which also includes traditional lecture and teacher demonstrations, and team engineering challenges. Students will build gear trains and sprocket systems, and design and control hydraulic and pneumatic devices through software. To earn college credit, a student must attain a final course average of at least 85 and successfully pass an end-of-year PLTW examination.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: The student should have completed or be enrolled in Algebra II/Trigonometry with an average of 80 or higher

Civil Engineering and Architecture

This is a course that teaches students about the design process for new homes and light commercial buildings. This includes basic structural requirements, plumbing, electrical, mechanical (HVAC), fire protection, and basic architectural features. Designs will be done on the computer with Autodesk Revit or AutoCAD. Basic structural tests can be performed with small wood structures, and this class fits well into site visits and working with existing design engineers to go over decisions made in the design process.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Introduction to Engineering Design

Aerospace Engineering

Students will get exposure to the basics of powered flight and rocketry. Gliders will be constructed to explore airflow and lift characteristics. Force Sensors will be used to measure basic propulsion techniques for propeller driven airplanes and model rocket engines. 3D printers and existing CAD software allows students to customize model rocket designs for tests. Simulation software will be used to explore basics of Orbital Mechanics and more advanced fluid dynamics. Students can also learn about air traffic management, the history of flight, and the progression of aviation technology. Multiple field trips for rocket launches and airport tours would enhance this course.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Introduction to Engineering Design or Principles of Engineering

Manufacturing: Paper to Product

Have you ever wondered if you can create an original idea and see it through to actually making it? In the manner of "Shark Tank," students bring an invention from paper sketch to finished product with a short-run manufacturing option. Follow the process from brainstorming and research exercises, to rapid-prototyping, testing and planning. Work on long and short-term projects in groups and individually. Learn about sustainable manufacturing, waste-free factories, feasibility studies, and connect with local manufacturers. Use a wide range of tools including traditional woodworking machines, hand-tools, 3D printers, and laser cutters. Understand the ways inventors and product designers express their ideas in sketch and 3D form. Explore the world of CAD and learn about emerging rapid-prototyping technologies.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Introduction to Makerspace or Gateway to Engineering

Engineering Capstone

This is a course designed for seniors who have gone through a steady track of engineering courses. Modeled like an independent study course, students will need to identify a problem and work all the way through the design process to get to a final prototype. This includes detailed record keeping of the sketching, drawing, testing, and data collection that leads to the final product. Students will need to apply project management principles to stay on track, and to budget their materials allowance. At the end of the year, they will present their product solution to a panel and defend their design choices.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Introduction to Engineering Design and Principles of Engineering

AP Computer Science Principles

This is a joint College Board/Project Lead the Way® certified course. It is a hands-on, project based, technology enriched course which concludes with taking the AP Computer Science Principles exam. The course is designed as an introductory college-level computer course with emphasis on using engineering design and problem solving methods to create computer applications. The course does not seek to teach mastery of a single programming language but intends instead to develop computational thinking, to generate excitement about the field of computing, and to introduce computational tools that foster creativity. In the course, students will explore tools such as excel, Python, and NetLogo modeling software to gain a broad experience with computers. Building enthusiasm for rigorous computer science is a goal of the course, but providing students a solid foundation for use in all disciplines is the most desired outcome. Students must take the AP exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Completion of, or enrollment in, Algebra II/Trigonometry

AP Cybersecurity (offered in school years beginning with an even-numbered year)

This full-year course exposes students to the ever-growing and far-reaching field of cybersecurity. Students accomplish this through problem-based learning, where students role-play and train as cybersecurity experts. AP Cybersecurity strongly connects to the National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework – standards developed by numerous academic, industry, and government organizations. The course gives students broad exposure to the many aspects of digital and information security, while encouraging socially responsible choices and ethical behavior. It inspires algorithmic thinking, computational thinking, and, especially, “outside-the-box” thinking. Students explore the many educational and career paths available to cybersecurity experts as well as other careers that comprise the field of information security.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science Principles (strongly recommended)

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English curriculum at McQuaid Jesuit is based on the skills of reading, writing, speaking and critical thinking. Literature is the basis for building these skills. As important as what we read, what we write, and what we speak is *how* we read, *how* we write, and *how* we speak. We must read critically, analytically; we must write clearly and concisely; we must speak clearly and confidently. Critical thinking is the tool needed for each of these skills. We do not teach *what* to think, so much as *how* to think. Students' arguments must be based on facts, evidence and logic. They must search for the truth. McQuaid Jesuit students read approximately 10 books a year. Students are tested on each book, which then becomes a source for discussion, speaking and writing. The short story, poetry and drama are studied each year. Testing in all its forms is carried out throughout the four marking periods, with grade levels determining major assessment experiences.

McQuaid Jesuit students write multiple essays each marking period. Writing is both creative and expository. A focus of all years is writing thesis statements and developing papers from these statements. Research papers begin in the ninth grade. The final paper for each year is a thesis paper based on discoveries each student has made from his study of literature that year. Speaking at McQuaid Jesuit includes class discussion, the public reading of stories, poems and the student's own written work, participation in plays and skits, and some formal speaking. There is a unit of public speaking in the English 4 curriculum. The ideal McQuaid Jesuit graduate is a young man who reads, can think on his feet, and can express himself clearly and concisely in both the spoken and written word.

English 1

Instruction in the first semester focuses on developing the student's reading and writing skills utilizing the short story and novels. Grammar, usage and mechanics are taught based on the needs illustrated in the student's writing. Student's progress is assessed at the mid-term with an expository paper that replaces an examination. The paper is based on themes discussed in the novels and short stories covered throughout the semester. The second semester begins with poetry and a Shakespearean drama and continues to work on grammar/usage needs. A number of short papers are written and discussed and a final thesis paper, based on several literary works, replaces a June examination. The final unit of the year returns to drama. Vocabulary assignments and tests are given throughout the year as are the tests on assigned novels.

Intended for: Students in Grade 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

English 2

This course begins with a review of the grammar skills learned in English I. Creative writing pieces are assigned to practice these skills. A focus on the study of the short story follows. Concurrent writing assignments feature the expository paragraph and its components. The second semester is devoted to grammar, the thesis statement in exposition, poetry and connotative language, a Shakespearean play, writing essays and writing a term paper based on novels read at two- to three-week intervals during the year. Vocabulary assignments are also given regularly throughout the marking periods.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: English 1

English 2 Advanced

This course is a more intensive version of the English 2 course and is intended as preparation for the junior and/or senior year courses and their associated Advanced Placement examinations. There are extensive assignments in composition and literature. Qualified students should indicate their interest on the Course Request Form.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 90 or higher in English 1 and recommendation of the English 1 instructor.

English 3

This course is a study in American literature from 1854 to the present. The course of study includes a more analytical and thorough study of the short story, the novel, a drama, and poetry. Writing is an integral part of each marking period with several written assessments from the paragraph to the essay the main avenues of expression. Oral presentation, small group experiences, too, assist the student in increasing his reading, writing, and oral skills. Students also study vocabulary as part of their junior year English experience and are expected to utilize vocabulary in their written and oral assessments. The end of the year assignment is a research presentation, a persuasive argument, with textural support, that is well-documented with in-text citation, a Works Cited slide, culminating in the oral and visual delivery of the student's research. The latter portion of the fourth marking period is dedicated to mastering the components of a research presentation and delivery. This assignment serves as the final exam for the course. In January, students are tested on vocabulary, command of literary analysis, and an essay on one of the seven rhetorical methods taught during the first semester.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: English 2 or English 2 Advanced

Advanced Placement English Language and Composition

This is an intensive college-level course in the study of rhetoric, analytical reading, critical analysis writing, and synthesis writing. The course prepares students for the AP examination, which students are required to take as part of this course, in May. Students who earn high scores on this exam may qualify for college credit or advanced standing in college courses. Students will analyze a challenging range of nonfiction prose as well as classical literature, emphasizing the authors' use of rhetorical devices and language manipulation. Through close reading and frequent writing, students enhance their ability to recognize rhetorical strategies and to identify purpose and principles of language. Complementing the theme of junior year English courses, students will analyze what it means to be an American in a global environment. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 85 or higher in English 2 Advanced or final average of 90 or higher in English 2 with recommendation of the English 2 instructor.

English 4

This course critically examines the short story, poetry, the novel, and Shakespearean and other plays from a thematic perspective. There are several major thesis assignments of a critical and analytical nature for students to demonstrate accumulated knowledge and experience with written expression. Public Speaking is an integral part of English 4, as is a cumulative essay, assessing four years of thought and expression, at year's end.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: English 3 or AP English Language and Composition

Journalism and Media Literacy

This elective course will provide students an authentic opportunity to experience the journalistic process as they are trained in the fundamentals of journalistic ethics, news gathering, fact checking, interviewing techniques, and journalistic writing style. A primary focus of the course will be on the transformation that journalism has undergone in the digital age. To this end, students will learn to vet the credibility of online sources while deciphering straight news from slant and balanced coverage from bias. Students in this course will serve as the primary staff writers for McQuaid Jesuit's student newspaper, The Lance.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Screenwriting

Have you ever wondered who comes up with the ideas and stories that turn into movies? Have you ever wanted to write your film script with the hopes of it being made and shown in theatres everywhere? This creative writing course will provide aspiring writers with the fundamentals of screenwriting – writing movie scripts – by providing them with the necessary skills to craft compelling original stories meant to be shown on the "big screen." Students will focus on developing strong characters, plot structures, and proper script formatting, while emphasizing the visual storytelling aspects unique to the screen. Students will also practice writing original screenplays across various genres and engage in an in-depth analysis of film industry standards by studying celebrated produced and unproduced film examples, culminating the year with writing and submitting an original, full-length feature film screenplay. Other areas of study will include story development, film genre conventions, character development, visual storytelling, dialogue writing, creative expression, revision and feedback, how to pitch scripts to potential agents and producers, and other film industry insights.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition

AP Literature and Composition is an intensive college-level course in the study of literature and in the writing of critical expository essays. It prepares the student for the CEEB (College Entrance Examination Board) AP Examination in May, which students must take to receive credit for the course. College credit or advanced standing can be earned by a strong score on this examination. Candidates for this course should have solid skills in grammar, mechanics, organization, development, and research methodology for the varied writing experiences the course demands. In addition, candidates must possess a solid vocabulary in order to handle the higher levels of reading the course offers. The course demands careful attention to literary conventions, terms, and genres. Analytical thinking, critical reasoning, and commensurate written expression are strengthened and improved through varied, continual, and challenging reading and writing assignments. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 85 or higher in AP English Language and Composition or final average of 90 or higher in English 3 with recommendation of the English 3 instructor.

Please Note: If the number of students recommended for an advanced or AP class exceeds the class-size limit of 25, a qualifying examination may be administered.

FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT

Visual Arts

Graphic Design and Animation

This full-year course introduces students to digital imaging, illustration, and animation using Adobe Creative Cloud applications, including Photoshop, Illustrator, and Animate. Students learn to edit and enhance images, create vector-based artwork, and develop stand-alone and web-ready animations. Emphasis is placed on hands-on project work, creativity, and problem-solving. Most assignments are completed during class, and the skills developed support additional coursework in digital media and web design. Throughout the year, students will progress from foundational techniques to more advanced digital design and animation workflows. Projects will include image manipulation, character and object design, motion graphics, interactive elements, and short animated sequences. Emphasis is placed on creativity, problem-solving, and developing the technical skills needed to bring visual ideas to life.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: None

Intro to Art

Intro to Art: This course is an introductory Visual Arts course. It is an overview and introduction to basic concepts, skills and a variety of media. Students are introduced to Drawing, Design, Painting and Sculpture. This course fulfills a student's Fine Arts requirement. It is advisable that a student interested in Visual Art take Intro to Art as early as possible, as it is a prerequisite for all upper level Visual Art courses.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Intermediate Art

This course follows Intro to Art. Students further develop concepts and skills learned in Intro to Art by completing a variety of Drawing, Painting and other 2-Dimensional works of Art. Students will use a variety of familiar and new materials.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Intro to Art

Advanced Art

This course follows Intermediate Art. It continues the refinement and growth of the concepts and skills developed in Intro to Art and Intermediate Art. Students will have more opportunities to create artwork independently and develop their voice as an artist.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Intro to Art and one additional Visual Arts credit

Beginning Sculpture

This beginning studio course includes the study of Sculpture through the utilization of materials such as wood, ceramics, plaster, and wire. Students explore the aesthetics of Sculpture through the elements and principles of three-dimensional design.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Intro to Art

Advanced Sculpture

This is an advanced, full-year course. Coursework will be self-directed, with students and the teacher determining a course of work for the year. Student projects develop as a cohesive body of work.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Intro to Art and Beginning Sculpture

Advanced Placement Studio Art

Advanced Placement Studio Art is an intensive visual art course wherein students spend the year creating an independent body of artwork. They will use the skills learned in the course and their own ideas to create unique works of art. Throughout the course, students will develop an inquiry that guides artmaking through practice, experimentation, and revision of materials, processes, and ideas while demonstrating art and design skills through their chosen medium. At the end of the course, students will have created a portfolio of artwork in accordance with the College Board guidelines that they will submit to the AP review board for evaluation.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Intro to Art and one additional visual art credit

Media and Film Studies (Note: Offered only in school years beginning with odd numbered year)

This course covers two distinct but related content areas: film and media. In the first semester, students will learn about "new media" and in particular, video games, web-based content and digital video. We will examine how these technologies are used to distribute advertising, promote ideology and affect the human experience via media consumption. Lectures are mainly electronic in format and coursework includes research, experiments, creative arts and developing digital content. The second part of the course addresses the history of cinema arts from the late 19th century until the present. Topics include the evolution of technology, genre study and auteur theory. Classes will be divided among screenings and discussions with a strong online and in-class participation component as well as creative production assignments, as students view films through several analytical lenses.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Intro to Art

Classroom Music

Introduction to Guitar, Keyboard, and Music Theory

The class is intended for the student with no musical experience. Basic guitar and keyboard playing techniques will be taught and applied in this class, as well as an introduction to basic music theory and reading. Students will be able to read music and perform at a basic level after completing this course.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Guitar and Keyboard II

This course is intended for the student who has some musical experience. More advanced playing techniques will be taught. We will perform individually and in groups. There will be a continuation of more advanced music theory as well as a listening component. Students will be able to read music and perform at an intermediate level after completing the course. This class will have performance opportunities outside of McQuaid. There are playing and written components for the midterm and final exams.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Intro to Guitar, Keyboard, and Music Theory or department approval

Advanced Placement Music Theory

This course is intended to further develop the musical skills of students past the beginner level to an advanced level of musical understanding. Through a study of form, harmonic progression, and other theoretical aspects of music, students gain an understanding of the complexity of music and its aesthetic value in society. The level of musical study is that of first semester college theory. Students need department approval to enroll in this class. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Symphonic Band (2 yrs), or High School Chorus (2 yrs), or Guitar & Keyboard II, or dept. recommendation

Performing Ensembles

Beginning Ensemble

This ensemble is for any student interested in learning to play a band instrument or is still a beginning instrumentalist. Students will learn fundamental skills in playing an instrument for band. Students will perform music in a variety of styles. Instrumental lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid may be required for this course.

Intended for: Students at a beginner instrumental playing level

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

High School Chorus

McQuaid's High School Chorus is an intermediate ensemble of singers from grades 9-12 focusing on standard choral literature. **Auditions are required** with the director to participate in this ensemble. This chorus will continue to hone their vocal technique, music literacy and sight-reading skills with greater depth and accuracy, singing traditional choral repertoire for all concerts during the year.

Intended for: Students in grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

High School Select Chorus

McQuaid's Select Chorus is an advanced ensemble of singers from grades 9-12, focusing on standard choral literature. Students must audition with the director to participate in this ensemble and must have at least two years of experience in a choir. The Select Choir will continue to hone their vocal technique, music literacy and sight-reading skills with greater depth and accuracy. The **Knight's Chamber** is a small group of singers from the Select Chorus who sing a cappella vocal works from the classical repertoire. This group is made up of 4-8 singers of the highest caliber and is chosen by the director. **Students are required to audition** for the instructor for correct ensemble placement prior to registration.

Intended for: Students in grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

Concert Band

The Concert Band is open to all student musicians at an intermediate level playing woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments only. Students playing guitar or piano may be interested in General Music or Middle School Chorus. This course will cover wide arrangements of musical styles and genres that will be challenging to the level of the students. Instrumental lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid are required for completion of this course. Students will perform frequently throughout the year in school and community settings.

Intended for: Students at an intermediate performance level

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

Orchestra

This ensemble is for any student interested in learning how to play a string orchestra instrument (violin, viola, cello, or double/upright bass) or is still a beginning instrumentalist. Students will learn fundamental skills in playing an instrument for orchestra. Students will perform music in a variety of styles. Instrumental lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid are required for this course.

Intended for: Students at a beginner instrumental playing level

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

Chamber Orchestra

This course is a full credit class and seeks to develop technical proficiency, musicianship, and musical leadership through the performance of string orchestra repertoire. Students will perform orchestral repertoire frequently throughout the year in school and community settings. Individual lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid are required for completion of this course. Orchestra is open to musicians playing violin, viola, cello, and upright bass (not electric bass). This class is intended for the intermediate to advanced performers.

Intended for: Students in grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Ability to play a string instrument (violin, viola, cello, string bass)

Percussion Ensemble

This intermediate to advanced course meets every day for a full year. A wide arrangement of musical styles and genres for percussion ensembles will be explored in this course. Instrumental lessons taken either at McQuaid Jesuit or privately are required for completion of this course. Students will perform frequently throughout the year in school and community settings.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

Symphonic Band

This course meets every day for a full year and is open to musicians playing at an intermediate to advanced level of performance. Only woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments are included in this ensemble. Students playing guitar or piano may be interested in taking Applied Musicianship, High School Chorus, or Accompanying. This course will cover a wide arrangement of musical styles and genres that will be challenging to the level of the students. Instrumental lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid Jesuit are required for this course. Students will perform frequently throughout the year in school and community settings.

Intended for: Students at an intermediate to advanced performance level

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Instructor placement evaluation or department recommendation

Drama Classes

Acting Seminar

This is a performance-based course that focuses on method, delivery and creative exploration of acting. Due to the performance nature of the course, class size may be limited.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Theatre Tech

The course will explore where theatre has come from and where might theatre be in the future. Students will study various production elements; including technical aspects, acting, management, as well as a look at periods in theatre history which better explain the development of the technical elements of the theatre. Projects include acting, scene design, sound and lighting design. Students in this class will be required to be part of the stage crew for one of the two McQuaid main stage productions.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Theatre Tech II

Students will study various production elements, including stage management and advanced lighting. Projects include acting, scene design, sound, and lighting design. Students in this class will be required to be part of the stage crew for one of the two McQuaid main stage productions.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Theatre Tech

Musical Theatre History & Performance

The Musical Theatre Course will teach students a variety of styles of musical theatre, by identifying different genres, historical periods, and acting techniques required for learning the art of a singing actor. Differentiated instruction for all levels of students enrolled will take place concurrently. The course may be taken twice to achieve an advanced level of musical theatre singing and acting technique.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Completion of one performing ensemble

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

Modern Languages: French, Italian, and Spanish

Foreign Language Level 1B

Level 1B modern foreign language continues the comprehensive study of the target language. Students will attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing through the emphasis of active communication. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are presented in dialogues, readings and practiced in oral and written drills. These are chosen for their usefulness in everyday conversation, while dialogues prepare students to communicate topics of interest to them. Readings include cultural information to give students an understanding and appreciation of the contemporary world of the target language. English is used for grammatical explanations, but the target language is utilized as much as possible. Students are tested using a variety of techniques. Please Note: German 1 will no longer be offered as of 2023-2024.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Language Level 1A or department recommendation

Foreign Language Level 2

Using the basic vocabulary learned in Level 1, this course emphasizes vocabulary development, more complex grammatical structures and idiomatic usage. Much of the classroom time is spent on the assimilation and oral transposition of newly acquired structures. Emphasis remains on the development of communicative skills, specifically the ability to understand, to speak in correct idiomatic usage of the target language, to read and to write. It is structurally more demanding in that it presents various tenses and more complicated grammatical constructions.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Level 1 or McQuaid's Placement Exam

Foreign Language Level 3

This course builds upon the first two years of study and emphasizes the ability to comprehend and to relate details of various topics in the target language, both orally and in writing. Commonly useful vocabulary, language structures, culture and reading skills are also included. Authentic materials are used as a springboard for discussing current events, prices, cultural items, etc. and as a tool in the composition-writing process. The course brings students from the novice level of oral proficiency to the intermediate level where they can create with the language, participate in progressively more challenging conversations and communicate successfully in basic survival situations. The course is supplemented with target-language films and realia. Evaluations may include vocabulary and structure quizzes, dictations, speaking tests, as well as vocabulary and structure tests given during and at the end of each unit.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Level 2 or McQuaid's Placement Exam

Foreign Language Level 4 or Level 5

This is a course in advanced idiomatic study in written and spoken language as well as an introduction to literary style. It includes conversational practice on given topics, a variety of literary works in several genres, expository writing, listening comprehension of contemporary programs from the mass media and vocabulary expansion. Language structures are introduced and reviewed as needed. Various works are studied for literary style and philosophical content. Discussion and criticism of all texts are the core of class work which will be in seminar form. This course is recommended to students who have excellent achievement in Level III or who have had substantial outside experience with the spoken language. Students enrolled in Italian 4 may have the opportunity to earn dual credit with Nazareth College for an additional fee. (NOTE: This course/level will be scheduled if a sufficient number of students enroll and staffing requirements are met.)

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 85 or higher in Level 3 course and department recommendation

Advanced Placement Foreign Language

This course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Language and Culture Exam. This course emphasizes communication -- both understanding and being understood by others. Students will direct their own vocabulary acquisition from a variety of sources that address all six themes of the exam. Students will practice the reading, writing, listening, and speaking components of the exam on a weekly basis. This course is recommended for students who feel comfortable in the language, as we will speak only in the target language during class. The College Board expects the students to be able to make connections to and comparisons about cultural aspects of their own communities and communities that speak the target language. There is a summer project designed to help students prepare for the cultural aspects of the exam. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 or higher in Level 4 course and department recommendation

Spanish 1

Spanish 1 begins the comprehensive study of the target language. Students will attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing through the emphasis of active communication. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are presented in dialogues, readings and practiced in oral and written drills. These are chosen for their usefulness in everyday conversation, while dialogues prepare students to communicate topics of interest to them. English is used for grammatical explanations, but the target language is utilized as much as possible. Students are tested using a variety of techniques. Note: This course is designated only for students transferring into McQuaid with no prior foreign language coursework.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8, 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Classical Languages

Latin 1B

This course provides a concrete foundation in the basics of Latin grammar and vocabulary. Students learn to analyze Latin and English syntax, in order to improve understanding of both languages as well as to foster general language skills. The course is based around reading short stories written in authentic Latin that include detailed descriptions of Roman life based on modern scholarship, combined with an explicit introduction to Roman civilization and history. Classical (Roman) pronunciation is used, but Ecclesiastical (Church) pronunciation is acceptable.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Latin 1A or department recommendation

Latin 2

This course provides further study of the basic skills and understandings acquired in Level I, along with the introduction of more advanced grammatical structures, additional vocabulary and more complex reading passages. The first semester ends our exploration of the basic understandings of Roman civilization; during the second semester, we begin to explore the stories of Perseus and Hercules, as covered in Ritchies' *Fabulae Faciles*.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Latin 1 or McQuaid's Placement Exam

Latin 3

In the third year of Latin, students review the structures they have already mastered and complete their exploration of Latin grammar through the more advanced structures present in their readings. This year focuses on preparing students to read unabridged, unedited Latin, and as such, it focuses on Latin translations of fairy tales, songs, and other examples of Latin literature from the Middle Ages and Renaissance.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Latin 2 or McQuaid's Placement Exam

Latin 4/5: Courage and Leadership

This course draws on the grammatical and literary skills learned throughout the Latin program to engage with readings from a variety of Latin texts that deal with two central questions: What is courage? What does it mean to be a leader, whether in antiquity or today? Students will translate, annotate, and discuss selections from Livy, Cicero, Augustus, and other authors, as well as parts of the Vulgate and Christian authors, such as Perpetua and Prosper. The class will also read and discuss the Aeneid's treatment of these same questions. Latin 4 students will craft a speech (in English) as their midterm; Latin 5 students will prepare a research project of their choice on the topic of the course. Students enrolled in this course may choose to challenge the AP Latin exam in May. Additional preparation will be required in order to take the AP exam.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 85 or higher in Latin 3 or 90 or higher in Latin 4 and department recommendation

Language Electives

Spanish through Film (offered in school years beginning with an even-numbered year)

This elective course is open to juniors and seniors who have completed a 3-year sequence in Spanish. The course will be taught in Spanish and focus on issues pertaining to the Hispanic world: immigration, indigenous and modern peoples, art, economy, government corruption, drugs, family and sacrifice. We will focus on a certain country/area of the Hispanic world at a time and explore those places/issues through film, discussion and writing.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Prerequisite: Spanish 3

Credit: 1

MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

McQuaid Jesuit students are required to complete three years of Mathematics: Algebra, Geometry and Algebra II/Trigonometry. Class sections are formed according to Mathematics ability levels. All students are expected to relate concepts using knowledge, comprehension and application. In addition, all students will be required to use Analysis and Synthesis in relating concepts as they progress through the department's offerings. The Advanced sections demand higher-level skills beyond memorization, requiring knowledge, comprehension and, especially, application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation. The amount of work, its intensity and difficulty, and the teacher's expectations all increase with each successive ability level. Placement in the ability groups is based upon performance and the department's recommendations. With department approval, students with sufficient aptitude may accelerate their mathematics course sequence.

Algebra

This course contains an introduction to algebra; working with real numbers; solving equations and problems; polynomials; factoring polynomials; operations with algebraic fractions; introduction to functions; systems of linear equations & inequalities; rational and irrational numbers; quadratic functions; and introduction to statistics and probability. The Texas Instruments TI-84 or TI-84 Plus calculator is recommended.

Intended for: Students in Grade 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra

Geometry

In Geometry, students will begin with an understanding of the basic tools of geometry, including points, lines, and planes, and will go on to master angles and angle pair relationships, as well as polygons. Students will learn to construct proofs, and learn the relationships of perpendicular and parallel lines, as well as what constitutes congruent triangles. Students will become proficient in understanding the anatomy of triangles, as well as what makes triangles similar, and will master right triangles and basic trigonometry. Students will learn what defines a quadrilateral, and will learn the various types, as well as circles, including arc measures, and the areas and lengths of sectors. Students will go on to learn to find the area and perimeter of various shapes and will learn to solve for the surface area and volume of three-dimensional shapes. Finally, students will learn the basic types of transformations and will learn to conduct compositions of transformations. The Texas Instruments TI-84 or TI-84 Plus is recommended.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Algebra or Accelerated Algebra 8

Geometry Advanced

This course involves the integration of logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. It includes a study of deductive proofs and applications from Algebra, an intense study of polygons, circles, and an introduction to Trigonometry. Students will be required to "think visually" while transferring information to real life problems. This course covers all content areas and skills of the Geometry course at greater depth and speed while also including locus; transformations, coordinate geometry; and solid geometry. The Texas Instruments TI-84 or TI-84 Plus is recommended.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 in Accelerated Algebra 8 or 95 in Algebra with department recommendation

Algebra II/Trigonometry (A)

This course will formalize and extend the mathematics that students have learned in Algebra and Geometry. Some of the topics include linear functions, polynomial functions, systems of equations, solving quadratic equations over the set of complex numbers, and solving exponential equations. Throughout the course an emphasis on reasoning and problem solving to address real-life connections/applications will be stressed, as well as the ability to effectively communicate results. The Texas-Instruments TI-84 Plus calculator will be used for the course. Upon completion of this course, students will take Algebra II/Trigonometry (B).

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Geometry

Algebra II/Trigonometry (B)

This course will continue the content studied in Algebra II/Trig (A). This course will include radical functions and rational exponents, exponential and logarithmic functions. Students will expand the study of right triangle trigonometry they began in Geometry to include non-right triangles and develop the Laws of Sines and Cosines, trigonometric graphs and identities, and trigonometric applications. Finally, students will model an array of real-world situations with all the types of functions they have studied. Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus calculator will be used for the course.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Algebra II/Trigonometry (A)

Algebra II/Trigonometry

This course contains advanced concepts of algebra; inequalities and proof; linear equations and function; products and factors of polynomials; rational expressions; irrational and complex numbers; quadratic equations and functions; variation and polynomial equations; analytic geometry; exponential and logarithmic functions; triangle trigonometry; trigonometric graphs and identities; trigonometric applications. The Texas Instruments TI-84 calculator will be used for the course.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: 80 in Geometry or completion of Geometry Advanced

Algebra II/Trigonometry Advanced

This course covers all content areas and skills of our Regular Algebra 2 & Trigonometry course. It covers the material in greater depth, and at a faster pace. The faster pace allows for additional topics to be included, such as arithmetic sequences and series, and conic sections. The Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus (or higher equivalent) will be used for this course.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 in Geometry Advanced or 95 in Geometry and 90 in Algebra with department recommendation

Data Science

This course is designed for the junior or senior who wants to learn how to generate meaning from data. Through data projects, students will use the power of computing to analyze and make inferences from data. Analysis will be done in the statistical programming language R. No previous coding experience is needed. Topics of study include the following: data collection and types of data, probability, exploratory data analysis, data visualization, linear regression models, and statistical inference through randomization tests. Topics will be presented in a broad variety of contexts such as biostatistics, political science, business, and sports analytics. Note: This course may be taken concurrently with Precalculus; however, it cannot delay Precalculus in a student's math sequence.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Algebra II/Trigonometry

Precalculus

This course is intended to prepare students for a Calculus or higher-level math class by reinforcing skills and how they connect in a more challenging and deeper meaning so that they can continue to a college level Calculus course. The topics covered will include the following: Linear functions, quadratic functions, absolute value functions, graphing of all types, piecewise functions, symmetry, inequalities, function operations, rational functions, matrices, conic sections, sequences and series, limits, and introduction into derivatives (definition, basic rules, etc.). Once again, this course is intended to prepare the students for a college level calculus course, and the associated rigor, skills, and overall understanding that is expected in said course.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 80 or higher in Algebra II/Trigonometry and department recommendation

Advanced Placement Precalculus

This course is designed for the student who intends to take AP CALCULUS after this class. The student should have a comprehensive understanding of Algebra, Geometry and Trigonometry. The course requires the interrelating of concepts mainly on the application, analysis, and synthesis levels. The course covers the following functions and their graphs: polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric, as well as the analysis of limits, then derivatives and integrals along with applications of them. This course prepares students for other college-level mathematics and science courses. Students will explore everyday situations using mathematical tools and lenses. The course develops an understanding of modeling and functions, and examines scenarios through multiple representations. The Texas Instruments TI-84 Plus or higher is the recommended calculator. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 85 or higher in Algebra II/Trigonometry Advanced or 90 in Algebra II/Trigonometry and department recommendation.

Calculus

This course is designed to prepare the student for a beginning college calculus program, and it contains the major concepts of the AP Calculus AB, but not the depth. The course demands higher-level skills (application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation), a significant amount of work both in class and out of class. The course includes all concepts of Pre-Calculus, analysis of limits and their properties, explicit and implicit differentiation, applications of differentiation, transcendental functions, and techniques of integration with applications.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 85 or higher in Precalculus and department recommendation

Advanced Placement Calculus AB

It is expected that students taking this course will seek college credit and will take (at least) Calculus II in college. The course demands higher-level skills (application, analysis, synthesis and evaluation), a great amount of work both in class and out of class, which requires substantial amounts of time. The student **MUST** have a thorough knowledge of college preparatory mathematics, including algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. The course includes all concepts of Precalculus, as well as: analysis of limits and their properties, explicit and implicit differentiation, applications of differentiation, transcendental functions, and techniques of integration with applications. The Texas Instruments TI-84 calculator (TI-84 plus CE is recommended) will be used for the course. However, a graphing calculator is not required since Desmos is embedded in the AP exam. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 85 or higher in AP Precalculus or 95 in Precalculus with completion of a summer skills course.

Advanced Placement Calculus BC

This course is designed for the self-motivated junior or senior with a strong level of interest in higher level math. Topics of study include: all AP Calculus AB topics, integration by parts, improper integrals, logistic models, parametric, polar, and vector functions, and infinite sequences and series. A graphing calculator is allowed, but is not required, for this course since Desmos is embedded in the AP Exam. AP Calculus BC is the equivalent of the first two semesters of Calculus at many colleges. There is a required summer assignment for this course, to be completed in August. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in this AP course must take the AP Calculus BC Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 90 or higher in AP Precalculus and department recommendation

Advanced Placement Statistics

This course is designed for the self-motivated junior or senior who is interested in the math of data and research. Topics of study include: one-variable statistics, two-variable statistics and linear regression, in-depth exploration of data collection methods, probability, random variables and binomial probability, sampling distributions, and inference for quantitative and categorical data. A graphing calculator is allowed, but is not required, for this course since Desmos is embedded in the AP Exam. AP Statistics is the equivalent of the first semester of Statistics at many colleges. There is a required summer assignment for this course, to be completed in August. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in this AP course must take the AP Statistics Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 85 or higher in AP Precalculus, Calculus, or AP Calculus; final average of 90 or higher in Advanced Algebra II/Trigonometry or Precalculus; or successful completion of Data Science, and department recommendation

PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Physical Education Program at McQuaid Jesuit consists of two phases. The Core Program is for students in grades 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 while the Elective Program is for students in grades 11 and 12. In the Core Program, students are taught basic and intermediate-level skills in a variety of seasonal team sports. The Elective Program is centered on individual sports that possess "carry over" value. Each student has the ability to select an activity from a number of different offerings in order to meet his interests.

Incorporated into the Physical Education Program is a portion of the Health curriculum. Health Education is mandated for all 10th graders. 10th grade students meet once a cycle to meet their requirement for health studies. This is done to help fulfill the requirements mandated by New York State.

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Three years of high school lab science (including Biology in grade 9 and Chemistry in grade 10) taken at McQuaid Jesuit are required for graduation. Students must take Physics or an AP lab science in grade 11. Elective courses including Forensic Science and Applied Popular Science are available for students in the upper years. Advanced Placement courses in Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, and Physics are taken by those who wish to prepare for the AP Examinations and possible college credit. All science courses include laboratory investigations as well as classroom work. Sustained study is required in these courses in order to grasp the new language of symbols and equations used in science and in order to learn to relate numbers to measurable dimensions in the laboratory.

McQuaid Jesuit is offering an engineering opportunity through Project Lead the Way® (PLTW). Students completing PLTW courses at McQuaid Jesuit may elect to earn college credit through the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). Principles of Engineering, a PLTW course, will be offered through the Science Department and is described in this section. A full description of PLTW can be found in the Engineering Program section of this book.

Biology

This *Biology* course utilizes an inquiry-based approach to teach life science and processes. The emphasis for this class is placed on teaching the students scientific methods, critical thinking, reading for information, and analysis in order to learn biological concepts. Students will take a “learning by doing” approach in the classroom, and will be able to apply the skills learned in this class to future courses, not just in science, but across all disciplines.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: CPS

Biology Advanced

This course continues the development of the scientific inquiry techniques that have been stressed in prior science courses. The *Biology Advanced* course is designed to present students with both the knowledge and the tools necessary to understand science. Every effort is made to teach students how to approach science in the proper way. In addition, mathematical concepts and skills are introduced that demonstrate biology is a quantitative science. The emphasis is on learning processes and approaches rather than pure content. Students are expected to prepare for and perform in laboratory situations, where the interpretation and analysis of laboratory data are expected. This survey of the major areas of biology includes biochemistry, molecular biology, cellular energetics, cell theory, cell physiology, genetics, evolution, reproduction/development, and human physiology. Students develop an insight into the role of living things in the complex world around them at an accelerated pace.

Intended for: Students in Grades 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: 95 in Science 7; 95 or higher in Pre-Algebra or completion of Algebra, and departmental recommendation.

Chemistry

This course is designed to give the student a thorough background in fundamental chemical concepts. This includes a study of matter and the changes that it undergoes. The course examines both qualitative and quantitative aspects of chemistry, with an emphasis on the latter. Laboratory experiments supplement the classroom lectures with practical applications of theory. This course is highly recommended for any student planning future studies in the sciences. This class is not designed for students expecting to take AP Chemistry or AP Biology.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Biology or Biology Advanced

Chemistry Advanced

This course is designed to cover Chemistry in greater depth and breadth and at a faster pace than Chemistry. It is designed to prepare students for future AP Science classes, particularly AP Chemistry. It is the third course in the traditional science sequence, following CPS and Biology. In this course, the understanding of the physical nature of the world is developed through a two-pronged approach. Students will look at the topics using a conceptual particulate approach and tackle them with quantitative vigor. They should come to see chemistry as the “central science” as it links together much of what they have seen before and will see in the future. There will be an emphasis on relating molecular structure to the properties of materials and their applications in the “real world”. Numerous chemical demonstrations and laboratory experiments will compliment the classroom material, putting theory into action. Laboratory experiments reinforce basic lab skills and introduce students to new equipment, such as pH meters, conductivity probes and much more. Most importantly, students will learn how to organize data and carry out appropriate analysis and calculations. The level of work is expected to bring the course closer to that of the AP level. A superior work ethic is essential.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 85 or higher in Biology Advanced or 93 or higher in Biology with department recommendation

Advanced Placement Biology

Advanced Placement Biology is taught using a comprehensive college textbook and the College Board approved laboratory manual. The emphasis of this course is an extensive survey of all areas of biology. The course is structured around the Four Big Ideas proposed within the AP Biology Curriculum Framework. Students will be asked to utilize their critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities. This course includes the “Science as a Process” emphasis, which involves understanding how biological concepts are researched. Much of the laboratory experience is student-centered, mirroring the collegiate-level experience. Many of the labs are inquiry-based, stressing experimental design, mathematical reasoning, and interpretation and analysis of collected data. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May to receive credit for the course.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 or higher in Biology Advanced and Chemistry Advanced or 95 or higher in Biology and Chemistry; Completion of AP Environmental Science (strongly recommended)

Advanced Placement Chemistry

This course is based on Six “Big Ideas” and new Science Laboratory Practices. The course covers the fundamental principle of Chemistry on a college level giving the student a deeper understanding than the introductory course. The course looks at Chemistry on a more “molecular” level and connects the properties observed in the “real world” with a basis in the molecular world. There is a new focus on critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork and collaboration. The laboratory is based on the collaboration of Laboratory teams which work together to produce a body of experimental work which serve as a basis for discussion and learning. The laboratories utilize a variety of equipment to include pH meters, spectrometers, temperature, pressure, and conductivity probes to name a few, thereby introducing the student to equipment they may see in the future. The laboratory experience mirrors the experience one may have in a University or Corporate research lab. A superior work ethic is essential! In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May to receive credit.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 93 or higher in Chemistry Advanced and Biology Advanced or 95 or higher in Biology and final average of 97 or higher in Chemistry with department recommendation and completion of an additional summer assignment

Advanced Placement Environmental Science

This is an interdisciplinary course providing students with the scientific principles, concepts and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships in the natural world. Students will first investigate ecological and population biology principles in depth. Students will then learn to analyze natural and human-induced environmental problems, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Field work, experimental design, and problem solving skills are heavily stressed in this course. Projects/field work include designing and building a self-contained living ecosystem, chemical and biological aquatic ecosystem analysis, producing biodiesel fuel from waste oil, designing and building a solar race car, and whitewater rafting in Letchworth Park. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May to receive credit for the course.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites/Co-requisites: Concurrent enrollment in Chemistry Advanced or completion of Chemistry and Biology with final averages of 88 in both courses

Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology Advanced

This is a demanding, college-preparatory elective science course designed for those interested in science-related fields, especially biology and health careers. This course will provide students with an opportunity to explore the intricate and detailed relationship between structure and function in the human body. Topics students will cover include homeostasis, anatomical structures, cytology, histology, physiological systems and disorders, and medical diagnosis and treatment. Laboratory activities will include microscopic analyses of tissues and several dissections, including a cat and other appropriate organs.

Intended for: Students in Grades 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 95 in Biology Advanced and a 90 in Chemistry Advanced and department recommendation; Completion or concurrent enrollment in AP Biology required

Introduction to Forensic Science

Forensic Science is an interdisciplinary science course which incorporates biology, chemistry, physics, mathematics, technology, social studies, and higher level processing skills. The Forensic Science course will explore a number of main topics, including the history of forensics, types of evidence, crime scene processing, hair and fiber analysis, blood spatter analysis, fingerprinting, forensic anthropology, ballistics, and DNA analysis. The course will rely heavily on textbook readings, forensic science journal articles, laboratory exercises, and the utilization of videos.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11 (with department recommendation), 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 80 or higher in Biology or department recommendation, and completion of Physics or an AP level science course.

Physics

This elective course introduces the student to the most basic science - the behavior and structure of matter. Major topics include kinematics, dynamics, circular and planetary motion, momentum, work and energy conservation, thermodynamics, static and circuit electricity, magnetism, waves, optics and nuclear physics. This course is a combination of traditional lecture, teacher demonstrations, inquiry-based labs and concept-supporting labs. Students use Excel or Logger Pro to graph lab results. The course is for seniors and juniors who either have completed Algebra II/Trigonometry or will take Algebra II/Trigonometry concurrently with Physics.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Chemistry and completion of or concurrent placement in Algebra II/Trigonometry

Advanced Placement Physics 1 – Algebra Based

This course has a narrower scope than regular physics, but investigates topics in much more depth. It is designed to be equivalent to a first semester introductory college-level algebra-based physics course. The course is a combination of teacher demonstrations, inquiry-based labs and concept-supporting labs. Students use computers to graph and interpret data and study from a college text, and will work in small groups to complete and in some cases develop labs to prove concepts. Solid mathematical ability is essential, especially trigonometry and solving multiple equations. Students build their understanding of physical models as they explore and solve problems in these content areas: Kinematics, Forces and Translational Dynamics, Energy and Work, Linear Momentum, Torque and Rotational Dynamics, Energy and Momentum of Rotating Systems, Oscillations, and Fluids. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May in order to receive course credit.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: AP Physics 1 may be taken without completing a previous course in Physics; Final average of 90 or better in both Chemistry and Algebra II/Trigonometry (or higher-level math); A student that has a 90 in one subject and an 85 in another may still take the courses but only with department recommendation

Advanced Placement Physics 2 – Algebra Based

This course has a narrower scope than regular physics, but investigates topics in much more depth. It is designed to be equivalent to a second semester introductory college-level algebra-based physics course. The course is a combination of teacher demonstrations, inquiry-based labs and concept-supporting labs. Students use computers to graph and interpret data and study from a college text, and will work in small groups to complete and in some cases develop labs to prove concepts. Solid mathematical ability is essential, especially trigonometry and solving multiple equations. Students build their understanding of physical models as they explore and solve problems in these topics: Thermodynamics; Electric Force, Field, and Potential; Electric Circuits; Magnetism and Electromagnetism; Geometric Optics; Waves, Sound, and Physical Optics; and Modern Physics. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May in order to receive course credit.

Intended for: Students in Grades 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: AP Physics 1 or final average of 90 or higher in Physics

Note: Only one Physics course per year is allowed at McQuaid Jesuit.

Applied Popular Science

Applied Popular Science takes an in-depth look at various scientific topics and how they are portrayed in popular culture. The main goal of this course is to critique the scientific references found in popular novels, short stories, television shows, feature films, and documentaries. When applicable we will test the scientific principles in the laboratory to determine if there was an accurate depiction in the pop-culture material. Topics studied in the course will include: The Scientific Method/Scientific reasoning; Nuclear Energy; The Immune System and Disease Transmission; Cancer; Climate Change; and the Chemistry of Acids and Bases.

Intended for: Students in Grades 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT

Global Studies I

This is the introductory course to social studies at the high school level. The course focuses on the study of the important dynamics at work in the world today, with the emphasis on the growth and development of those forces or pressures that bring change to the world. We will develop a better understanding and toleration of other cultures. Also, being an introductory course, the focus will be on acquiring skills for the current and future social studies classes. These skills are in the areas of: note taking, reading comprehension, map reading, test taking, and essay writing. To accomplish these goals, we will examine the dynamics of geography, population (hunger, poverty), culture (religion, language, diversity), technology, political systems (power, war, leadership), social systems (family structures, roles), economic systems, environmental issues, human rights (international justice), and apply them to early humans, ancient civilizations, and regions such as: Latin America, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, Africa, and India. Students will study, examine, and express their ideas on these themes by using their acquired skills.

Intended for: Students in Grade 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Global Studies II

This course is a humanities-based program in which the major cultural achievements of the West are stressed. The course is chronological in approach. Its goal is to familiarize the student with major Western traditions and institutions as seen through the arts, architecture, literature, economics and politics.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global Studies I

Advanced Placement World History

Advanced Placement World History is a full year course offered to sophomores who have an aptitude for history and want to challenge themselves. This course satisfies the Sophomore Social Studies requirement. The general outline of the course follows that prescribed by the College Board to prepare for the A.P. exam in May and future college history courses. The course follows a chronological format from 1200 A.D. to modern times, emphasizing the similarities and changes between regions and societies throughout history. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 or higher in Global Studies 1 and department recommendation

American History 3

This course is an economic, political and social history of American life and institutions. Emphasis is placed upon those historical experiences and developments that have been fundamental in the emergence of the American identity. The course places the American experience in a local and a global context.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Global Studies 2

Advanced Placement United States History

This course is an introductory college-level course leading to the Advanced Placement Examination, which students must take in order to receive credit for the course. History is studied intensively, with greater attention to both detail and depth. There is a challenging workload of reading and writing assignments. For qualified juniors, AP United States History is an alternative to the regular American History course. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 92 or higher in Global Studies 2 or 90 in AP World History and department recommendation

Economics & Finance*

This is a one-credit full year course that fulfills the senior year social studies requirement. This course examines current issues involving our economic systems. Students will participate in an examination of microeconomics and macroeconomics. Concepts such as supply and demand, elasticity, consumer choices, factor markets, product markets, taxes, international trade, monetary policy, fiscal policy, money and banking will be covered. Additional emphasis will be placed on current events within these fields of study. The personal finance aspect of this course will focus on the topics of investing, budgeting, savings, taxes, credit, and loans. These topics will be related to the students' lives now and in the future. The course will be taught through lectures, group work, class discussion, and guest speakers. Assessments will include papers, quizzes, tests, presentations, projects, and class participation.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: American History 3 or AP United States History

Advanced Placement European History*

This is an introductory college-level course leading to the Advanced Placement Examination, which students must take in order to receive credit for the course. For seniors who qualify, it is offered as an alternative to the Government and Economics course. The course begins in 1450 (High Renaissance). This leads to a detailed study of the Renaissance, the Age of Absolutism, Romanticism, Realism, World War II and post war and contemporary Europe. The course develops a student's oral and written skills as well as his knowledge of European History. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 or higher in American History 3 or AP United States History and department recommendation

Government & Leadership*

This is a one-credit full year course that fulfills the senior social studies requirement. The course will explore the United States federal government through the U.S. Constitution and the three branches of government it established. The course will also study state and county government processes, laws, and policies. Students will study basic principles of democracy, political behavior, and the role played by political parties and our government leaders, interest groups, and the media in the political process. Topics will include analysis of elections and a case study of the process by which a government decision is made. The class will use events that are current as examples of the governmental process at work. There will be continuous analysis regarding the traits of good leadership, as well as critical assessment of our elected representatives as leaders. Assessments will include tests, papers, projects and class participation.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: American History 3 or AP United States History

Advanced Placement United States Government & Politics*

AP U.S. Government and Politics is an introductory college-level course. Students will cultivate their understanding of U.S. government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like constitutionalism, liberty and order, civic participation in a representative democracy, competing policy-making interests, and methods of political analysis. The AP U.S. Government and Politics framework is organized into five units of study. Unit 1: Foundations of American Democracy; Unit 2: Interactions Among Branches of Government; Unit 3: Civil Liberties and Civil Rights; Unit 4: American Political Ideologies and Beliefs; Unit 5: Political Participation. This course will fulfill the Social Studies requirement for senior year. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 90 or higher in AP US History or 92 or higher in US History 3 and department recommendation

Advanced Placement Macroeconomics and Advanced Placement Microeconomics*

This is a full-year course that is designed to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to an economic system as a whole and to the individual. Macroeconomics deals with the study of national income and price determination and also develops a student's familiarity with economic performance measures (GDP, inflation, unemployment), economic growth and international economics. Microeconomics deals with the study of opportunity costs and trade-offs, production possibilities curves, alternative economic systems, supply and demand, elasticity, consumer choices, costs and revenue, and the role of government in our economy. The course is taught through lectures, group work and class discussions. Assessments will include essays, quizzes and tests. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in this course must take BOTH AP Exams in May. For those colleges and universities accepting AP credit, each test is worth 3 credits, for a total of 6 college credits.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Final average of 90 or higher in American History or AP United States History; final average of 90 or higher in prior math course and department recommendation

*Seniors can satisfy their social studies requirement by taking Economics & Finance or Government & Leadership or AP US Government and Politics or AP European History or AP Macroeconomics & AP Microeconomics.

Social Studies Electives

Current Events & Contemporary Issues

This course has two main dimensions. First, ongoing discussion and analysis of current events will comprise the bulk of class activity. As today's history unfolds, it will be related to previous historical occurrences, ideas, and forces. Students will contrast and compare today's events with their precedents. The second aspect of this course will be a thorough analysis of how information is obtained in the media age. Print, online, and broadcast sources will be compared throughout the year. Ownership of these sources will be explored. An international perspective will be achieved as students compare domestic media coverage of world events with the coverage provided by media in all other parts of our world. Students will need Internet access on a daily basis for this course, and may be asked to subscribe to news and information sources in place of the usual textbook expenses. Daily monitoring of the news is required.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Advanced Placement Psychology

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May in order to receive credit for the course.

Intended for: Students in Grades 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 88 or higher in English; All possible candidates must have a strong work ethic and are strongly recommended to meet with the instructor to learn more about the depth and requirements of the course; Department recommendation is required.

Advanced Placement African American History

AP African American Studies is an interdisciplinary course that examines the diversity of African American experiences through a wide range of texts and sources. Students explore key topics that extend from early African kingdoms to the ongoing challenges and achievements of present day. The course framework is organized by four thematic/chronological units. Unit 1: Origins of the African Diaspora (~900 BCE–16th century); Unit 2: Freedom, Enslavement, and Resistance (16th century–1865); Unit 3: The Practice of Freedom (1865–1940s); Unit 4: Movements and Debates (1940s–2000s); Given the interdisciplinary character of this course, students will develop skills across multiple fields, with an emphasis on developing historical, literary, visual, and data analysis skills. Students will encounter primary sources daily. This is a full year elective course that does not fulfill a student's Social Studies requirement. In accordance with McQuaid Jesuit policy, all students enrolled in an AP course must take the respective AP Exam in May.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 or higher prior year's social studies course and department recommendation

THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

The Theology program at McQuaid Jesuit is a thorough academic program that is an integral part of the goals and objectives of a Jesuit education. It is designed to educate and to form students of all religious backgrounds whose parents wish their sons to be a part of the Jesuit tradition of excellence. It is an essential part of McQuaid Jesuit's formation for all students.

The academic nature of this program distinguishes it from other types of religious formation that take place both in our school and in the individual student's faith community. Those activities are catechetical in nature, i.e., they help to initiate and incorporate a student into a particular faith community. These catechetical experiences complement the academic program at McQuaid Jesuit in a young man's religious formation as a man for others.

Theology 1: Introduction to Catholicism

This course introduces the students to the core beliefs, practices and attitudes of Catholicism. They will explore the meaning of faith and to investigate the fundamental statements of faith that Catholics acknowledge in the Apostles' Creed. With their greater appreciation of faith, students will learn about and experience Catholic prayer/worship that is both personal and sacramental in nature. They will learn the teachings and principles that guide the Christian moral life. Opportunities will be given throughout the course to experience prayer, service and reflection through the lens of Ignatian spirituality, therefore putting into practice what they have learned in class.

Intended for: Students in Grade 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Theology 2 – Call and Response: God's Revelation and the Response of Faith

Theology II will provide students with a basic introduction to Divine Revelation by means of an overview of Sacred Scripture – both the Hebrew Bible and New Testament. The life, mission and saving death and resurrection of Jesus Christ will be explored as the climax of God's saving self-communication to his people. Faith, considered as our response to God's call, will be addressed on both the individual (personal) and communal (Church) levels. Along the way, students will deepen their growing understanding of and appreciation for Ignatian spirituality and prayer. A selection of traditional and contemporary saints will be studied as models of both faith and service. Traditional classroom instruction will be combined with an intentionally experiential pedagogy. Students will be given the opportunity to design and to participate in a variety of more formal class liturgical experiences (Masses and Penance Services) along with more informal opportunities for prayer and reflection. Student projects and presentations will be featured throughout much of the year. Curriculum related content will be reinforced by periodic guest speakers and faith as an active mode of engagement with the world will be modeled by means of scheduled on- and off-campus service opportunities.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Theology 1

Theology 3 – Christian Living

This course is designed to ultimately help you become a "man for others". Building upon your previous studies of theology, particularly the Paschal Mystery, this course combines a study of morality, ethics, and Catholic Social Teaching to challenge you to live as a faith-filled and moral person committed to justice in our world.

Intended for: Students in Grade 11

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: Theology 2

Senior Year Electives

All seniors will take *Senior Theology: Companions of Jesus* during the first semester. During the course selection process, students will be asked to choose their preferred elective courses of the three available for second semester. Both *Senior Theology* and the elective are half-credit courses.

Senior Theology – Companions of Jesus

This course provides a theological and experiential foundation in Ignatian Prayer, consolidated in the *Spiritual Exercises* of St. Ignatius. Emphasis is placed on how the *Exercises* facilitate human development and spiritual maturation in the life of the McQuaid Senior. Since this is best observed through case study, careful analysis of the psychological and spiritual development of St. Ignatius of Loyola will provide a template to understand how the *Exercises* contribute to forming the McQuaid Senior as a Grad at Grad. Coursework integrates theory and praxis of the *Spiritual Exercises* giving students the opportunity to articulate and appreciate his own sacred story in preparation to transition into collegiate life and beyond.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1/2

Prerequisite: None

Applied Philosophy and Ethics (CC)

We will explore eternal questions philosophers have pondered through the ages: For what purpose was I made? What is reality? What is truth? What is the connection between the Mind and the Body? Does God exist? Do we have Free Will? What is the good life? What is friendship? In the process of attempting to answer these questions, we will familiarize ourselves with Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Aquinas--among others--and delve into the application of philosophy to various dimensions of life and decision-making. College credit through Nazareth University is available to students in this course.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1/2

Prerequisite: None

Christian Faiths and World Religions

This course is designed to invite students to learn about other Christian faiths as well as non-Christian religions in greater depth. Drawing upon texts and core writings from various foundational documents we will use appropriate critical techniques and analytical skills in order to compare these various religions to our own personal religious experiences. It is our hope that such an educational experience will invite us into greater understanding and relationship with others so that we can better become men for and with others.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1/2

Prerequisite: None

Discovering Faith: Faith in the Real World

This course explores life situations where faith intersects with the daily lives of students after McQuaid Jesuit. Students will choose from and possibly generate a list of life situations/topics that have a faith component that may need exploring in order to effectively navigate the landscape they find themselves in. Examples of topics that may be covered are pornography, use of alcohol/drugs, relationships, starting a family & living out a personal faith.

Intended for: Students in Grade 12

Credit: 1/2

Prerequisite: None

THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The McQuaid Jesuit Middle School provides a strong Jesuit education to our six, seventh, and eighth grade students. Course requirements for the middle school years include the following:

	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Computer Science	N/A	Computer Technology 7	N/A
English	Grammar & Writing 6 Literature 6	English 7	English 8
Foreign Language	N/A	Language Level 1A	Language Level 1B
Mathematics*	Mathematics 6	Mathematics 7	Pre-Algebra
Physical Education	PE 6	PE 7	PE 8 & Health 8
Science	Science 6	Science 7	CPS or CPS Advanced
Social Studies	Social Studies 6	Social Studies 7	Social Studies 8
Theology	Theology 6	Theology 7	Theology 8
Elective	Fine Arts	Fine Arts	Fine Arts Computer Science/Engineering

*Acceleration/advancement in math is available for students who qualify.

COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

Computer Technology 7

Students will be oriented to the Schoology learning management system as well as their Google and McQuaid network accounts. Computer aided design concepts will be a major component of the course with 3D modeling. Students will also be introduced to selected office/productivity software. Keyboarding software will be used as well to guide students toward mastery. This course features a "hands-on" approach to learning with some unit testing and little home study requirements. For most students, it is an enjoyable and useful component of the middle school program.

Intended for: Students in Grades 7

Credit: 1/2 MS

Prerequisites: None

Gateway to Engineering

This course is an introduction to the makerspace classroom focused on design and construction, including an introduction to different materials, different fasteners, tool usage, and specific build parameters. Autodesk Fusion, 3D printing, and traditional workshop skills will also be developed. Students will be able to use both drills and impact drivers, ratchets and sockets for specific bolt size in Metric and Imperial units. Safety in cutting tools, hand tools, and material usage will be covered. Basic materials will be tested, including lumber, aluminum extrusions, basic concrete pours. The build kits will be both open-ended and instruction based. Iteration on open-ended designs will incorporate an introduction in data collection. This course serves as a vital entry into McQuaid's engineering program.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

Introduction to Robotics

Interested in robotics but not sure where to begin? This course gives you experience with the four pillars of competitive robotics: Design it, Build it, Program it, Drive it. Using both Lego Spike Prime, and VEX V5 hardware, students work in teams to thoughtfully conceptualize and assemble autonomous and driver-controlled robots following parameters from international robotics leagues. Lego robotics will focus on the infinite amount of coding that is vital to control the machine. VEX robotics will focus on advanced building, motor control, gear ratios, and maneuvering to control the machine.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisites: None

ENGLISH

English at McQuaid Jesuit is skills-based: reading, writing, speaking and critical thinking. Literature is the basis for building these skills. Introducing students to literary analysis, sharpening critical-thinking skills, and practicing speaking and writing skills are our primary goals. We explore writing techniques and introduce and practice virtually all types of writing. Our work will take three general forms: literature, vocabulary and grammar. The McQuaid tradition of extensive novel reading and intensive study of literary genres is initiated at this level. Our literary studies focus particularly on the short story, poetry, the novel, mythology and medieval literature.

Grammar and Writing 6

In the 6th grade Grammar and Writing course students will be challenged to increase their knowledge of English grammar and to write more effectively and confidently. Through their experiences in the course, students will appreciate and understand the necessity of using proper grammar and its important role in communication. This course also provides a solid grammar foundation for students to build on as they begin taking foreign languages in the years to come. Students will also work to increase vocabulary both in writing and speaking and will develop stronger public speaking skills.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Literature 6

The 6th grade Literature course is designed to foster each student's love of reading and writing. The Literature course's strong emphasis on critical thinking and increasing reading comprehension and study skills prepares students for the rigor of the English courses they will take as they advance at McQuaid Jesuit. Students will have the opportunity to read and respond to texts from a variety of genres and will comfortably draw conclusions, compare and contrast, make predictions, make inferences, and write summaries. Students will understand the drafting and revision process and will also become more comfortable with public speaking and making formal presentations.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

English 7

This course seeks to strengthen and expand students' skills in reading comprehension, writing, critical thinking, and speaking. Interpretation of literary texts will gain sophistication as students become trained in analysis of elements such as plot, setting, character development, and themes. Moreover, students will determine how an author's craft affects implicit meanings of a work. Students will also learn to construct well-reasoned arguments that are focused by a thesis statement and supported by relevant textual evidence, while working towards proficiency in grammatical and mechanical conventions of Standard American English. Vocabulary acquisition will continue through the Membean vocabulary program.

Intended for: Students in Grade 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Literature 6

English 8

In the broadest sense, English 8 is a course in writing and thinking. Honing literary analysis skills, sharpening critical thinking skills, and drawing insights about literature and language are our most essential goals. Written expression is the key to meeting these objectives. Our work will move through a number of areas of study and skill development—literary comprehension and interpretation; vocabulary acquisition; and mechanics, usage, and grammar. The course is the natural follow-up to the English 7 course. The Elements of Literature book is the third course of the text used in the 7th grade year. Similar modes of evaluation such as portfolio writing assignments also continue this year, with more sophisticated critical analysis, dialectical challenges, and rhetorical studies.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: English 7

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Languages Offered: Spanish, French, Italian, Latin

Foreign Language Level 1A

All seventh-grade students are required to take Language 1A. This course is designed in 2 semesters. During the first semester, students will strengthen their literacy and communication skills in English, which will help prepare them for high school foreign language study. Students will complete four projects. Each project addresses different modes of communication while exploring foundational concepts in English grammar and mechanics. In the second semester, students will begin their study of their chosen foreign language. This will include cultural aspects, vocabulary, and grammatical structures as a means to encourage students to express themselves both verbally and in writing while using skills learned in the first semester.

Intended for: Students in Grades 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Foreign Language Level 1B

Level 1B modern foreign language continues the comprehensive study of the target language. Students will attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skill areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing through the emphasis of active communication. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are presented in dialogues, readings and practiced in oral and written drills. These are chosen for their usefulness in everyday conversation, while dialogues prepare students to communicate topics of interest to them. Readings include cultural information to give students an understanding and appreciation of the contemporary world of the target language. English is used for grammatical explanations, but the target language is utilized as much as possible. Students are tested using a variety of techniques. Please Note: German 1 will no longer be offered as of 2023-2024.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 HS

Prerequisites: Language Level 1A or department approval

MATHEMATICS

Mathematics 6

The first semester of Mathematics 6 focuses on reinforcing and expanding on the basic skills necessary for a strong foundation in mathematics. Those topics include whole number operations, fractions, and decimals. In the second semester, we introduce and solidify understanding of key math concepts. Those topics include working with ratios, rates, and percents; integer operations; and writing, interpreting, and solving algebraic expressions and equations.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Mathematics 7

This course is designed to provide a solid computational foundation for future mathematics courses. The topics include operations with decimals, fractions, percents, and integers; simplifying expressions; solving multi-step equations and inequalities; data and statistics; geometry; and rules of exponents.

Intended for: Students in Grade 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Mathematics 6

Pre-algebra

Pre-algebra is the mathematics course before students begin their three required secondary-level courses. It is designed to build a solid foundation for students to succeed in these upper-level courses. The topics include solving algebraic problems; simplifying expressions with variables and integers, rational numbers; graphing linear equations and inequalities; systems of linear equations and inequalities; operations with polynomials; right triangles, geometric concepts including surface area and volume; probability; introduction to trigonometry and introduction to quadratic expressions. Problem-solving is a focus throughout the course.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Mathematics 7 or final average of 95 or higher in Math 6 and department recommendation

Accelerated Algebra 8

Enriched Algebra begins a three- to four-year sequential study of college preparatory mathematics. Students will develop the ability to solve a variety of problems logically and critically. Some of the topics that will be addressed include but are not limited to introduction to algebra; working with real numbers and polynomials including factoring; solving equations and word problems; applications of fractions; introduction to functions; systems of linear equations; inequalities; rational and irrational numbers; quadratic functions; graphing linear, quadratic, absolute value equations; and an introduction to statistics and probability. The Texas Instruments TI-84 or TI-84 Plus is recommended.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 HS

Prerequisites: Pre-Algebra or final average of 95 or higher in Mathematics 7 or department recommendation

Geometry

In Geometry, students will begin with an understanding of the basic tools of geometry, including points, lines, and planes, and will go on to master angles and angle pair relationships, as well as polygons. Students will learn to construct proofs, and learn the relationships of perpendicular and parallel lines, as well as what constitutes congruent triangles. Students will become proficient in understanding the anatomy of triangles, as well as what makes triangles similar, and will master right triangles and basic trigonometry. Students will learn what defines a quadrilateral, and will learn the various types, as well as circles, including arc measures, and the areas and lengths of sectors. Students will go on to learn to find the area and perimeter of various shapes and will learn to solve for the surface area and volume of three-dimensional shapes. Finally, students will learn the basic types of transformations and will learn to conduct compositions of transformations. The Texas Instruments TI-84 or TI-84 Plus is recommended.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1 HS

Prerequisites: Algebra or Accelerated Algebra 8

Geometry Advanced

This course involves the integration of logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. It includes a study of deductive proofs and applications from Algebra, an intense study of polygons, circles, and an introduction to Trigonometry. Students will be required to “think visually” while transferring information to real life problems. This course covers all content areas and skills of the Geometry course at greater depth and speed while also including locus; transformations, coordinate geometry; and solid geometry. The Texas Instruments TI-84 or TI-84 Plus is recommended.

Intended for: Students in Grade 10

Credit: 1 HS

Prerequisites: Final average of 90 in Accelerated Algebra 8 or 95 in Algebra with department recommendation

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Health 8

This is a required half year course for all 8th grade students. The purpose of this course is to provide students with the knowledge and skills to build positive coping skills, improve resiliency, and increase protective factors. In partnership with Bivona Child Advocacy Center the MBF Teen Safety Matters program is incorporated into the class. MBF Teen Safety Matters is a comprehensive, evidence-based prevention education program for middle school students. The topics that will be covered throughout the course are digital safety, cyber bullying, digital citizenship, abuse, bullying, mental illness, coping skills, resilience, substance use, refusal skills, self-harm, suicide, nutrition, and infectious diseases.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1/2 MS

Prerequisites: None

SCIENCE

Science 6

Our Integrated Science course is designed to help students understand the importance of formulating scientific questions and developing the appropriate methodology to answer them. Students will learn how to make a hypothesis, participate in experiments, analyze data, and form conclusions. Students will be introduced to key concepts in both earth and life sciences, namely, the scientific method, the solar system, plate tectonics, earth systems, cell biology, evolution, genetics, plant structure, electromagnetism, mechanical waves, and magnetism. The ultimate goal is for students to appreciate the vast field of science and to develop analytic skills that can be applied to all areas of study.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Science 7

The curriculum for life science is designed to provide a foundation for high school biology. Basic biological principles aimed at understanding the life processes common to all living things are covered. Students will begin by learning about life on the cellular level and proceed through the structure and function of organisms including human systems. Fields of study include cell biology, cell chemistry, genetics, evolution, taxonomy, botany, and human anatomy. This course includes laboratory investigations of life science concepts which utilize abstract and critical thinking, inquiry skills, and scientific reasoning.

Intended for: Students in Grade 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Science 6

Conceptual Physical Science (CPS)

The goal of this course is to give students a solid foundation for the physical science courses that they will be encountering in high school, especially chemistry and physics. Topics include: graphing, scientific notation, Newtonian physics, energy, the atom, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions and atomic energy. Classroom work is enhanced by a strong hands-on laboratory component. Students are encouraged to use the scientific method in a cooperative-learning, team environment. Computer technology is incorporated into the course when appropriate.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8

Credit: 1 MS

Co-requisite: Science 7

Conceptual Physical Science Advanced (CPS)

This course covers the same content as Conceptual Physical Science but does so in greater depth and at a faster pace. Topics include: graphing, scientific notation, Newtonian physics, energy, the atom, the periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions and atomic energy. Classroom work is enhanced by a strong hands-on laboratory component. Students are encouraged to use the scientific method in a cooperative-learning, team environment. Computer technology is incorporated into the course when appropriate.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8

Credit: 1 MS

Co-requisite: 95 or higher in Math 7 or completion of Pre-Algebra and department recommendation

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 6

Social Studies 6 is designed to provide a foundation for Middle School Social Studies and eventually High School History. Our mission is to develop students that will demonstrate democratic and global citizenship, economic and cultural proficiency, and the principles supporting social justice by becoming informed, life-long learners through literacy-based learning with a research-based foundation. Students will begin by learning the basic core concepts necessary to be successful in a Social Studies course. Students will gain an understanding of the geography, culture, and religions of the Ancient World. In doing so, we will explore the early civilizations of the Ancient Near East, Egypt and Nubia, China, Greeks, Rome, The Byzantine Empire, Islam, Africa and Asia, The Americas, and Europe. Along with the skills of map reading, note-taking, summarizing, unplanned discussion, public speaking, and interpreting resources students will be assessed on homework, in-class assignments, projects, and tests/quizzes. Some additional skills students will develop are organizational skills, effective test-taking strategies and study habits, while developing life skills, character traits, and how to be men for others.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Social Studies 7

Social Studies 7 is a chronologically organized course that covers the history of the United States. This course covers European Exploration to the causes of the Civil War (1600-1850). While major emphasis is given to the most significant political, economic, diplomatic and social developments of the United States, there is also an emphasis on the experience of the common person woven into this narrative. One of the main objectives of the course is to understand the origins and meanings of our nation's founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and its associated rights of citizenship; with this base, students are in a better position to attain an understanding of where the country has been as a nation in order to create a vision of where it is headed in the future. "You can't be sure of where you are going if you don't know where you have been."

Intended for: Students in Grade 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Social Studies 6

Social Studies 8

This course is a chronological continuation of American History 7, starting during the time of sectionalism (1850) of the United States and concluding with the present day. This course gives students the second half continuation of United States history that they can expand on from the knowledge they gained in American History 7. Students will be exposed to the political, economic, diplomatic and social history from the United States. This course will reveal how the United States developed into the super power that it is today.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Social Studies 7

THEOLOGY

Theology 6 – Finding Your Faith

The study of religion is essential to the mission and vision of McQuaid Jesuit and is our best approach to Cura Personalis or “care for the whole person.” Theology 6 focuses on forming the entire character of the student while learning to be a “Man for and with Others.” This course is specifically designed around an introduction to Christianity, focusing on Old Testament readings and interpreting them according to today's Catholic theology. Students will learn the fundamentals of faith, build upon their spiritual foundation, and apply a well-formed code of ethics and morality to their lives.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Theology 7 - Faith & Covenant: Understanding the Key Themes of the Bible

This course is devoted to helping each student develop his own personal path to becoming a Man for Others. This is accomplished by developing an understanding of the key themes of both the Old and New Testaments. Our chief aim is to develop an appreciation of the Bible as a sacred text and how its messages can be applied to everyday life. In doing so, we will explore historical, geographical, literary, and theological aspects of both the Old and New Testaments. Students will learn of ways in which the message of the Bible can be relevant to their own life situation and use that knowledge to enhance their own personal faith journey. During the first semester, we focus on the messages of the Prophets of the Old Testament while the second semester focus is on the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles in the New Testament. Woven into the course are elements of Church History, including the history of the Society of Jesus, as well as how we celebrate the Sacraments, and the Liturgical Calendar. As part of a multicultural approach to the study of Theology, the beliefs and celebrations of other World Religions are also incorporated into the course. From the perspective of a general survey, then, this course seeks to introduce all students to the major spiritual truths found in both the Old and New Testaments and to the variety of ways in which the truths of scripture and the teaching of the Catholic Church are relevant to the lives and experiences of young men in the twenty-first century.

Intended for: Students in Grade 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Theology 6

Theology 8 - Jesus Christ & Character Development

The focus of this course is character development: becoming a better person with Jesus Christ as our role model and guide. Through a yearlong study deepening their understanding of Jesus and his teachings students will progress on their journey to become more intellectually competent, open to growth, religious, loving, and committed to justice. Students will study and reflect on the New Testament and the gospels in particular. Theological reflection, prayer, and social analysis, and Church teaching will also be a central part of this course.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Theology 7

FINE ARTS
Visual Arts

Important Note: *It is recommended but not required that Art 6/7 and Art 8 be sequenced. Students may take Art 6/7 only once.*

Art 6/7

Students will be actively engaged in the creative art making process using the art elements: color, shape, value, form, line, space, and texture. Students will maintain a sketchbook to practice their drawing skills both inside and outside of class. Class presentations and discussions about art create connections and appreciation. Media such as pencil, colored pencil, marker, paint, collage, printmaking, and clay will be used, preparing students for the high school curriculum.

Intended for: Students in Grade 6, 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Art 8

Students will use the creative integration of the art elements by learning how they combine into the art principles of design: movement, contrast, variety, rhythm, balance, harmony, pattern, unity, emphasis, and proportion, to create original works of art. Students will learn to make connections by responding to historical and contemporary art during class critiques as well as to their own finished pieces. Sketchbooks will be used to practice drawing skills and to journal about the art making processes. A variety of media such as pencil, colored pencil, pastel, paint, collage, printmaking, and clay will be used, preparing students for the high school art curriculum.

Intended for: Students in Grade 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Graphic Design and Animation

This full-year course introduces students to digital imaging, illustration, and animation using Adobe Creative Cloud applications, including Photoshop, Illustrator, and Animate. Students learn to edit and enhance images, create vector-based artwork, and develop stand-alone and web-ready animations. Emphasis is placed on hands-on project work, creativity, and problem-solving. Most assignments are completed during class, and the skills developed support additional coursework in digital media and web design. Throughout the year, students will progress from foundational techniques to more advanced digital design and animation workflows. Projects will include image manipulation, character and object design, motion graphics, interactive elements, and short animated sequences. Emphasis is placed on creativity, problem-solving, and developing the technical skills needed to bring visual ideas to life.

Intended for: Students in Grades 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1

Prerequisite: None

Music

Music 6/7

Students will be introduced to basic musical knowledge and skills. Aspects of the class will include history of music, multicultural music, and hands-on experiences in studying, listening, discussing, composing, and performing music. This course is also an introduction to music courses offered at the high school level.

Intended for: Students in Grades 6, 7

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Middle School Select Chorus

McQuaid's Middle School Select Chorus is a group of advanced middle school singers focusing on standard choral literature. For both current students and those new to McQuaid, **auditions are required** with the director to participate in this ensemble and students must have at least one year of experience in a choir. The MS Select Chorus will hone their vocal technique, music literacy and sight-reading skills with greater depth and accuracy, singing traditional choral repertoire for all concerts during the year.

Intended for: Students in Grades 6, 7, 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Middle School Beginning Chorus

The Middle School Chorus is a group of 6th-8th grade students who have no previous choir experience. This chorus will focus on the fundamentals of vocal technique, beginning music literacy and an introduction to sight-reading, including Solfège syllables and hand-signs. There is **no audition necessary** for this ensemble.

Intended for: Students in Grades 6, 7, 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None

Beginning Ensemble

This ensemble is for any student interested in learning to play an instrument or is still a beginning instrumentalist. Students will learn fundamental skills in playing an instrument for band. Students will perform music in a variety of styles. Instrumental lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid are required for this course.

Intended for: Students at a beginner instrumental playing level

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Teacher placement evaluation or department recommendation

Concert Band

The Concert Band is open to all student musicians at an intermediate level playing woodwind, brass, or percussion instruments only. Students playing guitar or piano may be interested in General Music or Middle School Chorus. This course will cover wide arrangements of musical styles and genres that will be challenging to the level of the students. Instrumental lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid are required for completion of this course. Students will perform frequently throughout the year in school and community settings.

Intended for: Students at an intermediate performance level

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: Teacher placement evaluation or department recommendation

Orchestra

This course is a full credit class and seeks to develop technical proficiency, musicianship, and musical leadership through the performance of string orchestra repertoire. Students will perform orchestral repertoire frequently throughout the year in school and community settings. Individual lessons taken either privately or at McQuaid are required for completion of this course. Orchestra is open to musicians playing violin, viola, cello, and upright bass (not electric bass).

Intended for: Students in grades 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisite: Teacher placement evaluation

Drama

Drama 6/7/8

Drama is intended as an overview of dramatic and theatrical arts. Students are introduced to basic theatrical, stage and film terminology as well as the origins of Western. Basic elements and principles of theatrical performance and technologies will be explored through group projects, acting, and hands-on activities.

Intended for: Students in Grades 6, 7, 8

Credit: 1 MS

Prerequisites: None