



RACINE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

2023-2024

[Course Descriptions **]**

Racine Lutheran High School's mission is to guide our youth in faith, learning, character and leadership by nurturing their relationship with Jesus Christ and educating them for a life of service to God and man.

Students are offered an array of required and elective courses to prepare them for successful journeys in their post-secondary studies, workforce endeavors, military ventures and service opportunities.

Please review the current course options and descriptions listed here, recognizing this is a living document with ongoing modifications and additions.

Racine Lutheran High School also has dual-credit agreements with numerous colleges, allowing our students to earn college credits while still in high school.

The dual-credit courses are not listed in the booklet; however, information is available through our guidance team.

Advanced Placement courses are included in the booklet.

The course selection process involves the student, his/her parents and the guidance counselors.

Racine Lutheran High School Graduation Requirements

(One semester equals 0.5 credit)

Theology—4 Credits*	English—4 Credits
Social Studies—3 Credits	Mathematics—3 Credits
Science—3 Credits	Physical Education—1.5 Credits
Health—0.5 Credit	Fine Arts/Industrial Arts—1 Credit
Technology—0.5 Credit	Electives—At least 5 Credits
Total—25.5 Credits	

*--0.5 Credit for each semester of enrollment

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Art

INTRO TO ART **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This course serves as an introduction to the basic elements and principles of art and design. Students will discuss art history, learn vocabulary, technique and how to critique while exploring a wide range of media including, but not limited to: graphite, charcoal, acrylics, and sculpture.

CERAMICS I **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will explore and learn basic skills in different clay hand-building techniques, surface treatments, and the use of the pottery wheel. Students will explore functional and sculptural art as well as be encouraged to work through the design process to develop ideas while learning and revising as the class progresses.

CERAMICS II **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art, Ceramics I
Grades 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will explore more complex forms in both hand-building techniques and the pottery wheel. Students will be expected to explore the boundaries of the medium and will be given individual freedom in what they choose to develop.

DIGITAL IMAGING AND DESIGN **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art, Drawing/Painting I
Grades 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to teach students the basics of photography composition and to understand the basics of using a digital camera. Students will learn to take, review and edit pictures for successful image making and storytelling. Students will also learn to develop 2-dimensional design, composition and visual communication skills digitally. Students will learn the basics of design software while problem-solving. Students will combine skills of photography and 2D design to create their own works of art.

DRAWING/PAINTING I **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course, emphasis will be placed on the development of eye-to-hand drawing skills, both from life and photograph. Students will learn the basics of composition, drawing techniques, watercolor and color theory with a variety of drawing and painting mediums.

DRAWING/PAINTING II **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art, Drawing/Painting I

Grades 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will build upon the techniques learned in Drawing/Painting I and work through more complex and challenging mixed-media work with a greater emphasis on concept. They will learn how to draw the human figure and how to create art with deeper meaning.

SCULPTURE **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

In this course, students will learn 3-dimensional design with an array of mediums including ceramics, wire, cardboard, found objects, etc.

ADVANCED STUDIO **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Intro to Art, Drawing/Painting I and II, Digital Imaging and Design, Sculpture

Grades 11, 12

This course seeks to provide juniors and seniors with individualized visual art experiences leading to the completion of a portfolio. Students may select an area of art to advance their skills. A high level of product and performance will be expected.

English

ENGLISH & SPEECH **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 9

Literature – Students read and discuss *Night*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Fahrenheit 451*.

Vocabulary – Students improve their vocabulary skills by studying words taken from our novels.

Writing – Students participate in weekly journals, write book reports on class selections and books of their choice, write short essays on our readings, and complete a research paper.

Speech – Goals will include improving presentation skills, finding creative ways to present information, and looking further into speech rules and procedures.

Study Skills – Goals will include improving organization, listening and note taking, test taking, reading and memory.

Grammar – Parts of speech, parts of a sentence, and punctuation will be covered.

TRADITIONAL LITERATURE

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 10

Literature – Short story styles, essays, drama, and novel forms are used to improve reading comprehension. Specific novels are *Animal Farm* and *A Separate Peace*.

Vocabulary – Words will be taken from literature. Goals include learning definitions and proper usage.

Writing – Various types of writing purposes are explored, including essays, a book report, and a research paper. Emphasis is placed on elaboration, editing, and organization.

Grammar – Parts of speech and sentence are reviewed. Punctuation, clauses, and usage are emphasized.

AMERICAN LITERATURE

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 11

Literature – The history of American literature is studied from its early beginnings with Native Americans to the present day. Emphasis is placed on the classic writers of short stories, poetry, and drama. Novels include *The Scarlet Letter* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Vocabulary – Words are selected from literature of each unit.

Writing – Each theme is at least one page long, and many of the assignments involve analyzing pieces of literature. A book report is required for three quarters, and a research paper about a career is required one quarter.

Grammar – Topics studied sophomore year are reviewed with more challenging examples and applications to the students' writing.

ACT Prep – Strategies for taking standardized tests are covered, and practice tests of the English and reading portions of the ACT test are taken.

WORLD LITERATURE

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 12

Literature – World literature is studied from the perspective of authors from various places around the world - including Africa, the Dominican Republic, Asia, America, Europe, and Afghanistan. Emphasis is placed on student interpretation of various works, including poetry, short stories, drama, and novels by renowned authors. A special focus will be placed on understanding the culture and values of these various places as well as how these world perspectives are viewed through a Christian lens. Texts studied may include *Macbeth*, *In the Time of the Butterflies*, *A Long Way Gone*, *I am Malala*, and *The Bonesetter's Daughter* as well as a literature circle unit where students will be assigned different novels, such as *A*

Raisin in the Sun, If I Ever Get Out of Here, The House on Mango Street, The Joy Luck Club, or There, There, and will apply the skills they have been learning all year more independently.

Writing – World Literature includes a final review of all the basics of grammar, especially phrases, clauses, verb forms, verbals, and techniques for improving sentence structure and word choice. Essays will include a research paper as well as argumentative essays based on the texts studied in class.

Grammar – World Literature includes a final review of all the basics of grammar, especially phrases, clauses, verb forms, and verbals.

AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Department Approval and grade of B+ or better in American Literature

Grade 12

Literature – An AP English course in Literature and Composition engages students in the careful reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature through the close reading of selected texts. Students will deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers. As students read, they will consider a work's structure, style, and themes as well as such smaller scale elements as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, tone, etc. Critical standards for interpreting the effects of an author's artful manipulation of language are developed throughout the course. These techniques will be applied through reading various poems and short stories as well as the following full-length texts: *Frankenstein* (summer reading), *Antigone*, *Macbeth*, *Heart of Darkness*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, as well as an independent reading project. AP multiple choice test prep will also be woven throughout the course.

Writing – Students will also study writing and speaking skills that will allow them to express their interpretations precisely and logically. There will be a particular focus on the timed writing as AP test requires students to compose three timed essays. Students will also complete an independent literary analysis to emphasize the writing process (rough draft, revised draft, final draft).

Grammar – Reinforce techniques learned in 9-11th grade with a focus on how author's use word choice and sentence structure to convey meaning as well as how students can use those same techniques in their writing.

This course requires the student to do coursework throughout the summer preceding the actual start of school.

This course prepares the student for the AP exam in May which may be transferred for college credit.

ENGLISH ELECTIVES

INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 11, 12

Everything students do in this one-semester class can be applied to daily life. Our goal will be to practice and improve interpersonal communication skills. We will cover topics including communication in everyday life, group communication, communication with the help of technology, and professional communication. Most of what we do will require very active participation. Projects will be used to assess students' understanding of and proficiency in using the concepts studied in each unit.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC SPEAKING 1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 9, 10

This one-semester course offers an overview of the process of communication and provides a variety of public speaking experiences. Students will develop speaking and listening skills. We will have individual speeches and group speeches. Speech provides the study of and practice in the basic principles and techniques of effective oral communication. For the majority of this class, projects and speeches will be used to assess students' understanding in using the concepts studied in each unit. Active participation in class will be necessary. This class is meant for freshmen and sophomores interested in becoming more comfortable speaking in front of larger groups.

LITERARY TYPES 1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Literary Types will cover various types of literature not currently covered in detail in other English classes. Topics include adventure, Christian novel, comedy, fantasy, horror, mystery, romance, sports and western. Students will learn the criteria for each genre and determine whether the books read and the movies watched in class fit the specifications by writing critiques. A creative project is required each quarter. This class is open to freshmen through seniors who are eager to read.

SPORTS LITERATURE 1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 11, 12

Sports Literature is a semester-long course that will examine the unique relationships between sports and society through literature by contemporary authors, columnists, and other media. The competition, spectacle, personal struggle, and exaggerated personalities so characteristic of those involved in sports provide the perfect backdrop to look deeply into human nature and the literature that transcends sports. The class will allow students to reflect, analyze, and celebrate the role and influence athletics play in the lives of individuals and our society. Themes studied will include leadership and character, definition of success and failure, rivalries, jinxes, and fate. A variety of high-interest thought-provoking literary forms will be presented throughout the semester.

WRITING SURVEY 1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades 11, 12

Writing skills will be developed as students learn to use the writing process, expand word choice, vary sentence structure, and follow grammar principles. Students will write several pieces including memoirs, blogs, college essays, articles, and other creative works. Students will also contribute as editors, commenting on strengths and suggesting improvements for their classmates' writing.

Foreign Language

SPANISH I

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Proficient in English on Standardized Test scores

Grades 9, 10, 11

The purpose of the Spanish language program is to communicate with others and to understand the Hispanic culture. Students begin speaking Spanish in the beginning of the course. Students will participate in group activities and speak individually with others in the target language. Students will experience communication by reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course requires memorization of Spanish Bible verses, vocabulary words, and grammar practice.

SPANISH II

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Spanish I with a C- or better or Department Placement

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

The course reviews themes from Spanish I. Each review allows for expansion on prior knowledge. Communication will become more refined, elaborate, and complex. Students will put their knowledge into action with more real-life scenarios. Students will participate in class activities. Students will experience communication by reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course requires memorization of Spanish Bible verses, vocabulary words, and grammar practice.

SPANISH III

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Spanish II with a C- or better or Department Approval

Grades 10, 11, 12

This class focuses on grammar and verb forms and is for the student who wants to refine his/her communication skills in Spanish. Reports, essays, projects, and presentations will help the student solidify his/her understanding of the language. There will be focus on utilizing the language in new, meaningful ways. This course requires memorization of Spanish Bible verses and vocabulary words.

SPANISH IV

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Spanish III with a C- or better

Grades 11, 12

This class is for the student who wants to refine his/her communication skills in Spanish. The student will speak only Spanish in class. Reports, essays, and presentations will help the student solidify his/her

understanding of the language. The focus of Spanish IV is mastery and experimentation of previous grammar concepts to help prepare for AP and college placement tests.

Industrial Arts

COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING I (CAD I) **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval and passing Information Technology

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Students interested in engineering, interior design, CNC machining, and architecture will receive a hands-on, exercise driven approach to developing the skills necessary to succeed in CAD. Students must be able to visualize objects in 2D, be creative and think critically and precisely. Through exercises, students gain knowledge about the commands, settings, drawing aides, and shortcuts available in the CAD software. This course is foundational preparing students for 3D modeling in CAD II. Attention to detail, a basic understanding of geometry, and strong basic math are all important skills of a successful student in CAD I.

COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING II (CAD II) **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval and passing CAD I

Grades 10, 11, 12

Building on drafting skills from CAD I, students will move into isometric drafting and 3D modeling, focusing on the development of skills necessary to create industrial and mechanical drawings. This 3D modeling knowledge will be employed making useful objects on our 3D printer through the process of additive manufacturing. Students must think critically and creatively, pay attention to detail, and understand basic geometry to successfully accomplish the required coursework while meeting deadlines.

COMPUTER AIDED DRAFTING III (CAD III) **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Instructor Approval and passing CAD II

Grades 10, 11, 12

Advanced CAD students will be able to expand their CAD knowledge, demonstrating their skills in real world projects in architecture, interior design, engineering, and product design. Students will learn about rendering objects, in addition to learning how to use 3D organic modeling software to create more complex drawings. The class will also include lessons on additive manufacturing in business, lighting, and animation.

HOME REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This is a course of study which would allow the student to engage in activities and develop skills for

home repair and maintenance. The student will learn to use various hand tools, begin to understand their proper use, and the techniques to make common repairs around the home. This course of study will enable the student to communicate in the technical terminology in the areas of carpentry, plumbing, electrical, and auto maintenance. At the conclusion of the study, the student will have developed a confidence to make most common home repairs.

INTRO TO WOODS

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Intro to Woods is designed to teach the basic fundamentals of woodworking through the use of hand tools and small tabletop equipment. The areas explored are types of wood, small project design, project assembly, correct tool use, and safety. Woodburning, scroll saw projects, penmaking, independent wood working, project design and drawing, furniture building.

INTRO TO CONSTRUCTION TRADES

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: Intro to Woods or Department Approval
Grades 11, 12

Students will be introduced to general areas of study in the construction trades, emphasizing carpentry and electrical wiring. Other areas of the construction trades may also be introduced as dictated by the interest of students. Students will learn about the different hand and power tools used in the trades and how to safely use them in constructing small backyard structures. Students will also learn about many different trade organizations, and acquire the skills needed to start in an apprenticeship program upon successful completion.

WOODCRAFTING I

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: Intro to Woods
Grades 10, 11, 12

Students will expand their learning from Intro to Woods through a series of projects which will include furthering their skills using tools. Some new skills will include the use of the scroll saw, mini lathe, and optional woodburning.

WOODCRAFTING II

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: Woodcrafting I
Grades 10, 11, 12

Students will expand their learning from Woodcrafting I through a series of projects which will include enhancing their skills in the use of scroll saw, mini lathe, and woodburning.

Mathematics

ALGEBRA A **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Department Placement
Grade 9

Algebra A is the first part of the two-year Algebra I course. Topics are covered at a slower pace with continuous review. Topics include: basic arithmetic review, real numbers, irrational numbers, powers and roots, transforming and solving linear equations, and graphing in one and two dimensions.

ALGEBRA B **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Passing Algebra A
Grade 10

Algebra B is the second part of the two-year Algebra I course. This course will review the Algebra A topics and expand them to include: manipulating and factoring polynomials, solving linear equations with two variables, solving quadratic equations, working with inequalities, and setting up and solving word problems.

ALGEBRA I **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Department Placement
Grade 9

Students use the basic properties of the real number system to manipulate expressions and equations involving both numbers and variables. Topics include: products and factors, powers and roots, rational and irrational numbers, solving of linear and quadratic equations with one variable, solving of linear equations with two variables, working with fractions, graphing in one and two dimensions, working with inequalities, and setting up and solving word problems.

ESSENTIAL GEOMETRY **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Passing Algebra I or Algebra B or Department Approval
Grades 10, 11

Essential Geometry is designed to provide the basic geometry concepts without the writing of formal proofs. Topics include: the study of points, lines and planes, congruent and similar figures, polygons, circles, coordinate graphing, area and volume, algebra review, and an introduction to trigonometry.

GEOMETRY **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: Passing Algebra I with a C- or better or passing Algebra B with a B or better or Department Approval
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Students study the properties and characteristics of points, lines, planes, and two-dimensional figures such as triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles. Some three-dimensional geometry is also part of the course. Topics include: parallel and perpendicular lines and planes, congruent and similar figures, polygons, right triangles, circles and spheres, areas and volumes, coordinate geometry and graphing, introductory trigonometry, and direct proof.

ALGEBRA II **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passing both Algebra I and Geometry with a C- or better
Grades 10, 11, 12**

Algebra II reviews skills obtained in Algebra I, applies them to more complex and involved problem situations, and extends these algebra skills into more advanced mathematical topics and real-world situations. Topics include solving and graphing of linear, quadratic and polynomial equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, radical and rational functions, imaginary and complex numbers, and an introduction to analytic geometry and trigonometry.

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passing both Algebra I (or Algebra A and B) and Geometry (or Essential Geometry) with a C- or better or Department Approval
Grades 11, 12**

Intermediate Algebra reviews skills obtained in Algebra I (or A and B), applies them to more complex and involved problem situations, and extends these algebra skills into more advanced mathematical topics and real-world situations. Topics include solving linear, quadratic and polynomial equations, rational expressions and equations, quadratic equations, functions, and inequalities, and exponential and logarithmic functions and applications. This course is designed to strengthen students' algebra skills and enable them to feel more confident moving forward.

PRE-CALCULUS **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passing both Geometry and Algebra II with a C- or better and Department Approval
Grades 11, 12**

Pre-calculus provides solid preparation for college-level courses in calculus, linear algebra, and finite mathematics. Heavy emphasis is placed on problem solving. The topics covered include functions, trigonometry, analytical geometry, logarithms, probability, vectors, matrices, and limits.

AP CALCULUS AB **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Passing Pre-Calculus with a C or better and Department Approval
Grade 12**

This full-year course is designed to provide the student with the necessary skills to take the AP calculus

test. Topics to be covered include functions and graphs, limits and continuity, differential calculus, and integral calculus.

This course prepares the student for the AP exam in May which may be transferred for college credit.

Music

BAND I & II 1 Semester each, .5 Credit each

Prerequisite: Department Approval
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to teach advanced band students in playing their specific instruments in an ensemble setting. Through rehearsal and performance, the student has the opportunity to broaden his/her appreciation and understanding of all types of music. Exercise in technique, dynamics, and articulation are used every day in preparation for all performances. A student in band is required to participate in all scheduled performances throughout the semester. (Most performances are on the weekends and/or evenings.)

Each year the Music Department offers an optional trip. This may incur additional expense for the students.

CHOIR I & II 1 Semester each, .5 Credit each

Prerequisite: Department Approval
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This course is designed to teach students music skills in singing in harmony and provides an outlet for Christian witness through song. Attention is given to sight singing and proper vocal production, which will enable the student to realize the potential for his/her voice. A student in choir is required to participate in all scheduled performances throughout the semester. (Most performances are on the weekends and/or evenings.)

Each year the Music Department offers an optional trip. This may incur additional expense for the students.

HUMANITIES 1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Through the study of humanities, students will develop an understanding of the connection between visual art, music, architecture, and Western Civilization. Students will learn how to understand a wide variety of visual art, music, and architecture from a wide variety of time periods from ancient times through to today. This course is highly interactive consisting of class discussions, informal writing, and small

individual and collaborative projects. Eras covered will include Antiquity, Baroque, Classical, Romantic, Modern, Jazz, and Rock.

Physical Education

HEALTH **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Required for Grade 9

Health is a course that is designed to bring awareness to students concerning issues that affect their physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health. Through this course, students will learn proper behaviors that will prolong life and vitality. They will also learn how to help others understand the importance of health in their own lives. Scriptural support for healthy living will also be a major emphasis. Topics covered will include fitness and nutrition, mental health and suicide, substance abuse, and reproductive health.

PE I/II **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Required for Grades 9, 10

This class aims to teach the value of a well-coordinated, efficient body, to promote good health, and to develop strength, endurance, and motor skills. Physical education also provides opportunities to develop Christian character traits and to establish physical activities, which will persist throughout life.

FITNESS **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Grades 11, 12

This class is a co-ed junior/senior Physical Education class designed to give students the opportunity to learn fitness concepts and conditioning techniques used for obtaining optimal physical fitness. Students will benefit from this comprehensive program that includes core workouts, circuit training, speed and agility stations, weight training and other endurance activities. Students will be empowered to make wise choices, meet challenges, and develop positive behaviors in fitness, wellness, and movement activity for their favorite sport and for the rest of their lives. Students will also learn about injury prevention and nutrition in relationship to optimal physical fitness.

LIFETIME ACTIVITIES **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Grades 11, 12

Lifetime Activities is a co-ed junior/senior Physical Education course for those who wish to participate in activities that can generally be pursued throughout one's lifetime. Students will learn rules and fundamental techniques for a variety of games and activities. Emphasis in this class will be more on

development of a spirit of cooperation and good sportsmanship than fostering a sense of competition. Because of the known health benefits associated with physical activity, it is important that students develop an understanding of the rules and fundamental techniques for games and activities that can be played throughout one's lifetime. Having basic knowledge of a variety of games and activities will increase the likelihood that students will become lifetime participants in physical activities.

Resource

FRESHMAN SEMINAR

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None
Grade 9

This course is offered during the first semester of ninth grade. It is designed to promote a successful transition between middle school and high school to ensure educational success at RLHS. This course covers various study skills, note-taking techniques, test preparation, goal setting, and reading and writing strategies. Students will learn and practice organizational skills and will receive a daily agenda to use in all their classes.

Science

LAB SCIENCE

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None
Required for Grade 9

This course is designed to prepare students for the science series. Integration of biology, chemistry, and physics concepts will be supplemented by a strong focus on scientific inquiry, questioning, strategies, lab skills, and critical thinking. Successful completion of this course prepares the student for biology.

BIOLOGY

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Lab Science
Required for Grade 10

Biology students study the chemistry of life, cell structure and function, DNA and genetics, ecology and taxonomy. By developing scientific research skills, exploring relationships between concepts, applying biological principles to everyday life, and strengthening critical thinking skills, students should gain a deeper appreciation of the wonders and complexities of God's miraculous gift of life. Bioethics and careers in biological science will also be investigated.

CHEMISTRY

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Algebra I and first semester Lab Science with a C or better and passing Biology with a C or better

Grades 10, 11, 12

This course covers the basics of chemistry - the composition, structure, and properties of matter, the changes it undergoes, and the energy involved in those changes. We will be studying these topics from both a conceptual and a mathematical point of view. Laboratory work relating to topics is part of the course. Since the scientific process is extremely important in chemistry, students who take this course must be willing to think critically and problem solve. Chemistry builds from the first day of school to the last, so daily attendance, attention, and participation are necessary for the successful completion of this course.

EARTH SCIENCE 2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Lab Science

Grades 11, 12

This class is intended to give students a true appreciation for the earth, its enormity, its inferiority, and its place in the universe. We will explore how science is continually shaping the earth, its people, and their culture. The dynamics of populations, ecosystems, and the biosphere as well as human impact on the environment will be studied. Additionally, we will travel beyond the earth to our celestial neighborhood. Utilization of principles and tools in science, technology, engineering and mathematics will be emphasized.

PHYSICS 2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Biology, Lab Science, and Algebra II with a C or better

In this course, we will explore mechanics, sound, light, electricity, and magnetism, which are the foundation to a deeper understanding of science.

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY (Offered in 2024-25) 1 Semester, .5 credit

Prerequisite: Passing Biology with a B or better and Department Approval

Grades 11, 12

Anatomy and Physiology explores the structure and function of the systems of the human body. This class will help you to understand how our bodies work and some of the causes and effects of problems. Through this study, you will be able to see the intricate complexities of God's miraculous creation.

FORENSIC SCIENCE 1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing Biology

Grades 11, 12

Students will be working on researching, collecting data, organizing, reasoning, and evaluating as they study some on the areas of forensic science. Some of the topics to be covered are: history of forensic science, collection and analysis of evidence, fingerprinting, hair, fiber, the chemistry of drugs and poisons, and serology (blood) analysis.

GENETICS**1 Semester, .5 Credit****Prerequisite: Passing Biology with a B or better or Department Approval****Grades 11, 12**

Genetics focuses on the cellular and molecular processes of human inheritance. This class will examine the purpose, method, and repercussions of errors within our genes. The semester is divided into the following units: re-productive genetics, chromosomes and molecular genetics, mendelian (prediction) genetics, and genetic applications. The class will also cover concepts such as bioethics, stem cell research, cloning, The Human Genome Project, human uniqueness, genetic engineering, gene therapy, and some forensic applications. A dual credit option through Concordia University Nebraska is available.

MICROBIOLOGY**1 Semester, .5 Credit****Prerequisite: Passing Biology with a B or better or Department Approval****Grades 11, 12**

Microbiology is a course designed to broaden student understanding of microscopic organisms (both beneficial and detrimental) as well as laboratory and microscope skills. Topics will include foundations of microbiology, bacteria and bacterial disease, other microorganisms, disease and resistance, control of microorganisms, and microbiology and public health. A dual credit option through Concordia University Nebraska may be available.

SCIENCE FOR THE CONSUMER**1 Semester, .5 Credit****Prerequisite: Passing Lab Science****Grades 10, 11, 12**

This class is intended to give students a foundational understanding being a consumer and citizen in the 21st century. Information presented will focus on interpreting various claims and ideas in Medicine, Health and Relationships, Nutrition, and Household Goods. The class will look at a variety of tools and technologies and their application to everyday life.

ZOOLOGY**(Offered in 2024-25)****1 Semester, .5 Credit****Prerequisite: Passing Biology****Grades 11, 12**

This class studies vertebrate animals, with the primary focus on mammals. Birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish are also studied. A brief overview of the entire animal kingdom is provided. Anatomy, physiology, behavior, habitats, and environmental interaction of the animals are examined. Emphasis is on living animals, although several dissection labs may be offered. Frequent trips to the zoo are also utilized.

AP BIOLOGY**2 Semesters, 1 Credit****Prerequisite: Passing Biology with a B or better and Department Approval****Grade 11 or 12**

This course is a second-level experience in the biological sciences. The range and depth of topics covered, the kinds of laboratory work required, and the text used is the caliber of a first-level college biology course. Successful completion of the AP Biology examination permits some students to receive college credits and enroll in upper-level biology courses upon entering college. This course is recommended for students desiring to enter an area of medicine, nursing, medical research, or biology in college.

This course requires the student to do coursework throughout the summer preceding the actual start of school. This course prepares the student for the AP exam in May which may be transferred for college credit.

Social Studies

GEOGRAPHY **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

This course studies location, character, environment, and culture of the major regions of the world in relation to the five themes of geography. The course further provides an overview of geopolitics, climate, weather patterns, natural disasters, and natural resources. This is achieved through a variety of means including lecture, discussion, cooperative learning, and various forms of assessment.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are information systems that help people visualize information and create maps that can be used to make decisions and solve problems. Rooted in the science of geography, GIS allows users to analyze location and organize layers of information into maps and 3D scenes. This course provides an introduction to GIS. Students will learn fundamental GIS concepts with hands-on experience creating maps and using mapping software and geographic data. Student skills in this course will be evaluated, in part, through the creation of a portfolio of maps.

WORLD HISTORY **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: None
Required for Grade 10

The purpose of World History is to provide each student with the knowledge of the events that have taken place in our world from the Paleolithic Age through the current happenings in the Middle East. This will

be achieved through a variety of means including lecture, discussion, cooperative learning, and various forms of assessment.

UNITED STATES HISTORY **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: World History

Required for Grade 11

The purpose of United States History is to provide each student with an accurate and independent knowledge of our nation's rich past. This shall be accomplished via class lecture, discussion, reading, and cooperative interaction. Each student will be able to form and defend his or her own opinion on the interpretation of significant events throughout the past two hundred years.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY **2 Semesters, 1 Credit**

Prerequisite: B+ or better GPA and Department Approval

Grades 11, 12

The purpose of AP US History is to provide advanced students with in-depth, accurate, and independent knowledge of our nation's rich past. This shall be accomplished via class lecture, discussion, reading, and cooperative interaction. Each student will be challenged to form and defend his or her own opinion on the interpretation of significant events throughout the last two hundred years. Students will be required to write analytical essays based on historical documents.

This course prepares the student for the AP exam in May which may be transferred for college credit.

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Passing World History and United States History

Required for Grade 12

American Government is the study of principles, functions, and organization of American government as expressed in our national, state, and local political systems. Emphasis is also placed on contemporary political philosophy and current problems.

US AS A WORLD POWER **1 Semester, .5 Credit**

Prerequisite: Passing World History

Grades 11, 12

The purpose of this course is to provide each student with an accurate and independent knowledge of the United States over the past 75 years. Starting with the end of World War II, students will go in depth into the Cold War, Korea, Vietnam, the Hippie generation, and end with current events. Students will participate in a variety of activities, including class discussion, debate, and analysis of the music and movie industry.

ECONOMICS

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: Passing World History and United States History

Required for Grade 12

Economics is a social science course that deals with the way individuals and societies organize themselves to deal with the problem of unlimited human wants and scarcity of resources. Topics will include: capitalism, free enterprise, role of business and labor, supply and demand, the stock market, and consumer economics.

PSYCHOLOGY

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades 11, 12

This is a survey course, including human behavior and the individual's role in society from the Christian viewpoint. Students will learn theories, applications, and what makes people behave the way they do.

SOCIOLOGY

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Grades 11, 12

This course applies the principles of Christianity to the individual and social concerns. Coursework will define groups, norms, deviance, and stages of life. It will also examine how the individual fits into society. This course emphasizes the development of critical thinking through discussion, reading, research, class activity, lecture and media. Some topics include the area of social equality, economic conditions, and social institutions.

Technology/Business

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 9

This course encompasses a wide range of topics in the world of computers and technology. Students will develop skills in keyboarding and use the Google Suite to create real world projects in word processing, spreadsheets, presentation, and web development apps. Many projects are valuable for education, the workplace, and life skills beyond RLHS. These skills will be evaluated through units on a wide variety of topics including, but not limited to buying a computer, web design, job skills, cybersecurity, internet safety, your digital image, digital consumerism, and more.

AMERICAN FILM AND CULTURE

1 Semester, .5 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Students will explore American culture through the analysis of films from a variety of time periods and genres. Students must think critically about film and its relationship to culture and one another,

demonstrating their understanding through small projects, worksheets, and responses. Students will gain an understanding of film's development as an art form and a means of cultural expression. The films will give students a wide range of cinematic experiences spanning the 20th century including silent films, Hitchcock thrillers, war films, musicals, sci-fi, drama, comedy, film noir, and more.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP**1 Semester, .5 Credit****Prerequisite: None****Grades 10, 11, 12**

Do you want to own your own business? This course will introduce the step-by-step process one must follow to own their own business starting with the inception of an idea, through the planning stages, and to final completion. Students will engage in skills development through course readings, videos, and a culminating project. Marketing and advertisement will also be covered along with their relationship to developing and growing a business.

WEB DESIGN/INFORMATION ARCHITECTURE**1 Semester, .5 Credit****Prerequisite: Instructor Approval****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

Do you want to learn about the language of the web and prepare yourself with valuable 21st century job skills that will open employment opportunities? Students will learn about visual communication and the principle involved in web design, user experience design, and information architecture and synthesize them into complete website blueprints, wireframes, and websites. They will learn to code HTML and CSS documents and put this knowledge into practice creating their own webpages. This course is designed around the construction of each student's own webpage from conceptual through completion. Students must be creative, able to think critically, be self-directed to meet deadlines, and have an attention to detail.

Theology

THEOLOGY I**2 Semesters, 1 Credit****Prerequisite: None****Required for Grade 9**

Introduction to Christianity and the Gospel of Luke: The first semester will begin with a focus on Basic Christian Doctrine from a Lutheran perspective. Units include The Bible as God's Word, Creation, Justification by Grace through Faith, the Trinity, the Means of Grace, the three ecumenical creeds and the 10 Commandments. The second semester is a study of the Gospel of Luke. This is an intensive study of one of the gospels, looking at the early ministry of Jesus Christ. This study will compare the gospel of Luke with the other gospels where such a comparison is significant. It will also sense the differences in genres (parables, proverbs, discourse, various metaphors, etc.) used throughout the gospels.

THEOLOGY II

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 10

Survey of Old Testament, Christological meaning. During the first semester, students will study the Old Testament and how we became God's chosen people. The second semester will deal with a study of major and minor prophets, various aspects of being a high school student, and an intensive study of John's Gospel.

THEOLOGY III

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 11

Epistles and Christian Ethics. This course will emphasize a study of the Epistles of the New Testament, combining them with themes from the Gospel and the Old Testament. The student will be exposed to the development of the early Christian Church, and the teachings and understanding of the early Christians during and after the apostolic era. The book of Revelation will also be examined, in light of the themes and message of the whole of Scripture, and we will learn how to avoid the common misunderstandings of this book by the modern western world.

While learning the teachings found in the Epistles, we will emphasize their role in the discussion of Christian Ethics in our modern era, culture, and community. We will use God's Word as our foundation and content and will emphasize class discussion of how the Bible's teachings apply to the many ideas, beliefs, and cultural assumptions we find around us in our daily lives. An emphasis will be placed on our interpersonal relationships as Christians. We will examine our own relationship with God in the person of Jesus Christ, and in light of that relationship, we will look at our interactions with families, friends, and various communities of which we are members. We will also look at building our future relationships – spouses, families, and friends – founded in the love of Christ Jesus.

THEOLOGY IV

2 Semesters, 1 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Required for Grade 12

Defending the Faith (Christian Apologetics) and World Religions. During the first semester, the bulk of this course will focus on becoming more comfortable with why Christians believe what they do, being more confident in the reliable evidence of those beliefs, and also being able to communicate the hope that we have in Christ Jesus to others around us, in a rational and responsible way. We will come at the topic of the reliability of Scripture and the Christian faith from several directions, making use of philosophy and logic, science, archaeology, history, etc., to show the rational evidence for the beliefs that we hold. We find that God's Word continues to give us an accurate portrayal not only of world history and antiquity, but also of the conditions in which humans find themselves, across cultures of the world.

The second semester will pick up with the themes of the human condition as we find it across time and space, and we will especially focus on learning about various world religions, comparing and contrasting them to the Christian belief. This will be to familiarize our students with the various beliefs they will encounter in their communities and relationships, to help them to feel more secure in their own beliefs, and also to give them confidence and practice in having productive, respectful, and accurate conversations with people around them, sharing the faith of Jesus our Messiah.