

# Arlington Catholic High School

## Class of 2021 Program of Studies

### 2017 - 2018

This booklet is designed to acquaint you with the courses available for ninth grade students at Arlington Catholic High School. A complete Program of Studies is online at [www.achs.net](http://www.achs.net) under the 'Students' section. You must carry a program of six full credit courses per year. Careful consideration should be given to your abilities, interests, and aptitudes when choosing courses. Requirements for high school graduation and college admission are also important factors in course selection.

## Requirements for Graduation

English	4 years
Theology	4 years
Christian Service Hours (see Theology Department section)	60 hours
Math (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II + Additional Math)	4 years
Science (Biology, Chemistry + Additional Science)	3 years
Social Studies (Freshman History, US History + Additional Social Studies or AP Seminar )	3 years
Language (French, Italian, Latin, Spanish)	2 years
Physical Education	2 years
Arts & Enrichment Program	4 years

## Requirements

### Grade 9

English 1  
Language  
Algebra 1  
Theology 1  
History  
Physical Education

### Grade 10

Biology (if not yet taken)  
English 2  
Language  
Geometry  
Theology 2  
Physical Education

### Grade 11

English 3  
Algebra 2  
Theology 3  
United States History

### Grade 12

English 4  
Theology 4  
Science (if needed)  
Mathematics  
Social Studies (if needed)

## Honors Courses

### Honors (Grade 9)

- A minimum of a B+ average in the appropriate subject area in grades 7 & 8.
- Scores on standardized tests, including the High School Placement Test, that indicate the student is capable in a particular subject area.
- Scores on Arlington Catholic's Placement Exams for Biology, English, World History, Mathematics or a level 2 Language
- Since topics covered are cumulative and require considerable critical thinking, regular school attendance, including a minimal number of tardies and dismissals, is required.
- Department approval

**\*\* Please note that no one standard automatically qualifies a student's placement into a course. Approval of the respective department is required for all courses.**

Arlington Catholic High School will attempt to honor all course requests. In some cases, under-enrollment or course conflicts may make requested scheduling impossible. Students will be advised of the conflict and asked to select an alternative course. Schedule changes may also occur due to a student's failure to meet prerequisites, conflicts in scheduling, or errors in placement.

Once the school's master schedule has been completed, few changes will be made. Requests for schedule changes must be made through the student's counselor and must be approved by Department Chairs and administration. Information on dates and times for these changes will be included in the student handbook.

# English Department

All students are required to take four years of English.  
Summer reading is required each year.

## **ENGLISH 1 – 010**

1 Credit

English 1 provides a comprehensive foundation of close reading, writing, and grammar skills that students build upon throughout their high school career. Students read both fiction and nonfiction selections from the major literary genres, and begin to think more critically about these works. They learn to identify literary language, build vocabulary, understand effective sentence structure, and practice close reading. Using the writing process, they craft personal, expository, analytical, and argumentative paragraphs and essays, as well as imaginative pieces.

## **HONORS ENGLISH 1- 011**

1 Credit

Honors English 1 covers content similar to that of English 1. This course provides a comprehensive foundation of close reading, writing, and grammar skills that students build upon throughout their high school career; however, students are required to read and write on a more analytical level. In addition, students are often expected to work more independently. Students read both fiction and nonfiction selections from the major literary genres, and begin to think more critically about these works. They learn to identify literary language, build vocabulary, understand effective sentence structure, and practice close reading. Using the writing process, they craft personal, expository, analytical, and argumentative paragraphs and essays, as well as imaginative pieces.

Students must take a placement test to be considered for admission to this course.

# Social Studies Department

All students are required to take three years of Social Studies, which includes Western Civilization or Honors World History in the freshman year and US History in the junior year. AP Seminar may be used to fulfill the three year requirement, but does not, for juniors, replace US History. Department approval is required for honors and AP courses.

## **WESTERN CIVILIZATION – 112**

1 Credit

This course is a survey of the great civilizations of the western world. Beginning with pre-history, and ancient cultures, students will then discover the histories and culture of Greece and Rome; the rise of the Islamic World; and the development of Europe through the Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The course concludes with a study of Absolutism. Students develop skills in geography and writing, as well as in document reading and analysis.

Grade: 9

## **HONORS WORLD HISTORY – 111**

1 Credit

This course is a study of the great civilizations of the world, beginning with Prehistory through the Reformation and Renaissance. Students will study The Middle East, China, India, Africa, Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Europe. The main aspects of a civilization are covered: government structure, culture, belief systems, societal structure, and geography. Emphasis will be placed on critical reading and writing as well as the development of a student's analytical skills.

Grade: 9

# Mathematics Department

All students are required to take Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2. Any version of the TI-84 or TI-84 Plus graphing calculator is required in all math classes.

**Please Note:** A grade of B- is required to remain in Advanced or Honors Math courses. A year end grade of A- and departmental approval are both required to move from an Honors level course to an Advanced level course; as well as move from a college-prep level to an Honors level course.

## **HONORS ALGEBRA 1 – 210**

1 Credit

The course is designed for the student well prepared by fundamental pre-algebra. Moving at a rapid pace, students are challenged by a highly competitive atmosphere. Students discover and develop algebraic concepts and skills by relating their knowledge of numbers to the variable. Topics include the language of sets, linear equalities, and inequalities, quadratic equations, linear systems, and functions. Numerous word problems provide practical application of the concepts being developed.

## **ALGEBRA 1 - 211**

1 Credit

Algebra 1 is designed to give the students a solid foundation in basic algebraic concepts and skills which include sets, structure of number systems, equalities and the coordinate plane. Highlighting some of the key areas of introductory geometry and basic logical reasoning, provides students the underlying groundwork for future mathematics courses.

## **ADVANCED GEOMETRY -214**

1 Credit

This course is designed for highly motivated students with exceptional math skills and a strong background in Algebra. The course integrates Algebra concepts in the study of Geometry. The work centers around two basic understandings: the development of geometrical principles on a plane, and the nature of mathematical proofs. These two objectives are met by starting with undefined terms, such as points, line and plane, and then proceeding through the axioms and postulates to the theorems. In this approach, concepts are important as they relate to one another. The course concludes with the study of Area and Volume. In Advanced Geometry the subject matter is studied in greater depth, with more difficult proofs, than in the Honors Geometry course.

**COMPUTER APPLICATIONS -251****1 Credit**

This laboratory class is designed to develop an understanding of and literacy about computers and digital technology. In addition to using print and electronic textbooks, the Internet is integrated throughout both semesters of this split topic course. During the first semester, students develop expertise in the use of the Microsoft Office Suite, covering advanced Word topics, Excel spreadsheets, and Access databases.

In the second semester, students explore desktop publishing and graphic design. Beginning with advanced topics in Microsoft Power Point and then moving on to Adobe In Design for advanced page layout, the course covers aspects of the design and production of communication products. The course also covers electronic publishing including producing Adobe PDF documents and basic Internet web pages.

# Science Department

All students are required to take three years of science, including **Biology and Chemistry**.  
Department approval is required for all honors courses.

## HONORS BIOLOGY 1 -320

1 Credit

Honors Biology 1 is designed for freshmen who plan to take four years of science at Arlington Catholic and have demonstrated high aptitude in mathematics and reading comprehension. It is a laboratory-based course intended to provide those students with an in-depth knowledge of biology and to further develop their investigative and interpretive skills. Its content is taught on a molecular level, allowing students a better understanding of the rapid advances in biology. Topics include: cells, DNA structure, protein synthesis, genetics, evolution, biochemistry, as well as a deeper study of life processes as they relate to various organisms. This course requires independent research and study.

## BIOLOGY 1 – 322

1 Credit

Biology 1 is a **required laboratory course** offered to freshmen and sophomores. This course is designed to heighten awareness of the interdependence of living organisms with the environment. Topics covered include: cell structure and function, biochemistry of organic nutrients, classification, plant and animal structure, energy transformations, DNA, genetics, and life processes as they relate to various organisms.

# Physical Education

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 959**

¼ Credit

Physical Education is a course requirement for all Freshmen and Sophomores. The Physical Education class is an introduction to basic skills and movement by participation and instruction in the following activities: Badminton, Basketball, Flag Football, Lacrosse, Paddle Tennis, Pilo-Polo, Ping Pong, Whiffle Ball, Soccer, Ultimate Frisbee, Jump Rope, and Hula Hoops. Students will work on individual skills as well as group work and teamwork by participating in a variety of structured recreational games. Physical Education class will also utilize and understand the importance of the Wellness Center and the Turf Field. Throughout the year all Physical Education classes will participate in Health Workshop programs. The Physical Education Program helps students develop socially, emotionally and physically. The Physical Education class promotes a healthy environment with emphasis placed on good sportsmanship and fair play.

# Fine Arts Department

## **ART 1 - 751**

1 Credit

This introductory course focuses on the basic skills and vocabulary of art. Techniques covered include: color theory, pencil-shading techniques, perspective, figurative gesture drawing, collage, introduction to sculpture and basic design layout. Home assignments include short readings and occasional sketchbook/planning drawings. This course is recommended for students who have not had extensive previous art experience.



# World Language Department

**All students are required to take two consecutive years of a world language, French, Italian, Latin or Spanish. A minimum of a B- average in an honors course is required to remain in an honors level course. A minimum of a B+ average in the appropriate prerequisite college preparatory course(s) is required to move to the honors level. For incoming freshmen, placement in college prep level 2 or honors level 2 courses in French, Italian or Spanish is determined by results on the department placement test.**

The World Language Department offers college-prep, honors and Advanced Placement courses in French, Italian, and Spanish. The Italian program is new for 2017-2018. The plan is to grow Italian instruction in coming years, based on student interest. In order to fulfill graduation requirements, students must take a minimum of two consecutive years of a world language. As many colleges and universities favor three or four years of language study at the high school level, we encourage students to continue their study of a world language beyond the minimum requirements.

Our courses foster communicative competence through the practice of all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Moreover, through exposure to literature, art, music, and films of the countries where the target language is spoken, our students gain an understanding of other cultures' people, products, practices and perspectives.

## **FRENCH 1 – 412**

### **1 Credit**

French 1 is for students who have never studied French before or have had very little French at the middle school level. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the French-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in French and students are encouraged to speak as much French as possible.

**HONORS FRENCH 1 - 413****1 Credit**

Honors French 1 is for students who have never studied French before or have had very little French at the middle school level and are generally strong students academically. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the French-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in French and students are encouraged to speak as much French as possible.

**FRENCH 2 – 422****1 Credit**

French 2 is for students who have completed a French 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level. This course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of French-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak only French during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to be considered for this level.

**HONORS FRENCH 2 – 423****1 Credit**

Honors French 2 is for students who have completed a French 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level and are generally strong students academically. The course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of French-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in French and students are expected to speak only French during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to be considered for this level.

**ITALIAN 1 – 414****1 Credit**

Italian 1 is for students who have never studied Italian before or have had very little Italian at the middle school level. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and culture of Italy is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Italian and students are encouraged to speak as much Italian as possible.

**HONORS ITALIAN 1 – 415****1 Credit**

Honors Italian 1 is for students who have never studied Italian before or have had very little Italian at the middle school level and are generally strong students academically. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and culture of Italy is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Italian and students are encouraged to speak as much Italian as possible.

**ITALIAN 2 – 428****1 Credit**

Italian 2 is for students who have completed an Italian 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level. This course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Italy. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Italian and students are expected to speak only Italian during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to be considered for this level.

**HONORS ITALIAN 2 - 429****1 Credit**

Honors Italian 2 is for students who have completed an Italian 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level and are generally strong students academically. The course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Italy. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Italian and students are expected to speak only Italian during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to be considered for this level.

**SPANISH 1 – 410****1 Credit**

Spanish 1 is for students who have never studied Spanish before or have had very little Spanish at the middle school level. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Spanish and students are encouraged to speak as much Spanish as possible.

**HONORS SPANISH 1 – 411****1 Credit**

Honors Spanish I is for students who have never studied Spanish before or have had very little Spanish at the middle school level and are generally strong students academically; students must pass a placement test in order to enroll in this course. This course is taught at a faster pace than Spanish 1. Emphasis is on developing communicative competence by practicing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills with basic structures and vocabulary. Developing an understanding of the customs and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world is also emphasized. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted mostly in Spanish and students are encouraged to speak as much Spanish as possible.

**SPANISH 2 – 420****1 Credit**

Spanish 2 is for students who have completed a Spanish 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level. This course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to be considered for this level.

**HONORS SPANISH 2 - 421****1 Credit**

Honors Spanish 2 is for students who have completed a Spanish 1 course either at the middle school level or at the high school level and are generally strong students academically. Taught at a faster pace than Spanish 2, this course builds on the listening, speaking, reading and writing skills developed in level 1 and continues to explore the customs and cultures of Spanish-speaking countries. In order for students to have an immersive language experience which facilitates acquisition, the class is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak only Spanish during class time. Please note: Incoming freshmen must take the department placement test to be considered for this level.

**LATIN 1 – 417****1 Credit**

This introductory course is designed for students who have had little or no previous study of the language. The focus is on the pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar of Latin as well as the culture, history and mythology of ancient Rome.

# Theology Department

**All students are required to take four years of Theology, which includes a one semester elective their senior year. Active participation is expected in all classes.**

## **CHRISTIAN SERVICE REQUIREMENT**

Christian Service is an integral part of the educational process. To this end, Arlington Catholic High School has a Christian Service requirement. All students are required to complete sixty hours of service before graduation. During each of the Freshman and Sophomore years, twenty hours of service is required. Ten hours of service is required during each of their Junior and Senior years. The Campus Ministry office provides possible service placement opportunities. Other individual placement opportunities may be discussed with and must be approved by the Director of Campus Ministry.

## **THEOLOGY 1 – 510**

1 Credit

## **FUNDAMENTALS OF CATHOLIC BELIEF**

This course introduces the four-year Theology curriculum. Its purpose is to help the students examine and deepen their own understanding of the fundamental beliefs of the Catholic faith. Students explore the nature of God and faith and the meaning of God's call to act with unconditional love and live with a Catholic worldview. In addition, such basic doctrines as the Trinity, the Incarnation, and the Paschal Mystery are studied. Students are encouraged to apply these concepts to their own lives.

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES**

1 Credit

This course is designed as an introduction to the Bible as well as a study of the Hebrew Scriptures. It offers students an opportunity to read the Bible and learn how to understand and apply its truths to their own lives. Through a study of basic biblical themes, the course develops an understanding of how God has worked in human history and still works in our world today.