



# Holy Family Academy

## Freshman Course Descriptions

### Class of 2014

#### THEOLOGY Grade 9

**Sacraments and Worship** introduces prayer as our personal response to God's loving presence, liturgy as the Christian community joining in a public and formal way to celebrate the saving presence of Jesus, and sacraments (rituals, symbols, and words of each) as encounters with the risen Christ, celebrated in the Christian community.

**Introduction to Human Sexuality** examines human fertility, sexuality, and sexual development in an atmosphere which values each person as created and loved by God.

#### ENGLISH

##### **Honors World Literature**

This freshman Honors English course focuses on a study of genres based on world literature. Students will explore the study of poetry, drama, non-fiction prose and short stories from ancient beginnings to modern times. Independent outside reading is required. Since writing is an integral part of the thought process, stress will be placed on the art of writing well. Students will learn the techniques for both process writing and journalistic writing. The study of world literature uses a holistic approach, which includes an intense review of grammar, correct usage and punctuation. Vocabulary is two pronged, based on an approach through literature and a weekly development of SAT recommended words.

##### **The Study of Literary Genres**

This course offers an introduction to the various literary genres: short stories, nonfiction prose, drama, poetry and novels. Emphasis will be placed on building vocabulary, sentence and paragraph structure, correct usage, grammar, punctuation and coherence. Students will learn the art of process writing as well as a journalistic approach to writing. Independent readings will be assigned each marking period.

#### MATHEMATICS

##### **Honors Algebra 1**

This is a study of the structure of algebra and the development of computational problem-solving skills, the structure and properties of real numbers, quadratic equations, inequalities, polynomials and functions. This course is designed for mathematically gifted students and will cover topics in greater depth.

##### **Algebra 1**

This is a study of the structure of algebra and the development of computational problem-solving skills, the structure and properties of real numbers, quadratic equations, inequalities, polynomials and functions.

## SCIENCE

### **Honors Conceptual Physics**

This course delves deeply into the topics of motion, work, energy, composition of matter, special properties of liquids and gases, and atomic structure. Students explore the universal laws of nature, with an eye towards the application of these laws in real-life situations. A heavy emphasis is placed on problem-solving and critical thinking skills. Math work will also include a greater emphasis on graphical and logical analysis. Lab skills will be emphasized and include interactive computer activities.

### **Conceptual Physics**

This is a study of the most elemental of the sciences, upon which future science study is built. Students will explore the universal laws of nature, with an eye towards the application of these laws in real-life situations. Problem solving skills are emphasized. Selected topics include energy, motion, forces, matter, heat, wave energy and the composition of matter. The level of math work will coincide with average Algebra 1 skills and will include the development of self-evaluation skills. Selected laboratory skills include direct and derived measurements and basic, good laboratory techniques.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

### **Honors World History**

This challenging social studies course examines the colorful story of human achievement over the ages. It incorporates a special emphasis on reading, writing, and critical thinking skills and is for the student who particularly enjoys history.

### **World History**

World History is a comprehensive survey of the most noteworthy people, events and concepts of civilized times. The course utilizes all facets of the social studies discipline.

## WORLD LANGUAGES

### **Spanish 1**

This course is an introduction to the language and culture of the Spanish people. While comprehension, reading and writing are dealt with, emphasis is on oral development.

### **French 1**

This course will provide the student with knowledge of the French language and an introduction to the culture and civilization of the French people. Classes will present opportunities for the student to hear, speak, read and write French and to begin to understand the French language when she encounters it.

### **Latin 1**

This course introduces Latin with an emphasis on developing reading proficiency. Through the study of this highly inflected language, the student will learn the value of precision in analysis and will also see her English language skills improve. An overview of Greek and Roman culture, history and mythology is also included.

## Freshman Seminar

**Freshman Seminar** is a unique transition course designed to facilitate students' integration into the learning community of Holy Family. The course enhances students' skills for academic success in writing and mathematics, fosters students' meaningful educational engagement in Technology, Arts, Music, and Physical Education.