

ACADEMIC LEVELS

Courses offered at *Serra Catholic High School* are structured to appropriately challenge students according to ability.

LEVELS 1- 3 - 5 – indicates the difficulty of the course. There are the 3 main academic levels offered. Level 1 is intended for students who may need additional assistance in mathematics, reading, or another area. Level 3 is the standard academic track in which most students are registered. Level 5 is the most demanding (honors equivalent) track. Courses marked as Level 1, 3, or 5 are calculated on *both* the weighted and unweighted scales. The level of the course has a significant bearing on the weighted grade point average, as the example below indicates:

Numeric Grade	Weighted Point Value		
	Level 1	Level 3	Level 5
96 (A)	3.00	4.00	5.00
88 (B)	2.00	3.00	4.00
80 (C)	1.00	2.00	3.00

LEVEL 7 - indicates a college level course for which college credit may be gained through the College in High School Program. These courses are weighted at the Level 5 values.

LEVEL 8 - indicates that the course is NOT grouped by ability. These marks are calculated *only* in the unweighted grade point average but have no bearing on the weighted average.

LEVEL 9 - indicates that the student will receive a letter grade. These grades are *not* calculated on the weighted or the unweighted scales. However, the student does receive the credit listed in the description by earning a minimum mark of “N.”

The interpretation of the letter grades is as follows:

- H** Honors; doing very well
- S** Satisfactory
- N** Needs improvement
- U** Unsatisfactory: the student will not receive credit

The academic level of each course appears on the student transcript along with the ranking on both the unweighted and weighted averages.

LEVEL DESCRIPTION FOR MATH PROGRESSION

Since 97% of Serra graduates go on to some form of higher education, we offer a college preparatory curriculum that is designed to prepare all of our students for success.

Level 1: This level is intended for students not adequately prepared for a full year of Algebra 1 as freshmen. Therefore, Algebra 1 is spread out over two years to lay a solid foundation for further study. Students then go on to Geometry in the junior year and finish with

a year of Basic Trig/Algebra 2

Level 3: This is the normal sequence of classes for a college prep student. Our level 3 students take Algebra 1 as freshmen, Geometry as sophomore, Algebra 2 as juniors and Trigonometry/Advanced Algebra as seniors. These students are prepared for either Calculus or College Algebra/Trig when entering college.

Level 5: The level 5 student at Serra is an exceptional math student. Our objective in level 5 is to prepare this student to take Calculus during his/her senior year. Our level 5 students take a sequence of Algebra 1, Algebra 2, Geometry, Pre-Calculus Mathematics, Pre Calculus Trigonometry and Computer Programming – finishing the normal sequence of high school math by the end of their junior year. The senior year is reserved for either Engineering Calculus or Business Calculus and computer programming in Visual Basic and/or Java. Senior level 5 classes are offered for college credit through the University of Pittsburgh. These students are prepared to move on to Calculus 2 in College.

COURSE REGISTRATION POLICIES

Due to the size of the Serra Catholic student body, combined with the number of academic levels offered and our efforts to keep class sizes small and balanced, it is essential that our course selection policies be adhered to closely. Registering after the due date can lead to an inaccurate number of textbooks being ordered, class sizes becoming unbalanced, or even a course being cancelled. Requesting a schedule change after July 15th can result in the same. Therefore, please follow the policies set forth and do not hesitate to contact the Guidance Office for assistance.

Registration Requirements/Electives

It is important that each student completely fill out the *Electives* section of the registration form. Failure to do so may result in the student being placed in an elective chosen by the Administration, as some courses may be cancelled due to insufficient enrollment (usually less than 12 students). Furthermore, each student is required to be registered for eight courses per semester with the exception for seniors who must be registered for seven courses per semester.

Fee/Schedule Changes

There is a \$100.00 fee to register for courses each year. **The Registration Form must be completed, signed and submitted by February 16, 2008 to avoid a \$25.00 late fee.** A \$100 fee will be charged any student requesting a schedule change after **July 15th**. Freshmen and transfer student's schedule change requests will be accommodated through the first 2 cycles of classes of the new academic semester.

Students who withdraw from a course without a teacher recommendation after the third cycle of classes will receive a failing grade "F" for the course.

ACADEMIC HONORS

At the conclusion of each academic quarter, qualifying students will be placed on the Honor Roll and Dean's List according to the following standards:

Honor Roll

RUBY – the student must have all A's

GOLD – the student must have an A average and no grade lower than 85%

SILVER – the student must have a B average with no grade lower than 85%

DEAN'S LIST

The student must earn a minimum QPA of 3.5

FAILURE POLICY

It is the policy of Serra Catholic High School that students cannot return for the following academic year without successfully making up any failed course through an approved program. Students failing more than two credits may only return to Serra with administrative approval. These students will be placed on Academic Probation.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate from *Serra Catholic High School* a student must earn 26.00 credits in the following fashion:

4	Religious Education
4	English
4	Social Studies
3*	Mathematics (4 recommended)
3*	Science (4 recommended)
2	Foreign Language (3 recommended)
2	Arts/Humanities
2	Electives
1.5	Physical Education/Health
.5	Technology Education

*Students must register for a full credit of either Math or Science during their senior year. Students must obtain administrative approval if not electing a Math or Science as a senior.

In addition to the above requirements, students must earn a passing grade in all courses during their senior year. Seniors receiving a failing grade will not be awarded a diploma at graduation. The diploma will be awarded when the failed course is made up in an approved summer school program.

GUIDANCE

The Guidance Department has compiled a list of areas of study commonly pursued. The list indicates which elective(s) should be considered for the field of interest. Further information is available through the Guidance Department.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES - PRE-MED

Mathematics: Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra, Basic 1 & 2, Computer Programming 1 & 2 and Calculus

Science: A.P. Biology, Chemistry 2, Physics, Anatomy & Physiology

ENGINEERING

Mathematics: Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra, Calculus, Basic 1 & 2 and Computer Programming 1 & 2

Science: Physics, Chemistry 2, Physics 2

HEALTH-RELATED PROFESSIONS

Mathematics: Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus, Basic 1 & 2, Computer Programming

Science: Physics, A.P. Biology, Chemistry 2, Anatomy and Physiology

PRE-LAW

Emphasis should be on English composition and writing skills with a development of oral skills.

COMMUNICATIONS

Emphasis should be on English courses. Students should also be involved in extracurricular activities such as the yearbook, newspaper, speech, etc.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT/ADMINISTRATION/ACCOUNTING

Mathematics: Trigonometry and Business Calculus

Business Education Courses: Accounting, Personal Financial Management and Computer Application.

Language: Three years of Foreign Language

TESTING PROGRAM

EIGHTH GRADE

STS (SCHOLASTIC TESTING SERVICE) Scores based on national and local percentiles are used in conjunction with reports from the elementary school to recommend the student for the appropriate academic level.

NINTH AND TENTH GRADES

The *Iowa Test of Educational Development* is administered in October of each year. This standardized test provides an appraisal of student progress toward secondary goals in basic skills and curriculum. Scores are based on local, national and college-bound percentiles and give students, parents and counselors a tool that is helpful in future academic and occupational planning.

TENTH AND ELEVENTH GRADES

Preliminary Scholastic Assessment Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). This test measures verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities that are considered important for successful academic college performance. It is also used as a screening device to identify students who may qualify for National Merit Scholarship Competition.

SAT I : REASONING TEST/ SAT II : SUBJECT TEST

Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT - College Boards) — This test is used by college admissions officers in comparing the preparation and ability of applicants. Although this test is usually taken in the Junior or Senior year of school, we strongly encourage sophomores to take this test in the spring semester. It is mainly for practice purposes but it does expose the student to the format of

the test and it helps relieve some of the anxiety that is associated with the test. The test is offered six times a year at various high schools within the area. Registration forms are available in the Guidance Office.

SAT II Subject Tests are required by some of the more competitive colleges and universities.

ACT Assessment (American College Testing Program) - This test is used by college admissions and measures skills necessary for college work in four curriculum areas: English, Mathematics, Reading, and Science Reasoning. Some schools specifically request that students take the ACT. Registration forms are available in the Guidance Office.

EDUCATION is a process begun formally in school and continues throughout a lifetime. The primary responsibility for education lies within the individual. It is supported by faculty and family.

ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is required of each student each semester. Each student at *Serra Catholic High School* is **required** to take part in the class retreat program. If the student cannot be present for the class retreat, he/she must make up the requirement under the direction of the School Ministry Office. Freshmen/Sophomores are required to do (10) hours of community service each year that has the approval of the Religion Department.; Juniors/Seniors must do 20 hours of service each year.

ENGLISH

English is required of each student each semester. Outside readings, research work and expository writing are featured.

SOCIAL STUDIES

A Social Studies course is required of each student each year. Seniors are required to take one semester each of Government and Economics (exception for those enrolled in AP History).

MATHEMATICS

Each student must complete three full years of mathematics and are also encouraged to include Trigonometry, Advanced Algebra and a programming course. Seniors interested in a math or science related careers are encouraged to take one or two math electives during their senior year.

SCIENCE

Each student must complete three basic courses before graduation. Students interested in a science or health related careers are encouraged to take one or two science electives during their

senior year.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Each student must take two years of foreign language unless excused by the Administration. Students are expected to begin language study of Spanish or French in 9th grade unless enrolled in the Individualized Reading Assistance Program. A third and/or fourth year of foreign language is also offered and highly recommended for those who have the ability.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Each student must take Physical Education each year and Health in the Freshmen or Sophomore year.

BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

Computer Applications is a required course for all students. Those who are interested in the business and technology fields are strongly encouraged to take the many electives offered in this department.

FINE ARTS

In compliance with the regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Education, students graduating from Senior High School must have two credits in the Arts or the Humanities or both. Students at *Serra Catholic High School* are encouraged to receive at least one credit in the Fine Arts--Band, Chorus, Music or Art. Humanities Classes include subjects that embrace literature, languages, history, or social sciences.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Prelude

Achievement in school requires regular attendance, daily homework, study, review, and responsibility for work missed during an absence. Repeated absences may result in withholding of course credit. As you read through the course descriptions and make selections for the coming year, students and parents should reflect on each of the descriptions and make selections that are both challenging and realistic.

For assistance in course selection, students should see their academic advisor or guidance counselor. Questions from parents may also be referred to the Guidance Department or Studies Office.

Symbolic Interpretation



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

0111-8 Christ: The Eternal Word **S-1 C-1/2 G-9**

This course is an introduction to Sacred Scripture. Presumes no prior comprehensive knowledge of Catholic doctrine, hence a doctrinal survey course is not a prerequisite. The course addresses, at a basic level, human development. The Bible will be explored in greater detail during subsequent courses.

0112-8 Christ: Who Is Jesus? **S-2 C-1/2 G-9**

Scripture and Sacred Tradition are mined to yield an age-appropriate survey of Christology. Attitudes that create challenges to belief are also addressed and analyzed with an eye toward getting beyond them to a deepening of faith. Students are invited to a deeper communion with the living Jesus Christ.

0121-8 What Did Christ Accomplish? (The Paschal Mystery) **S-1 C-1/2 G-10**

Sacred Scripture and a survey of pertinent Church teaching helps students explore this central mystery of our Faith. The Paschal Mystery’s implications for the life of all believers are reflected upon, with our universal call to holiness as an underlying goal. What it means to live as Jesus’ disciple is further clarified for each sophomore.

0122-8 How Does Christ’s Work Continue In The World Today? (The Church) **S-2 C1/2 G-10**

Ecclesiology and basic sense of Church history are included in this course. Implications for our times as well as attitudes which create a challenge to membership in the Church are discussed in detail. Active participation in our Church and her mission is the call to students throughout this semester.

0131-8 Sacraments As The Principal Manifestations of Christ **S-1 C-1/2 G-11**

Sacramentology and all seven sacraments are treated this semester. Students are encouraged to participate in our Church’s sacramental life as a life-long way of encountering Jesus and growing in grace. A more thorough treatment of sacraments at the service of communion is reserved for senior year.

0132-8 Life In Christ (Part I) **S-2 C-1/2 G-11**

How are we to live? This timeless question is examined in its fundamentals during this course. Challenges to living as a disciple of Jesus are addressed, with helpful guidance offered for putting the Gospel of life into daily practice. Virtue gets a thorough treatment as does properly using our gift of freedom.

0141-8 Life In Christ (Part II)

S-1 C-1/2 G-12

Catholic social teaching is elaborated upon in part two of Life in Christ. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy as well as the Decalogue's social dimension receive in-depth coverage. A brief treatment of comparative religions appears in the context of solidarity—a major theme of Ecclesia in America.

0142-8 Sacraments At The Service Of Communion

S-2 C-1/2 G-12

Our universal call to holiness is applied more specifically as students are helped in discerning their vocation. Preparation for, celebration and effects of Holy Orders and Matrimony are featured in this course that also touches upon consecrated and single life. Because most students are called to marriage, its treatment here serves as proximate preparation.

0145-7 Catholic Social Thought

S-1 C-1/2 G-12

This is the same course as 0141 (Life in Christ Part II), but taught for Saint Vincent College credit. While the content of the course is the same as Life in Christ Part II, students are required to write three additional essays.

ENGLISH

0213 3-Literature 1

S-1 C-1/2 G-9

This class will focus on the Short Story, Poetry, Drama, and the Greek Epic. Students at this level will follow the four-step writing process. A project is also required. Additionally, students will be required to read four books from an approved reading list.

0214 3-Grammar, Speech & Essay Essentials

S-2 C-1/2 G-9

This class will review and introduce a wide range of basic English skills. Students will review basic writing techniques, grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and will be expected to complete two book reports and a research paper. A public speaking unit will be included in this course.

0215 5-Literature 1

S-1 C-1/2 G-9

The writing process will serve as the basis for improving writing skills. Students at this level will develop essays through the four-step writing process model. A process for creating order and coherence in their writing will also be focal points for improving writing skills. In this course, students will begin the study of literature with a special emphasis on commonly found themes in literature and the techniques and elements of the short story. The types of literature to be read will be found in the following genres: short story, poetry, epic poetry, and drama. Also, students must read four books from an approved reading list for the semester.

0216 5-Grammar, Speech & Essay Essentials

S-2 C-1/2 G-9

This class will offer the student a wide range of basic and advanced English skills. Students will learn various types of writing skills, review grammar, punctuation, and mechanics. A public speaking unit will also be included in this course. Students will complete two book reports and a

research project. Library skills will be reviewed at this time.

0223 3-American Literature

S-1 C-½ G-10

This course will be an eclectic study of American Literature from the 1800's to the present day. The development of American fiction will be traced through the Romantic, Local Color and Realistic periods. Major American poets will be spotlighted from the Colonial age to the Contemporary scene. Plays written between 1920 and 1950 will introduce sophomores to American Drama. Literature and composition skills will go hand in hand: students will write paragraphs based on their reading both in and out of class. Three-part essays will follow the pre-writing, writing and workshop method of composition instruction. Book reports will deal alternately with plot, characterization, point-of-view, and symbolism. Filmstrips, recordings, audio tapes, and video tapes will supplement the lecture material.

0224 3-Novel

S-2 C-½ G-10

This course will comprise approximately four major novels that will be closely examined for both oral and written interpretation. Discussion will be based on form and styles that are prevalent in today's novels. Literary techniques such as plot, suspense and conflict will form the basis of the written interpretation of the novel. Three-part essays will be written on various aspects of the novel, such as theme and characterization.

0225 5-American Literature

S-1 C-½ G-10

Students in this course will chronicle the development of American Literature through the Pre-Romantic (Neo-Classic), Romantic, Local Color, Realistic, and Contemporary periods. Along with reading materials that will be the subject of daily class discussion, supplementary pieces will be assigned which will generate short composition challenges. As pupils work their way through nearly 200 years of fiction, nonfiction, poetry and drama, the three-part essay will be featured with a requirement to enter a national essay contest as prescribed by the instructor. Film strips, records, audio and video tapes, and a sampling of Early American cuisine will complement the lecture material.

0226 5-Novel

S-2 C-½ G-10

Students will read and discuss several diverse novels throughout the semester. The course will include an introspection of the style and form of a novel. Narrative viewpoint, effect, characterization, and themes are only a few of the literary areas that will be closely examined. Class discussions will also center on the novel's relevance in today's society. Compositions utilizing the writing process will be assigned on a regular basis.

0233 3-Early British Literature

S-1 C-½ G-11

This course will provide a study of the Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Elizabethan Periods of British Literature. Students will be encouraged to understand the effect that political and religious attitudes have on literary trends. Students will submit regular home-paragraph assignments based on textbook selections and periodic three-part expository essays. Projects will be assigned. Books for outside reading will be required.

0234 3-Late British Literature

S-2 C-1/2 G-11

In this course, students will approach the poetry, fiction and nonfiction of British authors of the Romantic, Victorian and Modern Periods. Literary works will be studied in their historical context so that students will better understand the effects of the political, social and religious attitudes on the writings of each period. Essays will be assigned as well as outside readings.

0235 5-Early British Literature

S-1 C-½ G-11

This course will provide a study of the Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and Elizabethan Periods of British Literature. Students will be encouraged to understand the effect that political and religious attitudes have on literary trends. Works in the anthology will be supplemented by two novels for outside reading. Students will be expected to demonstrate their knowledge of literary techniques with three-part expository essays.

0236 5-Late British Literature

S-2 C-½ G-11

In this course, the students will approach the poetry, fiction and nonfiction of British authors from the Jacobean Period to the present. The literature will be studied in its historical context so that students will better understand the effects of the trends and political, social and religious attitudes on the writings of each period. Outside reading will be required along with an ongoing academic journal.

Please note: All seniors are required to take a semester English course which requires them to submit a Research Paper.

SENIOR ENGLISH CURRICULUM

LEVEL 3: ELEMENTS OF COLLEGE WRITING AND LITERATURE

0243 3-World Literature and College Composition

S-1 C-½ G-12

In this course, students will make a survey of the classics of world literature. Various works from the Near and Far East, Persia, Ancient Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, etc., will be read and discussed within a chronological and historical framework. Writing and thinking skills will be emphasized. **A research paper will be among the various writing assignments.**

0244 3-Contemporary Writers

S-2 C-½ G-12

This course is a survey of the literature of the contemporary world, and concentrates on the themes of human existence: love, war, and death. Students will analyze literary themes both in class discussion and written essays. Composition will be stressed in this literature course.

LEVEL 5: COLLEGE WRITING AND THE ARTS

S-1 C-½ G-12

0245 5-Modern Drama and College Composition

This course will investigate the play as a form of literature to be read and appreciated. Students will read a variety of modern dramas by playwrights such as Ibsen, Williams and Miller. Works studied will focus on contemporary choices and decisions. Students will be graded on tests, expository essays, a critical research paper, and various assigned activities.

0246 5-Modern Poetry**S-2 C-½ G-12**

In this course, students will read and discuss the works of contemporary poets and view documentaries of Poetry Festivals. Compositions based on readings will be required.

LEVEL 7: COLLEGE WRITING

This course is limited to 12 students. To enroll, a student must agree to take this course for college credit. If the student later opts out of college credit, he or she must drop down to level 5 Modern Drama and Modern Poetry. To be eligible for this course, the following requirements must be met:

- The student must take this course in his/her senior year
- The student must be carrying a cumulative average of 3.5
- The student must have taken all level 5 English classes and earned a “A” in each class.
- The student must have the approval of the instructors teaching the two semesters of this course, Creative Writing and Tragedy.

0247 7-Creative Writing (Taken for College Credit)**S-1 C-½ G-12**

Creative Writing is designed for seniors who wish to refine their prose styles in the areas of the expository essay, short fiction, poetry and drama. Outside reading will include two novels, one of which –*The Stranger*—will be the subject of a senior project research paper. This course will be taken for three university credits with discounted tuition as part of a concurrent enrollment program with St. Vincent College.

0248 7-Tragedy**S-2 C-½ G-12**

Tragedy will begin with an in-depth look at classical Greek Literature. Works by Sophocles will be scrutinized within a framework established by Aristotle in his poetics. Students will then look at Elizabethan England and the techniques of tragedy as exemplified by William Shakespeare. The study of the development of tragedy will be complete with the study of the works of the twentieth century dramatists Ibsen and Miller. In addition to periodic tests, students will be expected to submit expository essays related to class material. Students will also be required to create a short work of tragedy.

0271 8-Publications**S-1&2 C-1 G-12**

In this course, students will be responsible for the creation and publication of the Serra Catholic High School yearbook and newspaper. All participants will learn how to use the computer-based software needed for each publication. Students who choose to work on the newspaper staff will write and edit articles, as well as format pages for a monthly publication. Those who work on the yearbook will be responsible for formatting pages and submitting them for deadlines. At any given time, students may be asked to assist others with both publications, as needed. Along with layout and design, students will learn and use editing symbols and techniques to create these publications. Additionally, students may be asked to attend school events to act as reporters and/or photographers. This will count for class credit. Students who would like to participate in the course can have nothing lower than a 93% in any English course at Serra and be a junior, senior or second-semester sophomore. There will be a maximum 15 participants for the course.

0273 5-Catholic Literature**S-2 C-½ G-12**

An exploration of the writings of Doctors of the Church on the topic of prayer will be examined. Students will be presented with opportunities to practice and grow in a diversity of Catholic prayer styles. Special emphasis will be placed on the works of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Theresa of Avilla, St. John of the Cross, and St. Catherine of Siena. Students will be assessed on reflection papers, classroom discussion and exams. Students will be required to purchase the text *Companions of Christ: Ignatian Spirituality for Everyday Living* by Margaret Silf. Due to the specialized focus and goal of this class, students should possess the ability of written and oral expression. Admittance will require faculty approval and is limited to fifteen students.

SOCIAL STUDIES**0311 1-US /PA STUDIES PART 1****S-1&2 C-1 G-9**

US/PA Studies part 1 will cover early American history beginning with the reasons for the exploration and colonization of the New World and ending with reconstruction of the United States following the Civil War.

0312 3- US /PA STUDIES PART 1**S-1&2 C-1 G-9**

Level three students will study early American political, military and cultural leaders, commerce and industry, transportation developments, social organization, settlement patterns and westward expansion. Students will also study military conflicts such as the French and Indian War, American Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican-American War and the Civil War. Learning assessments will include homework assignments, exams, quizzes, projects, etc.

0313 5-US/PA STUDIES PART 1**S-1&2 C-1 G-9**

Level five students will study early American political, military and cultural leaders, commerce and industry, transportation developments, social organization, settlement patterns and westward expansion. Students will also study military conflicts such as the French and Indian War, American Revolution, War of 1812, Mexican-American War and the Civil War. Learning assessments will include homework assignments, exams, quizzes, projects, etc. Homework assignments will be in essay format. A research paper may be required.

NOTE: In order to qualify for a Level 5 course in Social Studies, a student must have attained at least an 88% average from the prior year Social Studies Class.

0321 1-World History/Cultures**S-1&2 C-1 G-10**

This course will focus on major historical periods from pre-history to the present. Basic concepts will be stressed through direct reading activities and worksheets. Geography and skill building in essay writing, reading and note-taking will be emphasized. This course will be

supplemented by filmstrips, VHS and special projects. Students will participate in group discussions and will be expected to do reports of 200-350 words.

0322 3-World History/Cultures

S-1&2 C-1 G-10

World Cultures is a survey course designed to acquaint students with the major historical periods from pre-history to the present. Topics covered include: early people, ancient Egypt, Greece, Rome, Renaissance, evolution of modern national countries, growth of democracy, development of capitalism and socialism, origins of current international conflicts and stress on the progress of science, art, music, and literature. Students will be expected to participate in debates, discussions, and to do outside readings. Each semester, students will be required to do a term paper and several research papers. The course will be supplemented with filmstrips, videos, art, and music recordings.

0323 5-World History/Cultures

S-1&2 C-1 G-10

This course studies in detail the cultural and historical background of early man to Modern Times. Emphasis on the movements and developments of enduring significance: pre-history, ancient man, Dark Ages, Renaissance, the evolution of modern national countries, the growth and development of socialism and capitalism, colonialism, independent movements in the non-Western world, the origins of current international conflicts and the progress of science, art, literature, and music. Students will be expected to participate in debates and discussions, and to do outside readings. Each semester students will be required to do several research papers. This course will be supplemented with filmstrips, art, music, and videos.

0331-1 US and PA Studies Part 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-11

This course will be a chronological study of the United States and Pennsylvania from 1787 to the present. In working with the students, the teacher will use lectures, discussions, questions and answers, filmstrips, video tapes, and Library visitation for research work. One-to-one teaching, as time permits, will also be done. Out of class written assignments will also be part of the course.

0332 3-US/PA Studies Part 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-11

The main goal of this course is to present a clear and organized approach to American and Pennsylvania history. We will see how ideas and events in the past have influenced ideas and events in the present. Students will learn how generations of Americans have struggled to realize the promises embodied in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. We will personalize history through an emphasis on ordinary people as well the more famous. Two research papers will also be required along with someone class work and research outside of the classroom.

0333 5-US and PA Studies Part 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-11

This course is a study of the social, cultural, political and economic development of the United States and Pennsylvania. We will study about the foundation of the United States up to recent events that shape the republic as we see it today. Students will understand Pennsylvania's industrial, political and historic contributions to United States history. We will emphasize that by learning American History, we can use it as a tool to understand problems and challenges that the United States faces today. Students will complete a research paper on a US History topic of their choice, approved by the teacher.

0341 3-Government**S-1 or 2 C-½ G-12**

This course is designed to give a better understanding as to how the United States government operates and compares to other nations' governmental systems. The course will cover the U.S. Constitution, the federal government, immigration, citizenship and civil rights. One semester is required for level 3 seniors.

0342 3-Economics**S-1 or 2 C-½ G-12**

This course is designed to give an overview of micro and macro economics. The class will cover such topics as: economic markets, demand, supply, pricing, market competition, labor unions, the US tax system, money supply and interest. Students will be expected to do outside research from newspapers, magazines and other related articles. This course is required for level 3 seniors.

0343 5-Economics**S-1 or 2 C-½ G-12**

This course is designed to give an overview of micro and macro economics. The class will cover such topics as: economic markets, demand, supply, pricing, market competition, labor unions, the US tax system, money supply and interest. Students will be expected to do outside research from newspapers, magazines and other related articles. Homework consists of Essays. Students will also complete a stock market project.

0344 5-Government**S-1 or 2 C-½ G-12**

This course is designed to give the students a detailed understanding as to how the United States government operates and compares to other nations' governmental systems. The course will cover the U.S. Constitution, the federal government, immigration, citizenship and civil rights. Library research and student presentation will be used to enhance the class.

0345 7-AP US History**S-1 & 2 C-1 G-12**

This elective course will be offered to students who have completed 0333 US/PA Studies with a grade of 88 or better. It is primarily a course with a major focus on the historical, cultural, political and economic development of the United States. Students will be required to read and discuss in detail, the textbooks. Emphasis will be placed on independent study and high level critical thinking skills. Students will take essay tests, do multiple choice questions and complete out of class essays and sample tests for evaluation purposes. All students must take the advanced placement test in May.

0334 3-Current Events**S-2 C-1/2 G-11, 12**

A daily look at local, national and international news that has an impact on our lives. Students will utilize daily newspapers, news magazines, taped television newscasts, and class discussions to cover important topics. The students will be required to take tests, quizzes and submit reports as part of the grade evaluation.

0381 5-Sociology**S-1 or 2 C-1/2 G-12**

This course will examine the field of Sociology as a social science, focusing on human relationships, group behavior and the power of cultural influence. Furthermore, students should

be able to examine their own culturalization in order to better understand the relationship between themselves and the world in which they live. Objective tests will be administered and a two-part term paper is required. Class lecture will be complimented with class activities, film presentations and group discussion.

0382 7-Psychology

S-1 or 2 C-1/2 G-12

The basic concepts of Psychology will be explored in this course including an examination of the following: history of Psychology and its major theorists, experimental and research fields, contributions to the understanding of human behavior and applications. Objective tests will be administered and a two-part term paper is required. The class is intended for students considering a field in medicine, education, social work or psychology. Students may elect to take the course for Saint Vincent College credit. The teacher's recommendation is required.

0991 3-SAT Preparations & Strategies

S-1&2 C-0 G-11, 12

This course will be offered after school. Arrangements must be made with Mr. Doyle in the Social Studies Department. There is a fee for this course.

MATHEMATICS

0411 1-Fundamentals of Algebra

S-1&2 C-1 G-9, 10

This course is designed for those students who would normally have difficulty with a standard first-year algebra course. It provides the fundamentals of the standard course with lessons that are easy to read and an abundance of exercises to reinforce the algebraic concepts. This course is not sufficient preparation for course 0431 3-Algebra 2.

0412 3-Algebra 1

S-1&2 C-1 G-9, 10

This course is designed for the student with average ability in mathematics. Topics include: sets, variables, the solving of equations and inequalities, polynomials and operations with polynomials. **This course is not for those students who anticipate taking Calculus in the senior year.**

0413 5-Algebra 1

S-1&2 C-1 G-9

Selection for registration in this course is determined by the Placement Test and the eighth grade record. Topics include: sets, variables, the solving of equations and inequalities, polynomials and operations with polynomials. There is emphasis on structure and theory preparing students for Calculus in their Senior year. These students may be advised to take both Algebra 2 and Geometry in the Sophomore year.

0414 5-Algebra 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-9

This course is designed for the student of high ability in mathematics. A prerequisite for this course is a complete course of Algebra 1 from the grade school and an A or B on the Algebra Comprehensive Exam, taken at *Serra High School*.

0423 3-Geometry

S-1&2 C-1 G-10, 11

This course is designed for the student with average ability in mathematics. A student must have had Algebra 1 to enroll. The student will be required to memorize and apply the theorems of the shapes and sizes on plane and solid figures. The course is not sufficient for those students who

anticipate taking Calculus in the Senior year. Freshmen are not permitted to register for this class.

0425 5-Geometry

S-1&2 C-1 G-10

This course is designed for the student of high ability in mathematics. A prerequisite of the course is an 85% or better in Level 5 Algebra and an "A" or "B" on the Algebra comprehensive exam.

0426 5-Algebra 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-10, 11

This is an accelerated course in Algebra 2 for the student of high ability in mathematics. Topics to be considered: linear systems, factoring, rational and irrational numbers, quadratic functions and systems, matrices, progressions, and binomial expansions. Each of these topics will be treated in greater depth than in the standard Algebra 2 course in order to provide the student with a solid foundation for pre-calculus mathematics and calculus. Registration for this course requires a "B" average in level 5 Algebra 1 and teacher approval.

0427 1-Basic Algebra 1

S-1&2 C-1 G-10,11

This course is designed for the student who has completed 0411. It is generally geared to the slower-paced mathematics student. One semester will be spent reinforcing the fundamental concepts of Algebra and the final semester will complete the standard Algebra 1 course.

0430 1-Basic Geometry

S-1&2 C-1 G-10,11

This course is designed for the student who has difficulty in mathematics. It provides the fundamentals of the standard course with an abundance of exercises to reinforce the geometric concepts. The course is not sufficient for those students who anticipate taking any level 3 math course above Algebra 2 in the senior year.

0431 3-Algebra 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-11,12

This course is designed for the student of average ability in mathematics. It will begin with a review of Algebra 1 and continue with such topics as linear equations, factoring, rational and irrational numbers, matrices, quadratic functions, exponential functions, and logarithms. Students who intend to take Pre-Calculus should not take this course.

0461 3-Basic 1

S-1 or 2 C-1/2 G-10,11,12

Class size will be limited to fifteen students. This course is an entry level course in computer programming. It will use the syntax and structure of the Basic Language to introduce the techniques, data structures and algorithms of programming in general. This course is an elective and does not satisfy the math requirement.

0471 7-Basic 2

S-2 C-1/2 G-10,11,12

Class size will be limited to fifteen students. A prerequisite for this course is a "C+" or better average in 0461-Basic 1. Topics that will be covered include arrays, searching and sorting techniques and data files. Students may take this course for 3 credits from the *University of Pittsburgh's College in High School Program*.

0473 3-Trigonometry**S-1 C-1/2 G-11, 12**

This course is intended for those students who have completed Algebra 2 and Geometry, but are not planning on taking Calculus in high school. Topics to be considered will be those of a standard trigonometry course.

0474 3-Advanced Algebra**S-2 C-1/2 G-11, 12**

This course is intended for those students who have completed Algebra 2 and Geometry, but are not planning on taking Calculus in high school. It is to be scheduled with Trigonometry. Topics for discussion include: radicals, polynomials, exponential and logarithmic functions, analytic geometry, and complex numbers.

0475 5-Pre-Calculus Trigonometry**S-1 C-1/2 G-11**

This course is for those students who have completed Level 5 Algebra and Geometry and who are planning to take Calculus. The emphasis of the course will be on the circular functions and their inverses. The main purpose of the course is to lay a solid foundation for Calculus.

0476 5-Computer Programming 1**S-2 C-1/2 G-11**

This course is open only to those students who are registered for Pre-Calculus Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus Mathematics. It will cover most of the topics from Basic 1 & Basic 2 and will use Visual Basic.

0477 5-Pre-Calculus Mathematics**S-1&2 C-1 G-11**

Level 5 Geometry, Algebra 1 and 2, and the recommendation of the Algebra- 2 teacher are required for this course. The course provides the foundation for the study of Calculus. The course deals specifically with the so-called Elementary Functions - polynomials, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and circular functions - and their properties.

0482 1-Basic Trig/Algebra 2**S-1&2 C-1 G-12**

This course is recommended for those students who took Algebra 1, Part 2 in their Junior year and wish to take a course in Trigonometry. Topics from Trig and Algebra 2 will be integrated.

0483 7-Computer Programming 2**S-1&2 C-1 G-11, 12**

The completion of Computer Programming or Basic 2 is a prerequisite for this course. The topics that will be covered will include sorting techniques, sequential filing, various types of data structures. Students may take this course for 3 credits from the *University of Pittsburgh's College In High School Program*.

0484 7-Business Calculus**S-1&2 C-1 G-12**

To take this course the student must have taken Trig/Advanced Algebra or an equivalent course. This course is the basic Calculus sequence for non-engineering, non-science majors. Students may take this course for 4 credits from the *University of Pittsburgh's College in High School Program*.

0485 7-Calculus**S-1&2 C-1 G-12**

This is an introductory course in Calculus and Analytic Geometry. It is comparable to a first course in Calculus on the college level. Topics include: limit theory, definition of the derivative, techniques of differentiation, maxima and minima theory, integration theory and techniques, applications of the definite integral, differentiation of the transcendental functions, and infinite series. Students may take this course for 4 credits from the *University of Pittsburgh's College in High School Program* or they may take the Calculus Advanced Placement Test in May.

SCIENCE

Biology, Chemistry and Physics are required for all *Serra* students. Students interested in science and health related careers are encouraged to take two sciences in the junior and senior years. Choices include Anatomy/Physiology, AP Biology, Advanced Chemistry or Advanced Physics. **Every student taking a science class is required to do a scientific research project and paper. Students may participate in the Pittsburgh Regional Science Fair, Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science and/or the Mon Yough Science Fair as well as the Envirothon.**

0514 1 / 3-Essentials of Core Science

S-1 & 2 C-1 G-9

This new course for freshmen, Levels 1 and 3 will provide a conceptual foundation in chemistry, biology and physics that will prepare students for science courses in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades. This integrated course will cover basic fundamentals normally taught in chemistry, biology and physics so that each of these courses can begin at a more advanced level and therefore cover each of these subjects more thoroughly. Some of the topics to be covered consist of: models of the atom and chemical bonds, states of matter, physical changes and chemical reactions, the periodic table, cellular structure and function, classification of living things, Newton's Laws of Motion, waves, sound and light, and electricity and magnetism.

0515 5-Biology/Lab

S-1&2 C-1 G-9

This freshman biology course stresses biochemical, ecological, and structural systems of organisms. This is a concentrated course delving deeply into biological concepts. It is geared to the highly motivated and advanced science students. Labs are an integral part of this course. Some independent research, additional reading and outside activities are required.

0523 3-Biology/Lab

S-1 & 2 C-1 G-10

This Biology course covers cells, evolution, genetics, and an in-depth study of structure and function in plants and animals. Labs and activities are integral parts of the course.

0525 5-Chemistry/Lab

S-1 & 2 C-1 G-10

This course is designed for students who are interested in the sciences and for those students who have done well in biology and math. Topics include the organization of matter, formulas, equations, reactions, solids, liquids, gases, solutions and their behavior, stoichiometry, acids, bases, and salts. Labs are offered once a cycle to enhance understanding of the presented chemical concepts. Students must have completed Algebra II or be taking it concurrently.

0533 3-Chemistry/Lab

S-1&2 C-1 G-11

This course is geared for the college bound student not necessarily going into a science field. The content material is presented less mathematical than level 5 chemistry. Topics include

matter, chemical formulas, reactions, periodic table, solids, liquids, gases, acids, bases and salts. Lab is scheduled once per cycle with experiments to reinforce content material.

0534 5-Physics/Lab

S-1& 2 C-1 G-11,12

This course is an in-depth study of the principles of Physics, and is intended for students who intend to pursue a science-related course of study at the college level. It is basically a math-oriented physics course. The use of personal computers is required in some exercises. Topics of study include: Newton's Laws, kinematics, dynamics, space mechanics, energy, heat, and properties of matter. Prerequisites are Algebra II and Geometry. Trigonometry is also required, but may be taken concurrently. Laboratory exercises will be done and lab reports are required.

SCIENCE ELECTIVES

0510 5-Environmental Science

S-1&2 C-1 G-11,12

This science course looks at the Earth and its resources. Special attention is paid to the interactions of these resources and humans. Activities and labs play an important part in this course. The student's project is to be on an environmental issue. Students will take part in the Envir-a-thon in the spring. This course is offered every other year alternating with Forensic Science. It will be offered in the 2009/2010 school year.

0581 5-Anatomy/Physiology (not offered until 2009-10)

S-1& 2 C-1 G-11, 12

This course is intended for anyone considering a career in a health-related profession such as nursing, physical therapy, or sports medicine and students interested in learning how the human body functions. The topics covered in the course are organization of the human body and the organ systems. Laboratory activities which include dissection of fetal pigs and physiology exercises are a significant part of this course. Students taking this course must have had Level 5 or Level 3 Chemistry with a cumulative QPA of 2.5. Students must have a Science Teacher's signature on the registration sheet. This course is offered every other year alternating with AP Biology.

0582 7-Biology AP (Advanced Placement) (offered 08/09) S-1&2 C-1 G-11, 12

This course is designed for the above average students who are seriously pursuing a career in the life sciences. Students should be aware that they will be assigned an independent study guide on additional chapters not covered in class. This course may require some summer reading assignments. Topics covered in this course follow the guidelines for AP Biology. There is an emphasis in this course on new developments in the field of biology while the basics are covered thoroughly. A series of labs which develop the student's technical and analytical skills and acquaint the student with a comprehensive view of biology are incorporated in the course and follow the suggested AP labs. PREREQUISITE: Level 5 Chemistry (with a cumulative QPA of 2.5. Students must have a Science Teacher's signature on the registration sheet). Students may take the Advance Placement test for Biology in May. This course is offered every other year alternating with Anatomy and Physiology.

0583 5-Advanced Chemistry

S-1&2 C-1 G-11&12

This course is an in-depth study of chemistry intended for those students pursuing a career in the sciences. Topics covered would include balancing equations, chemical formulas, states of matter and organic chemistry. Students need a strong math background for this course. Laboratory

exercises are common and lab reports are required.

0584 5-Advanced Physics

S-1&2 C-1 G-12

This course is an in-depth study of the principles of physics intended for students who plan to pursue a science-related course of study at the college level. Topics covered include: electricity and magnetism, light, optics, sound, quantum theory, and radioactivity. Prerequisites are Physics 0535 or 0533 (with special permission) and Trigonometry. Laboratory exercises are common, and lab reports are required.

0585 5-Forensic Science

S-1&2 C-1/2 G-11, 12

This course offers an introduction into crime scene investigations, including the techniques and tools used in gathering and analyzing evidence. It is open to juniors and seniors with a 3.5 average in science and is subject to science department approval. The course is limited to 20 students.

MODERN LANGUAGE

0611 3-Spanish 1

S-1&2 C-1 G-9,10,11

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language. Grammar is learned by pattern drills. The student will be introduced to Hispanic culture through videos, songs, and cultural projects.

0612 3-Spanish 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-All

This course is designed for average students who would benefit by a course moving at the average rate. It is a logical continuation of Spanish 0611. There will be greater emphasis on speaking, reading and writing skills.

0613 5-Spanish 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-All

This course is a continuation of Spanish 1. The necessary grammar for further study will be completed. Students will be challenged to be creative in writing and speaking projects. Upon completion of this course students will be prepared to continue the study of Spanish on a more advanced level. It is recommended that students choosing this course have maintained an 85% average in Spanish 1, or be referred by the teacher.

0621 3-French 1

S-1&2 C-1 G-All

This course will emphasize aural comprehension and simple conversational skills. It is an introduction to the French language, peoples and culture. All basic language skills will be introduced on the elementary level--listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

0622 3-French 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-All

This course reviews the basic elements learned in the first year, then builds upon this foundation. Speaking and writing French are stressed, with a continued development of all four language skills--listening, speaking, reading, and writing. An understanding and appreciation of the French people, their culture and history also continue to be developed.

0623 5-French 2

S-1&2 C-1 G-All

This course is an accelerated course following much the same format as French II Level 3. Speaking, reading and writing in French are stressed. Students completing this course are

prepared to continue advanced study in French. It is recommended that students choosing this course have maintained an 85% average in French I, or are referred by the teacher.

0661 5-Spanish 3

S-1&2 C-1 G-10,11,12

This course is an expansion of Spanish 2. One-half of the course will expand the student's grammar knowledge; at the second semester, the student will begin to develop conversational skills, and vocabulary will be an important part of the course. Some attention will be given to the culture, history and geography of the Spanish speaking countries. While not required, this course is highly recommended for students planning to attend college. Teacher approval is required. (Pre-requisite: No grade average lower than 85% (level 3) or 82% (level 5).

0662 5-French 3

S-1&2 C-1 G-10,11,12

This course is intended to develop proficiency in speaking, reading, writing and understanding French. It reviews grammar, covers advanced grammar, covers and includes some basic composition and varied literary selections. While not required, this course is recommended for students planning to attend college. Teacher approval is required. (Pre-requisite: No grade average lower than 85% (level 3) or 82% (level 5).

0671 7-Spanish 4

S-1&2 C-1 G-11, 12

In this course we will study Hispanic literature, history and culture. We will view films and videos to emphasize various aspects of Spanish life. Speaking and writing in Spanish will be an important part of class. *LaRoche College offers three (3) college credits for successful completion of this course.* Teacher approval is required for this course.

0672 5-French 4

S-1&2 C-1 G-11, 12

This course will study something of French literature, history and culture. Reading, writing and speaking French will be strongly emphasized. Teacher approval is required for this course. Year-long average of 85% is required in French 3 to enter this course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

When a student is absent or unable to actively participate in Physical Education, the student must write a critique dealing with a current article on health, fitness, or sports, for each class in which he/she is not actively participating in class.

The critique should follow the proper format:

1st paragraph - Introduction to the article

2nd paragraph-What did the article deal with and what did you learn?

3rd paragraph - Your honest opinion of the material

4th paragraph - Conclusion/Summary

Title of source--magazine, newspaper, etc.

Author and Date

0712 8-Freshmen/Sophomore

S-1 or 2 C-1/4 G-9, 10

In this co-ed class, the fundamentals of various sports will be taught. These sports will include football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, physical fitness, softball, and recreational games.

0724 3-Health**S-2 C-1/2 G-10, 11**

This course will deal with personal hygiene, alcohol, drug education, and the major systems of the body. The course objective is to apply the knowledge acquired to everyday living experiences. In addition, students will receive training in CPR in conjunction with the Health Class.

0725 5-Health**S-2 C-1/2 G-10**

This course will be more specific and detailed than 0724. It will lay the foundation for students going into a health-related profession. In addition to the anatomic and physiological aspects, this course will include an in-depth study of nutrition, basic first-aid and mental health. In addition, students will receive training in CPR in conjunction with the Health Class.

0734 8-Junior/Senior Physical Education**S-1or2 C-1/4 G-11**

This course is designed to have the student participate fully in the given activities that have been taught in the freshmen and sophomore years. Emphasis will be placed on physical fitness for life and leisure time activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION ELECTIVE**0748 8-Physical Fitness Elective****S-2 C-1/4 G-11,12**

This course will be offered to students that would like to take an extra semester of physical education during the spring semester. The course will include ways to increase: cardiovascular endurance, muscle strength, muscle endurance and weight control. At the end of the semester, we will go over some field events such as the javelin, discus and shot put.

BUSINESS EDUCATION**0860 8-Computer Applications****S-1 or 2 C-1/2 G-9**

This course is required for all freshmen. Students will begin by developing basic typing skills and speed, while stressing typing fundamentals and knowledge of the keyboard. Once students are able to key approximately 26 words per minute with minimal errors, they will learn to effectively use Windows and word processing software to prepare reports, personal business letters, and resumes. Students will also utilize spreadsheet software and database programs for business and personal applications.

0873 5-Accounting**S-1&2 C-1 G-11, 12**

Accounting I is an introductory course for students which provides basic accounting knowledge for business as well as a foundation for further college studies. Fundamentals of the accounting process are presented. The student will be introduced to terminology, business forms, and practices used by businesses. The course covers the transactions and reports for a sole proprietorship. Several simulations will be completed. In the second semester, principles concerning a merchandising partnership will be presented. Students will complete several manual and automated simulations covering the entire accounting cycle for a partnership. This course is designed for students who would like to go to college and major in accounting or some phase of business, or would like to broaden and improve knowledge, understanding and

appreciation of accounting competencies. Students interested in a business major in college should consider Accounting as an elective.

0882 or 0883 3/5-Personal Financial Management **S-1&2 C-1 G-10, 11& 12**

Students will research and analyze career choices. They will learn how to prepare effective career selection tools, such as a resume, letter of application, job application, and thank you letter. Employee rights and responsibilities in the workplace will be investigated. Students will learn how to compute gross and net pay, complete federal income tax forms and reconcile bank statements. They will prepare a monthly budget, selecting appropriate housing and a new or used automobile; and they will calculate the necessary loan payments. Saving and investing options, including stocks, will be investigated. They will learn the advantages and disadvantages of credit, compute the cost of credit, and learn how to avoid and solve credit problems. Students will utilize a variety of resources, including word processing, spreadsheet, multimedia presentation software, and the Internet.

0885 7-Computer Literacy **S-1 or 2 C-1/2 G-11&12**

This beginner's course provides students with basic knowledge and skills needed to effectively use computers through high school and beyond. Students who successfully complete this course may earn 3 college credits through the *College in High School Program* from the University of Pittsburgh.

0888 9-Technology Service **S-1&2 C-½ or 1 G-11, 12**

Students will assist the Technology Coordinator with special projects, system installations, and system maintenance as necessary. Students may be asked to install equipment or software, troubleshoot or assist faculty with software/hardware problems. Students will also work with Adobe Premier to create, edit, and produce digital videos for the school and the school's website. In addition, these students will continue to work on Serra's website, utilizing Microsoft FrontPage, Adobe PhotoShop, Flash, and other software programs as necessary. Since these students are advanced Web Designers (Web Page Creation is a prerequisite), they will be expected to assist new Web Page Design students. *Acceptance in this class is by instructor approval only.*

0889 9-Web Page Creation **S-1&2 C - ½ G-11,12**

Students will learn how to use Microsoft FrontPage and Adobe Photoshop to develop dynamic, interactive Web Sites and stunning graphics. Students will create attractive, useful sites which include Hyperlinks, Tables, Frames, Drop-Down Menus, Animation, Banners, and Custom Backgrounds. After completing the required course-work, students may contribute to and maintain Serra's actual Web page. Students must have excellent knowledge of computer hardware and software and computer file structure. **Participation in class is by Instructor approval only.**

GUIDANCE

0910 9- Freshmen Seminar **S-1 C-0 G-9**

Freshman Seminar is required of all ninth grade students. Serra recognizes that the transition from elementary school to high school is often associated with changes in one's academic, social and emotional life. Therefore, topics such as study skills, time management, drug and alcohol

use, peer pressure, conflict resolution, self-esteem and stress management are addressed primarily through group discussions. Students are also given an opportunity to identify their personal skills and begin their career exploration so they may effectively plan for their future

FINE ARTS

0913 8-Competitive Marching /Visual Ensemble Summer and Qtr 1 C-1 G-All

The Ensemble, which includes band members who play instruments (percussion, brass or woodwinds) and girls who are in color Guard, are rigorously trained for high school academic, muscular, mental and physical endurances. The duties of students registered in this course include performing and supporting the spirit of the school at all high school football games and weekly Saturday competitions at local high schools. Other performances include: parades, community events and all school related functions during the first quarter of academic study. The school is affiliated with P.I.M.B.A. (Pennsylvania Interscholastic Marching Band Association) a competitive marching band arena in the tri-state area and T.O.B. (Tournament of Bands). The student in this course is to represent the school at its highest caliber of excellence and professionalism. Summer practices, band camp and after school rehearsals are **MANATORY** to accomplish a high level of achievement for the unit and school. This course should be taken with 0915 Symphonic Band. A fee is charged for admittance into the Competitive Marching/Visual Ensemble.

0914 8-Serra Eagle Choir S-1&2 C-1 G-All

Serra Eagle Choir is a vocal musical ensemble intended for the student who wishes to either begin or continue their study of singing as part of a group. Students enrolled in this year-long course should enjoy singing and desire to learn how to sing with more confidence, accuracy and healthy vocal technique. **Participation is open to all students, grade 9-12, regardless of previous experience. NO audition is required. Students will be required to perform at both the Christmas and Spring Concerts,** as well as occasional additional performances TBA. Additional opportunities exist for smaller ensembles, piano accompaniment and participation in PMEA and Diocesan honors choir festivals.

0915 8-Symphonic Band S-1&2 C-1 G-All

Symphonic Band is an instrumental ensemble intended for the student who wishes to either begin or continue their study of playing in a concert band. Students enrolled in this course should enjoy playing their instrument and desire to learn how to play with more confidence and accuracy. **Participation is open to all students regardless of previous experience. No audition is required. Students will be required to perform at both the Christmas and Spring Concerts,** as well as occasional additional performances TBA. Although this course is a band and not an orchestra, string players are welcome to join us, should they wish to play another band instrument's part.

ART

0922 3-Design/Perspective**S-1&2 C-1 G-All**

Students considering an art career or those who would like to learn more about art generally are candidates for this course. The earlier part of the year is spent in exploring the basic principles of art working with elements of line, shape, texture, and color. A rather thorough study of perspective drawing follows completing the year. Media includes pencil, ink, cut paper, crayon, and mixed media. **Transfer students - no matter what level - will be required to take this course. Credit will be given according to the year of study.** Art work is subject to a year end exhibit. A \$15 fee is required for materials and use of necessary tools.

0923 5 or 8 Art 2**S-1&2 C-1 G-All**

A "C+" or better in Art 1 as given at Serra is a pre-requisite for this course. Projects continue the development of pictorial expression utilizing design concepts and perspective drawing. New media includes oil crayon, pastels, pencil crayon, tempera and water color. The right-brain method of drawing is introduced along with methods in water color painting, figure drawing and portrait. If time and space permit, graphics, calligraphy and copper tooling may be included. All work is subject to a year-end exhibit. A \$15 fee is required for materials and use of necessary tools. Instructor permission required. Class size is limited.

0924 5 or 8 Art 3**S-1&2 C-1 G-11,12**

Art 3 is a semi-independent study. Art 2 and a "B" or higher average is required for this course. Students at this level work more independently. Projects continue to build on previous experiences, always presenting new creative challenges. Students begin to assemble a portfolio. New media may include textile paint, wire, pysanki egg dye. A limited experience in computer graphics has been added. All work is subject to a year end exhibit. Class size is limited.

0925 5-Art 4**S-1&2 C-1 G-12**

Required: Art 3 and a minimum average of 90%. The object of Art 4 is to produce a portfolio required by many art schools. Students are to do an in-depth study of a master artist, one that research reveals to be most in line with the students interest. The work done is to reflect the research. As the student is to work as independently as possible, a contract stating the minimum work requirement for each quarter is to be presented by the student by the end of the first week of each quarter. An oral/visual presentation of the master artist is to be given by the student to the advanced art classes during the third quarter. The teacher is available for consultation and evaluation. Art IV candidates must meet with the instructor prior to the beginning of the school year to determine the focus of the year's studies.

All work is subject to a year-end exhibit. A fee of \$15 is required for ordinary art materials available for student use; however, if a student chooses to use special materials, these will be provided by the student.

0950 – 0953 8-Survey of Art**S-1 & 2 C-1 G-9**

This course, divided into four sections (one section per quarter), is intended to provide freshmen students with a well-rounded experience of the fine arts. The sections include:

0950 Introduction to Design: Students are made aware of how important the arts are in their lives and are exposed to concepts and vocabulary related to design organization. Students who wish to continue their art study should register for Design/Perspective Drawing for the following year. A fee of \$5.00 is required for materials and use of tools.

0951 Introduction to Art in Religion: This class serves as a beginner's introduction to Art in Religion through the ages. In examining art and religion together in one course, students will be able to understand the influence the two have had upon each other over time. Many different mediums will be examined in this nine work mini-course.

0952 Introduction to Music: This overview course examines music as an academic subject. Topics incorporated include: basic concepts of music theory, musical history, musical theater, electronic music technology, American musical styles (Jazz, rock, etc.) world music film music and careers in general music. Students are assessed both through written work and oral work.

0953 Introduction to Portfolio Design: This course helps students develop skills needed to creatively enhance a unique and informative portfolio which they will assemble, design and present. Microsoft PowerPoint and Adobe Photoshop software will be utilized.

0954 -8 Music Appreciation

S-1 or 2 C-1/2 G-10, 11, 12

This course is open to upper class students who enjoy listening to music and would like to have a better understanding of it. Students will learn how music of the past influences today's music and how important the role of music is in our everyday life. Different musical styles will be discussed. Basic musical theory skills and composition exercises will be included as part of this course. Previous musical experience is desirable but not necessary.

COURSES OFFERED THROUGH THE ALLEGHENY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

0941 8-Individualized Reading Skills

S-1&2 C-1/2 G-9

This course is mandatory for freshmen students requiring support in developing effective reading and study skills. Eligibility is determined through testing, teacher referrals, student request and/or parent request. Class is attended until the expected grade level in reading is obtained and/or significant success in the student's class work is achieved. As a general rule, enrollment in IRS precludes enrollment in a foreign language.

0433/0933 9-Math/Reading Lab

S-1or 2 C-0 G-10, 11, 12

Designed to assist students who may need remediation in reading or mathematics, this course is offered as scheduling permits.

ELECTIVES

COURSE	YEAR/SEMESTER	CREDIT	FOR GRADE(S)
ENGLISH			
0271 8-Publications	Year	1.00	12
0273 5-Catholic Literature	Semester	.50	12
HISTORY			
0334 3-Current Events	Semester	.50	10, 11 & 12
0381 5-Sociology	Semester	.50	12
0382 7-Psychology	Semester	.50	12
0345 7-AP US History	Year	1.00	12
MATH			
0461 3-Basic 1	Semester	.50	10, 11 & 12
0471 7-Basic 2	Semester	.50	10, 11 & 12
SCIENCE			
0510 5-Environmental Science	Year	1.00	11 or 12
0581 5-Anatomy/Physiology	Year	1.00	11 or 12
0582 7-AP Biology	Year	1.00	11 or 12
0583 5-Advanced Chemistry	Year	1.00	12
0584 5-Advanced Physics	Year	1.00	12
0585 5-Forensic Science	Semester	.50	11 & 12
FOREIGN LANGUAGE			
0661 5-Spanish 3	Year	1.00	11 & 12
0662 5-French 3	Year	1.00	11 & 12
0671 7-Spanish 4	Year	1.00	12
0672 5-French 4	Year	1.00	12
PHYSICAL EDUCATION			
0748 8-Physical Fitness	Semester	.25	10, 11 & 12
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION			
0860 8-Computer Applications	Semester	.50	10, 11 & 12
0873 5-Accounting	Year	1.00	11, 12
0882 3-Personal Financial Management	Year	1.00	10, 11 & 12
0883 5-Personal Financial Management	Year	1.00	10, 11 & 12
0885 7-Computer Literacy	Semester	.50	11, 12
*0888 5-Web Tech	Year	1.00	11, 12
*0889 3-Web Page Creation	Year	1.00	10, 11 & 12
MUSIC/ART			
0913 8-Competitive Musicianship/Visual Ensemble	Year	1.00	All
0914 8-Serra Eagle Choir	Year	1.00	All
0915 8-Symphonic Band	Year	1.00	All
0922 3-Design 1/Perspective Drawing	Year	1.00	All
0923 5/8-Art 2	Year	1.00	10, 11 & 12
0924 5/8-Art 3	Year	1.00	11, 12
0925 5/8-Art 4	Year	1.00	12
0950-0953 8-Survey of the Arts	Year	1.00	9
0954 8-Music Appreciation	Semester	.50	10, 11, & 12

SAT PREP

0991 9-S.A.T. Preparation and Strategies
11, 12

Semester

0.00

(This course will be offered after school during the first & second semesters and a fee will be charged)

*Instructor Approval Needed