



Seton Catholic
Course Descriptions
2011-2012



Seton Catholic Central Middle School and High School

206 New York Road
Plattsburgh, NY 12903

Phone: (518) 561-4031
info@setoncatholic.net

Fax: (518) 563-1193
www.setoncatholic.net

Dear Seton Parents and Students:

In an effort to assist you with course planning, we have created this updated course description catalog. The catalog includes both required courses and elective courses. Our teachers have tried to offer a wide range of selections to continually challenge and broaden opportunities for our students. We strongly encourage students to avail themselves of the opportunity to take these courses. The AP and CAP courses provide the chance to get a head start on college for 11th and 12th graders, which can be a cost saver and a help in perhaps carrying a lighter course load that freshman year.

Many AP (Advanced Placement through the College Board) courses are also CAP (college credit through Clinton or Paul Smiths College). Students may take those courses for both AP and CAP credit OR choose either AP or CAP credit. For AP courses, students may decide up to the time exams are ordered whether they will pay for and take the AP exam. However, in order to receive AP college credit, a student must take the exam and score at least a 3, depending upon the various colleges' requirements. To receive CAP credit, the student registers through Clinton or Paul Smiths and pays a greatly reduced tuition rate of \$60 for a three credit course and then must pass the course with a grade of at least 75% to assure transfer credit.

In order to register for AP or CAP courses, it is Seton's policy that the following be met:

- An 88% or above in the previous course
- On the Regents exam, a 90% or above on the previous Regents
- If there is no Regents or prior course, then an overall GPA of 85% or better.
- Or POI (permission of the instructor)

Not all courses will be offered each year. The decision to offer a course will be based upon student requests. In the case of AP and CAP courses, an additional requirement for offering is finding an instructor who can be approved by the College Board (AP) or the college granting the college credit.

At any time, if any Seton students or parents would like to suggest courses, please contact us. Enjoy browsing! I wish I could take some of these offerings!

Peace and blessings,

Ms. Cathy Russell

Art

Studio Art (.5 or 1 credit)

A foundation course and an introduction to the nature, function, and techniques of the visual arts. Students taking this course will be given a variety of media such as: watercolors, pastels, and acrylics to explore in more depth discovering their own style. The projects throughout the semester will have an emphasis on the elements and principles of art.

Sculpture (.5 or 1 credit)

In this course students will explore media used to create 3-dimensional art forms. Students will be given 3-D design problems to solve by creating forms in sculpture using carving, construction, assemblage, and modeling techniques. Emphasis will be placed on construction techniques and craftsmanship as well as creative expression.

Drawing and Painting (.5 or 1 credit)

This course will provide the students with the beginning understanding of different drawing and painting media, tools, techniques and styles rather than an in-depth study of one method.

Students will develop individual skills in many drawing media such as: pencil, charcoal, pastels, ink, colored pencils, etc. Attention will be given to drawing from observation and grid method, the fundamentals of composition, and the development of personal style in drawing. Students will explore painting media including watercolors, acrylic, and tempera paint.

Mixed Medium (.5 or 1 credit)

In this course students will explore art as a process rather than a product. They will experiment with a wide variety of materials and concepts. During long and short term assignments such as altered books, collage, scrapbooking, acrylic collage paintings, etc students will reflect on topics that relates to themselves and the world around them.

Portfolio (.5 credit)

This program will help the students who desire to pursue art as a major in college create a portfolio. Through teacher supervision, students will develop responsibility for their own process of creative development and individual initiative in a studio environment. With more advanced concepts of visual organization and expression, studio students will create and compile a portfolio of their own art work.

Music

GUITAR (.5 credit)

Beginning and intermediate instruction in guitar for both left-handed and right-handed techniques includes work with notation and theory, the use of chord, strumming and finger picking styles of playing, scales and reading printed music and tablature. The students study and evaluate the work of guitarists from the past and the present, play representative songs from a variety of sources and write and play original music. Students have opportunities to perform for the school or community and to record and evaluate their work, providing a valuable source of quick improvement in their playing. Performance and/or recording will be graded as intermediate and final projects.

GROUP PERFORMANCE: MUSIC APPRECIATION (.5 credit)

This course is designed for students who play an instrument, sing, or would like to play an instrument (guitar, bass, drums, percussion, piano, etc.). Students will form a performing group incorporating each person's skills or area of interest. Instruction includes the study of the music of key musical groups throughout the history of popular music, group dynamics, songwriting and

arrangement and the evolution of recording technology with its inherent effect on the rapid improvement of both individual and group performance. Graded projects include performances, whether for the school or community, and/or student and class recordings of performance.

CHORUS (.5)

Students learn and utilize the fundamentals of good vocal technique, care of their vocal equipment (i.e., the vocal mechanism and the supportive role of the muscular and circulatory systems of the body), training in singing, public speaking and the interpretation of music and the written word. The students study avenues of instruction including vocal dynamics, tempo and/or timing and vocal exercises designed to enhance performance. Student projects will include performance opportunities for the school and/or community. Vocal students are encouraged to audition for the November All-State Concert, All-County Winter Festival and the NYSSMA Evaluation Festival.

20th CENTURY POP (.5 credit)

Students do an in-depth study of the evolution of American popular music from its origins in Gospel and blues to jazz, the big band sound, country music, Motown, the birth and development of rock and roll and the effects of the British Invasion on the music of today. The reflection of historical change on music for pleasure or profit and the influence of music on our culture will be foundations for student research and interviews of primary or secondary sources, projects, and presentations to peers or the community.

WRITING THE SONGS (.5 credit)

Students compare and contrast the writing styles, techniques and forms used by noted songwriters of the past and present. In student journals, reactions, critiques and suggestions for alterations in the lyrics of pop songs are recorded and reviewed, shared and documented. Students learn methods to foster and support brainstorming, sharing and collective or individual creation. Using writing techniques including effective verse development, proper points of view, dialogue and meter and form, students will write their own songs. Their final project will be to write and share one or two representative songs in concrete form (e.g., recordings, musical lead sheets, artwork, podcasts).

Business and Technology

CAP Business Law (.5 credit; 3 college credits)

Course description: This course is a general survey of business, with an analysis of business enterprise elements and functions. A fundamental consideration is also made of the various areas of business including the American legal system, legal procedures, legal research, legal language and applying principles to legal situations. Students will formulate an argument based on facts and principles. Prerequisite: Passing grade in Introduction to Business.

Career and Financial Management (.5 credit)

Course description: This course teaches students how to plan for their future learning, vocational, and money management decision-making. Students will assess their interests, skills, temperament, characteristics, and investigate current economic and workplace trends. This course explores college and technical school learning, career options, and helps students prepare for managing work, life transitions, and helps students focus on their goals through the development of a career plan. Practical money skills, personal finance, money management, banking, budgeting, earning money, spending, saving, paying taxes, investing and other everyday real life skills are included in this course.

CAP Microcomputer Applications (.5 credit; 3 college credits)

Course description: This course provides the general knowledge and skills needed to operate computers for academic, professional, and personal use, with an introduction to the major software tools: word processing spreadsheets, and presentation graphics. The course also covers computer concepts, managing and storing files, and using the Internet for research and communications.

Desktop Publishing (.5 credits)

Course description: This course utilizes all components of desktop publishing. Emphasis on creation of student projects like company stationary, brochures, and promotional materials will also be completed. Principles of layout and design will be practiced. Course intended for students who desire to master the use of desktop publishing software.

Graphic Design (1 credit)

Course description: This course focuses on Adobe Photoshop software. Students will work with the tools in the programs to construct student projects. The students will demonstrate the knowledge of the program with a final project using all of the tools in the program, display before and after shots, and write their own/original Photoshop tutorial.

CAP Introduction To Business (.5 credit; 3 college credits)

Course description: This course is a CAP course that examines the role of business in American society; the interrelated activities through which business provides the goods and services essential to contemporary society; and the interrelationships between business and government, labor, and society at large. General areas of study center on: the foundation of business, management of the enterprise, marketing activities, finance and financial services, and contemporary business problems and development.

CAP Accounting (1 credit; 4 college credits)

Introduces the basic principles of accounting theory and practice, emphasizing the sole-proprietorship form of business. Primary areas of study include the theory of debit and credit, accounts and special journals, the accounting cycle, notes and interest, accruals and deferrals, receivables, inventory, plant assets, and the preparation of financial statements.

CAP Marketing (1 credit; 3 college credits)

A study of methods, policies and institutions involved in the distribution of goods and services, including an analysis of consumer and industrial markets, channels of distribution, and the organization of a marketing program. Students will be required to read current literature in the field. *Prerequisite: BUS 101*

English

English 9 (1 credit)

This is a literature based course and highlights literary terms, vocabulary, grammar and spelling in context. The areas covered include short stories, drama, novels/novellas, poetry, nonfiction, creative and expository writing, and public speaking. Students receive instruction in the writing process including prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. This one-credit course meets daily.

English 10 (1 credit)

The focus of this course is the ongoing development of students' reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. The literature studied in this course includes novels, plays, poetry, short stories, and nonfiction. Students receive instruction in the writing process including prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing. The study of paragraph and composition structure includes the terminology associated with the writing process. The study of grammar, usage, spelling and

language mechanics is integrated into the study of writing and analysis of literature. This one-credit course meets daily.

English 11 (1 credit)

The goals of this American Literature course include leading the students to improved reading skills, writing and critical thinking skills. Students read and discuss novels, plays, short stories, poetry and non-fiction as they determine that author's message and use of literary techniques. Most writing is expository and is in preparation for the NYS ELA Regents. This one-credit course meets daily.

Advanced Placement English 12 (1 credit)

This course is an intense immersion into world literature and it is intended for the serious student and the avid reader. A cross section of literature is addressed. This course also reinforces the student's ability to use all types of communication and to recognize the assumptions underlying various rhetorical strategies. Through speaking, listening, intellectualizing, but chiefly through writing, the student becomes more aware of the resources of the English language – its connotation, metaphor, irony, syntax and tone.

Journalism (.5 credit)

In this course, students will have the opportunity to learn more about the fundamentals of journalism, including conducting interviews, writing engaging headlines and leads, and maintaining objectivity. Students will develop an understanding of the journalistic writing process through contributing to Seton Catholic's *The Knightly News*. This course meets daily for one semester.

Creative Writing (.5 credit)

Throughout this course students will focus on developing their individual creative writing skills. The course will build writing skills for a variety of genres, including short stories, poetry, and narratives through reading professional examples and participating in a variety of writing activities. There is an emphasis on revision, through both self and peer evaluations. This course meets daily for one semester.

Speech and Theater/English Elective (.5 or 1 credit)

Various public speaking experiences, reading and understanding five plays, and working with creative dramatics are the integral parts of this course. The class is limited to sixteen students, with preference given to seniors. All students will act in a major production. This is a one-credit course and meets daily.

Health and Physical Education

Health 10 (.5 credit)

Topics covered include: Physical Fitness, Nutrition, Medicines and drugs, Consumer and Environmental Health, Injury Prevention and Safety. Students will be able to use information learned in ways which promote health. This course is required for NYS graduation.

Physical Education 9-12 (.5 credit)

All students attend and participate in Physical Education Classes for a full school year. Each student must successfully earn a ½ unit of credit per year resulting in the equivalent of two units of Physical Education to receive a New York State diploma. Approximately 3-4 units of study and play will be covered each quarter. Students will develop a strong, healthy, well-coordinated and physically fit body. All units begin with introduction of history, rules, drills, skills demonstration, review and play. Safety and good sportsmanship will be stressed at all times. The following units are offered:

Flag Football
European Team Handball
Physical Fitness Tests
Square Dancing
Soccer
Lacrosse

Basketball
Volleyball
Badminton
Floor Hockey
Snow Shoeing
Aerobic

Horse Shoes
Bocce
Softball
Cooperative Games
Weight Training
Ultimate Frisbee

Languages

French

French I (1 credit)

From the outset, French I students learn to communicate in French. In the beginning of the program, the focus is on understanding what French young people are saying and on exchanging information in simple conversations. Oral skills are supplemented by the written skills, and students learn to read and express themselves in writing. French I students are introduced to the diversity of the French-speaking world. The emphasis at this level is on contemporary culture in France, but also in Quebec, the Caribbean, and Africa. This course allows the students to prepare for Checkpoint A and entry into French II.

French II (1 credit)

As students progress through French II, they learn to engage in longer conversations, read and interpret more challenging texts, and understand French-language. The focus is on expanding vocabulary and grammar, especially verb tenses.

French III (1 credit)

It is especially in French III that students have the opportunity to use the French language to learn about history, art, music, social contents and civic responsibilities. Topics can be coordinated with the colleagues across the school curriculum. This class concludes with the Comprehensive Regents Exam.

AP French (1 credit)

The emphasis of this class is to go more in depth with grammar concepts and to write and speak as native speakers do. Literature, art and history are a large component of this class. Exposure to French culture by the way of movies, televised French newscasts allow students to prepare for the exam at the end of the course.

Spanish

Spanish 1 (1 credit)

This is an introductory class that provides a broad base of knowledge of the target language in which many categories of vocabulary and verb conjugations will be discussed and mastered. The student will become proficient with the present tense and many irregular verbs. Students will be able to discuss school activities, after school activities, family life, holidays, and many aspects of the community and neighborhood. Students will also learn about these topics in relation to culture. The goal of this course is to accommodate the Learning Standards For Languages Other Than English – Checkpoint A and will prepare students for entry into Spanish II.

Spanish II (1 credit)

This course will draw from a broad background of material learned in French/Spanish I and will continue their learning process into a more advanced knowledge base covering all of the topics of level one and some topics covered by Checkpoint B of the New York State Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English including but not limited to all levels of the present tense, all levels of the past tense, and some aspects of the future tense. The vocabulary base will grow extensively to cover more topics at a deeper level.

Spanish III (1 credit)

This course will draw from prior knowledge of vocabulary, verb conjugations, and culture to focus on reading, writing, listening, and speaking at the Regents level Checkpoint B of the New York State Learning Standards for Languages Other Than English. This class is the summation of foreign language studies and concludes with the Comprehensive Regents Exam in SPANISH at the end of the year.

CAP/AP Spanish (1 credit; 3 college credits)

This course is intended for advanced level Spanish students. It will emphasize the dynamic use of the Spanish language in various formats and from various sources. Students will develop vocabulary and grammar skills by using authentic materials such as newspaper articles, essays and audio/video recordings. They will be able to understand the speech of native speakers, of various dialects, at a normal speed. They will become comfortable at expressing themselves accurately in both writing and in oral speech. A wide selection of print and electronic resources will be used.

Latin

Latin 1 (1 credit)

This will be an introductory course with an emphasis on learning vocabulary and root words helpful in English. Students will learn Roman history and culture as well as Latin grammar. By the end of the course, students will be able to read, understand and translate Latin sentences. The course is open to students in grades 8-12.

Math

Integrated Algebra (1 credit)

This course is designed to cover the material necessary for the New York State Integrated Algebra I exam. Topics covered include: Number Theory, operations, variables and expressions, equations and inequalities, patterns, functions and relations, coordinate Geometry, trigonometric functions, shapes, organization and display of data, analysis of data and probability. Students will develop skills necessary to be successful on the regents and in other future Math courses.

Geometry (1 credit)

This is a course where students will have the opportunity to make conjectures about geometric situation and prove in a variety of ways, both formal and informal, that their conclusion follows logically from their hypothesis. This course is meant to employ an integrated approach to the study of geometric relationships. Integrating synthetic, transformational, and coordinate approaches to geometry, students will justify geometric relationships and properties of geometric figures.

Algebra 2 / Trigonometry (1 credit)

Within this course, the number system will be extended to include imaginary and complex numbers. The families of functions to be studied will include polynomials, absolute value, radical, trigonometric, exponential, and logarithmic functions. Problem situation involving direct and indirect variation will be solved. Problems resulting in systems of equations will be solved graphically and algebraically. Algebraic techniques will be developed to facilitate rewriting mathematical expressions into multiple equivalent forms. Data analysis will be extended to include measures of dispersion and the analysis of regression that model functions studied throughout this course. Associated correlation coefficients will be determined, using technology tools and interpreted as a measure of strength of the relationship. Arithmetic and geometric series will be evaluated. Binomial experiments will provide a basis for the study of probability theory and the normal probability distribution will be analyzed and used as an approximation for these binomial experiments. Right triangle trigonometry will be expanded to include the investigation of circular functions. Problem situations requiring the use of trigonometric equations and identities will also be investigated.

CAP Precalculus (1 credit; 3 college credits)

This course is designed to prepare students for calculus. The course focuses on the idea of functions. Other topics are: trig functions, polynomials, logarithms, exponents, polar coordinates, matrices, limits.

AP/CAP Calculus (1 credit; 3 college credits)

This course follows a prescribed syllabus from Princeton Review. The first part of the course covers the topics of Differential Calculus: limits, derivatives, application of derivatives in word problems and graphs. The second part of the course stresses integration of various functions. Area, volume, and exponential growth and decay are also topics that are included.

CAP Statistics (1 credit; 3 college credits)

This is an introductory course in statistics, designed to familiarize the student with numerical and graphical data distributions; exploratory data analysis; correlation and linear regression; the normal and binomial probability distributions; confidence intervals and some hypothesis testing.

Philosophy and Religion

Introduction to Philosophy (.5 credit)

Introduction to Philosophy is a challenging course open to juniors and seniors. The purpose of this class is to expose students to the discipline of philosophy. The goal is to teach students some of the intellectual tools necessary to philosophize. Course work may include, but is not limited to: the beginnings of philosophy (arousing a sense of intellectual wonder, the intellect as foundation of true philosophy, definition of the term 'Philosophy'), history of the discipline of Philosophy (the Greeks, the Romans, and the West), how to philosophize (abstraction and reasoning, the art of conversation, writing a dialogue, first questions of Philosophy), Metaphysics, philosophy of being (a priori truths, absolutes and contingency, natures and essences)

Religion

Religion 9: Survey of Catholicism (.5 credit)

This course is a survey of the tenets of our faith, bridging the content areas between Junior High and High School courses. It provides clear catechesis in Catholic Sacraments, practices, and morality. Content areas include prayer, the Church, the Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary, Old and New Testaments, and the moral virtues. Extensive investigation of the Sacraments and Commandments is the focus. Students are called to apply the practices of our faith to their own lives, to live as Christian disciples in today's world, and to be Biblically literate, active members of the Catholic Church.

Religion 10: Hebrew Scriptures (.5 credit)

This course is intended to help students understand the Old Testament, and provide a foundation for adult exploration. Content includes study of Creation, the Early World, Patriarchs, Exodus, the Kingdom of Israel, Old Testament prophets (Divided Kingdom), Post-Exile era, Wisdom Literature, Psalms and Daniel. Covenant and salvation history are featured themes. Connection to the Catechism of the Catholic Church is emphasized. Students are called to apply the message of Scripture to their own lives, to live as Christian disciples in today's world, and to be Biblically literate, active members of the Catholic Church. The focus is on introducing students to the literary styles and techniques used throughout the Scriptures, providing historical content to enhance understanding of respective books, and transmission of authentic Christian faith and moral teachings as found in the Testaments and in Church Tradition.

Religion 11: Christian Scriptures (.5 credit)

This course is intended to help students understand the New Testament, and provide a foundation for adult exploration. Content areas include study of the Testament's structure, the historical and political background of the Early Christian world, the Holy Gospels, St. Paul, New Testament Letters, Acts, and Revelation. The course presents the Christian Scriptures as a source of our understanding of Jesus and his message. Students are called to apply the message of Scripture to their own lives, to live as Christian disciples in today's world, and to be Biblically literate, active members of the Catholic Church. Students are introduced to the literary styles and techniques used throughout the Scriptures, and provided with historical content to enhance understanding of respective books. Authentic Christian faith and moral teachings as found in the Testaments and in Church Tradition are transmitted to the students.

Religion 12: Morality and Christian Lifestyles (.5 credit)

This course introduces students to the basic principles of Catholic moral teaching, provides a framework for moral decision-making, and investigates what it means to be an adult Christian in today's world. Principals of moral theology include freedom, conscience, ethics, law, sin, and conversion. Applications to the moral life are supported by instruction in the Commandments, Beatitudes, and Catholic Social Teaching. The Gospel message in the modern world is investigated through study of contemporary society, vocations, and personal relationships. Students are called to consider their personal role in today's Church, either religious or lay, and to demonstrate a fundamental orientation toward Christ's moral message in their attitudes, values, and behaviors. As *Sons and Daughters of the Light*, each student is challenged to articulate and develop a personal identity, healthy relationships, meaningful work life, and a holy spiritual life in the transition from high school.

Women in the New Testament (.5 credit)

Students will enter into discussion and prayer about expectant faith, what it means to be touched by Jesus, and the meaning of discipleship through the lives of the women who lived in the first generation of Christianity. This study focuses on four themes: women changed by Jesus, of prominence, of expectant faith, and discipleship. Students will use the Bible as their textbook and the teacher will supply additional reading materials.

Faith In Film (.5 credit)

This course is an elective in values education using contemporary media and 'real-life' visual resources. Objectives include: to think, discuss, and write critically about film from a religious studies perspective, to broaden understanding of the term "religious" and then to identify spirituality's significant role in film plot, narrative, and imagery, to foster insight into other faith perspectives through a careful examination of contemporary visual media, to explore and analyze specific representations of religious belief, practice, individuals, and institutions, to examine the ways in which films depict issues and events relevant to the spirituality of contemporary Americans, to connect the images, language, and teachings found in religion with students' daily life experiences and decisions, to view and critique current film portrayals of religious themes, and to communicate and discuss analyses with other students using technology

Prerequisites: English skills at grade 10 level or above, parent / guardian must sign off on some films, or POI

Films and topics may include, but are not limited to:

Les Miserable	Justice, mercy, principles of moral theology
Star Wars	The human journey / epic hero
Lord of the Rings	Tolkien's moral universe
Dead Man Walking	Capital punishment
Whale Rider	Gender roles, tradition in culture
The Count of Monte Cristo	Justice, revenge, God's presence
The Matrix	Plato's Allegory of the Cave, C.S. Lewis
Forrest Gump	Character development
Finding Nemo	Evangelism
It's a Wonderful Life	Respect life
Schindler's List	Confronting evil in the world
Seabiscuit	Principles of Catholic social teaching
Bella	Respect life
The Mission	The Church and change
The Walking Dead	The universal human experience

Science

Earth Science (1 credit)

Earth Science is a laboratory course emphasizing the process of scientific investigation through the study of the physical world. The course shall include a discussion of the earth, its materials, processes, history and position in space. Earth Science also examines the interaction between Earth's weather and climate, the changes of organisms through time (paleontology) as interpreted by organic evolution. Finally, a major division of Earth Science is astronomy, the study of our solar system, galaxies, the universe, and deep time. The course will introduce the student to the quantitative nature of knowledge and the skills of scientific investigation.

Living Environment (1 credit)

The Living Environment curriculum is designed to promote scientific literacy as it applies to the natural world. Students will demonstrate literacy when they are able to explain in their own words, accurately and with appropriate depth and examples, fundamental concepts about the living environment. Instruction stresses conceptual understandings through relationships, processes, mechanisms, and application of concepts. Students must meet the lab requirement to sit for the state Regents exam administered upon course completion.

Chemistry (1 credit)

This course follows the New York State Regents Core Curriculum for Chemistry--The Physical Setting. Topics are covered in depth and include matter and energy, atomic structure, chemical bonding, the periodic table, mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acids and bases, redox and electro-chemistry, organic and nuclear chemistry. This course includes both lecture and laboratory oriented work. The students are required to take the NYS Regents Examination in Chemistry.

Physics (1 credit)

This course follows the New York State Regents curriculum for Physics--The Physical Setting. The main areas covered include mechanics, energy, electricity and magnetism, wave phenomena, motion, forces, heat, light, sound, nuclear physics and relativity. Presentation, laboratory experiments, problem-solving, and record keeping are an integral part to this course.

Astronomy of the Solar System (.5 credit)

This is an introductory course dealing primarily with objects in the solar system. The course briefly covers the methods and historical development of astronomy. Drawing on the most recent data from space probes and the Hubble, the course's major topics include the structure of the sun, the structure and remarkable features of the planets and their moons, and solar system debris such as comets and asteroids. *Prerequisite: Integrated Algebra*

Scientific Research (.5 credit)

Student research is designed for the motivated, creative, upper level and inquisitive science student. The program was developed to provide interested students with an opportunity to acquire skills and concepts inherent in the science research experience. It is intended to teach students to be creative, careful, patient and exacting in their methods of study and laboratory investigations. The students will experience science through original research. The students will practice scientific thinking and learn scientific processes, which may advance the student in their educational and career goals. Research skills addressed include:

classifying, observed data, measurement systems and dimensional analysis, designing experiments, hypothesizing, controlling and manipulating variables, collecting, recording and analyzing data, following safety procedures, using scientific tools, understanding historical and social implications of science.

AP/CAP Biology (1 credit; 3 college credits)

The course covers concepts and principles of biology from the structure of cells to the organization of the biosphere. The course is designed to emphasize the evolutionary theme that guides many collegiate biology curricula. Labs reinforce basic themes presented during lecture. All students are required to attend a genetics conference at PSUC each year. Major topics: The Cell/Genetic Basis of Life/Evolution/Diversity of Life/Plant Structure and Function/Animal Behavior/Ecology.

Social Studies and Social Sciences

Global Studies 9 (1 credit)

This is a survey course involving the history of early civilizations as they arise in Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, world from their ancient beginnings to the present along with their interactions with Imperialistic Europe. A Regents-style final exam is required at the end of the semester.

Global Studies 10 (1 credit)

This is a survey course involving the study of Western Civilizations, the Middle East, the Islamic Civilization, and the social, political, and economic revolutions spawned by the Enlightenment. The Regents exam in Global History and Geography is the required final exam. Prerequisites: Global Nine.

UNITED STATES HISTORY (1 credit)

This course is designed to give the student a comprehensive overview of US History in preparation for the NYS Regents exam. Students will use a variety of skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, themes, eras, and turning points that made up the political, social, and economic development of the US. NYS Regents is the final exam at the end of the course.

Economics (.5 credit)

This course will provide the student with a basic background in the principles of Economics. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the roles of the consumer, the business sector, and global economic interdependence of the world's nations. Economics is a study of how people move and think in the ordinary business of life.

GOVERNMENT

This course will provide the student with a background in the basic structure of our government and its purpose. Development of a working knowledge of the Constitution will provide the student with a basic understanding of the function of the branches of government. Government addresses some of the basic issues in life – the purity of the food we eat, personal safety, education and the right to voice an opinion.

AP/CAP UNITED STATES HISTORY (1 credit; 3 college credits)

AP/CAP U.S. History is a course meant to be the equivalent of an introductory college course that will enable the student to earn college credit. This course is a two-semester survey of American history from the migration of humans to North America to the present. Students are expected to bring to the class solid reading and study skills along with a willingness to devote considerable time to homework and study. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills, essay writing, interpretation of documents, and historiography.

Media Analysis (.5 credit)

Mass media up to and including the advances in modern technology is the most powerful means of communication in our society. The understanding of how the media creates and reflects meaning in our society is an essential component of literacy. Students will study key aspects of American media. In studying American mass media students will come to understand the context in which it is viewed and realize that media is a product that is produced by institutions and consumed by audiences. It is therefore essential to understand how powerful institutional factors create and shape the media. Students will be able to collect and analyze data to create subjective decisions on the information they have been presented. Students will also examine an array of social issues affecting Americans and how technology has changed the landscape of our lives.

French Canadian Roots in the Champlain Valley (.5 credit)

French Canadian Roots in the Champlain Valley will explore in detail the reasons and patterns of migration. The students will follow the events that led to the Papineau Rebellion and its impact on the Champlain Valley in the 1830s and 1840s and how the effects are still felt in today's society.

AP/CAP World History (1 Credit : 3 college credits)

AP World History intends to synthesize the concepts of economics, politics, anthropology, sociology, and geography into the king of all disciplines, history. This course will provide an integrated and comprehensive interpretation of the world's past and will provide the student with an understanding of change and continuity in our world of today.

Prerequisites: Global Regents and US History.

State and Local Government (.5 credit)

An introduction to the nature and the function of state, county, and municipal governments in the United States and the political environment in which they operate. The constitutional bases and evolutionary changes of these governments are studied in the context of both political behavior and the processes of governmental decision-making. Particular emphasis on New York State government and local governments within New York.

Public Policy and Administration (.5 credit)

Analytical treatment of types of public policy and of the models and theories of the policy making process at the national level. Particular emphasis on the implementation and evaluation of policies by the federal bureaucracy. Secondary emphasis on the budgetary process. Several important policy areas are discussed and analyzed within the framework of the models and theories.

Germany, 1870 to the Present (.5 credit)

Explores the development of the newly created German Empire, modern German leadership, and the impact of two world wars upon the Germans and the resulting effects on international relations. (Fall/Spring/Summer). Liberal arts. Prerequisites: Global 9 & Global 10

CAP Introduction To Psychology (.5 credit; 3 college credits)

This course is a survey of the major areas and theories in psychology, introducing students to the research methods, terminology and diversity of contemporary psychology. The course will cover topics such as principles of personality, learning, thought, memory, biopsychology, emotion, stress, mental health, social psychology and developmental processes.

CAP Introduction To Sociology (.5 credit; 3 college credits)

This course explores culture and society, highlighting how these dynamic forces are created by and affect human social behavior, particularly in contemporary society. Major theoretical perspectives within sociology are emphasized throughout the course and the methods that sociologists use to study social phenomena are discussed. Topics studied include: the process of socialization, social interaction, group dynamics, bureaucracies, deviance, social stratification and inequality on the basis of social class, race, and gender, social change, social movements and collective behavior are also addressed.

Miscellaneous Electives

Introduction To Culinary Arts (.5 credit)

This course will feature basic culinary techniques and safety in the kitchen. Students will focus on regional dishes from Europe and Latin America. Students will also create a quilt.