

Andrean High School

Freshman Course Descriptions

Guidance Department

**COURSE DESCRIPTIONS:**

\****Freshman Elective Options***

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| **Course Name** | **Course Description** | **Credits** | **Course Notes** |
| ***Business & Technology*** |  |  |  |
| Introduction to Business  \* | In this course the students learn the basic knowledge and skills necessary to understand the business world. Through simulations, projects, and films together with lectures and discussions, the students learn about basic economics and social responsibility, credit, insurance, and other areas of business. | 1 | Business Elective |
| ***English Language Arts*** |  |  |  |
| English 9 | This course will introduce students to the reading, writing, and listening concepts fundamental to high school English. Basic rules of grammar, usage, and mechanics are reviewed, and vocabulary is learned. Readings will include a variety of genres and time periods, highlighted by an in-depth study of at least one play by Shakespeare. The course is designed to help students read with an understanding of an author’s main idea with a focus toward technique, style, and inference. Writing will include the essay process, and the completion of a well-documented step by step researched paper. Students will do a researched presentation. | 2  (Full-year) | Core 40 Requirement |
| English 9 Honors | ***\*Admission is by score of 75th percentile or higher on the entrance exam and a grade of B or higher in eighth grade English or language arts class.*** This course is open to incoming freshman who have demonstrated a marked proficiency in reading, writing, and active participation in class discussions. Readings will include a variety of genres and time periods, ranging from Shakespeare to Bronte. The course is designed to help students read with an understanding of an author’s purpose, focused on technique, style, and inference. This course provides both independent study and class activities to enable students to analyze literature in greater depth than in the English 9 syllabus allows. Writing will include academic-style essays, poetry, fiction, and the completion of a well-documented, step-by-step research paper that is rooted in the content. Vocabulary and Grammar are covered every week, making sure that our students are well-rounded in their mastery of English Language Arts. Although all students have the option to take the English Advanced Placement exams their junior and senior years, the honors program offers specific preparation for this exam. | 2  (Full-year) | To Qualify: Entrance Exam Score > 195;  or Report Card Grades;  or Family Requests and Guidance Conversation |
| ***Fine Arts*** |  |  |  |
| Theatre Arts  \* | An introductory course designed to show the students all aspects of theatre from behind the scenes, to on the stage. Students enrolled in Theatre Arts read and analyze plays, create costumes and props, conceive scenic designs, and develop acting and improv skills. These activities incorporate elements of theatre history, culture, analysis, response, creative process, and integrated studies. Additionally, students explore career opportunities in the theatre, attend and critique theatrical productions, and recognize the responsibilities and the importance of individual theatre patrons in their community. No necessary materials besides a notebook with a pocket/folder. | 1 | Fine Art Elective |
| Art History  \* | Art History is a course based on the Indiana Academic Standards for Visual Art. Students in this course will build on the sequential learning experiences that encompasses art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and production and lead to the understanding and appreciation of a variety of artwork. Students will explore historical and cultural backgrounds and connections; analyze, interpret, theorize, and make informed judgments about artwork and the nature of art. They will identify ways to utilize and support art museums, galleries, studios, and community resources. | 1 | Fine Art Elective |
| Two-Dimensional Art  \* | Students taking 2-Dimensional Art engage in sequential learning experiences that encompass art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and production, and lead to the creation of portfolio quality works. This class focuses on glass as the medium, but also includes drawing of preliminary sketches for original designs to be executed in glass. The history of glass and technical vocabulary terms relating to the discipline and to 2-Dimensional design are covered in this class. | 1 | Fine Art Elective |
| ***Health*** |  |  |  |
| Health and Wellness | High school health education provides an opportunity for students to develop skills for daily living which helps them prepare for the future. Students are provided with opportunities to explore the effect of health behaviors on an individual’s quality of life. This course assists students in understanding that health is a lifetime commitment by analyzing individual risk factors and health decisions that promote health and prevent disease. | 1 | Core 40 Requirement |
| ***Physical Education*** |  |  |  |
| Physical Education I | Physical Education I places emphasis on health-related fitness and developing the skills and habits necessary for a lifetime of activity. This program includes skill development and the application of rules and strategies of a variety of different sports. | 1 | Core 40 Requirement |
| Physical Education II | ***\*Completion of Physical Education I.*** Physical Education II emphasizes a personal commitment to lifetime activity and fitness for enjoyment, challenge, self-expression, and social interaction. This course provides students with opportunities to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness and increase their knowledge of fitness concepts through various types of activities and sports. | 1 | Core 40 Requirement |
| ***Mathematics*** |  |  |  |
| Algebra I | This course includes (1) properties of real numbers, (2) solving linear and quadratic equations, (3) solving linear inequalities, (4) solving verbal problems, (5) operations with polynomials, (6) graphing relations and functions, and (7) operations with rational expressions. | 2  (Full-Year) | Core 40 Requirement |
| Algebra I Honors | ***\*Placement Committee***. Honors Algebra I provides a formal development of the algebraic skills and concepts necessary for students who will take other advanced college-preparatory courses. In particular, the instructional program in this course provides for the use of algebraic skills in a wide range of problem-solving situations. The concept of function is emphasized throughout the course. Topics include (1) properties of real numbers, (2) solving linear equations, (3) basic operations with polynomials, (4) solving quadratic equations and systems, (5) properties of exponents, and (6) introductory topics from statistics and probability. | 2  (Full-Year) | To Qualify: Entrance Exam Score > 133;  or Report Card Grades;  or Family Requests and Guidance Conversation |
| Geometry Honors | ***\*Sophomores: B or better in Algebra I Honors. Or an A in Alg. I or Freshman: Placement Committee.*** Honors Geometry provides students with experiences that deepen the understanding of shapes and their properties. Deductive and inductive reasoning, as well as investigative strategies in drawing conclusions, are stressed. Properties and relationships of geometric figures include the study of (1) angles, (2) lines, (3) planes, (4) congruent and similar triangles, (5) trigonometric ratios, (6) polygons, and (7) circles and spatial drawings. An understanding of proof and logic is developed. | 2  (Full-Year) | To Qualify: Entrance Exam Score > 170;  or Report Card Grades;  or Family Requests and Guidance Conversation |
| ***Science*** |  |  |  |
| Biology | Biology is the study of all life on Earth from the simplest organisms to the most complex. The course explores cells as the basic units of life by analyzing their chemistry, structure, and reproduction. In addition, students learn about matter and energy transfer, interdependencies and interactions with the environment, genetics and heredity, and change in populations over time. This course offers students the opportunity to develop critical thinking skills through the scientific method and also incorporates essential laboratory techniques and field investigations. | 2  (Full-Year) | Core 40 Requirement |
| Biology Honors | ***\*Placement Committee.*** Honors Biology provides an in-depth study of the structures of living organisms and their functions through the use of lecture and laboratory investigation. Students discuss all topics covered in Biology I – cellular structure and chemistry, energy transfer, molecular basis of heredity, genetics, cellular reproduction, evolution, and interdependence – in addition to more advanced topics such as animal physiology, disease, and emerging biotechnologies. Honors Biology emphasizes independent study techniques and the development of critical thinking skills. | 2  (Full-Year) | To Qualify: Entrance Exam C.Score > 80;  or Report Card Grades;  or Family Requests and Guidance Conversation |
| ***Theology*** |  |  |  |
| The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture | The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In this course they will learn about the Bible authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. If they have not been taught this earlier, they will learn how to read the Bible and become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the book included in each section. The students will pay particular attention to the Gospels, where they may grow to know and love Jesus Christ more personally. | 1 | Freshman Theology First Semester |
| Who is Jesus Christ | The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, the students will also learn who he calls them to be. | 1 | Freshman Theology Second Semester |
| ***World Languages*** |  |  |  |
| French I | The Level 1 French course provides an introduction to the language by stressing pronunciation, basic grammar, and listening comprehension. Students also will have an opportunity to learn about the cultures of other French-speaking countries. | 2  (Full-Year) | Student Choice, non-essential elective until Sophomore year |
| Spanish I | The emphasis in Spanish I is on phonology, basic grammar as well as: listening, reading, writing and speaking. Students will learn about the different cultures which use the language. | 2  (Full-Year) | Student Choice, non-essential elective until Sophomore year |
| Latin I | Latin I, a course based on Indiana’s Academic Standards for World Languages introduces students to effective strategies for beginning Latin language learning, and to various aspects of classical Roman culture. This course emphasizes the development of reading and listening comprehension skills, such as reading isolated words and phrases in a situational context and comprehending brief written or oral directions. Though interpersonal communication is not an explicit emphasis of this course, opportunities may be provided for students to make and respond to basic requests and questions, understand and use appropriate greetings and forms of address, participate in brief guided conversations on familiar topics, and write short passages with guidance. Additionally,  students will examine the practices, products and perspectives of classical Roman culture; recognize basic routine practices of the target culture; and recognize and use situation-appropriate non-verbal communication. This course further emphasizes making connections across content areas and the application of understanding  Latin language and culture outside of the classroom. | 2  (Full-Year) | Student Choice, non-essential elective until Sophomore year |