As a private, college-preparatory high school, St. Bernard’s considers academic rigor an essential component of higher-learning. We encourage our students to become independent learners: to ask questions, feed their curiosity, and explore their subjects from various perspectives, using a variety of tools.

Our expectations of our students are high and all-encompassing. In the words of Aristotle: “Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.” We seek to inform the whole-person of our students, challenging them to grow intellectually as well as emotionally, socially, and spiritually. In this way, we nurture each student’s gifts where they are, guiding them to find their purpose and professional vocation in life.
We are very excited at St. Bernard’s to offer the opportunity for our students to focus their coursework into a concentration. For many years, we have graduated students who have gone onto successful careers in these areas. Over the next few years, we plan to add additional concentration options.

Students will select a concentration when they enter St. Bernard’s. There is some flexibility to change their concentration over the first few years. Students’ coursework and their junior internship placement will be aligned with their concentration.
The focus of the Business Concentration is to prepare students for high performance in the fields of communications, financial management, marketing, and leadership. At its heart, success in business requires a foundational understanding of people -- including how to best communicate and work with them. As such, the Business Concentration focuses on practical, developmental skills, including writing, public speaking, and higher-level organization and management.

**Recommended courses:** Writing as Communication, Marketing, Psychology, Philosophy, Economics -or- Geography, Statistics, Spanish (Years 1-3)

**Internship fields:** Marketing, Communications, Business Management, Entrepreneurship and Small Business Ownership, Event Planning and Hospitality Management, Accounting, Finance, Human Resources, Real Estate, Sales
The Health Science Concentration is designed for students who intend to pursue careers in medicine. With a heavy focus on biological sciences, including Biology, Chemistry, and Anatomy/Physiology, and a rooting in classical languages, Health Science students get hands on, foundational experiences that will prepare them for college-level work in science fields.

**Recommended courses:** Biology, Chemistry, Anatomy/Physiology, Latin (Years 1-3), Psychology -or- Philosophy, AP Biology -or- AP Chemistry

**Internship fields:** Medicine, Veterinary Medicine, Healthcare Administration, Pharmacy, Biomedical Engineering, Physical Therapy, Nutrition, Sports Science, Occupational Therapy, Laboratory Technology
Students who intend on careers in engineering will be well-suited for the STEM and Engineering Concentration. Coursework here emphasizes a blend of high-level mathematics and sciences, including Physics (and AP Physics I), Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, and a choice of Biology, Chemistry, or Environmental Science. Because engineering careers range across many fields, this concentration can be tailored to student interest, while maintaining a focus on building skills needed for competitive engineering undergraduate programs.

**Recommended courses:** Physics, Pre-Calculus, AP Physics I and/or AP Calculus, Latin (Years 1-3), Intro to Engineering, choice of Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, or Computer Science

**Internship fields:** Computer and Software Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Structural Engineering, Systems Engineering
Students who are interested in a general college preparatory education are encouraged to join the Liberal Arts Concentration. This academic program balances its focus on both humanities and math/science fields, so that students gain fluency in a variety of academic disciplines and are afforded the opportunity to find what subjects most interest them. Ultimately, the goal of this track is to prepare students for liberal arts studies in college.

**Recommended courses:** Writing as Communication, American Literature, Algebra 2, World History, US History, Latin (1-2) or Spanish (1-2), Religion (1-4), Biology

**Internship fields:** Non-profits, Education, Marketing, Journalism, Business-Finance, Graphic Design, Art, Communications, Management, Human Resources, Law and Legal Assistance, Program and Event Coordination, Research Assistance, Politics, Technology, Social Media and Digital Communications
Throughout the year, STB alums from various fields will visit to talk with students about their careers, offer mentorship, and pose prospective internship opportunities.

The junior internship occurs at the end of junior year, from mid-May to mid-June. Participating students will choose an internship based on their career or college interests.

Prior to the start of their one-to-two week internship, students will get in-school training on professional practices and prepare a critical research proposal or question to undertake during their internship.

Upon completion of the internship, students will craft a presentation reflecting on their experience and sharing the results of their experience and research.

We are very excited to offer a junior internship program to help our students explore potential career paths. Studies have shown that the more accurately a student can picture his or her future career, the harder that student will work today in school, to achieve their career.

The internship program at St. Bernard’s is directly connected with students’ selected academic concentration and intertwined with our strong alumni network.

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- The junior internship occurs at the end of junior year, from mid-May to mid-June. Participating students will choose an internship based on their career or college interests.
- Prior to the start of their one-to-two week internship, students will get in-school training on professional practices and prepare a critical research proposal or question to undertake during their internship.
- Upon completion of the internship, students will craft a presentation reflecting on their experience and sharing the results of their experience and research.
The Guidance Department at St. Bernard's works individually with each student, beginning with their enrollment as freshmen and continuing on through graduation and matriculation into college, in an effort to ensure the fullest development of each young man and woman.

**Freshman and Sophomore Years:**

In the first two years of high school, students are taught the importance of academic achievement, integrity, and work ethic as they begin thinking about college on the not-so-distant horizon.

To cultivate college literacy, all underclassmen at STB are counseled in the first years of high school on the relevance of GPA and the value of participation in sports, clubs, service, and leadership opportunities when it comes time to fill out those college apps.

Additionally, underclassmen at STB will take the PSAT each year during school and receive PSAT preparation packets as well as access to free SAT-prep training after school to help boost their comfort level with the test and improve their performance.

Beyond these supports, all STB families are invited to free monthly webinars by Campus Bound, offering expertise and support on ways to make college more affordable.
**Junior Year:**

The junior year is pivotal in the college preparation process, and it's at this time that the College Counselor works individually with students to begin the process of exploring colleges based on their unique academic and career interests, even allowing students to browse among twenty-five top prospect colleges and universities visiting the STB campus throughout the fall.

In addition to direct outreach to students, parents and guardians of juniors will also receive regular informative updates about key topics related to the college admissions process, from how to interpret weighted and unweighted GPA, to finding the best time to visit colleges, to figuring out the right questions to ask admissions teams during interviews and visits.

Additionally, juniors and their parents/guardians are invited to regular webinars on "How to Help your Child through the College Application Process" and "College Financing," as well as free monthly webinars on how to make college more affordable, hosted by our partners at Campus Bound.

By the end of junior year, all college-bound students will have created their Common App account and received critical, personalized advice on what to accomplish over the summer between junior and senior year.
Senior Year:

The most crucial time in the application process, the senior year is marked by frequent one-on-one sessions with the College Counselor, where they're given detailed feedback on their college essays, Common App, FAFSA, college choices, career options, and more.

As part of their exploration of college options, all STB seniors attend an annual college fair in the fall, where 150 colleges and universities are in attendance.

Parents and guardians are invited to attend webinars on "After the College Acceptance," helping them to understand their award letters and how to finance their student's college education.

Beyond group sessions and webinars, senior families at STB are encouraged to work closely with our partners at Campus Bound to help maximize their financial aid and merit packages with top colleges and universities; this partnership includes FREE financial services from Campus Bound, including personalized access to college financial experts, a one-hour one-on-one consultation, and more.

Ultimately, our goal is to ensure that seniors and their families have the best possible college application and matriculation process, and that they're ready to tackle the next great adventure in their education.
In order to earn their diploma from St. Bernard's High School, all students must achieve the following academic standards:

- A minimum of 24 credits acquired, with an average of 65 or above to ensure passing standing
- 4 credits in Theology (with exception granted to transfer students without prior religious education)
- 4 credits in English Language Arts
- 4 credits in Mathematics, with the requirement of Algebra II
- 3 credits in lab-based Science
- 3 credits in Social Studies, with the requirement of US History
- 2 credits in World Languages, including a minimum of two consecutive years of one language
- 4 credits in Interdepartmental Electives and Arts

In addition, all students must remain in good behavioral standing and uphold a consistent record of attendance to ensure their successful completion of each academic year.

Graduation eligibility is subject to the review of the Principal and College Counselor.
St. Bernard's utilizes an academic leveling system to ensure that all students have the tools to reach their full potential. Levels correlate to the depth and rigor of course offerings. Placement in academic levels is determined by subject performance as indicated by report cards, teacher recommendations, student inclination, and parent input.

The following levels are utilized at St. Bernard's High School:

**Advanced Placement: AP**
A college level course for upperclassmen which provides preparation for the College Board AP exam.

**Honors: H**
A college preparatory course for students of superior ability with high-levels of commitment to intellectual growth.

**College Prep Level 1: L1**
A college preparatory course for students with established subject competency.

**College Prep Level 2: L2**
A college preparatory course for students with developing or unestablished subject competencies.

**College Prep: CP**
A combined college preparatory course, designed for 4-year college admission.
COURSE OFFERINGS (2021-22)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
- Writing as Communication
- Cultures and Myths
- American Literature
- AP Language and Composition
- British and World Literature
- AP Literature and Composition
- Marketing
- Journalism

SOCIAL STUDIES
- World History
- U.S. History
- Modern U.S. History
- AP U.S. History
- AP U.S. Government & Politics
- Psychology
- AP Psychology
- Law
- Philosophy
- Global Studies
- Economics

WORLD LANGUAGES
- Latin 1
- Latin 2
- Advanced Latin
- Spanish 1
- Spanish 2
- Advanced Spanish

FINE ARTS
- Visual Art
- Photography
- Film Production
- Music Appreciation

SCIENCE
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Anatomy and Physiology
- AP Biology
- Environmental Science
- Health and Well-Being
- Intro to Physics
- Forensic Sciences
- Chemistry of Cooking

MATHEMATICS
- Algebra 1
- Advanced Algebra 2
- Algebra 2 and Trigonometry
- Geometry
- Pre-Calculus
- Calculus
- AP Calculus - AB
- Statistics
- Math Concepts for the Real World
- Principals of Engineering and Robotics

THEOLOGY
- Revelation in Scripture & Christology
- The Paschal Mystery & The Church
- Sacraments and Morality
- Social Justice
- Christian Service and Leadership
The English Language Arts Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to promote critical thinking, communication, and literacy in each of our students.

Through challenging and inspiring readings, discussions, and rigorous written work, our goal is to support students as they advance their gifts for analysis and communication, preparing them for engagement at the college level and beyond.

The following courses are offered as part of the English Language Arts Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
WRITING AS COMMUNICATION
L2, L1, Honors, Gr. 9-10
No prerequisites
In this course, students will build their academic and professional writing skills, focusing on the rules of grammar, elements of writing, and vocabulary while analyzing works of great writing in both fiction and non-fiction genres. The primary goal of this course is to improve students’ written communication skills and to develop their appreciation for good writing across literary types. At the Honors level, university-level writing techniques will be emphasized with the goal of mastery and more advanced literary works will be analyzed. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

WORLD LITERATURE: MYTHS AND CULTURES
CP, Honors, Gr. 10
Prereq. "Writing as Communication"
A deep dive into human stories throughout the ages (from the ancient world to the 20th century), this course is designed to introduce students to some of the universal aspects of story-telling, while also offering a chance to explore diverse cultures and values across societies and time. Beyond exploring the uniqueness of literature through a cultural and historical lens, we’ll work to thread societies together through their stories, understanding the nuances of story-telling as much as its universality. Critical areas of student development include: literary analysis and essay writing, identification of tropes and patterns within stories, vocabulary development, and cultural literacy. At the Honors level, a higher volume of more complicated literary pieces will be approached, and college-level writing will be emphasized. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

AMERICAN LITERATURE
CP, Honors, Gr. 11
Prereq. "World Literature: Myths and Cultures"
For a country that’s existed fewer than 250 years, America certainly has built an extensive literary foundation, filled with classic works of fiction, poetry, theatre, and more. We’ll explore the American literary tradition as we cover the oral and written traditions of America from its foundation to present. Works representative of Native American culture, Colonialism, Romanticism, Transcendentalism, Gothic Literature, Modernism, and dystopian writings will all be explored. The purpose of our survey is to compel students to think critically, analytically, and through multiple perspectives. Through writing, verbal communication, and interactive projects, students will be able to demonstrate their comprehension of literary tropes, themes, and impact. At the Honors level, a higher volume of more complicated works will be approached, and a greater emphasis on college-level writing will be emphasized. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)
How did George Orwell predict the issues that would plague our world today in his novel, 1984? Who was the real villain of Mary Shelley’s masterpiece: Frankenstein or his creature? Why, after hundreds of years, are we still looking to Shakespeare to understand our complex human nature? British and European Literature not only touches upon important social movements throughout the ages, but also provides students with multiple perspectives through which to analyze the human experience. In this course, students will delve into the philosophical and psychological aspects of literature across various cultures and time periods. Through writing, discussion, projects, and simulations, students will demonstrate their comprehension of some of literature’s greatest works, periods, and themes. At the Honors level, special emphasis will be placed on college-level writing, and a higher volume of more complicated literary works will be approached. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

In this college-level course, students will sharpen their analytical and communication skills through the avenues of reading and writing. A strong emphasis will be placed on drafting and revising strong, evidence-based essays, along with deep analysis and close reading of fiction and nonfiction source material. By the end of this course, students will be prepared not only for the AP® English Language and Composition exam, but for successful college careers in the humanities and beyond. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

The goal of Advanced Placement® Literature is to expose students to a college-level literature course with a strong emphasis on critical analysis and academic writing. Together, we’ll take on some of the greatest works of fiction, poetry, and drama, spanning time periods, cultures, and artistic movements. Students will engage with these texts through close, analytical readings, deepening their understanding of the ways writers use language to inspire a greater appreciation for the world around us. Students in AP Lit are held to a high standard, which they’ll reach through careful readings, meaningful participation in discussions, and general commitment to their intellectual growth. By the end of this course, students will be prepared not only for the AP English Literature and Composition exam, but for successful college careers in the humanities and beyond. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)
MARKETING
CP, Gr. 11-12
No prerequisites
This immersive introductory course teaches media literacy skills, basic communication theory, and advertising industry fundamentals to students, helping them to understand the principles behind the business of advertising. Together, we’ll learn to interpret coded advertisements and to think critically about the impact that marketing and media have on us as individuals and on society. By the end of this course, students will develop the necessary media literacy skills to create and critique their own print, radio, and video advertisements. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

JOURNALISM
CP, Gr. 10-12
No prerequisites
Perhaps more than most, the study of journalism captures the impact that words and communication can have on the world, from newspapers, to photojournalism, to digital broadcasting. The goal of this course is to introduce students to the power of journalistic techniques while giving them opportunities to practice broadcasting and writing for an audience through collaboration with STB TV and the “Blue and Gold” Bernardian Newspaper. Students will have the chance to see their work published internally throughout the semester through local channels, including possible publication and appearances with our local partners at FATV, WPKZ, The Catholic Free Press, and the Sentinel and Enterprise Newspaper. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)
The Social Studies Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to create global-minded citizens with advanced critical thinking and communication skills.

Ultimately, the goal of all social studies is to understand humanity through the course of our shared and distinct history, including patterns of human behavior and analysis of the many institutions cultivated through years of intent and labor.

The following courses are offered as part of the Social Studies Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
WORLD HISTORY
CP, Honors, Gr. 9-10
No prerequisites
This course examines the birth and diffusion of world civilizations all the way from Mesopotamia up to apartheid in South Africa. Specifically, students will explore the major cultural, social, economic, and political trends of development within each civilization with the ultimate goal of understanding the historical development of humanity both on local and world-wide levels, as humans move from isolated civilizations to interdependent nations. Rather than simply memorize facts, students will refine their research, analytical, and applicational skills through a variety of projects, simulations, and other group activities. By the course’s end, students will be able to view society through multiple perspectives and seek long-term patterns in studying the many ways history continues to shape our world today. At the Honors level, students will engage with material at a greater depth with more emphasis placed on critical thinking and writing. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

UNITED STATES HISTORY: FOUNDATIONS OF AN EMPIRE
CP, Gr. 10
Prerequisite: "World History"
This course is a general survey of the history of the United States, starting with the very first contact between indigenous peoples and European colonists in 1492. We trace the roots of civilization in America as they spread across the continent, resulting in the United States' emergence as an industrial leader in the 1900's. Throughout this course, students will encounter the lives of meaningful historical figures, grapple with complicated (and sometimes conflicting) ideas, and understand the forces and struggles that brought together the diverse peoples of America, as they worked toward creating a democratic republic that lived up to its founding ideals. At the Honors level, special emphasis will be placed on the seven themes and five skills outlined in the Advanced Placement® US History Curriculum, in order to best prepare students for placement in AP US History during their Junior year. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

MODERN UNITED STATES HISTORY
CP, Honors, Gr. 11
Prerequisite: "US History: Foundations of an Empire"
Starting with the Progressive Era in the early 20th century, this course traces America's roots up to the present while highlighting two central and sometimes conflicting themes: the growing importance of the US in world affairs, and the persistent struggle for freedom and equality amongst American citizens. We trace key players, ideas, and events through both World Wars as America battles totalitarianism and injustice, both at home and abroad. At the Honors level, special emphasis will be placed on skills of historical writing and analysis. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)
AP UNITED STATES HISTORY
Advanced Placement, Gr. 11-12 with teacher approval
Prerequisite: “US History: Foundations of an Empire”
Continuing the work accomplished in “US History: Foundation,” we will trace in great depth the paths and patterns of the United States’ growth through the centuries. In particular, we will highlight the era of progressive reform and follow the US through both world wars up to the fight against totalitarianism abroad and injustice at home. Students will learn about the important people, ideas, events and forces that have created the modern United States of America. Special emphasis will be placed on the seven themes and five skills outlined of the Advanced Placement® US History Curriculum to prepare students for the AP US History Exam in the Spring. (Full Year Course: 1 Credit)

AP UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS
Advanced Placement, Gr. 12 with teacher approval
No prerequisites
This course surveys the institutions, practices, and documents that are critical to understanding the workings of contemporary U.S. politics. Students will learn how the governing system of the United States operates, tracing its primary components back to the Constitution and Bill of Rights, the formation of and evolution of political parties, and the process of democratic election. More specifically, we will study the links between the various tentpoles of American government and how they interact through political practice and theory. Special emphasis will be placed on the topics of the Advanced Placement® United States Government and Politics curriculum framework, including the nine foundational documents and fifteen important Supreme Court cases required for the AP US Government and Politics exam in the spring. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

ECONOMICS
CP, Gr. 11 & 12
No prerequisites
This course offers an introduction to economics and basic economic theory as students examine the allocation of scarce financial resources around the world. We’ll take a deep dive into the economic reasoning used by governmental agencies as well as the patterns and processes underlying the choices of consumers, producers, savers, investors, workers, and voters. By the course’s end, students will understand the key elements of economic study, including supply and demand, resource scarcity, the relationship between money and financial institutions, and the impact of government on economic stabilization and trade. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)
LAW
CP, Gr. 10-12
No prerequisites
This course in “Street and Practical Law” will leave students with an understanding of how laws are made, how our legal system works, and how this knowledge can be applied in our daily lives to best situate us as productive members of society. In particular, students will explore topics of lawmaking, legal advocacy and disputes, the American court system and the practice of law, as well as crime, criminal law, and the criminal justice process. An untraditional academic course, we’ll explore these and many more topics of law through discussion, projects, and film studies. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

GLOBAL STUDIES
CP, Gr. 11-12
No prerequisites
In this course, students will take on the many political, social, and economic problems facing the world today, gathering the geopolitical knowledge needed to seek resolutions for 21st century global unrest. Throughout the semester, students will engage with the Five Themes of Geography and will apply those themes to their own lives and society. Specifically, students will tackle issues including global conflicts and politics, civil and human rights issues, immigration, international healthcare, and the impact of global warming and natural disasters on geography and societies. Students will engage with these far-ranging topics through music, film, and projects. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

PHILOSOPHY
CP, Gr. 9-12
No Prerequisites
What is the meaning of life? Does fate exist? How do I live a “good life?” These are the fundamental questions of philosophy, and we’ll tackle all of them in this half-year course. Exploring some of the most renowned thinkers of the past two-thousand years, students will have the chance to ask their own questions about life and hear how philosophers throughout the ages would answer them. Bring an open mind and your willingness to get tangled up in some pretty complicated ideas. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)
PSYCHOLOGY
CP, Gr. 10-12
No Prerequisites
This course focuses on explaining the phenomena of the mind and how it plays its incredible role throughout our lives. We explore theories from the founding of psychology to modern theories and examinations. Students will take their knowledge and conduct unique experiments to see how these practices and understandings can be applied in everyday life. Students will also be able to take their newfound knowledge and apply it to modern popular culture, breaking down song lyrics, movie characters, and the psychology behind modern media. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

AP PSYCHOLOGY
Advanced Placement, Gr. 11-12 with teacher approval
Prereq. "Psychology"
In A.P.® Psychology, we'll explore the relationship between the mind and human behavior through in-depth readings, data analysis, and frequent class discussions. Beyond better understanding their own brains, development, and mental processes, the goal of this course is to prepare students for the College Board A.P. Psychology exam as well as to prime them for success in social science studies at the college level. (Full Year Course: 1 Credit)
The World Languages Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to cultivate an understanding of the linguistic and communicational principles underlying languages beyond our native tongue.

Through dedicated study of the vocabulary, grammar, syntax, and culture of other languages, students will develop confidence in their ability to communicate here and abroad, while deepening their appreciation for cultures across space and time.

The following courses are offered as part of the World Languages Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
LATIN I
Honors, Gr. 9-12
No prerequisites
This introductory Latin course explores Roman culture and language to introduce students to the world of the celebrated general Julius Caesar, the spirited thinker St. Augustine, the witty poet Ovid, and more. In this course, students acquire the basic vocabulary, forms, and grammar necessary for reading and writing simple Latin sentences. Some emphasis is placed on oral Latin as well. In our pursuit of understanding Latin as a language, we will delve deeply into the relationship between Latin, English, and the Romance Languages, through study of Latin root words and origins. Additionally, students explore elements of Roman culture, ranging from Latin words and phrases used in English to other areas like history, mythology, literature, and more. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

LATIN II
CP, Honors, Gr. 10-12
Prereq. “Latin I”
As the bridge between introductory and advanced Latin, Latin II introduces new grammar and vocabulary necessary for reading and writing Latin of increasing complexity. Practice in oral Latin continues, as does the emphasis on Latin as an aid to the comprehension of English and the Romance languages. Students will delve further into Roman culture, exploring ancient authors like Vergil and Homer, while viewing representations of the Romans on film, writing papers (in English) on Roman subjects, and more. This is the final year to fulfill the language requirement. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

ADVANCED LATIN
Honors, Gr. 11-12
Prereq. “Latin II”
The final series of Latin courses offered at STB, Latin III prepares students for the reading of original Latin texts. In Latin III, students will develop their grammar, vocabulary, and forms, advancing to read Latin short stories and primary Latin texts. After a brief review of grammar, vocabulary, and forms, students read selections from works such as Vergil’s poetry, Cicero’s orations, Seneca’s Letters, Ovid’s Metamorphoses, and examples of Roman Comedy. Students also complete two composition assignments in both prose and poetry to finalize their growth as Latin students. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)
SPANISH I
CP, Honors, Gr. 9-12
No prerequisites
As a first step into the Spanish language, this course will seek to introduce students to basic linguistic techniques and vocabulary associated with fluency in Spanish. We will practice pronunciation and master basic grammatical concepts needed to read, write, and speak in simple Spanish sentences. In addition, students will immerse themselves in Latin-American and Hispanic cultures, with the goal of gaining a deeper understanding of the values and history of some of the world’s oldest and most impactful civilizations. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

SPANISH II
CP, Honors, Gr. 9-12
Prereq. “Spanish I”
A continuation of the methods and goals of “Spanish I,” students in this course will continue to advance in their study of the Spanish language, building upon the grammar and vocabulary mastered in their first year in order to compose and read longer and more complex sentences with fluidity. Students will continue to explore the deep and enchanting roots of Latin and Hispanic cultures, while they also envision the many ways in which the Spanish language influences the lives of modern Americans. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

ADVANCED SPANISH
Honors, Gr. 10-12
Prepreq. “Spanish 2”
As the final progression in their academic study of the Spanish language, students in this course will advance their reading, speaking, and writing skills, approaching fluency in Spanish by the year’s end. We will explore original selections in Spanish while continuing to expand upon the foundations of grammar and vocabulary carved out in years one and two of study. Beyond the academic focus of this class, students in Advanced Spanish will be charged with leading cultural initiatives at St. Bernard’s, particularly through participation in Spanish Club and Spanish cultural events, like masses and international festivals. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)
The Fine Arts Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to foster creativity and creative expression in our students.

In observing the many great works of art (through film, visual art, music, and theatre), students will cultivate a deeper appreciation for the many avenues of creative expression, spanning time and culture.

The following courses are offered as part of the Fine Arts Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
MUSIC APPRECIATION
CP, Gr. 11-12
No prerequisites
The purpose of this course is to gain insight and understanding into humanity’s creation of and relationship with all that is musical. Together, we’ll explore musicology and music history, both within and outside of classical Western tradition. Students will develop a critical ear through the skill of active listening to discern the structures that exist within music, the instruments utilized in a given composition, and the thematic elements and intention behind a given composition. Beyond that, we will familiarize ourselves with the many ways music can be categorized through genre, historical, and cultural contexts. Ultimately, students are asked to question their own relationship with a given musical piece and reflect on what music most resonates with them and why. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

FILM PRODUCTION
CP, Gr. 10-12
No prerequisites
In this course, students will examine what makes a movie “great” through study of filmography techniques like characterization, cinematography, music, and sound. As part of our study, we’ll analyze a variety of classic films in a wide-range of genres with the ultimate goal of understanding and recreating many of these techniques in creative, student-led productions. Through the process of writing, editing, and producing mini-films, students will seek to understand cinematic concepts and show mastery of the elements associated with various genres, time periods, and cultures. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

PHOTOGRAPHY
CP, Gr. 9-12
No prerequisites
In this course, students will take on the role of artist and creator, learning about the basic tenets of good picture taking while trying their hand at the art of photography. Critical topics of lighting, photo-technology, and perspective will be explored as students adopt structured photographer roles within the community -- whether on group field trips or through photography assignments at STB events and activities. By the end of the semester, students will have begun crafting a photography portfolio that they can build upon and utilize later in their academic and professional careers. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)
Visual Art
CP, Gr. 9-12
No prerequisites

The purpose of visual art is to explore the reach and depth of various modes of visual creation, from painting, to drawing, to sculpting, and more. Students will study some of art history's greatest creators in an attempt to best understand the relationship between imagination, expression, execution, and emotion, as they play out in any singular piece of art. Above all, students will be encouraged to utilize art as a means of personal expression and self-awareness, and to increase their confidence in artistic publication and showing. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)
The Science Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to support student development of critical thinking, problem solving, and research-based skills.

The study of science is the study of the natural world, including the roles we play in it and the miracle of life inside and around each of us. Through exploration of lab sciences, students learn first-hand about the complex and beautiful mysteries underlying our existence.

The following courses are offered as part of the Science Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
BIOLOGY
L2, L1, Honors, Gr. 9-10
No prerequisites
Get ready to delve into the world of single-celled organisms, protein production, human body systems, and more! Biology focuses on giving us an understanding of the world around us that we experience everyday, and it helps us to understand how our complex bodies are able to function from the cellular-level up. In this course, you will learn the fundamentals of biology, with an emphasis on understanding how that knowledge is applicable and important to those in the medical and modern research fields. Ultimately, students will gain the knowledge and scientific literacy skills that will set them up for success in future college level courses. At the Honors level, scientific reading and writing will be emphasized along with advanced critical thinking skills, which will prove central to success. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
CP, Gr. 9-12
No prerequisites
Have you ever been curious about the different ecosystems on Earth, how humans are impacting those ecosystems, or how you and I can be good stewards to the world around us? This course will focus on topics determined by both the instructor and students to be the most critical and relative to a modern environmental science education. Not only will we be gaining a basic and practical understanding of scientific concepts related to our environment, but students will also be taught to think critically about important issues facing the globe today. Learning about the concepts and methodologies of the interrelationships of the natural world is our key to understanding current environmental problems and alternative, sustainable solutions! (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

INTRO TO PHYSICS
CP, Gr. 9-12
No prerequisites
“Intro to Physics” offers a qualitative study of the central concepts of physics with emphasis on mental imagery relating to objects and events that are familiar in our everyday environment. The primary emphasis of this course is on comprehension rather than computation, although simple calculations are at times necessary. Students will begin with the study mechanics (linear motion), studying the movement of speeding sports cars, falling apples, and their own golf swing as they explore the world around them. Students then learn about blocks, pulleys, ferris wheels, and elevators and discuss the energetic forces acting on them. The two major conservation laws, the (cont.)
Conservation of Momentum and Energy are introduced and applied through many experiments. Closing out the year are discussions of sound, optics, and electricity. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

CHEMISTRY
CP, H, Gr. 10-11
Prereq. completed or enrolled in “Algebra II”
Chemistry is the study of the relationship between the structure and properties of matter. Studying chemistry helps us to understand our world: from why leaves change color, to what happens when we cook breakfast, to what processes are utilized to test the pH in our pool water. The goal of this course is to give students a better understanding of the many ways in which chemistry governs and impacts the world around them. Throughout the year, students will learn to work collaboratively in both the classroom and through the completion of laboratory experiments. At the Honors level, we will emphasize quantitative analysis and the interplay between key chemistry concepts and the language of mathematics. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

PHYSICS
Honors, Gr. 11-12
Prereq. completed or enrolled in “Pre-Calculus”
Physics is the scientific study of matter and energy and how they interact with each other. Studying physics helps us to understand the world we live in: from the nature of gravity as it governs a dropped object, to why we can skate on ice, to how the lights in our houses work. Emphasis in this course will be placed on collaborative learning, problem solving, and the use of dimensional analysis. Throughout the year, students will learn to work collaboratively in both the classroom and through the completion of laboratory experiments. As an honors level class, quantitative analysis will be stressed with an increased emphasis on recognizing the relationship between concepts through the language of mathematics, especially pre-calculus skills. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY
Honors, Gr. 11-12
Prereq. “Biology”
This course will familiarize students with key structures and concepts associated with human and animal anatomy and physiology. As a continuation of their studies in biology, students will gain a deeper understanding of the language and processes associated with health science,
ultimately preparing them for studies at the college-level. As an honors-level class, students are expected to engage with complicated material at a rigorous pace, as frequent assessments and labs will be utilized. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

AP BIOLOGY
Advanced Placement, Gr. 11-12
Prereq. “Biology” and “Chemistry”
As an introductory college-level course, AP® Biology works to prepare students for undergraduate advancement in the field of science. Students will start with the smallest, most basic components of life at the cellular level and build their knowledge up through ecological systems and the interaction of systems. As part of the College Board’s recommended curriculum, a high emphasis will be placed on laboratory work and data analysis. Students will complete the course prepared to succeed on the AP Biology exam. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

CHEMISTRY OF COOKING
CP, Gr. 10-12
No prerequisites
In this class, students will strive to understand the interplay between the science of chemistry and the art of cooking as they analyze the behavior of atoms and molecules present in food before, during, and after it’s prepared. Ultimately, students will achieve a basic understanding of critical cooking concepts, like caramelization, the Maillard reaction, acid-base reactions, catalysis, and fermentation. The ultimate, creative goal of this course is to encourage students to utilize their newfound knowledge of food science and chemistry to masterfully prepare food and even create their own recipes, while honoring the basic components of chemistry. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

FORENSICS
CP, Gr. 11-12
Prereq. “Chemistry” or "Chemistry of Cooking"
Forensic science is the application of science to criminal and civil laws that are enforced by police agencies in a criminal justice system. From Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s legendary detective Sherlock Holmes to the current popularity of crime shows, interest in the field has peeked. In this class, we’ll examine the history of forensic science as a field of study, including the development
of crime laboratories and the many stages of critical advancement within the field. Students will delve into a variety of interest-driven topics, which range from analyzing a crime scene, to studying physical evidence, to toxicology, and technology analysis. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)

HEALTH AND WELLNESS
CP, Gr. 9-12
The goal of this semester-long course is to explore the delicate balance of physical, mental, and emotional forces that contribute to human wellness. A mix of philosophy, psychology, nutrition, and biology, students will learn about the life-long process that is taking care of their minds, bodies, and souls. Specifically, we’ll discuss strategies that are relevant to teens pertaining to a variety of aspects of wellness, including: nutrition, exercise, technology use and relationships, stress-management, meditation and prayer, and the impact of mindset on wellness. (Half-Year Course: .5 Credit)
The Mathematics Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to enrich student appreciation for mathematical concepts while strengthening their reasoning and independent problem solving skills.

Beyond all other academic disciplines, math serves as the "universal language" of discovery and progress. Students at STB will learn not only to not fear mathematics but to embrace the satisfying world of numbers with curiosity and confidence.

The following courses are offered as part of the Mathematics Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
ALGEBRA I
L2, L1, Honors, Gr. 9
No prerequisites
Designed for underclassmen who have taken and passed Pre-Algebra, this course will introduce students to a wide range of topics in Algebraic studies. Together, we will learn how to work with integers and variables, explore equalities and inequalities, and gain mastery of exponents, factoring, and graphing. At the honors level, students will explore these concepts at a more advanced and in-depth pace. Ultimately, this course will prepare students for a successful experience in Algebra II, which they will approach in their junior year of study. *(Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)*

ADVANCED ALGEBRA II
Honors, Gr. 9
Prereq. “Algebra I,” with teacher approval
This course will seek to reinforce many of the topics mastered in Algebra I, building upon these concepts into more advanced areas and with more challenging problems. The basic topics covered will include linear equations and functions, products and factors of polynomials, rational and radical expressions, irrational and complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, and exponential and logarithmic functions, among others. Students who achieve mastery in Algebra II will be recommended to continue their in-depth mathematical studies in Pre-Calculus. *(Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)*

ALGEBRA II / TRIGONOMETRY
CP, Honors, Gr. 11
Prereq. “Algebra I”
This course is meant for students who completed Algebra I during their first year of high school. We will tackle all of those topics pertinent to a traditional Algebra II course, but will spend additional time reviewing basic algebraic concepts. Once the core components of Algebra II have been mastered by students, we will advance into topics pertaining to analytic geometry and statistics and probability. Ultimately, students will be prepared for entry into Pre-Calculus for their senior year, if chosen. A TI-84 calculator is mandatory in this course. *(Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)*

GEOMETRY
L2, L1, Honors, Gr. 10
Prereq. “Algebra I”
This course will introduce students to the many concepts and theories (cont.)
(GEOMETRY, cont.)
related to plane and solid geometry. Through in-depth instruction and practice, students will seek to master topics surrounding points, lines, planes and angles, as well as parallel and perpendicular lines, congruent triangles, quadrilaterals, and more. At the Honors level, students will have carved out an experienced record of success in their mathematical studies and will openly embrace a challenge -- both of which will be essential to succeed at the greater depth and faster speed associated with Honors-level learning. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

PRE-CALCULUS
L1, Honors, Gr. 11-12
Prereq. “Algebra II” and “Geometry”
This course is offered for the high ability math student who has successfully completed their study of Algebra II and Geometry and needs a background in Calculus. Ultimately, this course drives the student to discover for themselves mathematical concepts and relationships by using intuitive, inductive, deductive reasoning and analogy. The major emphasis is placed on higher order functions and graphs, factor theorem, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, applied trigonometry, and analytic trigonometry. At the Honors level, a deeper exploration of critical topics will be undertaken at a faster pace. A TI-84 calculator is mandatory. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

CALCULUS
Honors, Gr. 12
Prereq. “Pre-Calculus” and teacher approval
This course prepares students for advanced mathematical learning at the college level and beyond. While the list of topics covered in this course is extensive, the ultimate goal of our learning is to prepare students for higher-level mathematical studies at the collegiate level, including a high expectation of analytical thinking, in-depth reading, and challenging homework assignments. Top performers willing to take on extra preparatory work will be encouraged to take the AP® Calculus AB Exam in May. A TI-84 calculator is mandatory for all participants. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

AP CALCULUS - AB
Advanced Placement, Gr. 12
Prereq. “Pre-Calculus” and teacher approval
This course prepares students to learn the material given in a first-semester college level calculus course. All participants are coached to take and pass the AP® Calculus AB Exam in May. The list of required topics covered is (cont.)
determined annually by the College Board and subject to change, but regardless of the ground we cover, all participating students must be willing to work hard consistently and engage with deeply complex material in independent and group settings. Numerous assessments will be given during the duration of the class, and a rigorous review will take place in April, prior to the AP Exam, to properly prepare all students. A TI-84 calculator is mandatory. *(Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)*

**MATH CONCEPTS FOR THE REAL WORLD**  
CP, Gr. 11-12  
No prerequisites  
*This course reviews important algebraic concepts often either overlooked or never fully mastered by students during their academic careers. Basic calculator skills will be reviewed and presented as well as more complex calculations and graphing. Students will also review and master general statistics and trigonometry concepts to ensure that they are able to intuitively use mathematics to estimate, convert, collect, organize, summarize and analyze data in their collegiate studies and careers.* *(Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)*

**STATISTICS**  
Honors, Gr. 11-12  
Prereq. "Algebra II"  
*This course prepares students to use statistics to analyze data, make decisions, and to understand the real world. By the end of their study, students will be able to collect, organize, summarize and analyze data in their collegiate studies and careers, ultimately using statistics to ensure that their conclusions are accurate and reflective of keen data analysis.* *(Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)*
The Theology Dept. at St. Bernard's High School serves to promote spiritual development and awareness in each and every student.

Throughout four years of explorative study, students will foster a greater understanding of the Catholic Church and its teachings, while also developing in their own unique and personal relationship with God.

Above all, they will grow to understand the maxim of St. Bernard's founding order, The Sisters of the Presentation: "Not words, but deeds."

The following courses are offered as part of the Theology Dept. at St. Bernard's High School.

All elective offerings are determined by student interest and teacher availability.
RELIGION I: REVELATION IN SCRIPTURE & CHRISTOLOGY  
CP, Gr. 9-10  
No Prerequisites  
In year one of their religious studies, students at St. Bernard’s will gain a general knowledge of and appreciation for Judeo-Christian scripture. We’ll begin learning how the Bible came to be and will seek to understand it as a sacred and historic text, valued for millennia by people across cultures and times. Ultimately, students will learn how to use Scripture as a path towards spiritual growth. Additionally, we will connect the Church’s teachings (as exhibited in Catechism of the Catholic Church and letters from the Pope) to biblical scripture, in order to best understand the connection between Catholicism and the Bible. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

RELIGION II: THE PASchal MYSTERY  
CP, Gr. 10-11  
Prereq. “Religion I: Revelation in Scripture & Christology”  
The purpose of this course is to help students understand their relationship with God, particularly through his Son, Jesus Christ. Students will understand the critical role Christ plays in human salvation and will better understand what it means to be a true disciple of Christ. Taking their knowledge a step farther, students will learn about the roots of the Catholic Church, as founded by Christ through the Apostles and sustained by the Holy Spirit. Ultimately, students will better understand the sacred role the Church, Christ, and discipleship play in our shared existence, both as mortal and immortal beings. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

RELIGION III: SACRAMENTS AND MORALITY  
CP, Gr. 11-12  
Prereq. “Religion II: The Paschal Mystery”  
This course is designed to explore the critical areas of spiritual and moral development within the student as an individual. We will explore with depth and honesty the various moral and sacramental teachings of the Church, and how those teachings impact our lives, every day. By the end of this discussion and writing-based course, students will have achieved a deeper understanding of themselves, their relationship with God, and their connection to the world and lives around them. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

RELIGION IV: CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING  
CP, Gr. 12  
Prereq. “Religion III: Sacraments and Morality”  
In this course, students learn about the example of service left for us in Christ and seek to understand their call to action as Christians in the modern world. (cont.)
Particularly, we’ll explore the many ways Christ’s concern for others -- especially for the poor and needy -- manifests today in the Church’s social teaching and mission. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP
CP, Gr. 12
Prereq. “Religion III: Sacraments and Morality,” with teacher approval
As a continuation of the valuable lessons learned in years one-to-three of their religious studies, students in this course will put their faith into action through participation in structured volunteer and leadership opportunities both in- and outside of the community. Beyond these acts of service, students are required to offer weekly reflections on their experiences helping others to better understand both the rewards and the challenges that come with a life dedicated to the example of Christ. In addition, class time will be spent discussing social justice and the critical concerns of youth in America today, so that students may step into the role of servant-leaders with hearts and minds rooted in the most critical issues facing their generation. (Full-Year Course: 1 Credit)