



2018-19

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS 9-12

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IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT
DAVID SCHWEITZER
SCHWEITZERD@SAINTALBERTSCHOOLS.ORG

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Saint Albert Middle-High School, a school committed to Jesus Christ through the teachings of the Catholic Church, is to foster spiritual, moral, physical, and intellectual growth by providing quality educational opportunities for all students. Therefore, we believe:

- a welcoming and nurturing environment is desired for everyone
- a relationship with God is essential for everyone
- persons with Christian attitudes have the ability to contribute positively to family, church, and society
- quality education is the product of the cooperative efforts of school, home, and parish
- our school exists for the students and faith community
- every person has importance and dignity worthy of being recognized and respected
- a comprehensive education is important in the enhancement of life
- excellence demands commitment
- responsibility is necessary for success
- technological skills are necessary for the future
- all students are capable of learning
- personal well-being is important to learning

MESSAGE TO STUDENTS & PARENTS

Choosing a program of study is critically important to your preparation for life after high school. It is important because you are making a commitment to pursue the courses for an entire year (or semester). Equally important, the courses chosen should be appropriate to your future goals. You will need to identify interests, abilities, and goals and determine how these relate to the task of selecting courses. Think about the maximum (*not minimum*) number of courses you should take with regard to your interests, college requirements, long-range occupational goals, and how much time the you use for study outside of class time.

The Course Description Book will assist you as you make choices of classes that meet your goals while at Saint Albert High School. Students are asked to take home the Course Description Book and the Course Request Form. After discussion with parents, you should return the completed and signed Course Request Form to the guidance office by the date provided by the counselor. Any questions or need for further information should be directed to the guidance office.

GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR COURSE SELECTION

1. The administration reserves the right to schedule courses within the time allocated for the regular school day. The regular school day includes eight periods from **8:00 AM to 3:15 PM**, with early dismissal on Wednesdays (1:30).
2. By successfully completing all required and elective courses, a student will have sufficient credits to graduate at the end of four school years. Any exceptions to this requirement must be approved in advance by the principal. No student can have more than **ONE** study hall in one day.
3. It is imperative that when each student completes his/her final registration, the decision be considered final.
4. Any required courses that are failed must be repeated.
5. Except for unusual circumstances, full year courses may not be started at the beginning of the second semester.
6. Students carrying a normal load are not permitted to change classes after the **fifth day of either semester**. Approval will be granted only if enrollment in the alternate course is open.
7. If course enrollment must be limited, upperclassmen will be given preference over underclassmen.
8. Prerequisites are noted in the Course Descriptions section. Prerequisite courses must be satisfactorily completed before advancing to the next course. In most instances, at least a "B" average is necessary to advance to the next level.
9. Each student will develop a 4-year plan that outlines the courses for his/ her high school career. The 4-year plan will be subject to revision each year based on changes on student plans and revisions in the course offerings.
10. All students need to be challenged academically while at Saint Albert Catholic High School. The curriculum and various programs are designed so that each student at Saint Albert Catholic High School receives the best possible education. The following is a list of programs that are designed to help all students excel:
 - a. **Advanced Placement Program:** Upon the successful completion of an Advanced Placement (AP) course, students will have the option to take the Advanced Placement Exam for possible college credit. AP courses require significantly more time than a typical high school course. These courses are recommended for students who have a strong interest and aptitude in the subject matter. A special weight factor of an additional .50 is assigned to AP courses.
 - b. **College-Level Courses:** There are various ways to take dual credit courses. Students can take dual credit courses through Iowa Western Community College (1) on the SA campus from SA teachers, (2) online, or (3) on the IWCC

campus. Courses are offered for both high school and college credit. A special weight factor of an additional .50 is assigned to college-level courses. * *Beginning with graduating class of 2022*

- c. **Honors Courses:** These classes are designed to challenge students who are academically oriented. A special weight factor of an additional .25* is assigned to Honors courses. * *Beginning with graduating class of 2022*
- d. **Beyond the Bell:** All students can succeed. The *Beyond the Bell* program assists students who find it difficult to keep pace with most classes, through personalized attention.

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL

- Saint Albert students are able to take college level classes while in high school. Classes are taught in classrooms with Saint Albert staff or taken online and some courses the student must go to IWCC campus for class. For information regarding course offerings and cost, students should talk to the counselor.
- Students, no matter what college/university they attend, should contact the schools to make sure the college credit earned in high school will be accepted before the student chooses to enroll in the class.
- The cost to take an Iowa Western Community College class will be determined in August. College credits earned from these courses varied from 3 to 5 credits per class.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The purpose of required courses is to provide each student, according to his/her abilities, the opportunity to learn the knowledge and develop the skills that are considered essential for each Saint Albert Catholic High School graduate.

1. By Board policy 50 credits are required for graduation.
2. One (1) credit per semester is awarded for passing work in most courses. Therefore, a year-long course earns two (2) credits when completed satisfactorily. A few courses carry less than or more than one (1) credit per semester. These are noted in the course descriptions.
3. Students who do not meet graduation requirements can not participate in Baccalaureate or Graduation exercises.
4. Graduation requirements for students who transfer into Saint Albert Catholic High School after the freshman year will be evaluated on an individual basis.

Department	Credits	
Religion	8	1 Physical Education is required each semester, unless student is excused following the PE waive process. 2 Requirement can be met by taking any course under Technology & Engineering. 3 Courses that meet this graduation requirement are: Money Matters or Personal Finance (<i>dual credit</i>) 4 Begins 2018-19 for grade 10
Language Arts	8	
Physical Education/Health ¹	2	
Math	6	
Social Studies	6	
Science	6	
STEAM ²	1	
Financial Literacy ³	1	
Speech ⁴	1	
Electives	11	
Graduation Requirement	50	

HEALTHY KIDS ACT STUDENT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

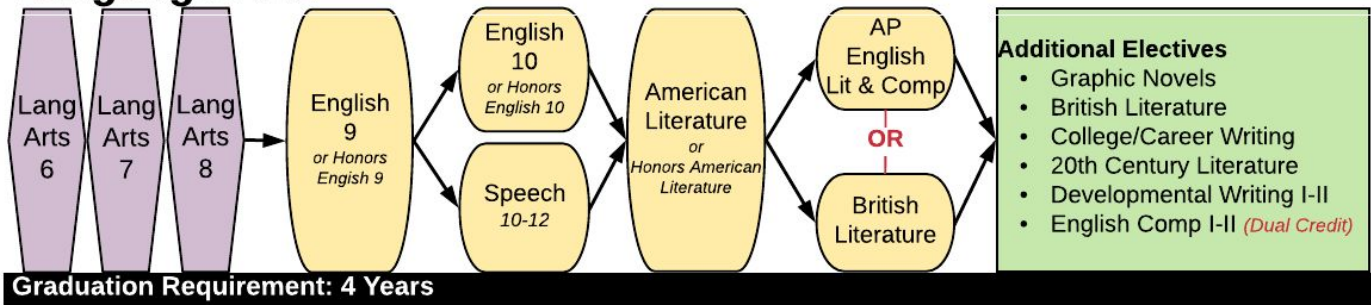
State law requires that all students in accredited non-public schools in grades 6-12 engage in 120 minutes of physical activity each week. This can be accomplished through any combination of PE classes, classroom activities, school-sponsored athletic co-curricular programming, fine arts co-curricular programming involving physical activity, as well as non-school sponsored activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WAIVER

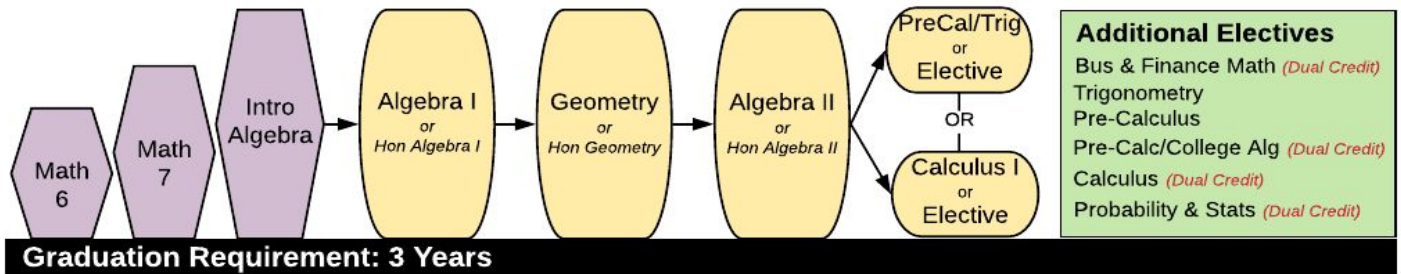
Saint Albert Catholic Schools will allow High School Students to waive **ONE** semester of PE each year (9th – 12th) provided they are a member of a Saint Albert organized High School sport (*football, basketball, cross country, volleyball, bowling, track, tennis, golf, soccer, baseball, softball, swimming, wrestling, cheerleading or dance team*).

COURSE PATHWAYS

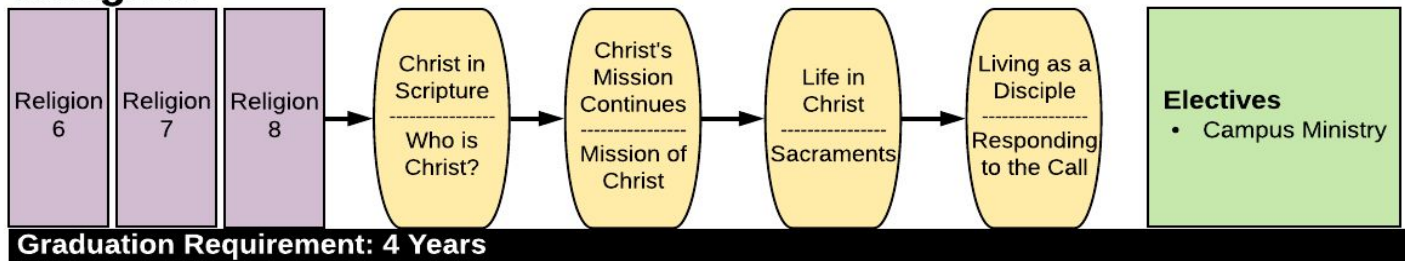
Language Arts



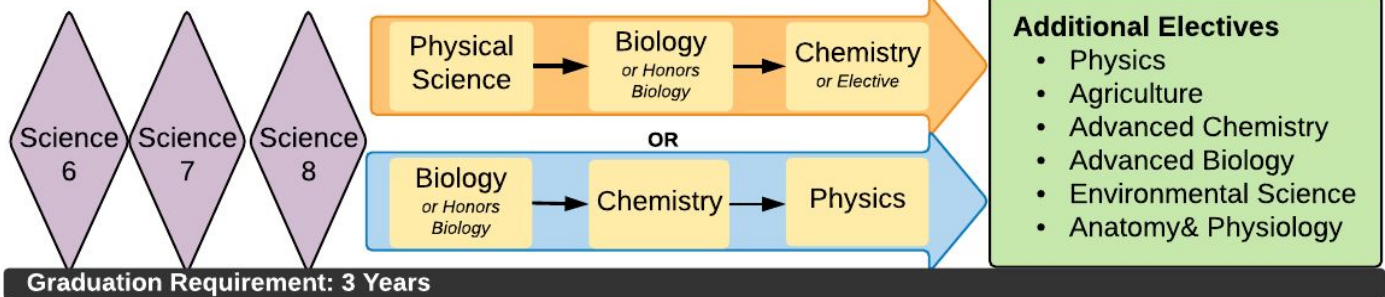
Mathematics



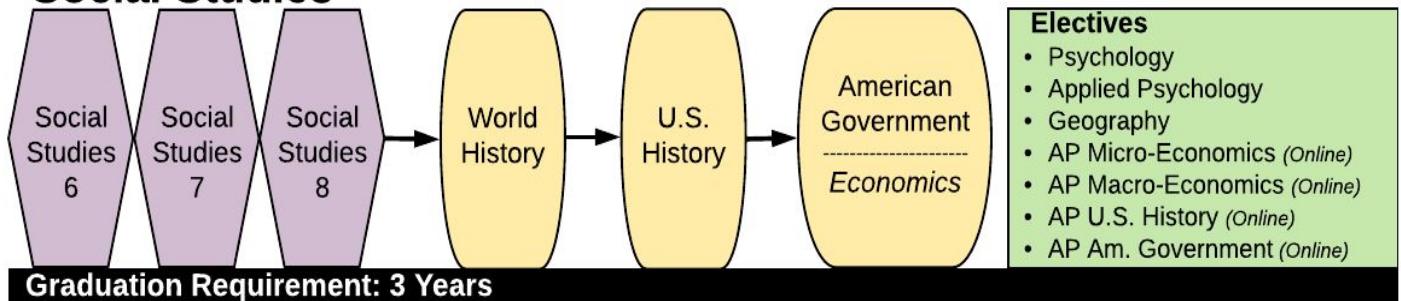
Religion



Science



Social Studies



BUSINESS AND FINANCE

ACCOUNTING Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

Students will learn the accounting cycle, which includes journalizing, posting, preparing worksheets, creating financial statements and making adjusting and closing entries. This course is helpful for students who are thinking of majoring in business at college and for those students who want to start their own business.

ADVANCED ACCOUNTING Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Accounting

This is a continuation from first semester accounting. Students are introduced to payroll accounting, ways to manage plant assets and depreciation, notes payable and receivable, uncollectible accounts and accrued income and expenses. This is an independent study course. To be successful, the student must be very motivated and have a good understanding of accounting fundamentals.

BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL MATH Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11-12
MATH (Dual Credit)

Category: Elective Prerequisite: Grade 10 if currently in Algebra II or higher math

Students learn how mathematical skills are used in business operations. Topics include cash and trade discounts, markups, overhead applications, commissions, simple interest, compound interest, annuities, business and consumer loans, depreciation, mortgages, and financial statements.

BUSINESS LAW Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to help students develop an appreciation for law and a practical understanding of the legal framework in which individuals function - personal, social, and business. Topics include: law enforcement, judicial court system, minor and consumer rights, contracts, warranties, and insurance.

MONEY MATTERS! Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9–12
Category: Required Prerequisite: None

This course is an introduction to personal finance concepts. Topics studied will include making and revising financial goals at different stages of one's life, managing bank accounts, wise use of credit, investments, insurance, taxes, and personal budgeting. One semester of Money Matters or Personal Finance meets the Financial Literacy graduation requirement.

PERSONAL FINANCE (Dual Credit) Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

Personal Finance provides individuals with the necessary knowledge and ability to comprehend their role as a consumer in the economy. Students learn types of consumer credit, home finance, budgeting, basic financial planning, and principles of insurance and retirement. Students will learn about financial planning as well as the logic that drives it by studying risk/return trade-offs, the importance of diversification, the time value of money, risk management, investments, taxes, importance of liquidity, and the changing financial needs of people at different stages of their life.

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

Health is designed to have students take personal responsibility for their wellness by making good choices for healthy lifestyles. Topics covered include: Mental Health, Social Health, Nutrition, Physical Fitness, and Substance Abuse.

INTRO TO STRENGTH, MOVEMENT & PERSONAL WELLNESS Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9-12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

During this course students will learn the physical, mental, and social benefits of exercise and lifetime fitness. This class will include aspects of the 10 general physical skills; cardiovascular endurance, stamina, strength, flexibility, power, speed, coordination, agility, balance, and accuracy. This course must be taken PRIOR to enrolling in Strength and Conditioning. (Starting with 2018-19 Freshman students)

LIFETIME WELLNESS (Formerly Physical Education & Health) Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

In Lifetime Wellness, the students will be introduced to basic skills in a variety of areas being offered. The outcomes for Lifetime Wellness will be that all students are able to (1) Use and care for equipment properly, (2) Display a cooperative attitude and willingness to work with others, (3) Extend courtesy and respect toward others, (4) Demonstrate physical skills at his/her ability level in various activities, (5) Develop a program to promote lifelong physical fitness and wellness.

STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Intro to Strength, Movement & Personal Wellness

Strength and Conditioning will allow the students to gain experience and understanding of weight room procedures and practices to ensure safe and proper technique in lifting and conditioning exercises. The outcomes for Strength and Conditioning will be that students are able to: (1) Use properly and care for the equipment, (2) Follow a program and chart gains, (3) Spot properly for safety, (4) Develop an understanding of the importance of lifelong benefits to staying strong and conditioned for health and wellness. Students signed up for this class will be required to attend class every morning class is held regardless of sports or other activities.

JOURNALISM

JOURNALISM Credits: 1 (*Fall*) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None
Students learn the basics of journalism writing, editing, layout, and photography. The course presents an overview of the world of desktop publishing, newspaper coverage, yearbook production and photojournalism. At the end of the course, students are eligible to apply for a yearbook or newspaper position.

PUBLICATIONS I Credits: 1 (*Spring*) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Introduction to Journalism
Students will work with student editors and managers to produce copy and pictures for the student-run newspaper, high school yearbook, middle school yearbook, student twitter account and SATV. Students will write, edit, design pages, take photographs, and sell sponsorships. This is a non-traditional class with students working independently during the class time on assignments they choose or which have been assigned to them by student editors and managers. The teacher acts as an adviser.

PUBLICATIONS II Credits: 1 (*Fall*) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Publications I
Students will work with student editors and managers to produce copy and pictures for the student-run newspaper, high school yearbook, middle school yearbook, student twitter account and SATV. Students will write, edit, design pages, take photographs, and sell sponsorships. This is a non-traditional class with students working independently during the class time on assignments they choose or which have been assigned to them by student editors and managers. The teacher acts as an adviser.

PUBLICATIONS III Credits: 1 (*Spring*) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Publications II
Students act as editors, senior writers, senior photographers and managers of the student-run school newspaper, high school yearbook, middle school yearbook, student twitter account and SATV. Students work independently and in groups to create content for the two publications and to supervise other staff members. Students write, edit, design pages, take photographs, and sell sponsorships. These classes are designed as self-starting and independent study with the teacher as an adviser.

PUBLICATIONS IV Credits: 1 (*Fall*) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Publications III
Students act as editors, senior writers, senior photographers and managers of the student-run school newspaper, high school yearbook, middle school yearbook, student twitter account and SATV. Students work independently and in groups to create content for the two publications and to supervise other staff members. Students write, edit, design pages, take photographs, and sell sponsorships. These classes are designed as self-starting and independent study with the teacher as an adviser.

PUBLICATIONS V Credits: 1 (*Spring*) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: IV
This one-semester course teaches students the basics of taking photographs. Students learn how to operate their camera, how to adjust for lighting, and how to frame shots. The class involves field trips to take nature/animal pictures, lectures and tests. Students cannot gain access to the school newspaper and yearbook staff through this course. Students must have their own camera. Single-reflex cameras are preferred.

BASIC PHOTOGRAPHY Credits: 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 9–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None
This one-semester course teaches students the basics of taking photographs. Students learn how to operate their camera, how to adjust for lighting, and how to frame shots. The class involves field trips to take nature/animal pictures, lectures and tests. Students CANNOT gain access to the school newspaper and yearbook staff through this course. Students must have their own camera. Single-reflex cameras are preferred.

LANGUAGE ARTS

ENGLISH 9 Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 9
Category: Required Prerequisite: None
This course will examine basic literary genres as short stories, a short novel, poetry, modern drama, essays and mythology. Both formal and informal writing experiences will be integrated into the literature units. Vocabulary study and independent reading will also be emphasized.

HONORS ENGLISH 9 Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 9
Category: Required Prerequisite: B in previous Eng, and Advanced skills on Iowa Assessments
Freshman Honors English is a rigorous course that parallels A.P. English Literature and Composition and serves as preparation for that senior-level, A.P. course. It is designed for those students who anticipate four years of serious study during their high school careers, success obtaining college scholarships, and academic success while attending college. Genres studied will be poetry, drama, nonfiction, and fiction, with an emphasis on analyzing literature and on writing literary criticism. Students will write to learn as well as to express. Assessment will be primarily essays, but will also include objective tests, quizzes, article reviews, journals, and presentations.

ENGLISH 10 Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 10
Category: Required Prerequisite: English 9
Students will study various genres of literature including fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. Writing experiences, both formal and informal, will be integrated with literature units. In addition, students will concentrate on vocabulary enrichment.

HONORS ENGLISH 10	<u>Credits:</u> 2 (Year)	<u>Grade:</u> 10
<u>Category:</u> Required	<u>Prerequisite:</u> B Hon Eng 9, and Advanced skills on Iowa Assessments	
Sophomore Honors English is a rigorous course that parallels A.P. English Literature and Composition and serves as preparation for that senior-level, A.P. course. Students will study various genres of literature including fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. Writing experiences, both formal and informal, will be integrated with literature units. In addition, students will concentrate on vocabulary enrichment.		
AMERICAN LITERATURE	<u>Credits:</u> 2 (Year)	<u>Grade:</u> 11
<u>Category:</u> Required	<u>Prerequisite:</u> English 10	
American Literature focuses on the works of key writers from the 18 th , 19 th , and 20 th centuries. Students will study, analyze and interpret short stories, essays, poems, dramas, and novels from these periods. Students will be required to write in different forms as well as have a base for a research paper and argumentative writings.		
HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE	<u>Credits:</u> 2 (Year)	<u>Grade:</u> 11
<u>Category:</u> Required	<u>Prerequisite:</u> B in previous Eng, and Advanced skills on Iowa Assessments	
Honors American Literature offers highly motivated students the opportunity to develop their skills in reading independently, reading critically, analyzing and interpreting literature, writing in various modes and conducting research. This class is a rigorous course that parallels A.P. English Literature and Composition and serves as preparation for the senior-level, AP course. It is designed for those students who anticipate four years of serious study during their high school careers, success obtaining college scholarships, and academic success while attending college. Genres studied will be poetry, drama, nonfiction, and fiction, while requiring independent reading.		
SPEECH	<u>Credits:</u> 1 (Sem)	<u>Grade:</u> 10-12
<u>Category:</u> Required	<u>Prerequisite:</u> None	
Speech is a one-semester class designed to teach students effective speaking and oratory communication skills. The class will study the basics of the oral communication process including the essential elements of communication, listening skills, developing self-confidence, and verbal and nonverbal communication skills. This part of the class will also include opportunities to work in group settings to cooperatively solve problems. Speeches will be given by individuals as well as groups. It will also teach the process of giving public speeches including research, organization, and delivery techniques. Several public speaking opportunities will be included in this class. Examples will include expository speaking, spontaneous speaking, persuasive speaking, as well as the use of media presentation elements.		
AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION	<u>Credits:</u> 2 (Year)	<u>Grade:</u> 12
<u>Category:</u> Required	<u>Prerequisite:</u> Based on state and teacher achievement data	
This course immerses students in novels, plays, poems, and short stories from various periods. Students will read and write daily, using a variety of multimedia and interactive activities, interpretive writing assignments, and class discussions to assess and improve their skills and knowledge. The course places special emphasis on reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis of written works, literary vocabulary, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. The equivalent of an introductory college-level survey class, this course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in creative writing, communications, journalism, literature, and composition. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on the AP exam may receive college credit, as specified by the college or university they attend.		
BRITISH LITERATURE	<u>Credits:</u> 1 (Sem)	<u>Grade:</u> 11-12
<u>Category:</u> Required	<u>Prerequisite:</u> American Literature	
British Literature focuses on the reading of British fiction, poetry, and drama. An emphasis will be placed on the development of British Literature from its beginnings around 800 A.D. to the present. Though the course is primarily concerned with the reading and analysis of literature, writing to learn and writing to express are also course components. Assessments include objective tests, essay tests, journal writing, and essay writing.		
ENGLISH COMPOSITION I (Dual Credit)	<u>Credits:</u> 1 (Sem)	<u>Grade:</u> 12
<u>Category:</u> Elective	<u>Prerequisite:</u> Based on state and teacher achievement data	
English Composition I introduces academic, college writing. It centers on writing four genres of essay: descriptive, narrative, compare or contrast, and argumentative. Students will write to learn as well as to express. Assessments are primarily essays.		
ENGLISH COMPOSITION II (Dual Credit)	<u>Credits:</u> 1 (Sem)	<u>Grade:</u> 12
<u>Category:</u> Elective	<u>Prerequisite:</u> English Composition 1	
English Composition II builds on writing skills developed in ECI. It centers on argumentative writing, with an emphasis on rhetoric and thorough research. Students will write to learn as well as to express. Assessments are predominantly essays.		
GRAPHIC NOVELS	<u>Credits:</u> 2 (Sem)	<u>Grade:</u> 11-12
<u>Category:</u> Elective	<u>Prerequisite:</u> None	
Graphic Novels focuses on the reading of high quality, genre-changing graphic novels. The class centers on individual reading comprehension, structural and critical analysis, artistic awareness, and recognizing and understanding literary devices. In addition to studying the text of works, students will also study the graphics in the work: elements such as transitions between frames, imagery, flow, character design, and camera angle. Assessments are predominantly reading quizzes, worksheets, and projects.		
COLLEGE/CAREER WRITING		<u>Grade:</u> 11-12
<u>Category:</u> Elective	<u>Prerequisite:</u> None	
Students take a practice/pragmatic approach to Language Arts studies. The course focuses on ACT preparation, resume writing, writing letters of recommendation, completing college applications and writing college entrance essays, completing scholarship applications and writing scholarship essays, and completing interest surveys. Assessments are predominantly the finished products of each unit, such as resumes and essays.		

THEATRE ARTS (HS)	Credits: 1 (Sem)	Grade: 9-12
Category: Elective		Prerequisite: None
Theater Arts Class is intended as an overview to dramatic and theatrical arts. Students are introduced to basic theatrical, stage and film terminology; the origins of Western Theatre; basic elements and principles of theatrical performance and technologies; addition of basics in audition and rehearsal techniques, script analysis and performance. Several plays will be analyzed and writing requirements will be included.		

MATHEMATICS

ALGEBRA I	Credits: 2 (Year)	Grade: 7-9
Category: Required		Prerequisite: None
Some of the topics in this course include solving linear equations and inequalities, applications of linear equations and inequalities, integer exponents, operations with polynomials, factoring, slopes, equations of lines, graphs of linear equations and inequalities, solving quadratic equations, solving systems of linear equations in two variables by graphing, substitution and elimination methods, probability problems.		

HONORS ALGEBRA I	Credits: 2 (Year)	Grade: 7-9
Category: Elective	Prerequisite: Based on state and teacher achievement data	
This course is an advanced study of solving linear equations and inequalities, applications of linear equations and inequalities, integer exponents, operations with polynomials, factoring, slopes, equations of lines, graphs of linear equations and inequalities, solving quadratic equations, solving systems of linear equations in two variables by graphing, substitution and elimination methods, probability problems. Logical reasoning through proofs and rigorous problem solving are explored.		

ALGEBRA II	Credits: 2 (Year)	Grade: 9-12
Category: Required		Prerequisite: Geometry
This course will prepare students for a college precalculus course, required by many colleges. Topics include ratio and proportion, linear and quadratic equations, mathematical modeling, absolute value equations, graphing polynomials, matrices, solving systems of linear equations in three variables, quadratic functions. Polynomial operations including rational function operations, composition of functions, solving rational equations, Counting Methods and Probability, Data Analysis and Statistics. Some topics in this course are covered using an online graphing utility such as Desmos.com or Google Graphing.		

HONORS ALGEBRA II	Credits: 2 (Year)	Grade: 8-12
Category: Elective	Prerequisite: Algebra I (preferably Hon Alg I)	
Topics include linear and quadratic equations, absolute value equations and inequalities, graphing polynomials, rational expressions, mathematical modeling, solving systems of linear equations in three variables, variations, matrices, complex numbers, quadratic functions, linear programming, polynomial operations including long division, complex problems with radicals, composition of functions, inverse functions, radical equations, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational function operations, solving rational equations, counting methods and probability, data analysis and statistics, sequences and series. Most topics in this section are covered by the use of graphing calculator.		

BUSINESS & FINANCIAL MATH (Dual Credit)	Credits: 1 (Sem)	Grade: 10-12
Category: Elective		Prerequisite: Algebra I
Balance checking accounts, calculate values using percent relationships, and solve application problems relating to them. Payroll, payroll taxes, cash discounts, simple interest problems, compound interest, maturity values, present values, mortgage payments, credit card account payments, installment loan payments, personal property loans and real estate loan payments.		

CALCULUS (Dual Credit)	Credits: 1 (Year)	Grade: 11-12
Category: Elective	Prerequisite: Trig and Pre-Calc with B or above	
Students in calculus will study the following topics: limits, differentiation and applications, use of definite integral, methods and applications of integration. These topics will be applied to algebraic, trigonometric, logarithmic and exponential functions. Five college credits are available through IWCC.		

GEOMETRY	Credits: 2 (Year)	Grade: 9-12
Category: Required		Prerequisite: Algebra I
This course is a study of points, lines, planes, triangles, polygons, and circles. Logical reasoning through proofs and connections to algebra will be explored. This class is recommended for students wanting a theoretical background in mathematics in order to study science, mathematics, or engineering at the college level.		

HONORS GEOMETRY	Credits: 2 (Year)	Grade: 8-10
Category: Elective	Prerequisite: Algebra I	
This course is an advanced study of points, lines, planes, triangles, polygons, and circles. Logical reasoning through proofs and rigorous problem solving are explored. This class is expected for students wanting a theoretical background in mathematics to excel in science, mathematics, or engineering at the college level.		

PRE-CALCULUS	Credits: 1 (Sem)	Grade: 10-12
Category: Elective	Prerequisite: Recommend C or above in Algebra II	
PreCalculus is a high school course that covers functions and their graphs, polynomials, asymptotes, analyzing graphs of functions, transformations of functions, inverse functions, combinations of functions, exponential and logarithmic functions and equations, exponential and logarithmic models. This class is for students who want to get ready for college algebra.		

PROBABILITY & STATISTICS (*Dual Credit*) Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Alg I with B or higher
 Probability and Statistics is offered for both high school and college credit. Statistics introduces descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics include the binomial, normal, student t , and chi-square distributions, descriptive measures, probability, hypothesis testing, and estimation of parameters, correlation, and linear regression. This course is highly recommended for students intending to study science, mathematics, business or engineering at the college level. Four college credits are available through IWCC.

TRIGONOMETRY Credits: 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Algebra II with C or higher
 Trigonometry is a high school class that involves the study of radian and degree measure, The unit circle, right triangle trig, trig functions of any angle, graphs of the six trig functions, inverse trig functions, using fundamental identities, solving trig equations, sum and difference, multiple angle, and sum to product formulas, law of sines, and law of cosines. This class is intended for students who plan to take trigonometry in college.

PRECALCULUS/COLLEGE ALGEBRA (*Dual Credit*) Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II
 This course includes the study of conics and polynomials, asymptotes, analyzing graphs of functions, transformations of functions, inverse functions, combinations of functions, exponential and logarithmic equations, exponential and logarithmic models, inverse of a matrix, determinant of a matrix, applications of matrices, determinants, and trigonometry. Use of a graphing calculator is highly important for this course. Five college credits are available through IWCC.

MUSIC

BEGINNING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC Credits: 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 9 – 12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None
 Entry-level band class for students who have not studied an instrument, or who wish to begin again. Students who already play an instrument and wish to learn a second are welcome in the class.

CONCERT CHOIR Category: Elective Prerequisite: None Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 9 – 12
 Concert Choir is open to all students who wish to improve their singing voices. No previous experience is required. This course focuses on vocal techniques such as breath support, proper pitch placement, and diction as well as performance techniques. Besides performing in concerts and at Masses, students may have the opportunity to audition for and/or attend contests and festivals. Private lessons are also offered.

CONCERT BAND Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 9 – 12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Symphonic Band or teacher approval
 Concert Band is open to all instrumental music students in grades 9 – 12. The focus of the course is continued instrument mastery through ensemble performance. This group is the core of the instrumental music program from which comes activity groups, (pep and jazz bands) and various small ensembles. Students will have opportunities to participate in honor bands, festivals, and contests. Band members may join with other instrumental students to create a large performance ensemble.

SOUNDSATIONS (CHAMBER CHOIR) Credits: 2 (*Year*) Grade: 10 – 12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Audition
 Chamber Choir is a performance ensemble. It is open, by instructor interview/audition, to students who know and apply basic music techniques and desire to challenge their musical abilities. Members will develop their skills in the areas of stage presence, microphone technique and advanced choral techniques. Country, jazz, swing, pop, gospel and modern chamber music will be used to routinely perform at Saint Albert and the larger Council Bluffs community. The mission of the group is to share the spirit of Saint Albert through music with the community of Council Bluffs.

VOICE CLASS Category: Elective Prerequisite: None Credits: 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 9 – 12
 This class is suited for students who want to improve their musical and vocal skills with individualized attention within a class setting. Solo and choir music will be used with special attention to vocal production, musical style interpretation, dynamics, diction, and stage presence. Students will be able to build a repertoire of music to use for recitals, college auditions for scholarships and choir placement, and church music participation. Contest solo, duet, and ensemble preparation can also take place in this class. The emphasis will be on individualized instruction.

RELIGION

CAMPUS MINISTRY Category: Elective Prerequisite: None Credits: 2 (*Year*) or 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 9–12
 This course will focus on students' input and involvement in Campus Ministry activities such as planning and executing Mass preparations, service projects, Reconciliation services, and reflection days. Students will also work on becoming confident and effective group leaders, speakers, and role models for the other students.

CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE Category: Required Prerequisite: None Credits: 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 9
 This course will 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. Students will learn about the Bible, authored by God through Inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn how to read the Bible, and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible and the books 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.

WHO IS CHRIST? Category: Required Prerequisite: None Credits: 1 (*Sem*) Grade: 9
 This course will introduce students to the Mystery of Jesus Christ, the Living Word of God, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate revelation to us from God. In learning about who he is, students will also learn who he calls them to be.

CHRIST'S MISSION CONTINUES Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 10
Category: Required Prerequisite: None
 This course will help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the Living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both Divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

MISSION OF CHRIST Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 10
Category: Required Prerequisite: None
 This course will help students understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Through this course of study, students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the Redemption Christ won for us. Students will learn that they share in this Redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also be introduced to what it means to be a disciple of Christ and what life as a disciple entails.

LIFE IN CHRIST Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11
Category: Required Prerequisite: None
 This course will help students understand that it is only through Christ that they can fully live out God's plans for their lives. Students are to learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples.

SACRAMENTS Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11
Category: Required Prerequisite: None
 This course will help students understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way in and through the Sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the Sacraments in detail so as to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout life.

LIVING AS A DISCIPLE Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 12
Category: Required Prerequisite:
 This course will introduce students to the Church's Social Teaching. In this course students are to learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.

RESPONDING TO THE CALL Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 12
Category: Required Prerequisite: None
 This course will help students to understand the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live. In this course students should learn how all vocations are similar and how they differ. The course should be structured around married life, single life, priestly life, and consecrated life. Students should learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in service to the Christian call.

ROTC

AIR FORCE JROTC-AS1 (ALHS) Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 9
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Compliance with AFJROTC grooming guideline
 AS1 serves as an introduction to AFJROTC and is normally intended for freshmen. Students in AS1 will study the History of Airpower (including the Heritage of Flight, Development of Air Power, Toward Military Aerospace and Contemporary Aviation), Leadership Education (including the heritage, Organization, Traditions of the Air Force, Individual Self-Control, Citizenship in the U.S., Wellness, Health and Fitness).

AIR FORCE JROTC-AS2 (ALHS) Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 10
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Compliance with AFJROTC grooming guidelines
 AS2 builds on the foundation of AS1 and is normally intended for students with one previous year of AFJROTC experience (sophomores). Students will study the Science of Flight (including the Aerospace Environment, Human Requirements of Flight, Principles of Aircraft Flight and Principles of Navigation), and Leadership Education (including Effective Communication Skills, Understanding Individual Behavior, Understanding Group Behavior and Basic Leadership Concepts).

AIR FORCE JROTC-AS3 (ALHS) Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 11
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Compliance with AFJROTC grooming guidelines
 AS3 begins to develop the leadership capabilities of the student and look at life beyond high school. It is normally intended for students with two previous years of AF JROTC experience. Students will be introduced to Global Awareness through study of world affairs, regional studies, and cultural awareness. Leadership education includes Choosing Your Path, the Job Search, Financial Planning, and Career Opportunities.

AIR FORCE JROTC-AS4 (ALHS) Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Compliance with AFJROTC grooming guidelines
 AS4 seeks to place students in leadership positions within the AFJROTC organization and allows them to gain practical experience in leadership and accomplishing mission objectives. Cadets in AS4 will study Exploring Space (including history of astronomy, space flight, and space technology). Leadership education consists of life skills in money management, job, search, and career opportunities.

DRILL TEAM, RIFLE TEAM & COLOR GUARD (ALHS) Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 9-12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Compliance with AFJROTC grooming guidelines, enrolled in JROTC. Meets daily 6:30 – 7:45 a.m.
 The drill team participates in approximately five sanctioned competitions, usually held on Saturdays, throughout the school year and at least one annual parade. Drill team members are the elite of the cadet corps. Drill team members are challenged everyday to go beyond self-imposed limits, as they build self-confidence, strengthen self-esteem, enhance discipline, strengthen their ability to focus on task, and learn to succeed in a team centered environment.

SCIENCE

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 9

Category: Required

Prerequisite: None

The Physical Science course is an introduction to the study of chemistry and physics. The course begins by solidifying the process that are 'doing science,' such as asking questions, creating scientific arguments, measurement, and data collection. Concepts and applications are introduced or reinforced through hands-on activities, engineering design tasks, and labs. Topics covered include chemistry, such as reactions and the periodic table, motion, forces, energy, momentum; and energy, thermodynamics, electricity, and magnetism, waves, and light.

BIOLOGY

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 9-10

Category: Required

Prerequisite: None

Biology is the study of life. Throughout the year, the course will cover biological principles, cells, introductory chemistry, DNA, genetics, evolution, classification, and ecology. Instruction will include note-taking, hands-on assignments, labs, projects, and discussions. Students are encouraged to use higher levels of reasoning, such as application, interpretation, and problem-solving.

ADVANCED BIOLOGY

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 11-12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: "B" or higher in Chemistry

As the world becomes more populated, more pressures are put on our environment. These pressures need to be studied, understood, and addressed to effectively manage and protect humans and the environment they depend on. Advanced biology will dive deeper into cells, evolution, ecology, and genetics. Understanding these topics will help students be better prepared to live and work in the changing world around them.

CHEMISTRY

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 10 – 12

Category: Required

Prerequisite: Biology, Algebra II (or enrolled in Alg II)

Chemistry is the study of the structure and properties of matter, and their relationships. This course emphasizes major chemical concepts and principles, beginning with the language and mechanics of chemistry, and progressing to the behavior of matter. Topics covered include: measurement, classification of matter, atomic structure, the periodic table, chemical formulas, the mole, chemical reactions, chemical bonding, molecular structure, thermodynamics, reaction rates, gas laws, and introductory mathematics in chemistry.

ADVANCED CHEMISTRY

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 11 – 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Chemistry

Advanced chemistry continues the study of matter through laboratory research and extending ideas learned in chemistry. Topics include: oxidation reduction, organic structures and nomenclature, thermodynamics, biochemistry and others.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 11 – 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: None

Environmental Science studies how humans impact the environment. Students will study basic environmental principles, ecology, populations, water, air, land, and energy resources. Instruction will include note-taking, hands-on assignments, labs, projects, and discussions. Students are required to build on skills utilizing higher levels of reasoning, such as application, interpretation, and problem-solving.

AGRICULTURE

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 11 – 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Biology

During this year long course, students will begin to understand where humans and agriculture fit into the world. Feeding 7.5 billion people is a difficult task that farmers have to deal with. From home gardens to factory farms, the next generation needs a better understanding on how food makes it from the soil to the dinner plate. This class will provide students with an understanding in the following topics: crop planting, animal husbandry, organic gardening, the use of fertilizers, and much more. The majority of this class will involve hands-on learning.

PHYSICS

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 11 – 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Algebra II

Physics is the study of the world around us and how everything interacts. Forces cause objects to move; objects have energy and can cause change. Heat and light can produce many effects. Magnetism is utilized to create electricity. Studying interactions allows us to understand our world and create technology. Learning in this course occurs primarily with hands-on activities, labs, and projects. Taking data and modeling it with algebra (creating equations) is also a key concept. Physics is a useful and engaging course for all students, specifically those who are pursuing a degree in the sciences, including math, biology or pre-med.

ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

Credits: 2 (Year)

Grade: 11 – 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: B or higher in Biology

Anatomy and Physiology explores human bodily structures and functions. Students will study the major systems of the body and learn about the interrelationships among them. Specific topics covered are body tissues, skin and body membranes, the skeletal system, the muscular system, the nervous system, the endocrine system, the cardiovascular system, the respiratory system, and the digestive system. Instruction will include note-taking, hands-on assignments, labs (including dissections), projects, and discussions. Students are required to build on skills utilizing higher levels of reasoning, such as application, interpretation, and problem-solving.

SOCIAL STUDIES

GEOGRAPHY Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 9-12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

This course is an excellent complement to the other social studies courses. It is organized around the five themes of geography: location, place, region, movement, and human-environmental interaction. The world's regions and cultures are studied within context of these five themes.

WORLD HISTORY Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 10-11
Category: Required Prerequisite: None

This course affords the student the opportunity to secure a general understanding of the peoples and forces that have shaped our modern world. Although European developments predominate, ample attention is paid to the non-European aspects of world history. Attention is focused upon significant concepts so that analysis is the fundamental skill nurtured throughout the course.

U.S. HISTORY Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 9-11
Category: Required Prerequisite: None

U.S. History covers the time period from 1877 to the present. Emphasis is placed on the people, places, and events that have influenced the world in which we live. Areas of study that receive comprehensive evaluation include: Industrial Revolution, Westward Movement, Progressive Era, WWI, Roaring 20's, Great Depression, and WWII. This course is required of any sophomore, junior, or senior who has not previously taken the course.

APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11-12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

The central focus of this course will be on personality, abnormality and adjustment. The student will investigate sources of stress and coping strategies. What does it take to be well adjusted in today's society? The student will also identify abnormal behaviors and discover how psychologists use various methods in treatment and therapy. This course is an elective and is structured to be a pre-college course.

GOVERNMENT Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11-12
Category: Required Prerequisite: None

Government is directed at developing an understanding of how the democratic process operates within the framework of our constitution. Emphasis is placed on the study of our federal system with its three branches: executive, legislative, and judicial. Also, included is the study of civil liberties, state government, and the historic development of democracy. It is required of any senior who has not previously taken the course. This class fulfills the state requirement for high school graduation.

PSYCHOLOGY Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11-12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: None

Psychology is the study of human behavior and mental processes. Information is provided on the learning process, memory, the nervous system, motivation and emotion, and the life span. Psychology is an elective and is structured to be a pre-college course. The content will provide useful insight into your own and other people's behavior.

ECONOMICS Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11-12
Category: Required Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to introduce key principles and ideas of economics. The primary objective of this course is to enable the student to reason from an economic perspective. Supply and demand receive particular emphasis, as they serve as the basis of all subfields of economics.

AP MICROECONOMICS (Online Class) Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11 – 12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Algebra I

AP Microeconomics studies the behavior of individuals and businesses as they exchange goods and services in the marketplace. Students will learn why the same product costs different amounts at different stores, in different cities, at different times. They'll also learn to spot patterns in economic behavior and how to use those patterns to explain buyer and seller behavior under various conditions. Microeconomics studies the economic way of thinking, understanding the nature and function of markets, the role of scarcity and competition, the influence of factors such as interest rates on business decisions, and the role of government in promoting a healthy economy. The equivalent of a 100-level college course, AP Microeconomics prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, history, and political science. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on the AP exam may receive college credit, as specified by the college or university they attend.

AP MACROECONOMICS (Online Class) Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 11 – 12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Algebra II

AP Macroeconomics students learn why and how the world economy can change from month to month, how to identify trends in our economy, and how to use those trends to develop performance measures and predictors of economic growth or decline. They'll also examine how individuals, institutions, and influences affect people, and how those factors can impact everyone's life through employment rates, government spending, inflation, taxes, and production. This course prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in business, political science and history. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on the AP exam may receive college credit, as specified by the college or university they attend.

AP PSYCHOLOGY (*Online Class*) **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 11 – 12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** Biology
 This class provides an overview of current psychological research methods and theories. Students will explore the therapies used by professional counselors and clinical psychologists and examine the reasons for normal human reactions: how people learn and think, the process of human development and human aggression, altruism, intimacy, and self-reflection. They'll study core psychological concepts, such as the brain and sense functions, and learn to gauge human reactions, gather information, and form meaningful syntheses. Students will also investigate relevant concepts like study skills and information retention. AP Psychology prepares students for the AP exam and for further studies in psychology and life sciences. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on the AP exam may receive college credit, as specified by the college or university they attend.

AP GOVERNMENT (*Online*) **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 11 – 12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** US History
 AP U.S. Government and Politics studies the operations and structure of the U.S. government and the behavior of the electorate and politicians. Students will gain the analytic perspective necessary to critically evaluate political data, hypotheses, concepts, opinions, and processes. Along the way, they'll learn how to gather data about political behavior and develop their own theoretical analysis of American politics. They'll also build the skills they need to examine general propositions about government and politics, and to analyze the specific relationships between political, social, and economic institutions. This class prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in political science, law, education, business, and history. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on the AP exam may receive college credit, as specified by the college or university they attend.

AP U.S. HISTORY (*Online Class*) **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 11 – 12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** U.S History
 AP U.S. History analyzes and explores the economic, political, and social changes in America since Columbus. Students master historical knowledge and critical analysis, build reading, writing, and communication skills, and discover how historical events have contributed to American culture. In the process, they'll learn how decisions and events of the past continue to have profound effects on the world today and how knowledge of the causes behind past events can influence future decisions. Students will be ready to put their factual knowledge to work by weighing evidence and interpreting problems presented by historians. The equivalent of an introductory college-level course, AP U.S. History prepares students for the AP exam and for further study in history, political science, economics, sociology, and law. Students who earn a score of 3 or better on the AP exam may receive college credit, as specified by the college or university they attend.

STEAM (*SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ART MATH*)

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 9–12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** None
 Students will focus on learning how to use the programs in the Microsoft Office Suite, including Word, Excel and Access. They will learn to properly set up research reports in MLA format, use formulas and graphs with spreadsheets and run queries with databases.

CODING & COMPUTER PROGRAMMING **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 9-12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** None
 This course will introduce students to basics of coding, writing algorithms, and practical applications of computer science. Students will start with block-based software such as MIT's Scratch and those on Code.org and Codecademy.com. Then, students will advance to languages such as Jython using JES to edit pictures, C++ for basic coding, JAVA and HTML to edit webpages, or ROBOTC to program motors and automate machines and robots. This course is flexible with options for various programming languages and therefore requires students to be self-directed learners. Advanced students taking this course for a second time can work on Robotics Team robot or drones.

INTRODUCTION TO COMPUTERS (*Dual Credit*) **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 10–12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** None
 Introduction to Computers consists of a hands-on introduction to microcomputer hardware, operating systems and application software. Students enter, modify and manipulate data with word processing, presentation, spreadsheet, and database programs using Microsoft Office Suite. If time allows, students will be exposed to Photoshop Elements to enhance pictures and Audacity to record sounds.

PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 10–12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** None
 Principles Of Engineering (POE) is a high school-level survey course of engineering. The course exposes students to some of the major concepts that they will encounter in a post secondary engineering course of study. Students have an opportunity to investigate engineering and high tech careers. POE gives students the opportunity to develop skills and understanding of course concepts through activity-, project-, and problem-based (APPB) learning. Used in combination with a teaming approach, APPB learning challenges students to continually hone their interpersonal skills, creative abilities, and problem solving skills based upon engineering concepts. It also allows students to develop strategies to enable and direct their own learning, which is the ultimate goal of education.

INTRODUCTION TO ENGINEERING DESIGN **Credits:** 1 (*Sem*) **Grade:** 10–12
Category: Elective **Prerequisite:** None
 Ever wondered how to design something new or draw out an idea to show your friends? Stop wondering and do it, using AutoDesk Inventor, state-of-the-art 3D design software! Discover the role of an engineer in taking an idea from the design process to product testing to manufacturing or production. Produce an incredible, working prototype of your project with a 3D printer. Work on projects, activities, and problems that have global and human impacts. Work in teams to design and improve products, document your solutions, and communicate them to others.

VISUAL ARTS

ART: INTRO TO CRAFTS Category: Elective Prerequisite: None Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9–12

Crafts is a class that is open to all high school students of any skill level that introduces craft-type projects including wood burning, stained glass, stepping stones, yarn projects, and more.

ART FOUNDATIONS Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 9–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: None

Art Foundations is a high school introductory class that focuses on the 7 Elements of Art and how to use those tools to create successful 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional artworks using drawing, painting and sculpture mediums. Each project will be chronologically tied to a historical art time period.

DRAWING & PAINTING Credits: 1 (Fall) Grade: 10–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Art Foundations

Students will look into 2-dimensional art and allow them to explore drawing and painting materials. Students will learn how to accurately draw the human form as well as still life objects and scenery. Painting techniques using watercolor and acrylic paint will also be a focus.

ADVANCED DRAWING & PAINTING Credits: 1 (Spring) Grade: 10–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Drawing & Painting

This advanced course will allow the student to expand on 2-dimensional art techniques previously explored as well as new techniques such as bird's eye, worm's eye, and fisheye perspective drawing, and oil painting techniques.

BEGINNING POTTERY Credits: 1 (Fall) Grade: 10–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Art Foundations

This course will be focused on hand-building pottery techniques as well as beginner techniques on the pottery wheel. Students will bring home cups, bowls, and other functional pottery pieces.

ADVANCED POTTERY Credits: 1 (Spring) Grade: 10–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Beginning Pottery

This course will expand on techniques learned in Beginning Pottery as well as introduce advanced hand building and pottery wheel techniques. Students will create nesting bowls, non-functional/sculptural pottery, and a handmade clay mosaic.

INTRO TO SCULPTURE & WOODWORKING Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 10–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Art Foundations

This class will give students the opportunity to work with materials and building supplies that they may use in their adult life such as plaster, various types of wood, including reclaimed pallet wood, and woodworking tools such as a battery powered drill, an orbital saw, a chop saw, etc. Students will work from a plan to build a functional wood project.

ADVANCED SCULPTURE & WOODWORKING Credits: 1 (Spring) Grade: 10–12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Intro to Sculpture & Woodworking

In this advanced course, students will build off of knowledge they gained from Intro to Sculpture & Woodworking as well as casting resin and carving plaster. Students will have the opportunity to go on a field trip to Habitat Restore in Council Bluffs to find items to build their final project.

ART: INDEPENDENT STUDY Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Art Foundations, 2 other art classes, permission from Mrs. Riggle

Independent Study is a student-driven course designed for seniors that have taken art classes each year in their high school career and would benefit from an independent, creative course that allows them to design the curriculum and project stipulations.

ART: SENIOR CEILING TILE PROJECT Credits: 1 (Sem) Grade: 12

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Art Foundations, 1 other art class

This class is designated for seniors who have had Art Foundations and one other art class who would like to leave their mark on their school. Senior ceiling tiles are a tradition that is earned through taking appropriate prerequisites and consistently mature behavior throughout all classes.

WORLD LANGUAGE

SPANISH I Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 9–11

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: None

Spanish I is offered to all students who have had little or no previous study of Spanish. Focus is on all language skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students will be introduced to some aspects of cultural practices, and perspectives of various Spanish-speaking countries. No prior knowledge of Spanish needed.

HONORS SPANISH I Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 9–11

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: Pass Intro to Spanish (8th gr) or Teacher Approval

This course is given at a faster pace than Spanish 1. It is intended for students who wish to explore the vocabulary, grammar, and cultural topics in more depth than in Spanish 1. Students should expect to use the target language to communicate in class as learned. No prior knowledge of Spanish needed.

SPANISH II Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Spanish I
 Spanish II is designed to review and build upon material taught in Spanish I. The activities provided are designed to increase the student’s proficiency in the four basic skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Aspects of the Hispanic and Spanish cultures are taught.

HONORS SPANISH II Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 10–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: B in Honors Spanish I
 This course builds on the foundation from Honors Spanish I. The goal is to increase student proficiency in all skills through speaking, reading, writing, and listening study and activities. The class is conducted primarily in Spanish. Students learn about aspects of the Hispanic and Spanish cultures through hands-on activities and supplementary materials. Students are expected to use the target language in class.

SPANISH III Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Spanish II
 This course is for students who want to continue their language study. The third year of Spanish will provide a more in-depth study of vocabulary, grammar and composition while also further developing their language skills in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students will also explore culture through a variety of topics. The course is conducted mostly in Spanish. Students are expected to use the target language in class.

SPANISH III Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 11-12
Category: Elective Prerequisite:
 Spanish III (Dual Credit) provides students with the opportunity to further develop their language skills. Students will be expected to expand their vocabulary and use more advanced grammar to successfully communicate in the target language. Authentic material is implemented to enhance language use and to build awareness and understanding of the cultural diversity in the wider community. Students will communicate with greater spontaneity and in greater detail utilizing authentic sources. The course is conducted in Spanish and the students are expected to use the target language in class. This course can be taken for college credit (Elementary Spanish 1 & 2).

SPANISH IV Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: B in Spanish III (Dual Credit)
 Spanish IV involves the application of the language skills learned in the previous Spanish courses and teaches more complex grammar concepts. Authentic material is implemented to enhance language use and learn idiomatic expressions, as well as build awareness and understanding of the cultural diversity of the Spanish speaking countries. The student is expected to use the target language in class.

SPANISH IV (Dual Credit) Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: B in Spanish III (Dual Credit)
 Spanish IV (Dual Credit) provides students with the opportunity to further develop, improve, and refine their language skills. The course is conducted in Spanish and the students are expected to use the target language in class. This course may be taken for college credit (Intermediate Spanish 1 & 2) In addition, this course also prepares students for the DELE Proficiency Test issued by the Instituto de Cervantes on behalf of the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science and/or the ACTFL Proficiency Test.

SPANISH V Credits: 2 (Year) Grade: 11–12
Category: Elective Prerequisite: Prerequisite: Spanish III
 Spanish V seeks to enhance students’ proficiency in Spanish. A variety of learning activities and authentic material is utilized in order to continue developing, improving, and refining the four basic language skills as well to teach diverse cultural aspects. This course is conducted in Spanish and students are expected to use the target language in class. This course may be taken for college credits (Intermediate Spanish 1 & 2 / 4 credits each semester). In addition, students are provided with the opportunity to take the DELE Proficiency Test issued by the Spanish Ministry of Education and Science.

HIGH SCHOOL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Saint Albert High School offers enrichment opportunities in every subject area. Summer camps, workshops, and institutes are also great ways to extend your student’s interests and talents. For more information about any offerings, contact your student’s subject area teacher or school counselor.

LEADERSHIP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National Honor Society ● Student Council LITERATURE AND WRITING <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Battle of the Books ● Write Touch MATH AND SCIENCE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Science Bowl ● MathCounts ● Wildlife Club WORLD LANGUAGES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spanish Club ● Language Fair ● Spanish Quiz Bowl 	PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Drama Club ● Honor Band auditions ● Honor Choir auditions ● School Play ● School Musical ● High School Speech Association <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Large Group Contests (various categories) ○ Individual Events Contests (various categories) ● Various community performances RELIGION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Kairos (12th Grade) ● World Mission Trip (11th-12th grade) ● Catholic Daughters Contest ● Mass accompaniment ● Grade Level Retreats 	ATHLETICS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Baseball ● Basketball ● Bowling ● Cross Country ● Football ● Tennis ● Track ● Softball ● Soccer ● Volleyball ● Wrestling
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2018-19
6-8TH GRADE
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 6 - 7 - 8

Term: Year

Grade: 6-7-8

Category: Required

Prerequisite: None

The middle school physical education program emphasizes personal well being and life-long activities. The students achieve this through personal conditioning, individual drills, and team games. Dress code is a T-shirt with sleeves (no obscenities, profanity, or alcohol or drug ads), shorts (no jean shorts), socks, and tennis shoes (no black sole street shoes). Students have physical education classes three times a week for the year unless a PE Waiver is on file.

LANGUAGE ARTS

LANGUAGE ARTS 6

Term: Year

Grade: 6

Category: Required

Prerequisite: None

Students will experience the writing process through creative, narrative, and expository modes of expression. The implementation of the proper use of conventions, spelling, grammar/usage is taught concurrently with the writing process. Listening and oral communication skills are developed throughout the course.

LANGUAGE ARTS 7

Term: Year

Grade: 7

Category: Required

Prerequisite: None

The course covers various and diverse topics and skills in the areas of literature and grammar. Students will experience the writing process through creative, narrative, persuasive, and expository modes of expression. The implementation of the proper use of conventions, spelling, grammar/usage is taught concurrently with the writing process. Literature consideration includes novels, short stories, poetry, and nonfiction. Parts of speech and other aspects of grammar are stressed. Writing construction from a paragraph to essays are special emphasis. Several types of oral presentations are required. Listening skills are also developed throughout the course.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

Term: Year

Grade: 8

Category: Required

Prerequisite: None

The course covers various and diverse topics and skills in the areas of literature and grammar. Study skills include note taking, use of reference books, and library skills. The writing process includes various types of writing, such as narrative, expository, and description. A short informational project supplies experience on research and synthesis. Literature consideration includes short stories, poetry, nonfiction, drama. Parts of speech and other aspects of grammar are stressed. Writing construction from a paragraph to essays are special emphasis. Several types of oral presentations are required.

DRAMA (MS)

Term: Sem

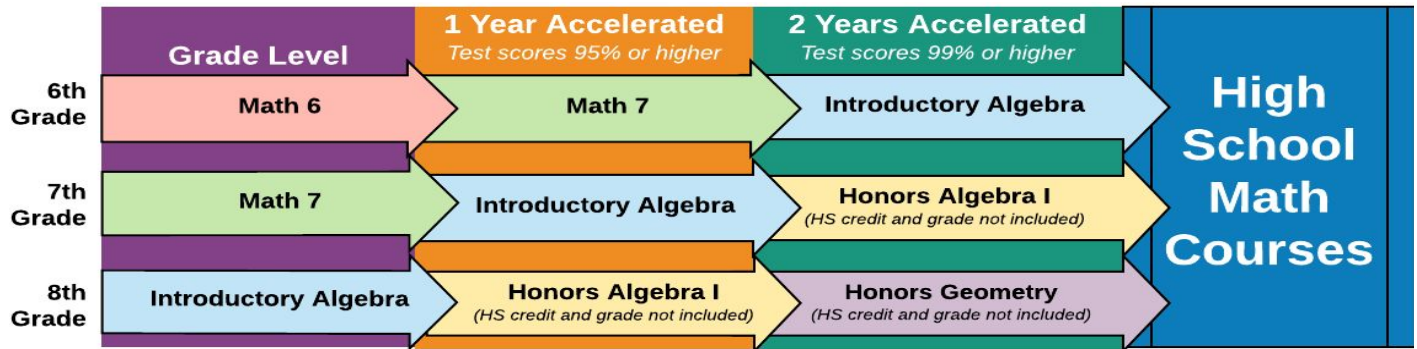
Grade: 8

Category: Elective

Prerequisite: None

This all-encompassing introduction to theatre arts will serve new young artists as they take their first steps towards understanding "the basics" of theatre. We will cover the core components of the theatre: acting, directing, playwrighting, and technical theatre.

MATHEMATICS



MATH 6 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 6

This course is an introduction to a variety of math topics including graphing, measures of central tendency, measurement, geometry, and operations for whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. Students are assigned to acceleration into Algebra by Iowa Assessment and Iowa Algebra Readiness Assessment scores that show a need for advancement. All students will use the ALEKS program and progress at an individual rate.

MATH 7 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: Math 6 Grade: 7

Students will learn to value math, to communicate mathematically, to reason mathematically, and to become problem solvers. This curriculum covers the concepts and operations of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, integers, equations, and expressions, solving multi-step equations, estimation, geometry, measurement, consumer applications, proportions, ratio, and percentages. Students are assigned to acceleration into Algebra by Iowa Assessment and Iowa Algebra Readiness Assessment scores that show a need for advancement. All students will use the ALEKS program and progress at an individualized rate.

MATH 8 (INTRODUCTORY ALGEBRA) Term: Year Grade: 8

Category: Required Prerequisite: Math 7

This class includes an in-depth study of a broad range of algebra topics including linear and exponential expressions and equations, algebraic fractions, and systems of equations and inequalities. Students are assigned to acceleration into Algebra by Iowa Assessment and Iowa Algebra Readiness Assessment scores that show a need for advancement. All students will use the ALEKS program and progress at an individualized rate.

MUSIC

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONCERT BAND Term: Year Grade: 6

Category: Elective Prerequisite: 5th grade instrumental experience preferred

Band provides a laboratory setting for the hands-on learning of the elements of music and instrumental technique. This class is for students in 6th grade who may or may not have had previous instrumental instruction. A variety of musical styles will be explored. The student will work to achieve mastery of his/her instrument while performing throughout the year. Group lessons are available.

CHOIR 6 Category: Elective Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 6

6th Grade Choir is open to any 6th grade student who wishes to perform in a singing group. Music from many styles will be studied as the students' voices and music literacy skills are nurtured. They perform in various concerts throughout the school year.

MIXIN' BEATZ 101 Category: Elective Credits: Sem Prerequisite: None Grade: 7

This course will utilize technology to understand, create and record music. Students will be exposed to engineering, recording and will gain exposure to music software, notation programs, sequencing, and copyrighting. Online programs will aid in the understanding of all basic proficiencies.

CHOIR 7 Category: Elective Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 7

7th Grade Choir is open to any 7th grade student who wishes to perform in a singing group. Music from many styles will be studied as the students' voices and music literacy skills are nurtured. Besides performing in various concerts throughout the school year, students may have the opportunity to audition for and/or attend contests and festivals.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SYMPHONIC BAND Term: Year Grade: 7-8

Category: Elective Prerequisite: At least one year of Concert Band or equivalent

Band provides a laboratory setting for the hands-on learning of the elements of music and instrumental technique. This class is for students in 7th and 8th grade who have previous instrumental instruction. A variety of musical styles will be explored. The student will work to achieve mastery of his/her instrument while performing throughout the year. Group lessons are available.

CHOIR 8 Category: Elective Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 8

8th Grade Choir is open to any 8th grade student who wishes to perform in a singing group. Music from many styles will be studied as the students' voices and music literacy skills are nurtured. Besides performing in various concerts throughout the school year, students may have the opportunity to audition for and/or attend contests and festivals.

RELIGION

RELIGION 6 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 6

The sixth-grade class is devoted to the study of God's saving love as it is revealed in Sacred Scripture, particularly the Old Testament. It is designed to help the students increase their knowledge of salvation history so that they may respond to God with ever-deepening love and gratitude.

RELIGION 7 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 7

The seventh-grade class uses Sacred Scripture, especially the New Testament, to learn about the Incarnation of Jesus Christ and the role He plays in our salvation. Students also take part in a sexuality unit designed so that as they grow older, they can make responsible, well-informed decisions regarding their own sexuality.

RELIGION 8 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 8

This class reflects on the meaning of Catholic Christianity and challenges students to more fully understand and integrate key components of the Catholic faith. This class is designed to reinforce the importance of God and Christian values in a secular society. Students will study Jesus and the Church through Scripture and Tradition, including the seven sacraments, the liturgical year, spirituality and prayer, and Christian morality.

SCIENCE

SCIENCE 6 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: Non Grade: 6

This course will discuss atoms, conservation of mass, energy transfers, function of the brain, and use of natural resources. The major topics discussed throughout the year are (1) Atoms-protons, neutrons, electrons, chemical bonding, (2) Conservation of mass-mass remains the same regardless of the reaction, (3) Energy transfer- how heat transfer from one object to another, (4) Function of the brain-how brain interprets signals and responds from them, and (5) Use of Natural Resource- create societies that only survive using natural resources and prepare for a natural disaster.

SCIENCE 7 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 7

This course will cover the following concepts throughout the seventh grade year. Cell processes, human body and genetics. Animal behaviors, plants and plant processes. The universe, solar system and earth/moon relationship. Energy, electricity and forces.

SCIENCE 8 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: None Grade: 8

Earth Science deals with the study of the earth, its history, its changes and its place in the universe. Four major topics are covered during the yearlong course. These include (1) Geology – rocks and minerals, earth history, earthquakes and plate tectonics, (2) Meteorology – the study of the Earth's atmosphere, weather and climate, (3) Oceanography – the study of the Earth's ocean, including their physical features, life forms and natural resources, (4) Astronomy – the study of the position, composition, size and other characteristics of stars and other objects in space. These topics are reinforced through activities in the lab and field trips.

SOCIAL STUDIES

SOCIAL STUDIES 6 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: Grade: 6
None

The focus of study is the Western Hemisphere. Basic Geography skills are covered prior to exploration of North and South American country's culture, history, and geography. Students spend considerable time creating multimedia presentations and working with Google Classroom.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: Grade: 7
None

The main focus of study in 7th grade is the Eastern Hemisphere. The areas studied include ancient Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Rome, and eastern civilizations including China, Africa, and Europe. Special emphasis will be placed on geography skills as they relate to these regions.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8 Category: Required Term: Year Prerequisite: Grade: 8
None

This class primarily centers on U.S. History from its Native American beginnings up through the Civil War. Students will take the second portion of U.S. History from Reconstruction to the present in high school during their freshman year. The class covers such major time periods as Exploration and Discovery, Colonial Time Period, American Revolution, Constitution, Early Representation, Age of Jackson, Manifest Destiny, and the Civil War. Special emphasis is placed upon the cause and effect of events in history and their relationship to the present. Lessons on geography are also included in the curriculum for this course.

STEAM (SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ART MATH)

WEB 2.0 Category: Elective Term: Sem Prerequisite: Grade: 6
None

Students will learn to use their chromebooks. Computer literacy and the use of Google applications will be emphasized. Students will practice working with Gmail, Calendar, Classroom, Drive, Docs, Forms, Groups, Sheets, and Slides.

DESIGN AND MODELING

Term: Sem

Grade:

6

Students discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They are challenged and empowered to use and apply what they've learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

CODING Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite:

Grade: 7

None

This course will introduce students to basics of coding, writing algorithms, and practical applications of computer science. Students will start with block-based software such as MIT's Scratch and those on Code.org and Codecademy.com. Then, students will advance to languages such as Java and HTML to edit webpages, or ROBOTC to program motors and automate machines and robots.

ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite:

Grade: 7

None

Students are challenged to think big and toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to our energy needs and investigate the impact of energy on our lives and the world. They design and model alternative energy sources and evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

AUTOMATION AND ROBOTICS Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite:

Grade: 8

None

Students will revisit the relationship of science, technology, engineering and math and explore the contributions engineers provide. They will trace the history, development and influence of automation and robotics as they move to designing, building, wiring and programming simple to complex robots to carry out a specific task. Students acquire knowledge and skills in problem solving, teamwork, collaboration and innovation.

VISUAL ARTS

ART 6 Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6

6th Grade art is focused on deciphering and discussing Narrative Art, or art that visually tells a story. Students will explore the various ways people have told and passed down stories over generations and create artwork inspired by those stories.

MS MIXED MEDIA – 6 Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6

Explore mixing a variety of art materials such as oil pastel, paint, magazine cut outs, and recycled materials to create eye catching artworks. Experimentation will be a main focus.

ART 7 Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 7

Explores cultural art and how students' culture affects their artistic vision. Students will study music, art, and traditions to inspire their creations

MS MIXED MEDIA – 7 Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 7

Explores cultural art and how the students' culture affects their artistic vision. Students study music, art, and traditions to inspire their creations.

ART 8 Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8

Art 8 is a class designed to get students involved in creating Public Art. It is focused on creating one public art project that is designed and created within a group to address a particular need or purpose. The art project will take the entire semester to create and will be displayed in a public area. Students will get real-life experience in proposing and executing an artwork intended for the public.

MS MIXED MEDIA – 8 Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8

8th Grade Mixed Media explores cultural art and how the students' culture affects their artistic vision. Students will study cultural music, art, and traditions to inspire their creations.

WORLD LANGUAGE

INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH Category: Elective

Term: Sem Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8

This Spanish course introduces students to the basics of both the language and culture of the Spanish speaking countries. The learning objectives include familiarizing students with basic vocabulary as they begin to develop the four language skills: reading, listening, writing, and speaking. No prior knowledge of Spanish needed.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Saint Albert Middle School offers enrichment opportunities in every subject area. Summer camps, workshops, and institutes are also great ways to extend your student's interests and talents. For more information about any offerings, contact your student's subject area teacher or school counselor.

LEADERSHIP

- 8th grade Leadership Academy

LITERATURE AND WRITING

- Battle of the Books (*Middle School*)
- Writing contests and literary journals
 - *The Write Touch*
 - *Lyrical Iowa*

SPORTS

- Cross Country (Boys and Girls)
- Football (Boys) (P.A.L. - Parochial Association League)
- Volleyball (Girls) (P.A.L. - Parochial Association League)
- Basketball (Boys and Girls) (P.A.L. - Parochial Association League)
- Wrestling
- Track (Boys and Girls)

- *Scholastic Writing Contest*

MATH AND SCIENCE

- Science Bowl (*Middle School*)
- MathCounts
- Sixth Grade Math Bee
- First Lego League robotics team

RELIGION

- Catholic Daughters Contest
- Mass accompaniment

- Softball (Girls) (P.A.L. - Parochial Association League)
- Baseball (Boys) (P.A.L. - Parochial Association League)
- Soccer (Boys and Girls) (P.A.L. - Parochial Association League)

PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS

- Drama Club
- Honor Band auditions
- Honor Choir auditions
- Middle School Spring Play
- Various community performances