

## POPE JOHN PAUL II CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL BRIEF SUMMARY OF ELECTIVE COURSES FOR 2008-2009

**Acting** - introduces the student to the world of the performing arts: storytelling, oral interpretation, and dramatic performance. The histories of these three areas will be explored and the student will actively participate in the areas of the performing arts.

**Art I**- an introduction to studio art: working on projects in drawing with perspective, balance and design; color using water colors, colored pencils and pastels; 3D art using clay; sketchbook is maintained and graded 2 or 3 times a semester.

**Art II**- same as Art I except the projects are more in-depth; sketchbook also required.

**Art III**- student works primarily on his or her own portfolio (a body of artwork) through advanced projects in drawing, painting, design, and sculpture.

**Biology II AP (H)**- course is designed to follow the curriculum of a college introductory biology course and laboratory. It involves an in-depth study of the major themes, concepts, and topics presented in the "study of life". Biology II AP aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to master the rapidly changing science of biology. (Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, completion of Biology I (H)).

**Chemistry II AP (H)** - course is designed to follow the curriculum of a college introductory chemistry course and laboratory. Students attain a depth of understanding of chemistry's fundamentals and competence in dealing with chemical problem solving, with an emphasis on mathematical formulations of principles, chemical calculations and in-depth laboratory work. (Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, completion of Chemistry I (H)).

**Business Computer Application I (1/2)** – focus will be a more in-depth study of the Microsoft Office 07 professional applications with a concentration in using Excel and Access. This course is designed to prepare students for the Microsoft Office Specialist Certification Exam.

**Criminal Law (1/2)** – a study of the American criminal court process; special attention is given to theories of crime and criminal behavior, statutory law, trial process and punishment.

**Desktop Publishing (1/2)** – course is designed to prepare students to prepare publishing documents with Desktop Publishing using Microsoft Publisher.

**Economics (1/2)**- a study of the American economic system and how it affects us as individuals.

**English V (H/CP)**- analysis of world masterpieces, oral presentations, vocabulary enrichment, grammar usage, and individual preparation for the college experience. Offered at both the honors and college prep level and required for all seniors who have completed the English sequence of courses from English I through English IV.

**Fine Arts Survey**- a survey course of both art and music through the ages (prehistoric 30,000 year old cave painting, early musical compositions up through modern rock, and the modern era of large painting and monumental sculpture). The course will incorporate both slides of art and recorded music. Fine Arts Survey serves as an introductory course for the required college freshmen course of the same name.

**Holocaust (1/2)** – study of Jewish life in Europe before, during, and after the Holocaust. Majority of time will be spent on Jewish life in Europe from 1933-1945.

**Independent Study** – courses offered by the Louisiana Virtual School will be available to those highly academic and motivated students meeting course requirements. Guidelines/options are attached to this summary.

**Psychology (1/2)**- the study of human behavior; the course focuses on the way people think, feel, and do “things” – will examine the less observable aspects of behavior, such as fantasies, thoughts and feelings.

**Public News I**- covers the basic principals of journalism, i.e. advertising, writing, and designing layouts; assigned stories and interviews for school newspaper.

**Public News II**- advanced writing and designing for the Jaquar Journal; editorial responsibility.

**Speech**- course is designed to help the student understand the communications process in order to speak more effectively in public. The student will learn to prepare and deliver informative, demonstrative, and persuasive speeches as well as participate in group discussions and debate. Speaking for radio and TV will be introduced.

**Teen Leadership (1/2)**: course is designed to develop teens into tomorrow’s leaders through speaking, working with others, thinking differently and being far more creative than they ever thought. A student will be able to learn life-long leadership skills and principles for future success, and will face new challenges and situations in class that will build their self-confidence and ability to learn.

**Webmaster (1/2)** – course is designed to prepare students to prepare Web Pages for publication on the Web. The focus will be on Microsoft Front Page for Web Page publishing.

**World Geography** - course will allow students the opportunity to learn about the geography of the regions of the world. Students will utilize various geographic tools to learn more about the world and their place in it. They will analyze the relationship between the physical characteristics of a region and the cultural characteristics of those who inhabit it. Knowledge of the material covered in this course is vital for all students who are interested in becoming an informed citizen in an interdependent world. This course will be taught on two levels: honors and college prep.

**Yearbook I**- course involves the compiling and production of the print and DVD yearbook – because the books come out in the fall, the first semester’s work is learning the basics of journalism (copy, photography, typography layout, feature writing, etc.); the second semester’s work will be mostly the production of the two items mentioned above. The student will learn about video-taping, computer layouts, and photography, and will write headlines, captions, and body copy (articles).

**Yearbook II**- course is designed for those students who have demonstrated dedication and responsibility in Yearbook I to take on the duties of editorship positions; Yearbook I teacher recommendation required.