

# East Catholic High School

## Program of Studies

2025-2026



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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

East Catholic High School is a regional college-preparatory school of the Archdiocese of Hartford. Building on Catholic Tradition and the charism of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, we challenge our students to build strong moral character while pursuing academic excellence, responsible citizenship, active participation in community service, sportsmanship, and an appreciation for the fine arts. Guided by the teachings of Jesus Christ, East Catholic is a welcoming environment for all students.

## **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY**

East Catholic High School, a college-preparatory school of the Archdiocese of Hartford, serves students from more than thirty-five towns in the Greater Hartford area and eastern Connecticut. At East Catholic, we strive to teach as Jesus did—challenging, loving, and guiding our students, all within a welcoming and nurturing environment. We believe that our success in educating a student is only possible when the faculty and staff of East Catholic, the student, and the parent work in partnership and agree upon the core beliefs expressed in our mission statement. We attempt to create an authentically Catholic yet ecumenically sensitive atmosphere in which each student can grow spiritually and intellectually.

Inspired by the charism of our founding order, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, we seek to proclaim God's goodness in all things by educating the whole person-spirit, mind, and body. We form students who are increasingly aware of their spiritual lives as central to their being, and we cultivate this awareness through our curriculum, our extensive retreat and spiritual formation programs, and service learning. Our instruction in faith and justice is grounded in Catholic social teachings which acknowledge the value and dignity of all human life.

The academic program at East Catholic, which is based on archdiocesan, state, and national curriculum standards, seeks to address the needs of students of varying academic abilities and prepares all learners for advancement to the college level. Our curriculum and comprehensive co-curricular program encourage all students to challenge themselves academically and physically and to develop their God-given talents. We aspire to develop students who think critically and cultivate life-long learning. We are committed to producing graduates who act with integrity and self-discipline as good citizens of their country and Christian leaders for the Church and the world.

## **PROCESS OF COURSE SELECTION**

Starting in March, the teachers and school counselors assist each student with his/her course selections. Course selections are based on the student's present needs, past performance, graduation requirements, post high school plans, course offerings, and departmental recommendations. Parents should sit with their student(s) to go over course selection before submitting through the portal. In late spring, schedules are processed and course conflicts are resolved. The school reserves the rights to add or withdraw courses without notice.

## **COURSE CHANGES**

Students will receive a list of their course selection for the following academic year in June. Students and parents should review this list and contact their school counselor to request any course changes by the last day of classes. All course selections are considered final after the first rotation of our 8-day cycle in September. Students or parents initiating any changes after the rotation are required to pay a \$100 course change fee. The fee is waived if the change is initiated and recommended by the student's current teacher, school counselor, or the Dean of Academics.

## **COURSE WITHDRAWALS**

If a students and their family decide to withdraw from a course, no credit will be given for the course. If a student withdraws after September 30 or after February 28 for a course being offered second semester, a W (withdrawal with an average of 60 or better) will be placed on their official transcript. If the average is below a 60 at the time, a WF will appear on the student's transcript.

## LEVEL CHANGES

Extenuating circumstances may necessitate a level change after the deadline. The level change is made in collaboration with the teacher, department chair, school counselor and parent and requires the approval of the Dean of Academics. All changes are subject to space availability. When a level changes happens after the student has completed one quarter (or more), the original course with the grade(s) earned will appear on the student's report card. In addition, the report card will also include the new course and grades earned in subsequent quarters (see sample report card below-courses 687 and 631). The student's transcript will also reflect the course level change. Final GPA for the course will be calculated using the quality points and credits earned in each level.

#	CRS/SC	COURSE NAME	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10CR
			TCH	1st	2nd	MEX	MID		3rd	4th	FEX		FNL
1 118		Ch & Sacr	206	93			93						93
2 687		Chemistry	71	97			97						97
3 546		Civics	178						95	91	84		91
4 765		Dig Ar&Des	67						94	91			93
5 022		English II	77	86	91	85	88		95	92	87		90
6 115		H Ch & Sac	183		95	82	91		92	92	90		91
7 631		H Chem	71		87	78	84		90	87	60		83
8 221		H Geometry	40	90	98	81	91		93	99	64		90
9 421		H Spanish2	113	86	92	89	89		87	93	80		89
10 629		Health	202	98	97		98						97
11 536		ModWrldCiv	178	99	93	83	93						93
12 922		WintSptsPE	162						EX	EX			EX

## GRADING SYSTEM

Students are grouped homogeneously in each subject area on the basis of past achievement, teacher recommendation and when appropriate, standardized tests. East Catholic uses a weighted Grade Point Average (GPA) based on a 4.0 scale. The weighted GPA takes into account the fact that more advanced courses earn more quality points for a grade than the same grade in a less difficult course. Thus, each numeric grade is assigned quality points adjusted according to the level of the course and the credit earned. **All courses offered at East Catholic High School are college preparatory.** The school does not use class rank and does not name a valedictorian or salutatorian. Instead, East Catholic honors its top graduates as the Archbishop Henry J. O'Brien Scholars.

## GRADES

90-100	W – Withdrawal/Passing
80-89	WF – Withdrawal/Failing
70-79	X – Exempt
60-69	I – Incomplete
Below 60	P - Pass

## HONOR ROLL DIVISIONS

Honors with Distinction	90 average, no grade below 85
First Honors	85 average, no grade below 80
Second Honors	80 average, no grade below 80
Passing Grade: 60	

## **ADVANCED PLACEMENT OFFERINGS**

AP® enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. Through our fifteen course offerings, each culminating with a **required** exam, AP provides willing and academically prepared students with the opportunity to earn college credit and/or advanced placement.

### **Our course offerings are as follows:**

English Language and Composition

English Literature and Composition

Studio Arts Program

Music Theory

Calculus AB

Calculus BC

Biology

Chemistry

U.S. History

European History

French

Spanish

Environmental Science

## **UCONN EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE (ECE) OFFERINGS**

UConn Early College Experience (ECE) is a dual enrollment program that allows motivated high school students to take UConn courses in high school for both high school and college credit. Currently two ECE classes — Calculus BC and Contemporary Issues in Sports — are available at East Catholic. UConn's Early College Experience is nationally accredited by The National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP).

## **PROJECT LEAD THE WAY (PLTW) OFFERINGS**

Project Lead The Way provides transformative learning experiences for our students. Courses create an engaging, hands-on classroom environment and empower students to develop in-demand knowledge and skills they need to thrive. Pathways in computer science and engineering engage students in hands-on activities, projects, and problems; empowering them to solve real-world challenges; and inspire them to reimagine how they see themselves. College Board also recognizes these programs. Students are also able to gain college credit from these courses.

### **Our course offerings are as follows:**

Computer Science Principles

Computer Science A

Engineering Principles

## **USJ EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE (ECE) OFFERINGS**

The University of Saint Joseph, CT, Early College Experience (ECE) is a dual enrollment program that allows motivated high school students to take USJ courses in high school for both high school and college credit. Currently three ECE classes — Anatomy & Physiology, Statistics, and Social Psychology — are available at East Catholic. USJ's Early College Experience is nationally accredited by The National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (NACEP).

## **ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

Academic support is available through individual meetings with teachers. Students can also seek peer help from our National Honor Society for tutoring. Students should speak with their school counselor to arrange for peer tutoring.

## **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

\*Minimum of 25 credits are required for graduation including:

- 4 English
- 4 Religion
- 4 Mathematics
- 3 Science (Biology required)
- 3 Social Studies (Civics & U.S. History required)
- 3 World Languages
- 1 Fine Arts
- 1 Technology
- 3 Electives

In addition, students must also complete Health and Wellness and Physical Education requirements, and each year students are required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of community service.

## **ADVISORY AND SCHOOL COUNSELING**

The East Catholic High School advisory program, united with the school counseling office, promotes meaningful relationships between teachers and/or staff, students, and parents while providing support to students. Through weekly meetings with their advisor, students experience a personalized environment to observe and encourage academic and social progress throughout high school. Each student, along with his/her counselor and advisor, develops a student success plan that focuses on his/her educational path as well as academic and personal goals.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of the Counselor**

- Assists in the growth and development of each student (socially/emotionally and academically)
- Emphasis on individual conferences between counselor and student
- Discuss and plan student schedules and 4-year course plan
- Hosting parent conferences as needed
- Consulting with other professionals, such as teachers, campus ministers, social workers, and administrators
- Guiding students through the college and scholarship search and application process

### **Roles and Responsibilities of the Advisor**

- Act as the primary contact for parents and guardians
- Act as coach and advocate
- Encourage advisees to achieve their academic potential
- Obtain answers to students' academic and extra-curricular questions
- Facilitate discussion of relevant topics
- Discuss current issues in students' lives
- Help student's problem solve current concerns or issues

### **Roles and Responsibilities of the Student**

- Actively engage and participate in Advisory group activities
- Encourage and promote a healthy and safe school climate for all students and staff
- Develop, pursue, and achieve academic and personal goals
- Access advisors to obtain answers to academic and extra-curricular needs
- Help the Advisory group solve current issues and concerns

## **IMPORTANT NOTE**

All courses listed in this Program of Studies will be offered unless enrollment is insufficient to justify the reasonable allocation of staff and resources.

## **DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY**

The Digital Technology program offers computer-based opportunities that combine computer science and digital literacy skills to teach students design, logical reasoning, and problem solving. Courses allow students to utilize computer applications that advance their understanding of not only content knowledge but also organizational, research, communication, and leadership skills. This ability to innovate and organize with technology also assists students in navigating their way through upper level high school courses and well beyond the computer science classroom.

Starting with the Class of 2024, students must have 1 credit in Digital Technology to fulfill the graduation requirement.

**980 Integrated Technology – Advanced**

**Grade 9, 10**

**0.5 credit**

**NOTE:** This is a required course for all freshmen and transfers. Students must demonstrate a level of proficiency of B or better on the semester exam and a passing score overall to receive course credit.

Through the use of technology to enhance our program, students will learn the basics of computers to support classroom instruction. Practical training using the iPad will include digital access to textbooks and applications. In addition, the course will address the key issues of internet safety, privacy and security, reliability of online information, cyberbullying, information literacy, digital footprints and reputation, and intellectual property in the digital world. Students will learn and apply basic skills in word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations through knowledge in Microsoft Office and Google Suite to thoroughly complete assignments and enhance organizational skills. Technology related topics in mathematics, English, science, and the arts will be integrated throughout the lessons.

**The following electives satisfy Digital Technology credit:**

**981 Computer Applications – Advanced**

**Grade 9, 10, 11**

**0.5 credit**

***Second Semester Only***

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Integrated Technology and/or teacher recommendation and department chair approval.

Through a project-oriented approach, students will explore a variety of programming systems and languages to create interactive applications and systems. By collaborating in a hands-on environment, students will learn problem solving, software design, debugging strategies, and the foundations of computer science (data structures, procedures, and algorithms). Students will work on projects (both individual and team) in the areas of graphics and games, animation and art, and electronics systems, all using open-source software tools such as Scratch and Code.org.

**776 Robotics**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

**0.25 credit**

This instructional program **offered after school hours** introduces high school students to basic programming as well as problem solving strategies. The robotics mentors will involve students in the development, building and fabrication of robotics frameworks'. Students will work hands-on in teams to design, build, program and document their progress. Topics may include motor control, gear ratios, torque, friction, sensors, decision-making, propulsion systems and locomotive systems. The team uses a hands-on approach to introduce the basic concepts in robotics, focusing on mobile robots and illustrations of current state of the art research and applications. *This class may fulfill 0.25 credit toward Digital Technology or Physical Education. Students can obtain a Varsity letter as a senior.*

**217 PLTW/AP Computer Science A**

(See Mathematics Department for course description)

**219 PLTW/AP Computer Science Principles**

(See Mathematics Department for course description)

**765 Digital Art and Design**

(See Fine Arts Department for course description)

**743 Digital Animation**

(See Fine Arts Department for course description)

**742 Graphic Design**

(See Fine Arts Department for course description)

**773 Introduction to Marketing**

(See Fine Arts Department for course description)

**774 Introduction to Advertising**

(See Fine Arts Department for course description)

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

The English Department at East Catholic High School is committed to fostering in its students a love of reading, an appreciation of good literature, and the ability to express themselves clearly, whether in a written or spoken format. In a program designed to fit their academic ability, all students study literature of American, British and world cultures. Writing is integrated throughout the four years. Students who qualify are encouraged to take the AP Language and Composition course junior year and AP Literature and Composition senior year.

**011 Honors Literary Arts – Honors****Grade 9****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Placement in Honors Literary Arts requires the recommendation of the department chairperson.

Honors Literary Arts is a rigorous course for incoming freshmen who have demonstrated exceptional ability in English through strong competency on East Catholic placement assessments and outstanding performance in middle school. Challenging assignments, including a term paper, additional reading, and enrichment activities help students in this course to build critical skills. In addition, students review key concepts of grammar and build a thorough foundation in vocabulary, including essential terms of literary analysis.

**012 English I – Advanced****Grade 9****1 credit**

This accelerated full-year course is an introduction to literary analysis of all major genres. The course also stresses the fundamentals of narrative and descriptive writing, along with an introduction to the mechanics of writing, the writing process, and paragraph structure. In addition, students review key concepts of grammar and build a thorough foundation in vocabulary, including essential terms of literary analysis.

**013 English I - College Prep****Grade 9****1 credit**

This full-year course is an introduction to literary analysis of all major genres. The course also stresses the fundamentals of narrative and descriptive writing, along with an introduction to the mechanics of writing, the writing process, and paragraph structure. In addition, students review key concepts of grammar and build a thorough foundation in vocabulary, including essential terms of literary analysis.

**061 Honors American Literature – Honors****Grade 10****1 credit**

**Prerequisites:** Placement in Honors American Literature is reserved for students who have successfully completed Honors Literary Arts or English I (012), and received the recommendation of their freshman English teacher and the department chairperson.

Honors American Literature is a rigorous course featuring a careful study of the panorama of American Literature in the context of historical, social, and cultural development of the nation. The course continues to develop skills in grammar, vocabulary, and writing. In this course, students write regularly, including a research paper. They will be responsible for extensive reading, and several presentations related both to assigned material within the curriculum as well as supplemental material.

**022 English II – Advanced****Grade 10****1 credit**

At this level in English II, students continue their study of short stories, poetry, novels and drama. The focus of this course is the ongoing development of strong reading comprehension and analytical skills. Students also continue to improve their writing skills through writing narrative, descriptive, and analytical essays, and a research paper as well. Students will also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar.

**023 English II - College Prep****Grade 10****1 credit**

At this level in English II, students continue their study of short stories, poetry, novels and drama. With pacing and lessons designed to reinforce and build reading comprehension and analytical skills, students learn strategies to strengthen writing and literary analysis. Students also develop proficiency in writing a five-paragraph essay in narrative and analytical modes. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar.

**030 AP English Language and Composition – Advanced Placement****Grade 11****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Placement in AP English Language and Composition is reserved for students who have successfully completed Honors American Literature, and received the recommendation of their sophomore English teacher and the department chairperson.

In this full-year Advanced Placement course for juniors, students analyze the art of rhetoric through the study of canonical philosophy and current issues. To prepare for the AP English Language and Composition exam, students analyze oratory masterworks and apply them to contemporary speeches and writings. A writing-intensive course, AP English Language and Composition emphasizes the rhetorical terms, test strategies, analytical reading and writing practice students need to perform effectively on the AP exam, as well as the SAT and other college entrance exams. The course also provides a crucial foundation for all literary study through analysis of non-fictional literature, aligned with the College Board's standards.

**051 Honors English III – Honors**

**Grade 11**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisites:** Placement in Honors English III is reserved for students who have successfully completed Honors American Literature or English II, and received the recommendation of their sophomore English teacher and the department chairperson.

In this rigorous course, students conduct a careful study of major works of American and world literature, fostering appreciation for an expanse of literary voices from various cultures. The emphasis remains on the development of strong reading comprehension and analytical skills. Students continue to improve their writing through narrative, analytical and argumentative essays, and write an extensive research paper as well. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar.

**052 English III – Advanced**

**Grade 11**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Juniors will be assigned to the appropriate level of American Literature based on previous performance and teacher recommendation.

At this level in English III, students analyze the overarching themes, literary periods, varied cultures and powerful voices of American literature. Students continue to build strong critical thinking and analytical skills, and improve their writing skills primarily through analytical and argumentative essays, as well as a research paper. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar.

**053 English III - College Prep**

**Grade 11**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Juniors will be assigned to the appropriate level of American Literature based on previous performance and teacher recommendation.

At this level in English III, students analyze the overarching themes, literary periods, varied cultures and powerful voices of American literature. Students continue to build proficiency in critical thinking and literary analysis, and improve their writing skills primarily through analytical and argumentative essays, as well as a research paper. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar.

**049 Literature in Film – Advanced**

**Grade 12**

**.5 credit**

In this second semester course, students shift focus from writing to media study as they analyze cinematic adaptations of classic literature. Students continue to strengthen their critical thinking skills through a comparative study of literature, film, and television.

**057 English IV – Advanced**

**Grade 12**

**.5 credit**

At this level in English IV, in the first semester students study the art of effective writing. Students continue to strengthen their grasp on the writing process, with emphasis on the college essay and other writing lessons designed to further develop their mastery of narrative, descriptive, persuasive, expository modes. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar. The semester culminates with a research paper that serves as the midterm examination.

**059 Creative Writing – Advanced**

**Grade 12**

**.5 credit**

This second semester course focuses on creative writing in different forms. Students will have an opportunity to explore several different examples of poetry, fiction, plays, and nonfiction. In this, students would (1) engage in the critical analysis of professional writing and (2) develop their own writing abilities in the four major genres of creative writing. This would include an exploration of language and how it is used to develop tone, theme, and the overall effectiveness of craft. There would be four key categories to explore:

1. The Short Story and Novel-Length Fiction
2. Poetry in Different Forms
3. Ten-Minute and Full-Length Plays
4. Memoir and the Personal Essay

Workshop would be essential to this course, driven by peer feedback. With the aid of the teacher, students would work to give constructive feedback to other students in a mature, professional manner through class discussion and written, formal feedback. Building from this, a considerable length of time would be spent exploring the revision process. Students would be required to revise multiple different pieces to re-submit, accompanied by an additional aspect of self-reflection.

**060 AP English Literature and Composition****Grade 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisites:** Placement in AP English is reserved for students who have successfully completed AP English Language and Composition or Honors English III, and received the recommendation of their junior-year English teacher and the department chairperson.

AP English is a rigorous course designed to be a thorough preparation for the AP Literature and Composition exam. Students read significant works of literature from the major genres: poetry, novels, short stories, and drama. Through in-depth, expansive reading and writing, students sharpen essential critical reading and analytical skills, and develop and refine their essay writing skills at the college level. The course also provides a crucial foundation for all literary study through analysis of fictional literature, aligned with the College Board's standards.

**054 Honors English IV – Honors****Grade 12****1 credit**

In the first semester of Honors English IV, students undertake an in-depth study of the art of effective writing. Through frequent and varied assignments which anticipate college-level writing, students continue to strengthen their grasp on the writing process, with emphasis on the college essay and other writing lessons designed to further develop their mastery of narrative, descriptive, persuasive, expository modes. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar. The semester culminates with a research paper that serves as the midterm examination.

In the second semester of this course, students shift focus from writing to literary study as they analyze works from British and world cultures. Units of study may include a Shakespeare play, film or television series study, a novel or poetry that reflects the cultures and authors of the United Kingdom.

**056 English IV - College Prep****Grade 12****1 credit**

At this level in English IV, in the first semester students study the art of effective writing. Students will continue to build writing proficiency in various modes of writing, with emphasis on the college essay. Students also continue to develop a robust vocabulary and strengthen competency in grammar. The semester culminates with a research paper that serves as the midterm examination.

In the second semester of this course, students shift focus from writing to literary study as they analyze works from British and world cultures. Units of study may include a Shakespeare play, film or television series study, a novel or poetry that reflects the cultures and authors of the United Kingdom.

## **FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT**

Fine Arts influence the very spirit of the person. Students need opportunities to receive contact with the concepts that add meaning to life and richness to living, as well as providing an outlet for creative expression through visual and performing arts. Excellence in education comes with a balance of ingredients within the curriculum, including an appreciation for art, music and drama. Fine Arts help to develop the individual talents and abilities of each person.

East Catholic provides a full four-year program in both performing and visual arts, and requires at least 1 fine arts credit earned upon graduation. There are bi-annual Art & Music Festivals that highlight projects and performances by all current students in Performing and Visual Arts classes. Students are also able to experience the dramatic arts through two annual Stage East theater productions-- a fall drama or comedy and a spring musical. Both the art and music programs enhance the life of the school through support of many school events-- from school liturgies and parents' events, to display cases of art and a pep band for athletic rallies. Fine Arts is integrated into the fabric and heart of the East Catholic community.

### **VISUAL ART**

#### **702 Art 1 – Advanced**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

This project-based course uses various mediums and techniques to incorporate the basic elements of art and the principles of design. This introductory 2D visual art course will build basic art skills and vocabulary that will prepare students for future art classes. Emphasis is placed on the exploration of various art styles as well as individual creativity.

#### **722 Drawing – Advanced**

**Grades 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

**Prerequisite: Art 1 or Principles of Design**

This class is designed to develop the student's abilities in the drawing medium. Emphasis is on technique, composition, value, line and the illusion of form. A variety of mediums are used. This course includes some historical art references.

#### **732 Painting – Advanced**

**Grades 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

**Prerequisite: Art 1 or Principles of Design**

Painting is designed for students who have a basic knowledge of drawing, composition and color to learn about painting. Both technique and medium are emphasized. Art historical references and experimentation with different painting media comprise most of the course.

#### **772 Sculpture – Advanced**

**Grades 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

This course is designed for any student interested in expressing themselves through a range of three-dimensional mediums including paper, wire, plaster and clay. To broaden student's appreciation of art, this course includes art historical references and research. No previous experience is necessary.

#### **765 Digital Art & Design- Advanced**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

An introductory-level computer art class that will teach the elements and principles of art in a digital format. This project-based class will familiarize students with the basics of the digital lab and multiple software applications used in digital art. No previous experience is necessary. *This class may fulfill 0.5 credit toward Digital Technology or Fine Arts elective.*

#### **743 Digital Animation – Advanced**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

This class is an introduction to the art of computer animation. It exposes the students to the principles of animation and instructs them to produce strong authentic animations by learning a sense of observation, timing, and motion. Emphasis will also be placed on the artistic and aesthetic creativity that will push the boundaries of the imagination and to familiarize students with storytelling. *This class may fulfill 0.5 credit toward Digital Technology or Fine Arts elective.*

#### **742 Graphic Design – Advanced**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12                    0.5 credit**

**Prerequisite: Digital Art & Design**

Students interested in visual communication and presentation should consider Graphic Design. Various methods are used to create and combine symbols, images and/or words to create a visual representation of ideas and messages. This class may fulfill 0.5 credit toward Digital Technology or Fine Arts elective.

**773 Introduction to Marketing – Advanced** **Grades 11, 12** **0.5 credit**

In this introductory course, students will learn the principles of marketing, both domestically and internationally. Analysis and segmentation, market analysis, the 4Ps of marketing, advertising, and selling are just a few of the topics that will be covered. Various aspects of advertising, including television, radio, print media, and the Internet, will be analyzed and evaluated. Students must “think critically” and derive conclusions from various marketing scenarios. Using real-world examples, students will learn how to plan, launch, and market a product or service in today’s fast corporate environment.

**774 Introduction to Advertising – Advanced** **Grades 11, 12** **0.5 credit**

In this introductory course, students will gain knowledge of techniques used in current advertising, including print, broadcast, and digital media. This course explores the social, cultural, ethical, and legal issues of advertising, historical influences, strategies, media decision processes as well as integrated marketing communications, and careers in advertising and sales promotion. An overview of how communication tools can be used to reach target audiences and increase consumer knowledge will be explored. His course will also cover budget development, media selection, design, and advertisement.

**751 Advanced Projects: Studio Arts – Honors** **Grades 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** *Drawing, Painting, or Sculpture.*

**761 Advanced Projects: Digital Arts – Honors** **Grades 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** *Digital Art & Design and Graphic Design or Digital Photography.*

These advanced level classes are designed for students who are highly motivated and seriously interested in developing the sustained investigation aspects of the AP Studio Art classes, submitting a portfolio to a college, **OR** further exploring a medium of interest. Students must have demonstrated a unique talent through the quality and depth of expression in their previous work and demonstrated an acute ability to work independently. The course syllabus is designed and proposed by each individual student. These classes are by permission of instructor **ONLY**, and are scheduled in conjunction with an existing class of the instructor. Students will submit a portfolio to the College Board with the instructor’s approval.

**730 AP Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio – Advanced Placement** **Grades 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Advanced Projects: Studio Arts (Drawing or Painting concentration), completion of an application (see art teachers), and must present a portfolio to the art teachers and department chairperson for approval. Seniors who wish to register for AP Art, but have not taken Advanced Projects may register with the instructor’s approval of an application and portfolio review.

**740 AP Studio Art: 2-D Design - Advanced Placement** **Grades 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Advanced Projects: Digital Arts, completion of an application (see art teachers), and presentation a portfolio to the art teachers and department chairperson for approval before registering for the class. Juniors who wish to submit a portfolio for AP Studio Art, but have not taken Advanced Projects may register with the instructor’s approval of an application and portfolio review.

The Advanced Placement Studio Art Program enables highly motivated students to do college level work while still in high school. AP Studio Art candidates submit a portfolio of work for evaluation in early May to the College Board. Guidelines have been designed to accommodate varieties of interests and approaches to art but must include sustained investigation. Students must be able to work independently and meet deadlines. Preparation of art pieces will require considerable time outside of class. Students will begin work on concentration at home during the summer prior to the beginning of the course. Students applying for this course must have completed portfolio pieces for the quality (five) and sustained investigation sections prior to the beginning of the course.

**MUSIC****802 Chamber Choir 8/8 – Advanced**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Chamber Choir is open to students of all ability levels interested in learning the fundamentals of singing through the study of choral music. This course covers music of diverse styles, as well as basic theory, listening, sight singing, and vocal production techniques. As a group, students perform in two major concerts as well as other functions throughout the school year. This class meets each day for the full year.

**812 Chamber Choir 4/8 – Advanced**

Full Year

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

0.5 credit

This option meets 4 out of 8 cycle days for the full year by approval of director.

**841 Honors ECCE (East Catholic Choral Ensemble) 8/8 – Honors**

Grades 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Enrollment in ECCE is **by audition only** to a limited number of vocal students with ability in solo and ensemble performance. This is an environment in which more vocally experienced students can explore various types of music in a smaller setting. Students should already be able to read music, and be fairly versed in proper choral technique. This group performs in two major concerts as well as in other functions throughout the school year, including festivals and tours. This class meets each day for the full year.

**844 ECCE 4/8 – Honors**

Full Year

Grades 10, 11, 12

0.5 credit

This option meets 4 out of 8 cycle days for the full year by approval of director.

**824 Percussion Ensemble- Advanced**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

This course introduces **beginning** instrumentalists to a variety of percussion instruments. This class is offered in a group lesson format and is intended to prepare students to join one of the performing groups. Skills learned include sight-reading, music theory, and listening skills. This group will perform in the bi-annual concerts. No musical performance experience is necessary, but students are required to purchase drumsticks and mallets. This class meets each day for the full year.

**834 Percussion Ensemble 4/8- Advanced**

Full Year

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

0.5 credit

This option meets 4 out of 8 cycle days for the full year by approval of director.

**876 Piano Fundamentals – Advanced**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

0.5 credit

This course teaches the basics of piano technique along with music fundamentals such as note names and values, key signature and chords. Elements of theory, correct piano technique and effective practice skills will also be covered. This course is ideal for students new to music, as well as those wishing to acquire keyboarding skills.

**877 Intermediate Piano – Advanced**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

0.5 credit

**Prerequisite:** Completion of Piano Fundamentals with an 85% or placement test (final exam of Piano Fundamentals) and competency in reading music.

This course will cover music with shifting hand positions. Students learn to be technically proficient and have a more in-depth study of music and composers. Work in the second volume of Alfred's Adult Piano course eventually moves on to basic works by Bach, Mozart, and Beethoven. Additionally, students will learn how to read chord changes and basic comping techniques to accompany singers in contemporary radio music.

**822 Concert Band 8/8 – Advanced**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

1 credit

Concert Band is the primary instrumental ensemble open to all students with prior band experience. Music of various styles is performed, including classical, contemporary and popular as well as basic music theory. Students perform in two major concerts per year and perform at special functions. This class meets each day for the full year.

<b>832 Concert Band 4/8 – Advanced</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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This option meets 4 out of 8 cycle days for the full year by approval of director.

<b>886 Music Appreciation – Advanced</b>	<b>Semester</b>	<b>Grades, 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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The purpose of this course would be to increase students' musical awareness and give students the tools to actively listen to, discuss, and critique various styles of music. The course would focus on learning the basic elements of music: Melody, Rhythm, Harmony, Form, Texture, Tempo, and Dynamics. Using appropriate music vocabulary, students will study and discuss a variety of musical genres, including Classical, Jazz, Rock, Musicals, and World Music.

<b>891 Honors Jazz Band 8/8 – Honors</b>		<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
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Jazz Band is offered by **audition only** and accepts a limited number of students. A wide range of jazz styles are performed - from classics to contemporary. Members perform in two major concerts per year and go on music festival trips - including the Berklee College of Music High School Jazz Festival - and perform at special functions.

This class meets each day for the full year.

<b>894 Honors Jazz Band 4/8 – Honors</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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**Prerequisite:** Approval of director

This option meets 4 out of 8 cycle days for the full year by approval of director.

<b>872 Strings 8/8 – Advanced</b>		<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
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Strings is offered to students with prior orchestral experience who possess a skill level commensurate with high school performance expectations and the ability to work independently. Music of various styles, with a diverse sampling of classical, contemporary, sacred, secular and popular music is performed. Students participate in two major concerts per year as well as special functions. This class meets each day for the full year.

<b>862 Strings 4/8 – Advanced</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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This option meets 4 out of 8 cycle days for the full year by approval of director.

<b>882 Honors Music Theory – Honors</b>		<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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This course is an introduction to basic music theory fundamentals. Topics include, but are not limited to notation, scales, intervals, chords, melody writing, time, musical terms and score analysis. As time permits, composition, orchestration, aural studies and conducting will also be covered. This class meets each day for a full period, for one half of the year.

<b>880 AP Music Theory - Advanced Placement</b>		<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
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**Prerequisite:** An 80% or above on the Music Theory 882 final exam or a comparable level of theory knowledge to be determined by a placement exam.

AP Theory provides the advanced music student with an opportunity to explore music theory in greater detail, and establish a strong foundation for further musical endeavors. Topics to be covered include notation, rhythm and meter, scales, intervals, triads and seventh chords, and cadences, non-harmonic tones, melody, texture, voice leading, modulation, small forms analysis, score analysis, sight singing and ear training. While not necessary to participate in the course, the College Board AP exam will be offered upon completion.

<b>932 Introduction to Acting – Advanced</b>	<b>Semester 2 ONLY</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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Students will learn the basic concepts of acting. Students will study character analysis, monologues, and do scene work with other class members. Basic stage, rehearsal terms, theater etiquette, and the audition process will be covered in this class.

<b>962 Movement and Dance – Advanced</b>	<b>Semester 1 ONLY</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.5 credit</b>
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Designed for students of all levels of interest, ability, and training, the Movement and Dance class covers the Broadway, Lyric and Tap styles of dance. Classes will include a traditional Broadway warm-up such as floor work, turns, jumps and basic tap steps. This course will also focus on choreography and a final, non-public in-class performance is required.

## MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

The goals of the Mathematics Department are multi-faceted. On a very practical level, the goal in this college preparatory environment is to prepare all of our students to enter the college of their choice and be ready to step into the math course required for their discipline without being required to take non-credit prerequisites in college. The student, further, develops skills necessary to become life-long learners and productive citizens. In our information age, it is vital to master thinking skills to be able to evaluate information and to make right decisions. By improving critical thinking, problem solving skills, and using technology, the student gains more than an education in mathematical sciences; the student becomes better prepared for college and the world beyond.

Four credits in the study of math are required for graduation. All students will master basic Algebra and Geometry topics. In addition, the student has the opportunity to study advanced topics in math, including advanced Algebra, Trigonometry, Analytic Geometry, Probability and Statistics and Calculus. Technology and Data Analysis will be included in math courses throughout the math curriculum. Each student is required to have a Graphing Calculator for use in math classes at East Catholic High School. Continued use of technology will be part of all courses.

During course requests, students who wish to be considered for mathematical studies above the level recommended by the department must maintain an A average for the current year. Students who wish this consideration during the school year must maintain an A average and make effective contributions to the learning environment.

**211 Honors Algebra 1 – Honors**

Grade 9

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** A student will be placed in this course based on Entrance Exam scores, prior math grades, the math placement exam score (if taken), as well as teacher recommendations.

**NOTE:** Students wishing to take Algebra 1 and Geometry concurrently must demonstrate competency in Algebra 1 with a B or higher in their current Algebra 1 course, be placed in honors geometry at East Catholic, and have department approval. A placement test will be given in late May/early June of the year the student enters East Catholic.

This course uses advanced concepts and higher order thinking to solve problems. Students at this level are self-starters and take the initiative to make connections through the use of their textbook and the classroom. This course covers operations with polynomials, factoring, solving and graphing equations and the study of functions. Problem solving will be used throughout the course. Students are expected to have strong Pre-Algebra skills prior to taking this course. It is also appropriate for those who have taken Algebra 1 as eighth graders, but could benefit from additional and deeper study of Algebra 1 topics. Graphing calculator skills will also be taught. This course will also incorporate SAT preparation and basic statistical analysis.

212 Algebra 1 – Advanced

Grade 9

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** A student will be placed in this course based on Entrance Exam scores, prior math grades, and the math placement exam score (if taken).

This course is a guided course in Algebra I to further develop active learning skills. This course covers operations with polynomials, factoring, solving and graphing equations and the study of functions. Problem solving will be used throughout the course. Students are expected to have a working knowledge of Pre-Algebra skills prior to taking this course. It is also appropriate for those who have taken Algebra 1 as eighth graders, but could benefit from additional and deeper study of Algebra 1 topics. Graphing calculator skills will be taught. This course will also incorporate SAT preparation and basic statistical analysis.

**213 Algebra 1 - College Prep**

Grade 9

1 credit

**Prerequisite:** A student will be placed in this course based on Entrance Exam scores and prior math grades.

This course is a directed course developing algebraic reasoning through the use of note taking, organization, and study habits. This course covers operations with polynomials, factoring, solving and graphing equations and the study of functions. Problem solving will be used throughout the course. Pre-Algebra skills will be reinforced throughout the year. Graphing calculator skills will be taught. This course will also incorporate SAT preparation and basic statistical analysis

<b>221 Honors Geometry – Honors</b>	<b>Grade 9, 10</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> B+ or better in Honors Algebra 1 and/or department approval.		
<b>NOTE:</b> An entering 8 <sup>th</sup> grade student must demonstrate competency in Algebra 1 with a B or higher in their current Algebra 1 course and on the math placement test given in late May/early June of the year the student enters East Catholic.		
This course uses advanced concepts and higher order thinking to solve problems. Students at this level are self-starters and take the initiative to make connections through the use of their textbook and the classroom. This course approaches geometric theory and applications through the use of two-column and paragraph proofs, coordinate Geometry, spatial relationships, work with triangles and polygons, area and volume, as well as properties of circles. Projects and geometric constructions using a compass and straightedge are incorporated into the course. In addition to the continued use of technology, this course will incorporate SAT preparation and continued statistical analysis.		
<b>222 Geometry – Advanced</b>		
<b>Prerequisite:</b> C or better in Algebra 1 Advanced and/or department approval.		
<b>NOTE:</b> An entering 8 <sup>th</sup> grade student must demonstrate competency in Algebra 1 on the math placement test given in late May/early June of the year the student enters East Catholic.		
This course is a guided course in Algebra I to further develop active learning skills. This course approaches geometric theory and applications through the use of two-column and paragraph proofs, coordinate geometry, spatial relationships, work with triangles and polygons, area and volume, as well as properties of circles. Projects and geometric constructions using a compass and straightedge are incorporated into the course. In addition to the continued use of technology, this course will incorporate SAT preparation and continued statistical analysis.		
<b>223 Geometry - College Prep</b>		
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of Algebra 1 and/or department approval.		
This course is a directed course developing geometric reasoning through the use of note taking, organization, and study habits. This course approaches geometric theory and applications through the use of two-column and paragraph proofs, coordinate geometry, spatial relationships, work with triangles and polygons, area and volume, as well as properties of circles. Projects and geometric constructions using a compass and straightedge are incorporated into the course. In addition to the continued use of technology, this course will incorporate SAT preparation and continued statistical analysis.		
<b>231 Honors Algebra 2 – Honor</b>		
<b>Prerequisite:</b> B or better in Honors Algebra 1 and/or department approval.		
<b>NOTE:</b> A student must demonstrate competency in Algebra 1 and Geometry on the math		
This course uses advanced concepts and higher order thinking to solve problems. Students at this level are self-starters and take the initiative to make connections through the use of their textbook and the classroom. Topics will include inequalities, linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, logarithmic and exponential functions. In addition to the continued use of technology, this course will incorporate SAT preparation and a continued study of statistics.		
<b>232 Algebra 2 – Advanced</b>		
<b>Prerequisite:</b> C average or better in Algebra 1 Advanced and/or department approval.		
This course is a guided course in Algebra I to further develop active learning skills. Topics will include inequalities, linear, quadratic polynomial, rational, radical, logarithmic and exponential functions. In addition to the continued use of technology, this course will incorporate SAT preparation and a continued study of statistics.		
<b>233 Algebra 2 - College Prep</b>		
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of geometry and/or department approval.		

This course is a directed course developing algebraic reasoning through the use of note taking, organization, and study habits. Topics will include inequalities, linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, radical, logarithmic and exponential functions. Explicit review and relationships between previously learned topics will be used. In addition to the continued use of technology, this course will incorporate SAT preparation and a continued study of statistics.

**241 Honors Pre-Calculus – Honors**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** B+ or better in Honors Algebra 2 and/or department approval.

This course uses advanced concepts and higher order thinking to solve problems. Students at this level are self-starters and take the initiative to make connections through the use of their textbook and the classroom. It is intended to prepare the student to enter an honors level college calculus course, or AP calculus. Topics will include theory and applications of functions including polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic. A significant part of the year is devoted to the study of trigonometry. Continued use of technology will be part of this course.

**292 Pre-Calculus – Advanced**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** B- or better in Algebra 2 Advanced and/or department approval.

This course is a guided course in pre-calculus to further develop active learning skills. It is designed to prepare students for success in college calculus, with emphasis on theory. Topics will include advanced algebraic topics and a significant part of the year is devoted to the study of trigonometry. Continued use of technology will be part of this course.

**295 College Algebra – CP**

**Grade 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Algebra 2 and/or department approval.

This course is a directed course developing reasoning skills through the use of note taking, organization, and study habits. Topics will include advanced algebraic topics and a significant part of the year is devoted to the study of advanced Algebraic skills. Continued use of technology will be a part of this course.

**251 Calculus – Honors**

**Grade 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** B- or better in Honors Pre-Calculus, or a B or better in Advanced Pre-calculus, and/or department approval.

This introductory honors level calculus course will cover the basic concepts of limits, differentiation, and integration. In addition, students will study application topics of calculus such as related rates, optimization, area, and volume. This course is not intended as a preparation for the AP exam, rather an introduction to concepts and applications of Calculus to help prepare students who may be taking a calculus course in college.

**240 AP Calculus AB - Advanced Placement**

**Grade 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** A- or better in Honors Pre-Calculus and/or department approval.

AP Calculus AB is a comprehensive honors level calculus course which prepares students to take the Advanced Placement AB Calculus Exam, administered by The College Board. This course covers in depth differential and integral calculus as well as analytic geometry and limits. Applications of calculus as they relate to curve sketching, maximum and minimum problems, related rate problems, area, volume, surface area and arc length as well as other related topics are covered.

**250 UConn/AP Calculus BC – Calculus I & II**

**Dual Enrollment**

**Grade 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** A or better in Honors Pre-Calculus and/or department approval.

UConn/AP Calculus BC is a comprehensive honors level calculus course which prepares students to take the Advanced Placement BC Calculus Exam, administered by The College Board. In addition, students who enroll in the UConn ECE program may receive 8 credits from the University of Connecticut upon successful completion of two semesters of this course (Math 1131Q and 1132Q). Students must pass the first course of the sequence with a UConn score of "C" or higher in order to continue onto the second course. If a student fails to do so, then he or she is automatically dropped from the second course of the sequence and refunded any course fees paid. This course covers all of the topics of the AP Calculus

AB course as well as topics specific to the BC exam. Detailed treatment is given to the topics of: parametric, polar and vector functions and their derivatives, numerical differentials using Euler's Method, L'Hopital's Rule, applications of integrals, improper integrals, integration by multiple substitution methods including parts and simple partial fractions, and sequences and series including in depth work with power, Taylor and McLaurin series.

**235 Honors Probability and Statistics – Honors**

**Grade 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** B- or better in Honors Algebra 2 or a B+ or better in Advanced Algebra 2.

This is a statistics course for students who have demonstrated success in Algebra 2 and wish to continue exploring a large number of topics with the emphasis on “real world” applications. Numerous projects will be included throughout the course connecting the class to these applications. Topics include: displaying data, normal distribution, regression (both linear and non-linear), sampling and survey techniques, experimental design, identification of bias, probability and conditional probability, random variables, binomial distribution, geometric distribution, sampling distributions, confidence intervals, and inference tests. Students will be challenged through critical thinking exercises and participate in various group and individual activities that will enhance their mathematical reasoning ability and communication skills. Students will use technology on a daily basis.

**246 Probability and Statistics – Advanced**

**Grade 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** B- or better in Algebra 2 Advanced or Honors Algebra 2, or a B+ or better in Algebra 2 College Prep and/or department approval.

This is an introductory statistics course for students who have demonstrated success in Algebra 2 and wish to continue exploring a large range of topics with an emphasis on “real world” applications such as games of chance, random population, and actuarial science. Students will regularly apply tools of technology including the graphing calculator and computer to solve problems. They will be challenged through critical thinking exercises and participate in various group and individual activities that will enhance their mathematical reasoning ability and communication skills. Students are expected to use information and technology in various ways in real world applications.

**217 PLTW/AP Computer Science A – Advanced Placement**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Computer Applications and/or teacher recommendation and department chair approval.

Computer Science A introduces students to computer science through programming. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. Because the Java programming language is extensive, with far more features than could be covered in a single introductory course, the Computer Science A Exam covers a subset of Java. The framework also encourages instruction that prepares students for advanced computer science coursework and its integration into a wide array of STEM-related fields.

**219 PLTW/AP Computer Science Principles – Advanced Placement**

**Grade 10, 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Integrated Technology and/or teacher recommendation and department chair approval.

This is an introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also explain how computing innovations and computing systems—including the internet—work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical. This class may fulfill 1 credit toward Digital Technology or Mathematics elective.

## ECHS ONLINE PROGRAMS

Our online programs offer independent online course instruction for those juniors and seniors interested in exploring the field of business. The objectives of each elective are to expand the student's knowledge base so that they can make informed personal financial decisions and to inspire students to pursue higher educational studies with a focus on business and/or finance. NOTE: Students are responsible for the registration cost of each online course. This cost is added to tuition as a course fee. (Cost subject to change; current cost is \$350.00)

**974 Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance – Advanced Semester 1 ONLY Grade 11, 12 0.5 credit**  
Principles of Business, Marketing, and Finance provides students with the ability to achieve higher success in business. Students will learn how businesses begin, operate, produce, and grow successfully. Students also learn to predict and prepare for coming change in business enabling them to thrive in the workplace. Through this course, students will build a strong understanding of finance and marketing that will set them on a steady path of success in the business world and prepare them to gain further knowledge through the study of business related college majors and careers. This course provides electives credit only.

**967 Small Business Entrepreneur – Advanced Semester 2 ONLY Grade 11, 12 0.5 credit**  
Small Business Management provides students with the knowledge they need to improve their management skills, preparing them for further study in business related college majors and careers. Students will learn how to efficiently and effectively plan, organize, direct and control an organization in order to accomplish specific goals. They will learn how to design, produce, and market a product successfully. They will also learn how to evaluate their employees and themselves in order to continually improve and perfect their performance in the workplace. This course provides electives credit only

## ECHS BUSINESS COURSE

**972 Financial Literacy – Advanced Grade 12 0.5 credit**  
Equips students with essential knowledge and skills to manage personal finances effectively. It covers key topics such as budgeting, saving, investing, credit management, debt reduction, and retirement planning. Participants learn how to set financial goals, make informed financial decisions, and develop healthy financial habits to build long-term wealth. The course also explores concepts like interest rates, inflation, taxes, and risk management, ensuring learners understand how financial systems impact their daily lives.

**973 Financial Literacy – College Prep**  
Equips students with essential knowledge and skills to manage personal finances effectively. It covers key topics such as budgeting, saving, investing, credit management, debt reduction, and retirement planning. Participants learn how to set financial goals, make informed financial decisions, and develop healthy financial habits to build long-term wealth. The course also explores concepts like interest rates, inflation, taxes, and risk management, ensuring learners understand how financial systems impact their daily lives.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Physical Education class is structured around participation and preparation with each student expected to give full energy and effort into learning new skills. We expect them to use those new skills in a variety of team and or individual sports and leisure activities. Sportsmanship, fitness, wellness, teamwork, strategy, social skills and problem solving are all part of the PE program. PE also helps students understand the need for accepting individual differences and abilities. East Catholic's physical education program provides cognitive and affective content and learning experiences that promote optimum complete personal development. Physical Education classes provide fun and often new experiences and learning through physical activity, provided in a safe, supportive environment. Physical Education offers meaningful challenging learning for all students, and result in lifetime learning outcomes of skills, literacy, and ability to understand concepts and develop plans for lifetime physical activity and wellness. Physical education is one component in a coordinated approach to school health. "Sound body, sound mind." – it is part of education for the whole student.

All students are required to earn one total credit in Physical Education during their four years at East Catholic High School. Students may take more than one PE course and/or sport in an academic year. After fulfilling this graduation requirement, credits will not be awarded for participation in subsequent PE courses and/or sport. ***Students must complete the one credit PE requirement by the end of First Semester Senior Year.***

<b>913 Coed Physical Education</b>	<b>Per semester</b>	<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.25 credit</b>
<b>921 Fall Sport Physical Education</b>		<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.25 credit</b>
Students interested in taking a fall team sport must sign-up for one of the following: Football, B/G Cross-Country, B/G Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Girls Swimming, Field Hockey and Cheerleading. Credit awarded upon successful completion.			
<b>922 Winter Sport Physical Education</b>		<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.25 credit</b>
Students interested in taking a winter team sport must sign-up for one of the following: Wrestling, B/G Basketball, B/G Ice Hockey, B/G Indoor Track, Boys Swimming and Cheerleading. Credit awarded upon successful completion.			
<b>923 Spring Sport Physical Education</b>		<b>Grades 9, 10, 11</b>	<b>0.25 credit</b>
Students interested in taking a spring team sport must sign-up for one of the following: Baseball, Softball, B/G Lacrosse, B/G Outdoor Track, B/G Golf and B/G Tennis. Credit awarded upon successful completion.			
<b>928 Non-Traditional Sports PE</b>		<b>Grades 9, 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>0.25 credit</b>
Students may receive Physical Education credit for participating in nationally sanctioned sports not offered at East Catholic. Students must submit a proposal for consideration to their school counselor and receive approval. All proposals are due in early May for the upcoming school year. Credit awarded upon successful completion.			
<b>929 Physical Education Exempt</b>	<b>1 semester</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>0.25 credit</b>
Juniors and seniors may opt to participate in the President's Physical Fitness Challenge for one of their PE course credits. Those who meet or surpass the National Fitness Standards (50 <sup>th</sup> percentile) in: Mile, V sit, shuttle, sit-ups in one minute, pull-ups will earn "PE Exempt" and be awarded credit. The Fitness Challenge is administered in October and March for first and second semester, respectively.			

## **RELIGION DEPARTMENT**

The Religion Department is authentically Catholic and ecumenically welcoming. The primary courses taught are scripture, church history, sacraments, morality, social justice, world religions, and vocations. Our students learn the essential teachings of the Catholic faith and learn to appreciate the diversity of faiths that make up our global community with their study of religions of the world in the senior year. Students learn about the Catholic Tradition, engage in dialogue, and reflect on how it will impact their own lives. Students are empowered to share their own ideas and think critically about the concepts being taught.

An important part of East Catholic's mission is to support the religious formation of our students in their own parishes and congregations. Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is done in the local parish. Our program enhances student spiritual growth in the home and church.

### SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAM

Each year, students must complete a **minimum of 10 hours of service**-to successfully complete this graduation requirement. Students will also complete a service project each year in their religion class where they will reflect on their service. East Catholic has a number of formal relationships with local organizations where our students may fulfill their service-learning requirement. Campus Ministry will coordinate some service opportunities, approve service events and keep a record of these hours for each student.

#### **101 Honors Bible Survey – Honors**

**Grade 9**

**1 credit**

This rigorous course includes a study of the major themes found in the Old and New Testaments. The students use the Catholic Youth Bible and one textbook each to accompany their studies of both the Hebrew Scripture or Old Testament and the New Testament. Students begin to learn how to interpret the message of Sacred Scripture in light of modern biblical scholarship and the faith of the Church.

#### **102 Bible Survey – Advanced**

**Grade 9**

**1 credit**

This challenging course includes a study of the major themes found in the Old and New Testaments. The students use the Catholic Youth Bible and one textbook each to accompany their studies of both the Hebrew Scripture or Old Testament and the New Testament. Students begin to learn how to interpret the message of Sacred Scripture in light of modern biblical scholarship and the faith of the Church.

#### **103 Bible Survey - College Prep**

**Grade 9**

**1 credit**

This course includes a study of the major themes found in the Old and New Testaments. The students use the Catholic Youth Bible and one textbook each to accompany their studies of both the Hebrew Scripture or Old Testament and the New Testament. Students begin to learn how to interpret the message of Sacred Scripture in light of modern biblical scholarship and the faith of the Church.

#### **115 Honors Church and Sacraments – Honors**

**Grade 10**

**1 credit**

This rigorous course includes a thorough study of the Catholic Church from its conception to the present and into the future. We will highlight the importance and relevance of the Church's liturgical life. The second semester encompasses a study of the seven sacraments, both individually and as a whole. In addition, students will learn about how prayer is done vocally, meditatively and contemplatively.

#### **116 Church and Sacraments – Advanced**

**Grade 10**

**1 credit**

This challenging course includes a thorough study of the Catholic Church from its conception to the present and into the future. We will highlight the importance and relevance of the Church's liturgical life. The second semester encompasses a study of the seven sacraments, both individually and as a whole. In addition, students will learn about how prayer is done vocally, meditatively and contemplatively.

#### **117 Church and Sacraments - College Prep**

**Grade 10**

**1 credit**

This course studies the Catholic Church from its conception to the present and into the future. We will highlight the importance and relevance of the Church's liturgical life. The second semester encompasses a study of the seven sacraments,

both individually and as a whole. In addition, students will learn about how prayer is done vocally, meditatively and contemplatively.

**141 Honors Christian Ethics – Honors**

**Grade 11**

**1 credit**

This course rigorously examines Christian morality and the impact of modern society on faith and morality. This course seeks to connect the role of an individual conscience with the Church's larger mission in the modern world by emphasizing key themes from Scripture and the USCCB's document *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*. Topics covered are: conscience formation, morality's roots in scripture, the teachings of the Church on moral decision-making, and Catholic Social Teaching.

**142 Christian Ethics – Advanced**

**Grade 11**

**1 credit**

This course includes an in-depth examination of Christian morality and the impact of modern society on faith and morality. This course seeks to connect the role of an individual conscience with the Church's larger mission in the modern world by emphasizing key themes from Scripture and the USCCB's document *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*. Topics covered are: conscience formation, morality's roots in scripture, the teachings of the Church on moral decision-making, and Catholic Social Teaching.

**143 Christian Ethics - College Prep**

**Grade 11**

**1 credit**

This course includes an examination of Christian morality and the impact of modern society on faith and morality. This course seeks to connect the role of an individual conscience with the Church's larger mission in the modern world by emphasizing key themes from Scripture and the USCCB's document *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*. Topics covered are: conscience formation, morality's roots in scripture, the teachings of the Church on moral decision-making, and Catholic Social Teaching.

**151 The Call of Faith – Honors**

**Grade 12**

**1 credit**

This rigorous course broadens the students perspective of religious experience in the world by examining non-Catholic Christianity as well as a variety of religions including Judaism, Islam, and some of the Eastern religions. Students complete the year by examining the process of discerning their own vocation now and for the future as a call from God to lovingly serve the needs of our world according to their gifts and talents.

**152 The Call of Faith – Advanced**

**Grade 12**

**1 credit**

This challenging course broadens the students perspective of religious experience in the world by examining non-Catholic Christianity as well as a variety of religions including Judaism, Islam, and some of the Eastern religions. Students complete the year by examining the process of discerning their own vocation now and for the future as a call from God to lovingly serve the needs of our world according to their gifts and talents.

**153 The Call of Faith - College Prep**

**Grade 12**

**1 credit**

This course broadens the students perspective of religious experience in the world by examining non-Catholic Christianity as well as a variety of religions including Judaism, Islam, and some of the Eastern religions. Students complete the year by examining the process of discerning their own vocation now and for the future as a call from God to lovingly serve the needs of our world according to their gifts and talents.

## **SCIENCE DEPARTMENT**

All science courses at East Catholic High School stress scientific literacy, acquisition of content knowledge, development of laboratory skills, and development of a positive attitude toward science. The Science Department employs a hands-on, activity-based curriculum emphasizing problem solving, critical thinking, and inquiry-based learning. Innovative use of technology continues throughout the science program.

Three credits of science are required for graduation from East Catholic High School, including Biology and another laboratory course. Most colleges require *at least* two years of laboratory science (Biology/Chemistry/Physics); more competitive colleges generally require a 3-to-4 year program, which includes all three of the lab sciences. Elective courses include: Human Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Science, Earth Science, AP Biology and AP Chemistry, UConn Physics, Forensic Science and Engineering. Students may begin their science curriculum study in either the ninth or tenth grade.

**650 AP Biology - Advanced Placement****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Biology and Chemistry (One of the two must have been taken at Honors level.) Application process required.

AP Biology is a college-level course that explores molecular, cell, and organismal biology, heredity, evolution, and ecology. This course requires that students invest out-of-class time in addition to the regular class schedule. Eight in-depth Advanced Placement laboratories will be completed as part of the curriculum. This course prepares a student to take the Advanced Placement Biology Test.

**621 Honors Biology – Honors****Grades 9, 10****1 credit**

Biology acquaints the student with the fundamental concepts and principles of living organisms. This rigorous course explores ecology, cell biology, bioenergetics, molecular biology, the history of life, genetics and organismal biology. Through laboratory experiences, independent project work, and class investigations, Biology is taught as a way of critical thinking and a method of seeking answers. This is a required subject generally taken either freshman or sophomore year. This course can prepare a student to take the SAT II Subject Test in Biology.

**622 Biology – Advanced****Grades 9, 10****1 credit**

Biology acquaints the student with the fundamental concepts and principles of living organisms. This challenging course explores ecology, cell biology, bioenergetics, molecular biology, the history of life, genetics and organismal biology. Through laboratory experiences, project work, and classroom demonstrations, Biology is taught as a way of thinking and a method of seeking answers. This is a required subject generally taken either freshman or sophomore year.

**623 Biology - College Prep****Grades 9, 10****1 credit**

Biology acquaints the student with the fundamental concepts and principles of living organisms. This basic course explores ecology, cell biology, bioenergetics, molecular biology, the history of life, genetics and biological organisms. Through laboratory experiences, classroom assignments and project work, Biology is taught as a way of thinking and a method of seeking answers. This is a required subject generally taken either freshman or sophomore year.

**625 Health and Wellness****Grade 10****0.50 credit**

Health is a one-semester course that is required of all students before graduation. This course will provide students with an understanding of behaviors that promote lifelong health and wellness. Emphasis will be placed on making safe and healthy choices, forming healthy relationships, mental and emotional health, nutrition, and physical health and fitness.

**630 AP Chemistry - Advanced Placement****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of chemistry and Algebra 2 (one of which must have been taken at the Honors level) or by permission of the instructor. Application process required.

AP Chemistry is a college general chemistry course. Topics such as the structure of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, and the basic concepts of thermodynamics are studied in considerable depth. This course requires that students invest considerable time outside the class in order to complete chemical calculations, mathematical

formulation of principles and laboratory work. This course prepares a student to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry test.

**631 Honors Chemistry – Honors****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

Honors Chemistry is a rigorous and challenging course with the objective of providing learners with the opportunity to explore basic chemical principles that will prepare them for any college chemistry program. A thematic approach to the discipline contributes to students' comprehension of fundamental chemical processes, ability to integrate facts with concepts, and appreciation of how scientists work. Logical thinking, problem solving skills, critical thinking, and hands-on labs are major areas of interest. Chemistry explores atomic theory, periodic trends, bonding, chemical formulas, molecular structure, qualitative and quantitative studies of chemical reactions (including basic chemical reactions and stoichiometry), states of matter, kinetic theory of gases, basics on thermo-chemistry and an introduction to acid-base theory.

**632 Chemistry – Advanced****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

Advanced Chemistry is a challenging course in which students will be exposed to the fundamentals of basic chemistry. A thematic approach contributes to students' comprehension of fundamental chemistry processes, ability to integrate facts with concepts, and appreciation of how scientists work. Logical thinking, problem solving skills, critical thinking, and hands-on labs are major areas of interest. Chemistry explores atomic theory, periodic trends, bonding, chemical formulas, molecular structure, qualitative and quantitative studies of chemical reactions (including basic chemical reactions and stoichiometry), states of matter, kinetic molecular theory of gases, basics of thermo-chemistry, and an introduction to acid-base theory.

**633 Chemistry - College Prep****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

In this fundamental college preparatory course, students will learn about the basics of chemistry and the applications of chemistry to everyday life. Projects, assignments, essays, demonstrations, and laboratory experiments are used to study chemistry qualitatively and to learn about basic chemistry problems. College Prep Chemistry explores topics such as atomic theory, periodic trends, bonding, chemical formulas and equations, chemical reactions, states of matter, and basic organic chemistry.

**641 Honors Physics – Honors****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors Algebra 1 or by permission of the instructor.

Honors Physics is the study of the physical nature of the universe and of the interrelationships between matter and energy. This course is an introductory survey of physics, covering topics such as: Newton's laws of motion, conservation of energy, heat, wave phenomena, and electricity. It is taught with a significant emphasis on understanding the basic mathematics behind the physics concepts. Included are laboratory activities designed to show direct connections between theory and real-life experiences.

**642 Physics – Advanced****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Advanced Algebra 1 or by permission of the instructor.

Advanced Physics is the study of the physical nature of the universe and of the interrelationships between matter and energy. This course is an introductory survey of physics, covering topics such as Newton's laws of motion, conservation of energy, heat, wave phenomena, and electricity. It is taught using a conceptual approach but also includes understanding some of the basic mathematics used in the study of physics. Included are laboratory activities designed to show direct connections between theory and real-life experiences.

**640 AP Environmental Science – Advanced Placement****Grade 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Biology and Chemistry

AP Environmental Science is a one-year, science elective in which land, water, and air pollution are investigated, and ideas for sustainable living are explored. The course examines modern resource allocation issues, scientific and technological solutions, individual impact, and governmental control. The course requires students to identify natural and human-made problems, and examine preventative methods. Laboratory activities are incorporated into the curriculum, as appropriate, to reinforce and expand upon regular classroom work.

<b>652 Human Anatomy and Physiology - Advanced</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of both Chemistry and Advanced Biology.		

Human Anatomy and Physiology is a one-year science elective. It is a demanding course that explores the anatomical and physiological aspects of the eleven body systems from chemical, cellular, systemic, and organismal levels. Students should come away from this course with an understanding of how each of the body systems functions to maintain life. They will also acquire knowledge about homeostatic imbalances leading to various disorders and diseases, and about allied health fields and new advances in medical sciences. Student performance will be assessed through examinations, projects, and class presentations. Activities are incorporated into the curriculum, as appropriate, in order to reinforce and expand upon regular classroom work.

<b>654 Botany and Oceanography - Advanced</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of both Chemistry and Advanced Biology.		

Botany: the study of plants, beginning with the microscopic structure and function of the anatomy of plants, continuing with the different types of plants both locally and globally, dichotomous keys and identification of plants, cultural and medicinal uses of plants, and continuing on to the overall importance of plants to all life on earth. Part focus would be on the Northeast, New England, and CT. This course would be mainly activity and project based, with field work and/or field trips, culminating with a project as a final assessment (see attached). Botany would be taught the first semester of the year.

Oceanology: the study of the ocean and its relationship to earth and life. Scientific areas such as the physical, chemical, biological, and geological properties and characteristics of all world oceans would be covered. Specific areas would be but are not limited to the chemistry of ocean water, the physics of wave patterns and tides, seafloor geology and topography, and marine biology. Part focus would be on New England, the CT shoreline and Long Island Sound. This course would be mainly activity and project based, with field work and/or field trips, culminating with a project as a final assessment. Oceanology would be taught the second semester of the year.

<b>661 Honors Forensic Science – Honors</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Biology and Chemistry (At least one of the two must have been taken at Honors level.)		

Honors Forensic Science is a challenging course designed to expose students to both chemical and biological analysis of evidence at a crime scene. Students will explore topics such as fingerprinting, DNA analysis, blood typing and spattering, trajectories, comparative anatomy, and chemical analysis of drugs, poisons, and trace evidence. Students learn about careers associated with Forensic Science and play mock roles as experts in the field to solve crimes. Laboratory activities are incorporated into the curriculum in order to reinforce and expand upon regular classroom work.

<b>671 Engineering Principles (PLTW course) – Honors</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Honors Chemistry and concurrent enrollment in an Honors or AP-level mathematics course or by permission of the instructor.		

Honors engineering is designed to introduce students to basic tools of engineering, including the Engineering Design Process; mathematical processes such as estimation, evaluation of units, dimensional analysis, and statistics; Excel spreadsheet software (various functions, graphs, trend lines, and mathematical models); programming, including learning how to write algorithms; and an introduction to the MATLAB science and engineering software. This course will include project work for which students will design, build and test a product or device so as to satisfy a societal need or to solve a technically oriented problem.

<b>682 Engineering – Advanced</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Algebra 2 or concurrent enrollment in Algebra 2.		

Engineering will introduce students to the engineering profession and what it means to work as an engineer. The course will include: the role that engineering has had in everyday life; the Engineering Design Process; problem-solving; the

application of scientific principles and mathematics to engineering design; project management; collaboration and teamwork; and engineering documentation. Project-related work will be included.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT**

The East Catholic High School Social Studies Department provides our students with a broad spectrum of social studies offerings affording them the opportunity to meet the goals of becoming lifelong learners and responsible citizens. Following the scope and sequence of social studies offerings recommended by the State of Connecticut, East Catholic students are encouraged to take World Civilizations in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, the continuation of World Civilizations/Civics in 10<sup>th</sup> grade and United States History in 11<sup>th</sup> grade with social studies electives in 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Advanced Placement courses are offered in United States History and Modern European History. European History is also offered for credit from the University of Connecticut. Students wishing to be considered for placement in Advance Placement United States History or Honors United States History are required to take World Civilizations/Civics in sophomore year.

**501 Honors World Civilizations – Honors****Grade 9****1 credit**

In Honors World Civilizations, students investigate world history from its beginnings up to the period of the Enlightenment. They develop a framework for their study, analyze human actions and seek to answer the questions of how humans relate to each other and their environment over time. Students engage in challenging reading and compare, in writing, civilizations based on common characteristics. Primary document sources and web sources are additional focuses. Incoming freshmen who have demonstrated superior reading and writing skills are recommended for this course.

**502 World Civilizations – Advanced****Grade 9****1 credit**

In World Civilizations students will immerse themselves in the narrative of world of history from its beginning to the period of The Enlightenment. Students are encouraged to apply this knowledge of history in a variety of skills based activities, which focus on causation, change over time, point of view and the analysis of primary source documents. Students will research historical sources in order to create explanations for the actions of humans in their environment. Incoming freshmen who have demonstrated the desire to master the knowledge and comprehension of historical concepts are encouraged to enroll in this course.

**503 World Civilizations - College Prep****Grade 9****1 credit**

In World Civilizations, these students will examine the narrative of world history from its beginning to the period of The Enlightenment. Students are exposed to the components of geography, study skills, chronology, and primary source documents in the historical narrative. Their discovery of human actions over time will provide a basis for future historical investigation. Incoming freshmen who have demonstrated the desire to identify and discuss the course of human activities in history are encouraged to enroll in this course.

**535 Honors Modern World Civilizations – Honors****Grade 10****0.5 credit**

In Honors Modern World Civilizations, students resume this narrative at the Age of Enlightenment and follow it through to contemporary times. During the semester, we will continue to make connections with recent past events and trace their impact on today. Sophomores who have demonstrated a mastery of the narrative, analysis and evaluation of the content of World Civilizations are recommended for this continuation course.

**536 Modern World Civilizations – Advanced****Grade 10****0.5 credit**

In Modern World Civilizations, students resume this narrative after The Enlightenment and follow it through to contemporary times. During the semester, we will continue to make connections with recent past events and trace their impact on today. Sophomores who have demonstrated a desire to continue the discussion of the narrative and analysis of the content of World Civilizations are recommended for this continuation course.

**537 Modern World Civilizations - College Prep****Grade 10****0.5 credit**

In Modern World Civilizations, students examine the narrative of history from The Enlightenment to contemporary times. During the semester, we will continue to make connections with recent past events and trace their impact on today. Sophomores who wish to continue to challenge themselves and to strengthen their historical reading and writing skills are recommended for this continuation course.

**545 Honors Civics – Honors****Grade 10****0.5 credit**

In Honors Civics, students are challenged to evaluate the foundations of the United States' government and to apply their formulations to the concept of citizenship. They are exposed to extensive text and supplementary readings. Analysis of

primary source documentation and integration of research into composition enables these students to formulate roles as citizens of the world and the United States.

**546 Civics – Advanced****Grade 10****0.5 credit**

In this Civics course, students are challenged to master the foundations of the United States' government and to apply their formulations to the concept of citizenship. Students will explain and compare modern societies and the foundations of the United States government in writing, oral presentations and demonstrations. They will prepare themselves to be citizens of the world and the United States.

**547 Civics - College Prep****Grade 10****0.5 credit**

In this Civics course, students are immersed in the language of the United States Constitution and citizenship as they seek to learn their roles as citizens. The students research, write and engage in discussion. They seek to summarize their knowledge base and to extend it to practical solutions to problems that they face in their world and their environment

**520 AP United States History - Advanced Placement****Grade 11****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Modern World Civilizations/Civics or concurrent enrollment in Civics. Application process required.

Students will develop “History’s Habits of the Mind” while probing United States History from the period of colonization and the founding of the Republic to contemporary times. Over this time period, students will study political institutions, social and cultural developments, diplomacy, and economic trends in the United States. Students who have demonstrated exceptional skills in writing, researching, and analyzing primary and secondary resources in the field of history are recommended for this course. Consideration for acceptance into AP United States History will be given to those students who have demonstrated superior analytical and writing skills in Modern World Civilizations/Civics and have been recommended by their teacher.

**531 Honors United States History – Honors****Grade 11****1 credit**

In Honors United States History, students examine the settlement, growth and development of the United States from exploration of the continent through the present. The course explores the influence of European, American and African cultures on the foundation of the New Nation and the “American Journey” of the next 200+ years. Students read and analyze primary and secondary source documents, artwork and artifacts to enrich their understanding of America’s history. Research projects allow students the opportunity to study areas of interest in greater depth. Students who have demonstrated expertise in the field of history and outstanding critical thinking skills are recommended for this course.

**532 United States History – Advanced****Grade 11****1 credit**

In United States History, students in this course examine the history of the United States in a survey beginning with the exploration of the continent and ending with the present day. Students develop their critical and analytical thinking skills along with historical writing. Comprehensive reading of the text and primary source material is the foundation for this development. Ultimately, students should attain a broad knowledge of American life and the elements that define the American character. Students who have demonstrated competency in the skill set of the historian are recommended for this course.

**533 United States History - College Prep****Grade 11****1 credit**

In United States History, students in this course study the survey of United States history from colonization to the modern era. Students work to improve their historical aptitude by identifying main ideas, finding facts, understanding chronology, and separating historical truths from editorials. To achieve this development, students analyze the text, primary source material, maps, photographs and political cartoons. Students who possess a basic skill set and wish to advance their level of proficiency in the field of history are recommended for this course.

**539 AP European History – Modern Western Traditions****Grade 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Application process required.

This course presents in-depth coverage of European history from 1450 to the present using political, social, economic, cultural and intellectual themes. Course activities and assignments focus on primary document analysis and discussion, document based questions, thematic essay writing, simulations, and research projects.

**541 Honors Economics – Honors****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

In Honors Economics, students who have demonstrated superior analytical skills and a desire to utilize those skills in an in depth analysis of micro and macroeconomics and the financial markets are encouraged to enroll in this course. Students will examine the role of the consumer in the free market economy, the fundamental principles underlying the free market economic system, the role that the federal government's monetary and fiscal policies play in the economy, current economic issues and controversies and the role of the United States economy in an era of global economic interdependence. Students will apply their analytical, research and writing skills through participation in The Stock Market Game.

**583 Current Events/ Geography - College Prep****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

Students will identify, research and present current events on international, national, state and local levels. This course is designed to incorporate current events in the study of geography. They will study key issues and geographical factors which helped to shape these events. Students will study the five themes of geography as they pertain to different locations discussed in the course of exploring current events. They will study people, places and environments from a physical and cultural perspective. Students will gain an appreciation and understanding of the interdependent world in which they live. In the process, they will develop information literacy, media literacy, critical thinking and effective communication skills.

**584 20<sup>th</sup> Century Military History – Advanced****Grade 12****1 credit**

This course will focus on US Military operations, ranging from the turn of the century through today's military engagements. Important developments in military theory and practice are addressed with emphasis on particularly significant battles and commanders. Additionally, the impact of warfare on culture, social institutions and international relations will be explored. Moral and ethical questions raised by violent conflict and the socio-political costs associated with the conduct of war will be examined.

**542 American Law – Advanced****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

The American Law course is designed for students interested in learning about the origins and practices of the American Jurisprudence system, the foundations of Anglo-American Law and topical studies in the contemporary legal world, including how the United States legal system fits in the Global environment. Students are challenged by the narrative of legal history, document analysis, and by application of legal knowledge to real world situations. Students will be required to create and participate in a media production that reflects issues presented in their studies.

**566 Social Psychology – Advanced****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

Social Psychology is the scientific study of how people think about, influence and relate to one another. Students will be asked to draw inferences from social psychological principles and apply them to different situations. In addition, they will compare and contrast social psychological studies and be able to express their analysis in a well-written manner. During the course of the year, students will be challenged to explore their study of human actions in, interactions with, and reactions to the modern world. Students, who demonstrate a desire to strengthen their ability to collect, interpret, analyze and summarize data in connection with social psychological research, are encouraged to enroll in this course.

**550 UConn/ECE Contemporary Issues in Sport****Grade 12****1 credit**

Socio-cultural, economic, political, and other related issues in sport. Sport as a social institution, the impact of sport in American culture, and the impact of American culture on sport. Sport at the youth, intercollegiate, professional, and international levels; how sport at these levels is experienced differently by individuals, communities, organizations, and society. Issues in sport relative to gender, race (ethnicity), differing physical and intellectual ability, sexual identity, and gender identity.

Contemporary Issues in Sport is a UCONN course being taught at East Catholic in which students can earn college credit upon successful completion of the course. The class requires two six-page position papers and graded class discussion

throughout the course of the year. Students must obtain approval to take the course from the Social Studies Department Chair through application.

# WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

The World Language Department strives to increase awareness of and respect for diversity through language study. In addition to developing communication skills, students gain greater understanding of the lifestyles and contributions of other cultures. Language students at East Catholic sharpen their critical thinking skills through analysis and comparisons drawn between their own language(s) and the language they study. The department encourages students to become proficient in a language for its own intrinsic value, to become more generous and thoughtful citizens in our global world, and to enhance one's marketability in a global society.

Course offerings include a Latin 1-4 sequence and a French and Spanish 1-5/AP sequence which accommodates middle school students who have already successfully completed one year of language study. Students who have successfully completed one year of language content and who want pass into the second year of the language at East must take a placement test in the spring of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year. East Catholic students must study the same language for a minimum of three years to fulfill graduation requirements.

411 Honors Spanish 1 – Honors

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**      **1 credit**

This is a rigorous introductory course emphasizing speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing skills in Spanish. Essential and basic grammar, thematic vocabulary, geography and culture are included in the first year of study. Additional vocabulary and supplementary materials are included to enhance student learning. We work diligently to create maximum immersion into Spanish in this course.

## **412 Spanish 1 – Advanced**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

This is an advanced introductory course emphasizing speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing skills in Spanish. Essential and basic grammar, thematic vocabulary, geography and culture are included in the first year of study. Additional vocabulary and supplementary materials are included to enhance student learning.

**413 Spanish 1 – College Prep**

**Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**      **1 credit**

This is an introductory course emphasizing speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing skills in Spanish. Essential and basic grammar, thematic vocabulary, geography and culture are included in the first year of study. Additional vocabulary and supplementary materials are included to enhance student learning.

**425 Spanish 2 for Heritage/Native Speakers – Advanced**

Grades 9, 10

1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Placement test, interview and/or Department Chair approval.

This course is designed for heritage speakers of Spanish who already possess a medium to high level of oral proficiency in Spanish. Utilizing various authentic material, students will have opportunities to maintain, strengthen and fine tune their spoken language skills. They will also further examine essential grammatical concepts to refine their writing abilities in Spanish, and gain a deeper knowledge of and appreciation for the diversity across the Spanish-speaking world.

## **421 Honors Spanish 2 – Honors**

## **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

**1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation/result of placement test.

Honors Spanish 2 is a continuation of Honors Spanish 1. Students will continue to grow their Spanish skills with more speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing through practice and study. More advanced grammar, thematic vocabulary, and the students' ability to communicate in the target language are emphasized at a rigorous pace. Culture elements will be examined. We will work diligently to create maximum immersion into Spanish in our class.

422 Spanish 2 – Advanced

## **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12**

1 credit

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation/result of placement test.

Advanced Spanish 2 is a continuation of Advanced Spanish 1. Students will continue to grow their Spanish skills with more speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing through practice and study. Past tense grammar, other essential grammar, thematic vocabulary, and the students' ability to communicate in the target language are emphasized. Culture elements will be examined. We will work diligently to create immersion into Spanish in our class.

<b>423 Spanish 2 – College Prep</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Department recommendation		

College Preparatory Spanish 2 is a continuation of College Preparatory Spanish 1. Students will continue to grow their Spanish skills with more speaking, listening comprehension, reading and writing through practice and study. Essential past tense grammar, review grammar content, thematic vocabulary, and the students' ability to communicate in the target language are emphasized. Culture elements will be examined. We will work diligently to create opportunities for immersion into Spanish in our class.

<b>431 Honors Spanish 3 – Honors</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Department recommendation.		

This class is a continuation of Spanish 421. Honors Spanish 3 will emphasize speaking, writing, listening comprehension, and reading skills in Spanish. More advanced grammar, thematic vocabulary, and the students' ability to communicate in Spanish will be emphasized. Geography and culture elements will continue to be included as students deepen their understanding of life in diverse locations of the Spanish speaking world. We will work diligently to create maximum immersion into Spanish in our class.

<b>432 Spanish 3 – Advanced</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Department recommendation		

This course is a continuation of Spanish 422. Advanced Spanish 3 will emphasize speaking, writing, listening comprehension, and reading skills in Spanish. More advanced grammar, thematic vocabulary, and the students' ability to communicate in Spanish will be emphasized. Geography and culture elements will continue to be included as students deepen their understanding of life in diverse locations of the Spanish speaking world. We will work diligently to create immersion into Spanish in our class.

<b>433 Spanish 3 – College Prep</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Department recommendation.		

This course is a continuation of Spanish 423. The skills emphasized are speaking, listening comprehension, writing and reading in Spanish. Thematic vocabulary, grammar and readings are included. Everyday use of the target language illustrates the students' ability to use Spanish. Geography and culture continue to be incorporated. We will work diligently to create many opportunities for immersion into Spanish in our class.

<b>441 Honors Spanish 4 – Honors</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of Honors Spanish III (431) and department recommendation.		

This course is conducted exclusively in Spanish. This includes examination of multiple literary genres from many locations across the Spanish speaking world and a thorough review of the grammar learned in the first three years of the language. Students are required to read, write and speak extensively in Spanish for this course.

<b>442 Spanish 4 – Advanced</b>	<b>Grades 10, 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of Spanish 3 (431/432) and department recommendation		

This full year course continues to strengthen the spoken Spanish skills and grammar skills learned in the first three years language study. It contains excerpts of literature from many Spanish speaking countries. All students are required to read, write and speak in Spanish. The course is conducted in Spanish with a few exceptions for grammar review items.

<b>450 AP Spanish – Advanced Placement</b>	<b>Grades 11, 12</b>	<b>1 credit</b>
<b>Prerequisite:</b> Successful completion of Honors Spanish 4 (441) and department recommendation.		

The AP Spanish Language and Culture welcomes highly motivated students with a desire to master the Spanish Language. Instruction is conducted entirely in Spanish, and students are expected to participate in class entirely in Spanish. Students read, discuss, review, watch and write about various authentic Spanish materials from diverse places across the Spanish speaking world. Some examples include newspaper articles, online magazines, short stories, poems, audio and video materials and pieces of literature. While this is not a grammar centered course, we will have occasion to review multiple grammar concepts which may be worthy of reviewing.

**311 Honors Latin 1 – Honors****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

Honors Latin 1 is an introductory course that emphasizes listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills through a proficiency-based approach. Students will read, write, and speak about the modern world and the ancient Roman worlds through adapted stories in Latin. Students will deepen their understanding of the English language by studying Latin grammatical structures, vocabulary, and roots. Students enrolled in this class either show an outstanding ability in language arts or could have had Latin regularly before in middle school and demonstrate a high level of mastery. Students will move at a more rapid pace than in other Latin 1 courses.

**312 Latin 1 – Advanced****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

The objective of Latin 1 is to introduce students to the basics of the Latin language. Students will acquire vocabulary and grammatical structures to enable them to read, write, and speak about the ancient and modern worlds through adapted stories in Latin. By studying the fundamentals of Latin structures, vocabulary, and roots, they will also deepen their grasp of the English language.

**321 Honors Latin 2 – Honors****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation

Honors Latin 2 builds on the vocabulary and grammar learned in its prerequisite Latin 1 with exposure to the more advanced syntax used by classical authors. It is open by teacher recommendation. Students will intensify their concentration on reading, translation, and composition skills.

**322 Latin 2 – Advanced****Grades 9, 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

Latin 2 is the continuation of Latin 1. The goal of this class is to increase the student's proficiency in the areas of listening, reading, writing, and speaking Latin. Students will continue to learn about the ancient world of the Romans and Greeks as well as the modern world by reading adapted Latin passages.

**335 Latin 3 - Honors**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

The goal is to increase one's knowledge of Latin high frequency vocabulary. Students will be expected to show greater proficiency in the four areas of listening, reading, writing, and speaking Latin. Students will also deepen their knowledge of the ancient Roman and Greek worlds by reading adapted Latin passages from ancient authors.

**334 Latin 3 – Advanced****Grades 10, 11, and 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

This course is the continuation of Latin 2. The goal is to increase one's knowledge of Latin high frequency vocabulary. Students will be expected to show greater proficiency in the four areas of listening, reading, writing, and speaking Latin. Students will also deepen their knowledge of the ancient Roman and Greek worlds by reading adapted Latin passages from ancient authors.

**336 UConn Latin 4 – ECE****Grades 10, 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

UConn Latin 4 is open by teacher recommendation to those students who have performed well in its prerequisite, Latin 2. It explores the genres of prose (history, oratory, philosophy, and natural science) and of poetry (drama, epic, lyric, and epigram). The focus is no longer on reading edited versions of myths and stories but rather on recognizing the vocabulary, style, and syntax of actual Latin writers and translating selections of their works.

**341 Honors French 1 – Honors** **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12** **1 credit**

Honors French 1 is an introductory course emphasizing listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills through a proficiency-based approach. Elementary grammar, thematic vocabulary, geography and culture are included in the first year of study. Emphasis is placed in the students' ability to use and understand French in everyday situations.

**342 French 1 – Advanced** **Grades 9, 10** **1 credit**

The objective of this course is to develop oral and written communication skills in French. Through reading, listening, speaking and writing activities, beginner students will lay their foundation to progress in their study of a World Language. Students will learn conjugations of regular and irregular verbs while basic thematic vocabulary will allow students to comprehend and express ideas from everyday situation in French. Reading selections and project activities will expose students to different cultures of the francophone world

**351 Honors French 2 – Honors** **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation

Honors French 2 continues to develop receptive and productive skills. Students gain proficiency, learn to express themselves more fully and gain awareness of the accomplishments of the francophone cultures. Students will improve aural comprehension skills; express themselves in the oral and written French, using vocabulary and structure suitable to the level; acquire reading comprehension skills and gain knowledge of the geography and cultures of francophone countries.

**352 French 2 – Advanced** **Grades 9, 10, 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation

Advanced French 2 builds on the receptive and productive skills acquired in French 1. Students gain proficiency, learn to express themselves more fully in oral and written French using vocabulary and structure suitable to the level. Different written and audio materials are also used to increase reading and listening comprehension skills. Students gain knowledge of the geography and cultures of francophone countries.

**354 Honors French 3 – Honors** **Grades 10, 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

Honors French 3 continues the communicative approach of the two preceding programs. More advanced grammar and acquisition of vocabulary allow for greater ease in understanding and using the spoken and written word. Supplementary readings are introduced for more intensive study and enjoyment. Students are encouraged to use French as much as possible.

**353 French 3 – Advanced** **Grades 10, 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

French 3 continues the communicative approach of the two preceding programs. More advanced grammar and acquisition of vocabulary allow for greater ease in understanding and using the spoken and written word. Supplementary readings are introduced for more intensive study and enjoyment. Students are encouraged to use French as much as possible.

**365 Honors French 4 – Honors** **Grades 11, 12** **1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Department recommendation.

Honors French 4 continues the development and refinement of communication skills and is conducted in French. Advanced structure, contemporary themes, cultural readings, and selected literary pieces are integrated through a conversational approach. Oral and written reports/research are an integral part of the course.

**380 AP French –Advanced Placement****Grades 11, 12****1 credit**

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of Honors French 4 or an A+ average in Honors French 3 and department recommendation.

The AP® French Language and Culture course is an advanced language course in which students are directly prepared for the AP® French Language and Culture test. It uses as its foundation the three modes of communication: interpersonal, interpretive and presentational. The course is conducted exclusively in French. Explanations on specific advanced grammar topics are given in English outside of class only or with the help of tutorial videos. The course content being based on the six themes required by the College Board, students explore culture in both contemporary and historical contexts to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural products, practices and perspectives. Students should expect to listen to, read and understand a wide-variety of authentic French language materials and sources, demonstrate proficiency in interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational communication using French, gain knowledge and understanding of the cultures of the Francophone world, use French to connect with other disciplines and expand knowledge in a wide-variety of contexts, develop insight into the nature of the French language and its culture, and use French to participate in communities at home and around the world. A successful student in this course is encouraged, but not required, to take the Advanced Placement exam in May.

## **PROFILE OF AN EAST CATHOLIC GRADUATE**

During their four years at East Catholic High School, students begin to acquire the knowledge, skills, and behaviors necessary to become responsible adults formed by Catholic tradition and values. By the time of graduation, an East Catholic senior:

- Has learned to live according to Gospel values. The East Catholic graduate will have attained an intellectual grasp of the teachings of the Catholic Faith, and will be in the process of developing a personal devotion to prayer, and a commitment to helping those in need. He or she will learn to define success more in terms of integrity, self-discipline, and service to others than of personal gain.
- Has learned what it means to be a contributing member of society, a good citizen of his or her country and of the world community. He or she will be developing an appreciation of cultural differences and respect for all people as children of God.
- Has learned to use effective communication skills. The East Catholic graduate will have had practice in reading, writing, listening and speaking effectively for a variety of audiences, in a number of different situations, and through both print and electronic media.
- Has developed an awareness of how to use technology in an efficient and morally responsible way.
- Has come to value the Earth as part of God's living creation and to realize the necessity of stewardship of natural resources.
- Has begun to recognize and work to develop his or her own talents and to appreciate the talents of others.
- Has developed the ability to solve problems effectively. The East Catholic graduate will have learned to analyze a problem, examine the options, and work toward a logical, practical, and ethical solution.
- Has prepared to engage in life-long learning and critical thinking. The East Catholic graduate will have learned the skills requisite for acquiring, assessing, and integrating information, and will have come to recognize the way in which he or she learns best and to experience the joys of learning.