

# Freshman Course of Studies 2022-23



## MISSION STATEMENT

*Under the patronage of Mary, Notre Dame College Prep is a secondary school committed to educating young men to be gentlemen of faith, scholarship, and service in an inclusive, family-oriented community. Faithful to the Roman Catholic tradition and inspired by Gospel values, we prepare students to be lifelong learners and to lead lives of integrity.*

7655 W. Dempster • Niles, Illinois • 60714-2098  
Phone: 847.965.2900 • Fax: 847.965.2975

# ACADEMIC INFORMATION

The mission of Notre Dame College Prep is to assist each individual with the integration of faith, scholarship, and service. As a school community, we do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of programs and opportunities made available to our students. At the heart of a Notre Dame education are nine core Holy Cross values: The Cross: Our Only Hope, Educating the Mind and Heart, Leadership, Integrity, Inclusive Diversity, Option for the Poor, Family, Zeal, and Formation. A student's enrollment at Notre Dame implies acceptance of the mission, core values, and philosophy of the school. Accordingly, all students enrolled at Notre Dame, whether Catholic or non-Catholic, are expected to participate fully in the Religious Studies classes, class retreats and other informal opportunities provided for the development of one's life of faith. In so doing, Notre Dame College Prep is sensitive to and respectful of the particular faith traditions of the individual in the administration of our educational programs.

## Graduation Requirements

- Students must earn 24.0 credits which include:
  - 4 credits in Religion
  - 4 credits in English
  - 3 credits in Mathematics
  - 3 credits in Lab Sciences:
    - 1 credit in Biology
    - 1 credit in Chemistry or Physics
    - 1 credit of a Science elective
  - 2 credits of the same Language
  - 3 credits in Social Studies:
    - 1 credit in World History or Western Civilization
    - 1 credit in United States History
    - 0.5 credit in Government
    - 0.5 credit of a Social Studies elective
  - 1 credit in Fine and Performing Arts
  - 2 credits in Physical/Health Education (2 years)
  - 0.5 credit in Computer Technology
  - 1.5 credits in electives
- Participation in the Christian Service Program with completion of the required hours for each academic year and a corresponding reflection paper.
- Must pass by end of Senior Year:
  - United States Constitution Exam
  - English Composition Proficiency Exam
- Participation in at least one retreat per academic year

## Participation in Graduation

NDCP does not permit early graduation. In order to participate in the Graduation Exercises, a student must meet ALL requirements listed above for graduation. Students deficient in any credits or required courses will NOT be allowed to participate in the Graduation Exercises.

## Preparing for College

Traditionally, the recommended requirements for entrance into a four-year college include four years of English, three years of Social Studies, three years of Mathematics including Geometry, three years of a lab Science, two years of the same Foreign Language, and/or Fine Arts. These subject patterns will meet the State of Illinois requirements for admission to State Colleges in Illinois.

Many highly selective colleges, or specific areas of study such as Engineering or Business, strongly prefer that a student enter college with four years of Mathematics, three years of lab Science (which must include Biology and either Chemistry or Physics) and four years of Foreign Language. It is strongly suggested that the student check with the colleges in which he is interested to verify that he meets their minimum acceptance requirements and takes the courses necessary to be competitive in admissions.

## Grades and Grade Point Average (GPA)

Grades are based on the quality of work a student does in view of course objectives. Notre Dame College Prep has adopted the following grade equivalents. A student's GPA is determined by multiplying the credit earned by the quality points for that course. Semester-long courses, for example, are worth 0.50 credits. The 0.50 credits would be multiplied by the quality points for the letter grade that was earned. These quality points are totaled and divided by the credits attempted.

Grade Range		Comment	Quality Points for Basic and College Prep classes	Quality Points for Honors classes
A+	98-100	Superior	4.33	5.33
A	95-97		4.00	5.00
A-	92-94	Above Average	3.67	4.67
B+	89-91		3.33	4.33
B	86-88		3.00	4.00
B-	83-85		2.67	3.67

C+	80-82		2.33	3.33
C	77-79	Average	2.00	3.00
C-	74-76		1.67	2.67
D+	71-73		1.33	1.33
D	68-70	Below Average	1.00	1.00
D-	65-67		0.67	0.67
F	Below 65	Failure Credit must be made up in summer school.	0.00	0.00
X		Failure, no credit. Violation of Academic Integrity Policy.		
W		Withdrawal from course.		
I		Incomplete. Required work must normally be completed in the two weeks after the grading period, otherwise the "I" becomes an "F."		

The semester report card indicates both a weighted GPA, one which gives additional quality points for honors courses, and an unweighted GPA, which treats all courses as if they were college prep level courses. A student's cumulative GPA (CGPA) is based on all of his semesters at Notre Dame College Prep. The CGPA of a transfer student is based only on grades earned at Notre Dame.

Grades in Driver's Education are NOT included in the GPA.

## Class Load

1. Regardless of the number of credits previously earned, each **freshman** is required to take Religion, Physical Education, English, Math, and at least two (2) other full-year academic courses or their equivalent
2. Regardless of the number of credits previously earned, each **sophomore** is required to take Religion, Physical Education, Health, English, Math and at least two (2) other full-year academic courses or their equivalent.
3. Regardless of the number of credits previously earned, each **junior** is required to take Religion, English, Math, and at least three (3) other full-year academic courses or their equivalent.
4. Regardless of the number of credits previously earned, during his **senior** year, each student is required to take Religion, English, Civics, and 3.5 credits in other academic courses.

## Credit for Classes taken during Junior High School

Credit will not be issued for courses an incoming freshman has taken while in the 7th or 8th grade, even if those courses are the equivalent of a high school course. However, placement consideration will be given based upon the student's successful performance on a placement exam developed and administered by Notre Dame College Prep and/or appropriate documentation provided by the junior high stating the content of the course and the student's level of achievement. In the case that the course was taken at a local high school, the course will be listed on the student's transcript as a non-credit course, providing the course meets state accreditation standards.

A course taken at an accredited high school during the summer session prior to freshman year will be granted credit provided that it meets Cognia standards and if the student receives written permission from the Assistant Principal for Curriculum.

## Honor Roll

The Honor Roll is determined on the basis of the semester GPA. There are three classifications:

· <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	GPA of 3.80 through 5.00	No grade lower than a C-
· <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	GPA of 3.50 through 3.79	No grade lower than a C-
· <i>Cum Laude</i>	GPA of 3.20 through 3.49	No grade lower than a C-

## Failure

A course that is failed during the school year must be made up in an accredited summer school if the student wishes to return to Notre Dame in the fall. Any student attending summer school must have his summer school registration approved by his school counselor. Seniors who fail courses in the first semester will be required to make up these courses in an accredited credit recovery program, or add additional courses to the second semester schedule. This requirement holds:

1. If the course is a course required for graduation, or
2. If the failed course creates a credit deficiency for graduation.

## Repeating a Course

If a student is required to repeat a course because of failure, both grades for the course appear on the student's permanent record. Repeating the course does not remove the failing grade. Both grades are entered into the computation of the student's GPA.

## **Academic Problem Solving and Intervention**

Occasionally students experience academic difficulty in a particular course. If that happens, the most effective way of dealing with the problem is through direct communication with the teacher. The spirit of this procedure is threefold: to address the problem in its early stages, to open up communication, and to help a student experience success at Notre Dame. The procedure which should be followed is listed here.

1. Upon realizing that a problem exists, the student must set up an appointment to meet with his teacher to address the problem. This step is the most important. Clear and direct dialogue between the student and the teacher must be established. A student should never delay in asking for help. If the student's grade is a D+ or lower, the teacher will email the parent and copy the counselor with this information.
2. If the grade remains below a D+, the student must continue to talk with the teacher, the counselor, and his parents to discuss and record tangible steps of an action plan that will be taken to improve the grade. The student's teachers, counselor, and parents will share this action plan. It may include a recommendation to participate in the Academic Support Program study hall.
3. If the problem continues, parents should continue to be in contact with the teacher and the counselor. The counselor may convene a Student Intervention Meeting, during which the student, parents, counselor, and teachers will meet to assess the plan to determine why it is not working and to jointly refine it to continue to work toward student success. Please note that contacting an administrator as a first or second step has little impact. The teacher, student, and counselor have all pertinent information as to the nature of the problem. It is with these parties that initial steps will be taken to solve the problem.

The spirit of this procedure is threefold: to solve the problem in its early stages, to open up communication, and to help a student experience success at Notre Dame.

## **Homework**

Homework is assigned on a regular basis as preparation for class or reinforcement of material covered in class. If a student misses any class time for whatever reason, it is his responsibility to make up the work that was missed. It is the responsibility of the student to contact his teachers on the day of his return to make arrangements for his make-up work.

In keeping with the mission of Notre Dame College Prep, we regularly monitor each of our young men's growth in faith, scholarship, and service. We believe that success will occur if a student takes full responsibility for his learning at Notre Dame. Missing homework assignments impact a student's grade. We are confident that if a student develops an attitude of responsibility toward his homework, he can be successful at Notre Dame. We deal directly with a student who is having homework difficulties.

## **Academic Probation**

A student is placed on Academic Probation when the administration judges that he is in serious academic difficulty. Please see the *Notre Dame College Prep Student-Parent Handbook* for further details.

## **Eligibility for Extra-Curricular Activities**

Students involved in IHSA sponsored extra-curricular activities must be academically eligible to participate. To be eligible, a student may not be failing more than one academic course each week that an eligibility check is made. If found ineligible, the student will not be permitted to take part in practice, in competition, or in the activity for that week and for any subsequent weeks in which he is ineligible. The period of ineligibility extends from Sunday through the following Saturday. The student may be assigned to the Academic Support Program study hall at the discretion of his counselor.

If a student fails more than one academic course for a semester, he is ineligible to participate in any IHSA sponsored event until such deficiency is removed; the period of time is usually, but not limited to, a semester.

## **After School Jobs**

A student's primary responsibility is to his role as a Notre Dame student. At no time does the necessity to work take priority over the need to devote sufficient time and effort to his responsibilities as a student. Students are required to meet all their obligations at school before proceeding to their outside jobs.

## **Reports on Academic Progress**

A student's current grades are available on the Parent Portal. The official grade report is issued at the end of each semester and posted to the parent and student portals. At this time, credit is granted for each course in which a passing grade has been earned.

## **Transcripts**

Requests for transcripts of credits are made through Notre Dame's website at [www.nddons.org](http://www.nddons.org). A fee of \$5.00 must be paid for each transcript after the first. A release form or letter of authorization must accompany the request before a transcript will be mailed. All financial obligations must be cleared before official transcripts will be mailed.

## Course Changes

Registration for courses for an upcoming academic year must be completed by June 1. **Please note that any change of classes after that date, including dropping or adding courses, initiated at the request of a student or his parents will incur a \$50.00 schedule change fee.**

No fee will be charged if the change is necessary to resolve a course conflict, to balance a student's schedule, or to correct an error in placement by the school. A student who has successfully completed the appeal process for placement in a non-recommended course will not be not allowed to change his placement.

A student who wishes to transfer to another course must do so prior to the start of the school year. Such changes are generally not made after a semester begins. A student taking a non-required seventh course may withdraw anytime during the first six (6) weeks of the semester in which he is taking the class.

No student is to stop attending a class or start attending a new class until he has been issued a new schedule or given written notification by his counselor to make a change. A student who fails a course during the first semester, if the failure necessitates a change in his second semester schedule, will need to see his counselor to make the appropriate change.

All schedule changes must be approved by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum.

## Academic Integrity

Please see the *Student-Parent Handbook* at [www.nddons.org](http://www.nddons.org).

## Retreat & Service Requirements

The focus of the Campus Ministry Department is the spiritual development of all members of the Notre Dame community, to help us deepen our relationships with God and with others and to grow more aware of the persons we are called to be. The Notre Dame pillars of faith, scholarship, and service and the core values of the Congregation of Holy Cross are the foundation of the work of Campus Ministry. In keeping with the spirit that animates these values, we offer opportunities for prayer, reflection, and service so that each person who is part of the Notre Dame family can grow in mind and heart. These opportunities include monthly liturgical celebrations, either the Eucharist or Reconciliation.

An annual retreat is required of every student each year he attends Notre Dame College Prep to help him in his spiritual growth. This is an opportunity for the student to step away from his daily routine and discern where he is at that point in his life. The retreats in a student's first three



years are day-long experiences with his classmates. The culmination of the retreat program is the opportunity for a three-and-a-half day *Kairos* retreat, an intense experience of Christian community.

Our current Service Hour requirement is 15 hours per year. However, this is up for discussion for the 22-23 school year, pending the global pandemic situation. A student will not be permitted to advance to the next grade level if this yearly requirement is not satisfied.

Further information about the Christian Service Experience is available in the *Student-Parent Handbook* for Notre Dame College Prep.

## English Department

The English Department recognizes that the core of communication is the exchange of ideas. Based on the heterogeneous composition of the student body, our curriculum is adaptable to the changing needs of the students served and individual learning styles. We believe that every student has the ability to construct, analyze and evaluate language and literature. We also believe that effective communication is of significant importance for the exchange of ideas.

### **111                    Reading and Writing Workshop I**

Grade: 9                    Credit: 1.00                    Full Year

Current reading/writing strategies are modeled and effective study strategies are taught. Students will read a wide variety of adolescent literature exposing them to various genres. In addition, each student will create a response journal and keep a portfolio of selected writings. They will also be introduced to current technology. This course is not a regular level college prep course but rather a supplemental course to regular composition Literature I.

**Enrollment in this course is limited to students who have been recommended by the Assistant Principal for Curriculum and/or Director of the St. Andre Program.**

### **112/113                Composition and Literature I**

Grade: 9                    Credit: 1.00                    Full Year

This course introduces the major literary genres, including a full-length novel and a Shakespearean drama. In addition, students will work on improving their composition skills through the study of grammar with emphasis on the parts of speech, the parts of the sentence, phrases, and subordinate clauses. The students will also enhance their writing through the study of vocabulary. Library research skills are also introduced in this course.

**118                    Honors Composition and Literature I**

Grade: 9                    Credit: 1.00                    Full Year

*Receives honors quality points*

Prerequisite: Placement based on Department Placement Exam held in April prior to freshman year or an exemption from the exam based on HSPT results.

This accelerated course is for students of high ability and is a more rigorous version of 112/113 Composition and Literature I.

## Fine and Performing Arts Department

Goals of the Fine and Performing Arts Department at Notre Dame College Prep are to provide each of its students with the opportunity to experience the aesthetic qualities of the arts, develop techniques, work on creative problem solving and enhance critical thinking skills. Recognizing that the aesthetic realm is one of the basic ways in which human beings acquire knowledge, the fine and performing arts are critical components to a Notre Dame College Prep education.

1.0 credit from the Fine and Performing Arts course offerings is required for graduation from Notre Dame College Prep.

**609                      Introduction to Music**  
Grades: 9, 10, 11,12                      Credit: 0.5                      One Semester

Students who are curious about learning about music and instruments but are not sure where, how, or with what instrument to begin are encouraged to take this course. This course is designed to introduce students to the history of a variety of musical genres from classical, jazz, and film music. Students will learn the basics of Western and Non-Western music writing and performance. Students will acquire a basic understanding and appreciation of music.

**613                      Symphonic Band**  
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12                      Credits: 1.00                      Full Year

Prerequisites: Previous experience on a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument and approval of Band Director.

The Symphonic Band is a performing ensemble for students with previous experience in a woodwind, brass or percussion instruments. The band includes students from Notre Dame College Prep and Resurrection High School. Students in the band program acquire an understanding and appreciation of music and develop critical listening skills through the study and performance of various types and styles of band literature. Performances include participating in the marching band at Notre Dame home football games and parades, pep band for home basketball games, and concert band for two to three formal concerts. Most performances are scheduled in the evenings and on weekends and are held on both campuses, depending on the nature of the performance. Occasionally, the band travels to in-state music festivals and activities both in Illinois and the broader United States.

## **623 Jazz Ensemble**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12      Credit: 0.50      Full Year

Prerequisites: Recommendation and/or audition by the Band Director.

Co-requisite: Enrollment in *613/618 Symphonic Band*

In this class the student will study the basic fundamentals of jazz, which include the areas of interpretation, improvisation, reading, theory, and other techniques common of jazz performance. The Jazz Ensemble is performance-oriented and will be involved in concert appearances and community events. As a co-curricular ensemble, performances and rehearsals outside of regular school hours are a requirement.

## **619 Music Technology**

Grades, 9, 10, 11, 12

The course will focus on recording, editing, and producing audio and video using the iPad. Students will not only learn the processes of creating a soundtrack, music album, and/or podcast using several different software programs, they will learn what makes a quality soundtrack album, and podcast through observation and analysis of several examples. Fundamental music theory will also be covered and incorporated into each student produced album, soundtrack, or podcast. Software programs to be used include GarageBand, Soundtrap, iMovie, YouTube, and more.

## **639 Music Technology II**

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12      Credit: 0.50      One Semester

Prerequisites: Students must have taken, and completed successfully, Music Tech I and be recommended by the instructor.

Music Tech II a class designed for students who wish to continue exploring the world that is music technology. Students will continue working with music software programs including GarageBand and iMovie as well as have opportunities to compose original music, use MIDI instruments, and more. Students will learn what makes music tracks sound the way they do, how to record quality podcasts, dive deeper into music videos and other methods in recording sound and music.

<b>620</b>	<b>Percussion Ensemble I (Fall Semester)</b>		
	Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12	Credit: 0.50	One Semester
<b>630</b>	<b>Percussion Ensemble II (Spring Semester)</b>		
	Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12	Credit: 0.50	One Semester

*These courses may be repeated for additional credits.*

Prerequisites: Students must be enrolled concurrently in Symphonic Band or Honors Symphonic Band. Students in the Band who do not currently play a percussion instrument may also join the course. They are required to get approval from the instructor and audition for the ensemble. Percussion Ensemble I MUST be taken before entry into Percussion Ensemble II.

*Exceptions to this prerequisite: students who proficiently play string instruments that are not instruments in the Symphonic Band, such as piano, violin, and guitar. These students are required to have approval by the instructor and audition for the ensemble.*

**Percussion Ensemble I** is intended for students who have had experience playing percussion or those who may not and want to gain experience playing percussion. Students should be proficient in reading standard music notation as it applies to percussion instruments. The primary focus of this class is to develop technical skills on each percussion instrument while broadening performance abilities in all aspects of percussion through band music and percussion specific music alike. Students enrolled in this class will perform at each Band concert.

**Percussion Ensemble II** is designed to serve as a continuation of Percussion Ensemble I. Students should be proficient in reading standard music notation as it applies to percussion instruments. The primary focus of this class is to continue developing technical skills gained in Percussion Ensemble I while broadening performance abilities in all aspects of percussion through band music and percussion specific music alike. Students enrolled in this class will perform at each Band concert.

<b>616</b>	<b>Introduction to Art</b>		
	Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12	Credit: 0.50	One Semester

Introduction to Art is a course designed for the beginning high school art student. It presents the fundamentals of fine art: line, value, color theory and the principles and elements of design with related studio assignment. This is a studio class focusing on two-dimensional projects with a concentration in drawing and the use of various media.

**627                      Drama I: Introduction to Theatre/Dramatic Arts**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12                      Credit: 0.50                      One Semester

The goal of this course is for students to unlock their creativity by exploring performance in all forms. Student work will focus on the creation of original pieces in a variety of styles including storytelling, monologue, improvisation, sketch, performance art, and movement. Students will improve their analytical abilities through performance criticism. Daily participation in creative exercises and activities is required.

**605                      Technical Theater**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12                      Credit: 0.50                      One Semester

In this course we will be working in a creative manner to understand how technical theatre is created and brought to the stage. This course will be excellent for those who have had no training in the arts. This course will require the use of tools (both powered and hand tools) and understanding of safety measures that must be utilized to ensure the safety of all participants. We will discuss/demonstrate the process of building a set or also known as stagecraft. We will also discuss and practice other aspects of design including but not limited to Set, Sound, Costume, Special Effects, and Lighting Design. This course will require technology both in and out of the classroom. You will also be required to serve a minimum of 12 hours assisting our school's play production in some aspect of the build/rehearsal process and perhaps during the actual performances.

**634                      Drama II: Analysis and Performance**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12                      Credit: 0.50                      One Semester

Prerequisite: Completion of 627 *Drama I: Introduction to Theater/Dramatic Arts* or departmental approval.

This course is designed for the students most passionate about the study of drama to intensively examine performance in all its forms. Student work will focus on the creation of original pieces in a variety of styles including storytelling, monologue, improvisation, scenework, sketch, performance poetry, literary adaptation, performance art, and movement. Students will also be responsible for writing a full-length play, completing a performance ethnography, and participating in a local drama competition. Students will improve their analytical abilities through performance criticism.

**136**

**Speech**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 0.50

One Semester

*NOTE: This course does not fulfill the English graduation requirements but DOES fulfill the Fine and Performing Arts graduation requirement.*

This elective course is designed to refine the student's ability to think critically, to effectively challenge an opposing view, and to clearly vocalize thoughts. Preparation, execution and analysis of speeches and the successful fielding of questions are stressed. Use of the mass media in effective communication is also explored.



## Language Department

The Language Department offers a four-year comprehensive study of Spanish and Italian. Two years of the same language are required for the majority of students. This satisfies college entrance norms. Honors level courses are available in the second through fourth years of Italian and Spanish. Advanced Placement courses are offered in both languages. Four years of study in the same language is encouraged.

Studying a world language in a challenging college preparatory environment helps to encourage and promote cultural awareness of one's native language, as well as the exploration of a new language. The Language Department offers a four-year comprehensive study of Spanish and Italian. Two years of the same language are required for the majority of students. This satisfies college entrance expectations. Advanced Placement courses are offered in both languages, as well as honors level courses in the second through fourth years. Four years of study in the same language is highly recommended.

The study of a second language develops skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. It also expands knowledge and understanding of the similarities and differences among the cultures, while developing self-concepts and learning skills that transfer readily to other life situations.

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The first year introductory language course establishes a strong base of fundamentals with a focus and concentration on culture. The second, third, and fourth year courses expand and build on the grammar, vocabulary, reading, writing, speaking, listening, and comprehension skills acquired from each year.

**413          Italian I**  
**415          Spanish I**

Grade: 9

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

These courses introduce the language's grammatical structures and vocabulary and builds as the year progresses. Practice in reading, speaking, listening, and writing will be covered.

NOTE: Placement into Italian II or Spanish II is possible for the student who has considerable experience (two or more years of significant study) in Spanish or Italian, or considers himself to be a native speaker in one of these languages. Placement is based on a Department Placement Exam held in April prior to freshman year.

## Mathematics Department

The Mathematics Department of Notre Dame College Prep realizes that formal education is meant to give students the tools to teach themselves forever. Mathematics is at the heart of this education. Mathematics courses not only reinforce student's mathematical concepts and computation skills, but also support the use of technology to assist students in functioning in the twenty-first century. The core of mathematics however, is teaching students to develop thinking processes. Key to education in mathematics is teaching students to think critically: to analyze, synthesize, evaluate, formulate logical arguments, and even reformulate thinking to explain, understand, and question another's viewpoint. Essential to the discipline of mathematics is the metacognitive ability to explain the process used in yielding the solution, not only the ability to problem solve.

### **510            Pre-Algebra**

Grade: 9

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement by Andre Program staff.

This course is designed for the incoming freshmen who need to strengthen basic math skills before beginning the study of algebra. Placement is based on a student's performance on the placement exam and standardized tests, as well as elementary school grades. This course reinforces mathematical skills with additional advanced computation, including an introduction to algebraic concepts. Students study fractions, decimals, percents, positive and negative integers, and rational numbers. They become more proficient in using ratios, proportions, and solving equations. Students will develop and expand problem solving skills in order to solve word problems. This course prepares students for success in Algebra I as a sophomore.

**512                    Basic Algebra I**

Grade: 9

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement by Andre Program staff.

This course is designed for the incoming freshman with weaker math skills as determined from the placement exam, standardized tests, and elementary school grades. This course stresses the fundamentals of algebra and applies the principles of the real number system to operations with variables and constants. Topics covered include the use of the properties of real numbers; the solutions of linear equations and inequalities; the proper set-up and solution of word problems; the use of ratio and proportion; graphing and writing linear equations; solving a system of linear equations; using the properties of exponents; addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of polynomials; factoring polynomials; solving quadratic equations; and simplifying square root radicals and square root radical expressions.

**513                    Algebra I**

Grade: 9

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

This course applies the principles of the real number system to operations with variables as well as constants. Topics covered include addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of variables and rational expressions; the solution of linear and quadratic equations and inequalities; the use of ratio and proportion; the solution of systems of equations; graphing systems of linear equations and linear inequalities; operations with radical expressions; the proper set-up and solution of word problems. The student is assessed not only on the final answer, but on his knowledge of the process used to get that answer.

**517                      Honors Algebra I**

Grade: 9                      Credit: 1.00                      Full Year

*Receives honors quality points*

Prerequisite: Placement based on Department Placement Exam held in April prior to freshman year.

This rigorous and fast-paced course is designed for students who have strong elementary algebra skills and solid work habits. Topics include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division of polynomials, rational expressions, and radicals. Algebraic symbolism, properties of real numbers and equality, algebraic proofs, simplifying expressions, solutions to linear equations, quadratic equations, linear inequalities, absolute value equations and absolute value inequalities, and systems of linear equations and linear inequalities are also included. This course emphasizes the algebraic processes applied to word problems.

**528                      Honors Algebra II**

Grades: 9, 10, 11                      Credit: 1.00                      Full Year

*Receives honors quality points*

Prerequisites: Placement based on Department Placement Exam held in April prior to freshman year.

This accelerated course is designed for students who have an excellent knowledge of algebra. The course briefly reviews concepts presented in Algebra I and then rigorously expands and applies them to other areas of mathematics. In addition, selected topics from precalculus are studied. The ideas presented in this course involve advanced techniques of graphing and solving equations and inequalities. This course requires the use of a graphing calculator.

## Physical Wellness and Health Education Department

The Health and Physical Education Department strives to provide students with knowledge, awareness and an education promoting a healthy lifestyle. Students will experience a variety of physical education activities that allow for the development of character, sportsmanship and collaboration while giving students a chance to foster leadership skills. Effective communication and decision-making skills will also be developed.

### **315                      Physical Education I**

Grade: 9

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

The Physical Education units studied and applied include strength training, physical fitness, wrestling, golf, soccer, football, basketball, volleyball, softball, and ultimate frisbee.

## Religious Studies Department

As teachers in a Catholic school, our primary purpose is catechesis or instruction in the faith. We are charged with inculcating this faith in our students, assisting the young men we teach in living out that faith. We seek to accomplish this mission by making our students aware of the teachings and traditions of our Church, as well as acquainting them with the meaning of such teachings for their own lives. Our educational purpose is to help our students form a better understanding of their relationship to God, self and others, and the people they are called to be. We offer a systematic, integrated program of religious studies. We ask our students both for acquisition and application of the knowledge and skills taught. Our course of studies and our method of instruction work to nurture our students, helping them to progress spiritually, academically, morally and socially.

### **712/715      Introduction to Catholicism**

Grade: 9                      Credit: 1.00                      Full Year

Prerequisite: 712 requires placement by the Andre Program staff.

This course consists of a survey of the theology, tradition, and history of the Catholic Church and its salvific mission in time. Students are introduced to the elements of the Catholic faith, especially as expressed in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and its foundational principles, consistent with the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and arising from both reason and revelation. This course will also provide students with a basic understanding of the sacraments and their role in the lives of Catholics today.

### **718              Honors Introduction to Catholicism**

Grade: 9                      Credit: 1.00                      Full Year

*Receives honors quality points*

Prerequisite: Placement based on Department Placement Exam held in April prior to freshman year or exemption from exam based on HSPT results.

This course covers the same basic information as the 715 *Introduction to Catholicism* course but in more depth and greater intensity. It consists of a survey of the theology, tradition, and history of the Roman Catholic Church and its salvific mission in time. Students are introduced to the elements of the Catholic faith, especially as expressed in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, and its foundational principles, consistent with the teachings of the Second Vatican Council and arising from both reason and revelation. This course will also provide students with a basic understanding of the sacraments and their role in the lives of Catholics today.

## Science Department

The growth of scientific knowledge during the twentieth century has been without precedent in human history. Scientific knowledge more than any other branch of learning has made the world most different from the past. Now, in the twenty-first century, science must be recognized as a core subject that must be taught in an understandable fashion to all students. Science gives the student a deeper insight into himself as an individual, a respect for the dignity of humankind, and a responsible concern for the world the Creator entrusted to humans.

### **824     Biology**

Grades: 9, 10

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

### **822     Biology**

Grade: 10

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

Prerequisite: Placement by Andre Center staff.

This is a laboratory course that focuses on a better understanding and appreciation of life. Students will receive an introduction to applied biology. This college preparatory course emphasizes the following topics cell biology, ecology, DNA, genetics, evolution, diversity of life, human anatomy and physiology. This course is intended to develop scientific thinking skills and to enhance comprehension of the nature of science.

### **829             Honors Biology**

Grades: 9, 10

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

*Receives honors quality points*

Prerequisite: Placement by department or scoring in the 80th percentile or above in the Reading section of the HSPT.

NOTE: This class may require extra meeting time outside of designated class period.

This laboratory course takes a more in-depth look at the topics studied in the college prep course. Additionally, the relationship of structure and function, biotechnology, and the role of science in society are also studied.

## Social Studies Department

The department takes a skills-based approach toward the investigation of the arts, cultures, economics, history, and politics of the major world civilizations in efforts to prepare students for success beyond high school in our modern society.

### **919/920      World History**

Grades: 9, 10      Credit: 1.00      Full Year

*NOTE: This course must be completed by the end of sophomore year.*

The course begins with pre-history (several thousand years before the common era) and ends with the effects of the Cold War on the early 21st Century. Students will learn about the socioeconomic conditions, political institutions, and ideological attitudes that have marked various time periods throughout history. Using primary and secondary sources, students conduct an inquiry-based research to examine historical events, cultural developments, and social and family structures. Students will analyze statistics and data from maps, charts, and graphs to identify trends and patterns throughout history. Students are encouraged to use critical-thinking and problem-solving skills to evaluate the achievements of civilizations in the fields of science, technology, and the arts.

**NOTE:** Course 919 covers the same basic information as presented in World History but more time is spent on each of the topics with more emphasis on basic skills in each of the lessons. Evaluation is more fact based and less analytical than in the average level class. Students will be placed into this course at the discretion of the department.



**918**

**Honors Western Civilization**

Grades: 9, 10

Credit: 1.00

Full Year

*Receives honors quality points.*

This course will make students aware of the elements of western civilization and their origins, providing them with knowledge of the fundamental causes and effects of those elements and origins. The course will focus on major topics of Western Civilization from antiquity to the present day. The course will also develop a particular understanding of the central role of the Christian Church in leading the West in its development. This course serves as an honors level introductory course within the Social Studies curriculum and as such will be more reading- and writing-intensive than courses 919/920.

## Technology Department

Notre Dame College Prep has a graduation requirement of 0.50 credit in Technology. For the Class of 2024 and thereafter this requirement may be fulfilled by successfully completing any of the courses offered in the Technology Department. The classes of 2022 and 2023 must successfully complete the Digital Literacy course or pass the Technology Proficiency exam prior to his freshman year. If the student passed the Technology Proficiency exam, he is still required to successfully complete a 0.50 technology course in order to meet the 0.50 graduation requirement.

**\*\*Please note that some courses will be offered every other year to allow more students to participate.**

**204                      Digital Literacy**  
Grade: 9, 10                      Credit: 0.50                      One Semester

*This course fulfills the Technology graduation requirement.*

This course is designed to provide students the technical skills necessary to be a successful digital student at ND. Students will learn how to navigate the iPad, complete digital assignments, and collaborate with others using Google tools. Digital citizenship and research skills are also covered. It is recommended that this course be taken during a student's freshman year.

**235                      iOS App Development**  
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12                      Credit: 0.50                      One Semester

Prerequisite for Class of 2023: Successful completion/outplacement of *Digital Literacy*.

Prerequisite for Classes of 2024, 2025, and 2026: None

**\*\*NOTE: iOS App Development WILL NOT be offered in the 2022-23 school year.**

The primary learning outcome for this course is that students will be able to design and create iOS apps. Students will leverage Swift and Apple developer tools. With iOS as the platform, students will learn object-oriented programming, design patterns, type systems, functional language features, user interface design, best practices in programming, and problem analysis.

**238 Introduction to Programming**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 0.50

One Semester

Prerequisite for Class of 2023: Successful completion/outplacement of *Digital Literacy*.

Prerequisite for Classes of 2024, 2025, and 2026: None

**\*\*NOTE:** Introduction to Programming WILL NOT be offered in the 2023-24 school year.

This course provides an introduction to the fundamentals of computer programming, which is the foundation of Computer Science. Students will learn programming technology and will develop a solid grasp of the basic mechanics of programming. Students will learn the skills necessary to design, write, and debug computer programs.

**239 Robotics**

Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12

Credit: 0.50

One Semester

Prerequisite for Class of 2023: Successful completion/outplacement of *Digital Literacy*.

Prerequisite for Classes of 2024, 2025, and 2026: None

In this course, students will learn about robotics, engineering, and problem solving. They will be given introductions to the VEX Robotics Design System and AutoDesk® Inventor® while learning key STEM principles through a process that captures the excitement and engagement of robotics using competitions and challenges.