



# Pope John Paul II

HIGH SCHOOL

“STEWARDS *of the* FUTURE”

Course Catalog & Academic Policies  
2026-2027

## MISSION

*The mission of Pope John Paul II High School is to provide a Catholic secondary education within a challenging academic, spiritual, and co-curricular environment that will develop men and women who are intellectually strong, spiritually alive and committed to serving the needs of others.*

## VISION

*Pope John Paul II High School will nurture and challenge every student to be transformed for a lifetime of courageous leadership and service through discovery and development of their God given gifts.*

*To live in the light and truth of Jesus...  
Now and forever.  
Saint John Paul II...  
Pray for us.*

# GRAD AT GRAD

**POPE JOHN PAUL II HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATES STUDENTS TO PURSUE TRUTH, ACT VIRTUOUSLY AND BUILD COMMUNITY.**

**YOU WILL WITNESS THIS IN EACH STUDENT BECAUSE THEY...**

- Possess fundamental skills and knowledge demanded by each academic discipline
- Pursue educational opportunities beyond high school
- Think logically, critically and creatively in problem solving and self-expression
- Analyze contemporary issues from multiple perspectives
- Respect other peoples, languages and cultures
- Access resources and technology to interpret, evaluate and present information
- Interpret implications and consequences of assumptions behind different points of view

**THEREFORE THEY ARE INTELLECTUALLY STRONG**

- Recognize self and others as loved by God
- Understand Catholic Christianity and know major doctrines and practices of the Catholic Church
- Know Christ’s Mission and participate actively and fully in the Church’s life
- Build personal relationship with Christ through Eucharist, prayer and reflection
- Practice reconciliation with family, friends, Church and God
- See faith in Jesus as an obligation to live life as a person for others

**THEREFORE THEY ARE SPIRITUALLY ALIVE**

- Accept personal responsibility for their growth
- Strive for integrity, commitment and excellence in all things
- Make life choices based upon Catholic social teachings
- Challenge prejudices and stereotypes
- Seek opportunities to expand their mind, heart, imagination, feelings and consciousness
- Seek aesthetic, artistic and creative experiences through the arts
- Engage in co-curricular activities that develop leadership, interpersonal and collaborative skills

**THEREFORE THEY ARE OPEN TO GROWTH**

- Accept responsibility for building and maintaining loving relationships with others
- Demonstrate empathy, compassion, understanding and respect
- Accept the love of God and others
- Know the moral teachings of the Catholic Church as it relates to sexuality
- Make responsible decisions regarding personal health and well-being
- Listen respectfully and express themselves genuinely

**THEREFORE THEY ARE LOVING**

- Recognize service as fundamental to faith
- Act with generosity toward all
- Demonstrate compassion for victims of injustice
- Know the impact of social, environmental and political issues on the human community
- Understand the contradictions and moral ambiguities between the Church’s social teachings and popular culture
- Know that faith demands active commitment to a just society

**THEREFORE THEY ARE COMMITTED TO DOING JUSTICE**

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## ACADEMIC POLICIES

The course of studies at JPIL is designed to prepare students to enter college and universities and to be career ready. Within this college preparatory framework, we seek to direct students into courses that will consistently challenge their capacity and potential and prepare them for success in the future.

### Graduation Requirements

The courses required for graduation from JPIL exceed the entry requirements of Washington State public colleges and universities and most private universities. Students are required to earn 26 credits and complete the Community Service requirements in order to graduate. There are 7.125 total credits possible each year. Academic rigor of coursework will be considered in graduation honors such as valedictorian and salutatorian.

Modern Language	3
Fine/Performing Arts	1
P.E./Health *1.5 PE / 0.5 Health	2*
Theology	4
Electives	2
<b>Total Credits Required</b>	<b>26</b>

\*0.5 credit is earned for PE through participation in the community period course over 4 years (.0625 per semester).

Department	JPIL Requirements
English	4
Mathematics	4
Social Studies	3
Science	3

## Community Service Requirements

These requirements are monitored by Community Period (CP) teachers for each student. Details on what is expected to meet these requirements will be covered in the CP class. A minimum of 80 hours are required for graduation and are typically completed as follows:

9 <sup>th</sup> grade	10 hours
10 <sup>th</sup> grade	20 hours
11 <sup>th</sup> grade	20+ hours
12 <sup>th</sup> grade	30+ hours AND Theological Reflection Presentation

## Credits and Grading

A graduate of JP II must earn 26. Students are expected to take a minimum of 7 courses each semester as well as their Community Period.

Academic credits are assigned each semester for each course in which a passing grade is earned. A passing grade in a semester class generates one-half credit. The cumulative grade point average is calculated at the end of each semester.

Transfer credits must be approved. These credits are entered into a separate space on the JP II transcript and will be listed under the title of the school that awarded the original credit. JP II will also keep the transfer transcript and have it available to attach it to the official JP II transcript when sending transcripts to colleges and universities when requested.

## JP II Grading Scale

JP II uses the following grading scale. To qualify for honors points, the course title must include either *Honors* or *AP* designations. All internal JP II GPA calculations are made with general and honors values. Reporting to colleges and universities, the GPA is calculated using the Simple Grade Point scale. Both cumulative GPAs, JP II and Simple, are reported on transcripts.

Percentage (Rounded)	Letter Grade	General Grade Points	Honors Grade Points	Simple
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				Grade Points
97-100	A+	4.30	4.80	4.00
93-96	A	4.00	4.50	4.00
90-92	A-	3.70	4.20	3.70
87-89	B+	3.30	3.80	3.30
83-86	B	3.00	3.50	3.00
80-82	B-	2.70	3.20	2.70
77-79	C+	2.30	2.80	2.30
70-76	C	2.00	2.50	2.00
65-69	C-	1.70	2.20	1.70
0-64*	F	0.00	0.00	0.00

\*D grades are not possible at JP II. Students must achieve at least a C- or higher to earn credit in any class. Students who earn below 65% have not met the standard for the course or for advancement to the next course.

## Course Changes

Schedule changes are discouraged. All requests for course changes must be submitted within 10 school days of the start of a semester. Changes must be approved by parents and administration. If a student drops/changes a course after 10 days into a semester, he/she will receive a grade of "F" and loss of credit in the class dropped unless there are mitigating circumstances.

## Failures

If a student fails a class that is a requirement for graduation or is a sequential course, the student may generally make up the course the following summer by attending a summer school program (either in a community college, local public high school program or an accredited online program) with approval by the administration for the course being taken. The student must provide administration with appropriate documentation of a passing grade at the completion of the program. Any student who fails two subjects at the semester or who demonstrates a continuing pattern of unsatisfactory grades may be asked to leave JP II at the school's sole discretion.

## Repeated Classes

If a student takes a class for a second time for any appropriate reason (as determined by the administration), both grades will appear on the student's transcript and count in the overall GPA. If passed, the credit will count in the total required for graduation.

### **Incomplete Policy**

An "Incomplete" grade may be given on a semester report card for extended illness or extenuating circumstances as approved by administration. The student will be given a specific timeframe to complete work for the class. After the allotted time, the student will receive the grade as calculated with incomplete work. Any further extension requires approval by administration.

### **Advanced Placement (AP)**

AP courses are rigorous, college-level classes in a variety of subjects that give students an opportunity to gain the skills and experience colleges recognize. Your AP score is a measure of your achievement in your college-level AP course. This score will be used by colleges and universities to determine if they will grant the student credit for what they have already learned, or allow the student to skip the equivalent course once they get to college (this is known as advanced placement). JPII students register for AP exams in fall and take the exams in spring.

### **College in the High School**

College in the high school courses provide students the opportunity to earn college credit while still enrolled at Pope John Paul II High School. These courses are taught on our campus by qualified instructors and follow college-approved curriculum and standards. Students experience the rigor and expectations of college-level work in a supportive high school environment, helping them build confidence, strengthen academic skills, and get a head start on their post-secondary education.

Participation in CiHS courses allows students to potentially reduce future college tuition costs, explore areas of interest more deeply, and demonstrate readiness for advanced study on

college applications. Credits earned may be transferable to many colleges and universities, depending on each institution's policies.

### **JPII Provides the following options for College in the High School:**

SMU English  
SMU Spanish  
SMU Precalculus  
SMU Calculus

### **JPII Provides Preparation for the following AP Exams:**

AP Chemistry  
AP US History

## **CAMPUS MINISTRY**

Campus ministry is an integral part of the educational process at Pope John Paul II High School. Through the charism of our namesake, Pope John Paul II, our program is designed to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to its students and families, to build up the body of Christ in the community and to promote social justice through service to others.

Campus Ministry draws the entire community into responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Church. To accomplish these outcomes, the school, through Campus Ministry, offers liturgies, retreats, and service.

### **Liturgies**

Biweekly all school masses are offered. Additional invitational masses will be offered throughout the year dependent upon availability of priests. Mass is an essential part of our community and mission. We will utilize time during our community period to celebrate mass. It is an invaluable part of our schooling experience and all students (Catholic and non-Catholic) understand that the celebration of mass does not warrant early dismissal from school. Parents and friends of the school are always welcome to attend school liturgies. Within the first three weeks of school, all students will participate in

a Mass of the Holy Spirit, celebrated with all Catholic schools, Pre-K through College, in the South Sound area.

## Community Service Day

The community service day is usually held the day before Christmas Vacation. The community day begins with Mass and then sends out the students and staff (and often alumni) in groups to serve the community in a variety of areas. For example, serving lunch at the senior center or down at the Union Gospel Mission, etc. In the afternoon, all classes return to campus to discuss and then write a personal reflection on their service experience and then culminate with an ASB led Christmas celebration.

## Retreat Program

Pope John Paul II High School offers multiple retreats for students that are based upon the charisma and teachings of Pope John Paul II. They are thematically formulated around the School's three foundational educational elements of pursuing Truth, acting Virtuously, and building Community. Peer and adult leaders create an atmosphere of support, trust and sharing so that students can explore the challenges of Catholic/Christian identity, relationships, values, courageous leadership and reconciliation in the context of their faith. The goal is to provide students with the opportunity to listen and respond to God's presence in their lives and the life of their communities.

## Freshman Retreat: Theme - Build Community

*"None of us is alone in this world; each of us is a vital piece of the great mosaic of humanity as a whole."* Pope John Paul II, Israel-Palestine - 9/22/1999

*"It is especially for you, young people, to take on the great task of building a society where there will be more justice and solidarity."* Pope John

Paul II, World Youth Day VI - 8/15/1990

The objectives of the freshman retreat are to enculturate the School's newest members into their new school community and begin the process of developing their identity individually and

collectively as persons of faith and members of the Pope John Paul II community. It is a time to reflect upon what it means to be and act as a "person for others".

## Sophomore Retreat: Theme - Act Virtuously

*"...make your generous and responsible contribution to the constant building up of the Church as a family, a place of dialogue and mutual acceptance, a space of peace, mercy and pardon."* Pope John Paul II, World Youth Day XII - 11/24/1991

*"Through her example, may Most Holy Mary encourage you to be in the new millennium announcers of hope, love and peace!"* Pope John Paul

II, World Youth Day XV - 8/15/2000

The sophomore retreat focuses on what it means to act virtuously within the confines of Pope John Paul II High School and the broader contexts of their family, church community, civic community, and the world community. It is an opportunity for sophomores to reflect upon how their faith calls them and challenges them to act in a way that often contradicts their understanding and experiences of popular culture.

## Junior Retreat: Theme - Faith and Prayer

*"Freedom is not the ability to do anything we want, whenever we want. Rather, freedom is the ability to live responsibly the truth of our relationship with God and one another."* Pope John

Paul II, Saint Louis, Missouri - 1/26/1999

*"In prayer you become one with the source of our true light, Jesus himself."* Pope John Paul II, Saint Louis,

Missouri - 1/26/1999

The junior retreat is a time for juniors to examine their understanding of faith as a relationship with Christ and how prayer (sacraments, liturgy, etc.) strengthens that relationship within the context of the various communities of which they are members. It is a time for juniors to reflect upon their relationships with family, friends, school community, and their church community as concrete evidence of God's love for them, their call to love others and their loving response to their God.

## Senior Retreat: Theme - Courageous Leadership

*"Call out to Jesus to remain with you always along the many roads to Emmaus of our time. May he be your strength, your point of reference, your enduring hope!"* Pope John Paul II,

World Youth Day XII - 11/24/1991

*"The human person, created in the image and likeness of God, cannot become a slave to things, to economic systems, to technological civilization, to consumerism, to easy success."*

Pope John Paul II, Pozan, Poland - 6/3/1997

*"...you are under threat from the bad use of advertising techniques, which plays upon the natural tendency to avoid effort and promises the immediate satisfaction of every desire, while consumerism that goes with it suggests that you should seek self-fulfillment especially in the enjoyment of material goods."* Pope John Paul

II, Dilecti Amici - 3/31/1985

Leaving the comfort and security of high school presents many challenges similar to those seniors experienced in their transition from elementary school to high school. The senior retreat provides seniors with a brief time where they can distance themselves from the stresses of career/college selection, admissions to college, scholarship applications and separation. Seniors have the opportunity to reflect upon this time as a call to courageous leadership which requires them, in light of their faith, not only to challenge some of the values of contemporary society but also to act accordingly. It is an opportunity for seniors to reflect upon their experiences of pursuing truth, acting virtuously, and building community at Pope John Paul II High School and how those experiences translate to their future roles as courageous leaders.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

*"Seek to do good to one another"* - Thessalonians 5:15

*"But - I ask you - is it better to be resigned to a life without ideals...or rather...to seek the truth, goodness, justice, working for a world that reflects the beauty of God, even at the cost of facing the trials it may involve?"* - Pope John Paul II, World

Youth Day XII, 11/24/91

Pope John Paul II High School's Community Service Program develops students who understand service as fundamental and intrinsic to their faith. Students engage in hands-on service in the local community. Service to others, especially those in greatest need, is a reflection of our values as a school, the ethic of Jesus and Catholic Social Teaching. The Community Service program is an extension of the school's culture of service.

- Students will be required to offer 80 hours of community service as a graduation requirement during their four years of high school.
- Placements must provide students with as much direct contact with those they serve as possible and appropriate.
- The school will select and approve placements that serve those with the greatest need of assistance.
- Students complete their service hours outside of school time and beyond the confines of our building
- Students are expected to reflect, write about and share their service experiences. Time during the Community Period will be set aside for service reflection and sharing.
- Seniors present a final Community Service Reflection Project as part of the graduation requirement.
- Selected placements or service sites will be approved based upon age appropriateness of students and will be patterned as follows:
  - Freshman will participate in 10 hours of service.
  - Sophomores will participate in 20 hours of service.
  - Juniors will participate in 20 hours of service.
  - Juniors and seniors may opt to perform their service hours during the summer. Summer service may be performed out of state/country at approved service sites with approved service agencies.
  - Seniors will participate in 30 hours of service and complete Community Service Reflection Project.

## The Community Period (CP)

**Philosophy:** The purpose of the Community Period is to assist students to reach the goals of a JPII graduate, by educating students to pursue truth, act virtuously and build community. The community formed within each community period

will become a small family of learners focused on providing holistic, ongoing support for all students. Some of the topics covered include: Habits of Mind and Resilience, school success skill development, Financial Literacy, class and whole school community building opportunities; Mass/special guest speakers, school-wide assemblies and more.

### **Requirements and Pathways:**

Students must pass four years of Community Period to successfully complete the graduation requirements of Pope John Paul II High School. The specific graduation requirements completed in this class are the community service hours and 0.5 physical education credit over four years. Learning about healthy lifestyle choices and having active fun together are part of the CP experience. This is a pass/fail class and must be passed every semester to meet graduation requirements.

#### **Identity - 9th Grade**

Two semesters

Belonging, fitting in, finding your place – these are concerns of every person who enters a new environment. The *Identity* Community Period is designed to personally welcome 9<sup>th</sup> grade students to Pope John Paul II High School. Respect for the student as an individual and respect for all other members of the community is the foundation of this class. “Who are you?” This class will assist students in their first experiences of community service. As a part of this experience, over the course of the year, students will begin to reflect on and record their personal experiences with the service projects and the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. During the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year, teachers will familiarize students with academic supports such as Schoology, time management, note and test taking strategies and growth mindset.

#### **Exploration - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Two semesters

As students continue on the journey toward graduation, this is the time to really explore interests, talents and goals for their future. How students spend the next years of their high school

education should be opening doors for their future. With the support of teachers and classmates, students will explore the possibilities! This 10<sup>th</sup> grade CP class will assist students as they grow in their experience of community service. Students will continue to reflect on and record personal service experiences.

#### **Investigation - 11<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Two semesters

The theme for 11<sup>th</sup> grade Community Period is with your future in sight, this year is the time to delve into possible college pathways to meet individual goals. This is the year for college entrance testing exams and beginning to pull together what is needed for application processes. Students will continue to grow and reflect on their experience of community service.

#### **Courageous Leadership -12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Two semesters

The 12<sup>th</sup> grade year is the time to prepare for life after high school. Focus will be placed on college applications, financial aid (FAFSA forms), and preparing for a more self-directed life after high school. Students will continue to grow in their experience of community service by selecting an approved organization that serves marginalized populations and by providing at least 30 hours of service based on a minimum of 4 hours per month throughout the school year. Teachers will assist students in finding placements, with the goal to have each student placed with a schedule of service by the end of September. Students will continue to reflect on and record personal experiences of their service and these reflections, along with those from earlier years, will be re-examined and integrated to create the senior reflection presentation in the Spring.

## **ENGLISH DEPARTMENT**

**Philosophy:** The mission of English education in the high school, while integrating the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, is to expose students to the beautiful art of expression, through

reading, writing, listening, and speaking. Students use literature in its many forms; short story, poetry, novel, essay, drama, and nonfiction to examine their perceptions of the present, the past, their personal values, and their potential and creativity. Students will read and respond to the literature studied in class both affectively and evaluatively, use critical skills in reading unfamiliar texts in order to develop an appreciation of the art of expression on many levels. Department classes also emphasize grammar and compositional skills required for effective communication in any venue.

### Requirements and Pathways:

Students must pass four years of English to successfully complete the graduation requirements of Pope John Paul II High School. Students with a strong aptitude or interest in English are also encouraged to take English electives. In order to meet the needs of all students, JP II HS offers many pathways for students to achieve success in English. While following a specific course pathway is the standard, movement is possible based upon student needs and teacher recommendation and/or approval. Students struggling with English may be required to attend extra assistance programs either as an elective or on a regular basis before or after school with the consent of the teacher.

	College Prep	Honors College Prep
9 <sup>th</sup>	English 9	Honors English 9
10 <sup>th</sup>	World Literature	Honors World Literature
11 <sup>th</sup>	American Literature	Honors American Literature
12 <sup>th</sup>	English Literature and Composition	SMU English 220 (CiHS for Credit)

### English 9 / Honors English 9

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites: Placement test data and middle school teacher recommendation*

English 9 provides a study of grammar and usage skills as well as a focus on composition skills for sentence, paragraph and essay. Literature includes short story, nonfiction, essay, novel, poetry and drama. Students will have the opportunity to discuss and analyze how literature affects and relates to their lives. Through explanation, experimentation and practice, writing skills are emphasized. Honors English 9 is designed for students who have demonstrated an above average ability in the area of Language Arts. While the curriculum is similar to that of the English 9 listed above, it is extended to challenge those students ready for more in-depth analysis and composition.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade World Literature / 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors World Literature

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite for Honors World Literature: Honors English 9 (B or higher)*

This course will introduce literary analysis and composition. The literature is selected from various world literature to deepen the students' appreciation and expand their awareness of cultural themes. The course will develop students' analytical skills, their vocabulary and their written communication. Honors World Literature will build composition skills through in depth literary analysis. While the curriculum is similar to that of World Literature listed above, it is extended to challenge those students who excel in literature. Students will be expected to read more extensively and produce more in-depth analysis within their compositions.

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade American Literature / 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Honors American Literature

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite for Honors American Literature: Honors World Literature (B or higher)*

This course explores our American Heritage chronologically so that the student will become acquainted with the writers who have shaped our literary background. Students explore their own value system and that of the society in which they live through reading and writing about American novels. Compositions involving criticism, analysis, argumentation and comparison/contrast will be assigned. Honors American Literature explores our American Heritage and is a survey of the major writers, modes and themes in American literature including major figures such as Emerson, Thoreau, Hawthorne, Twain, Dickinson, Fitzgerald, Hemingway and Steinbeck. The primary objective of the course is to develop students' analytical skills through close reading of assigned material and in-depth class discussion. In addition to daily class assignments, extensive outside reading is required.

### **12<sup>th</sup> Grade English Literature and Composition**

1 credit | 2 semesters

The primary objective of this course is to prepare students for college by focusing on the writing process. Special emphasis will be placed on the development of analytical writing skills through a capstone senior paper. The literature is selected primarily from British authors.

#### **SMU English 210 Literary Studies**

Meets the requirement for JP11 English credit | 4 SMU semester credits

*Prerequisites: Honors American Literature (B or higher) or teacher approval*

This comparative genre course teaches students to read literature with greater enjoyment and in greater depth by teaching the skills of analysis, interpretation, and persuasive expression.

--Saint Martin's University Literary Studies Department

This one semester SMU Literary Studies college course will be offered to JP11 seniors over the course

of the full school year. Literary works will be selected according to the theme of the course and may vary year-to-year. Students interested in this course should be prepared for extensive outside reading, active participation in daily seminar discussions, and writing to college-level standards. Assignments will include written reflections, creative writing, group projects, and a capstone 10-page paper. *A fee to Saint Martin's University will apply to this course; an official St Martin's transcript will be issued upon successful completion of the course. Course fees will be processed through SMU.*

## **FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT**

**Philosophy:** The mission of fine arts education in the high school, while integrating the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, is to inform and challenge students' perceptions of artistic awareness both personally and culturally, and to give students the opportunity to fully participate in the creation of visual and/or auditory forms of art. Students do not have to have special talents to participate in fine or performing arts. Talent is certainly welcome and nurtured to its full potential, but *all students* are encouraged to experience the creative utilization of their spiritual, intellectual, emotional and physical selves regardless of a perception of "talent".

### **Requirements and Pathways:**

All students must earn one credit from the fine and performing arts department. Both the student and the music program can benefit from a full four-year commitment to excel in vocal or instrumental music, preparing the student for participation in college level performance classes in the future.

#### **Graphic Design and Production**

1 credit | 2 semesters

This media arts course teaches the skills of photography, graphic design, and visual storytelling. Students will create their own designs and projects in several steps: brainstorming artistic

ideas; organizing and developing them; and refining and creating media arts. Individual student projects may include photo portfolios, videos, marketing materials, visual journalism and communications. Students will present their work and analyze others' work. The class will also work collectively to design and produce the JP II Yearbook.

GDAP requires an application by students to enroll in the class. Students will be chosen by the course instructor, academic advisor, and principal.

### **Art I & II**

1 credit | 2 semesters

The purpose of this course is to establish basic drawing and painting techniques, familiarize students with various common art media, and to access creativity in two and three dimensions. Students will practice sketching as the primary beginning to all forms of visual art, and do work in charcoal, oil pastel, soft pastel, watercolor and acrylic paint, intaglio printing, and basic hand-built clay. We are also able to do a basic study of copper repousse' and cast bronze sculpture. Students will learn the theory of color compliments, shadow and highlight, textural contrast, and theory of brushstroke. This course is suitable for all students whether they consider themselves artists or not and regardless of the perception of natural aptitude.

### **Art III & IV**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites: Art I & II*

Advanced art continues the exploration of all media and preparation of professional-quality portfolio. This course expands on all aspects of Art I and II but gives much more opportunity for self-directed projects and themes. Advanced art students are encouraged to work in series and develop creative ideas beyond a single assignment as is the standard professional practice. Advanced art students will also be pursuing long-term goals in art, such as researching scholarships, shows, and grants. They will also be tasked to commit their entire Art I-IV

portfolio to digital format as is required for most art related submission. Advanced students are encouraged to formulate an Artist's Statement and to display work in public. A desire to pursue a career in art is not required. One does not have to graduate college with a fine arts degree to accept art scholarships.

### **Choir**

0.5 credits | 2 semesters

JP II Choir accepts students who are willing to become members of a select group of individuals who accept the responsibility of bringing their gifts to create an exceptional ensemble. We will sing a variety of music from many historical periods and styles. Your skill level when you join the Choir does not matter because we work on vocal technique and musicianship daily. We represent our school community by performing in concerts, liturgical celebrations at the school and at the diocesan level, and choral festivals. Students will also have the opportunity to sing solos and in small ensembles. There are no pre-requisites except the willingness and effort to learn and contribute to the ensemble.

### **Jazz Band**

1 credit | 2 semesters

Young musicians will have the opportunity to perform in various venues throughout the school year. As we are a small school, all students will be in one band class and are therefore the only instrumental representatives for Pope John Paul II High School. Performance is a significant part of the assessment for this class.

### **Advanced Jazz Band**

1 credit | 2 semesters

Students who have successfully completed one year of Jazz Band and are interested in musical leadership including solos may qualify for this course. Advanced Jazz Band is evaluated under the honors grading scale. Performance is a significant part of the assessment for this class.

## MODERN LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT

**Philosophy:** The mission of modern language education in the high school, while integrating the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, is to provide students with a combination of grammatical and communicative skills with a cultural background in the language of choice. Listening, speaking, reading and writing within the language are the foundation and key components of learning. Throughout their course of study, students will develop a heightened awareness and appreciation of cultural issues pertaining to all countries who utilize the language being studied.

### Requirements and Pathways:

Students must pass three years of foreign language to successfully complete the graduation requirements of Pope John Paul II High School. Occasionally students come to high school with a previous background in a foreign language. Students who would like to start at a level beyond first year must take a test to determine placement.

#### Spanish 1

1 credit | 2 semesters

This course is designed as an elementary Spanish course that introduces the student to the language and cultures of Spanish speaking peoples. Students develop the ability to speak, read and write about themselves and other people, family, food, their possessions, places, cities, age, hobbies, sports and shopping. The course develops students' speaking, listening, reading and writing competence in basic predictable situations. This course is gradually conducted more frequently in Spanish as students progress through the curriculum.

#### Spanish 2

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites: Spanish 1 or placement test*

In this course, students further develop communicative proficiency in Spanish and learn more about the cultures of the Spanish speaking peoples. Students develop improved accuracy in communication and increased awareness and knowledge of culture and history through discussion, film, and reading. The course focuses students' speaking, listening, reading and writing competence in less predictable situations. This course is conducted primarily in Spanish.

#### Spanish 3

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite: Spanish 2*

Spanish 3 prepares students to speak, read and write in the three major time frames (past, present, future). Students will read about, complete special projects, and prepare reports and presentations on topics that introduce them to the art, crafts, music, dance, literature, and film of Spanish speaking communities. The course prepares students to develop paragraph length discourse in present, past and future tenses to express hypothetical ideas and negotiate contexts where a wide variety of vocabulary and structures is required. This course is conducted almost exclusively in Spanish.

#### SMU Spanish 102

Meets the requirement for JP11 English credit | 4 SMU semester credits.

*Prerequisite: Spanish 3*

Spanish 102 builds upon the foundational skills developed in the three prior Spanish courses, deepening students' proficiency in pronunciation, grammatical forms, and syntax. As a college-level course, students are expected to engage with the language at a higher level, expanding their ability to communicate clearly and confidently in real-world contexts. Language skills—speaking, listening, reading, and writing—are further developed through continued comparative analysis of Spanish and English, with an increased emphasis on fluency, accuracy, and cultural understanding. Students will refine their use of more complex structures and vocabulary while

strengthening their ability to interpret and produce meaningful communication in Spanish.

### Other Modern World Languages:

Other modern world languages are available as online courses taken as an independent study. Please speak with administration about availability of languages. Students are urged to consider whether an independent study matches their learning style and must have approval from the administration to take a language other than Spanish. Any language other than Spanish will be administered online through Red Comet or Greenways. Students must meet with a native speaker or language tutor regularly, and documentation of these meetings is required\*.

JPII provides a language tutor for students to meet with for:

French  
German

Other languages offered via online programs include:

German  
ASL  
Chinese

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND WELLNESS DEPARTMENT

**Philosophy:** The mission of physical and wellness education classes at Pope John Paul II High School are to provide strategies that promote wellness, and make fitness a lifetime priority while challenging students in a collaborative environment. Through integration of the above mentioned mission and the values and teachings of the Catholic Church, students are instilled with the attitudes and beliefs that encourage a healthy way of living in the future. Furthermore, we want to give students the knowledge, experience, and desire essential to carry out a life of fitness and wellness. It

is in this framework that the physical education and wellness department join enthusiastically in the mission of helping develop the God-given potential in every student.

### Requirements and Pathways:

Students must pass two semesters of physical education and one semester of health to successfully complete the graduation requirements of JPII High School. The first is taken in the freshmen year and the second is earned through participation in 4 years of the Community Period (.0625 credit per semester).

### Physical Education

1 credit | 2 semesters

This class will provide students with an introduction to a variety of activities that can become lifetime habits of a healthy lifestyle. Emphasis will be placed on fundamentals, safety concerns, health issues, basic strategies, and skill development.

### Health and Wellness

0.5 credit | 1 semester

The content of this course will be drawn from the broad areas of physical, social, and mental health. Emphasis is placed on the wellness approach and the following health issues: goal setting and decision making, stress management, communication skills, mental and emotional health, family and social health, communicable and non-communicable diseases, substance abuse, and relationships. Other topics of study are First Aid and CPR, fitness, nutrition, sleep, anatomy and physiology, substance abuse and addictions, disease and prevention, and health careers.

## THEOLOGY DEPARTMENT

**Philosophy:** Theological education at JPII begins with the awareness that all members of the school community are religious educators, assisting parents as the primary educators of their children. Theology classes explore the theological background of Christianity and Catholicism in particular. Students of all faith backgrounds will be

invited to participate in a variety of personal and communal experiences of God. In these experiences, following the grad at grad, they will be prompted to reflect on their own religious beliefs and to deepen their relationship with God.

The Theology Department emphasizes both an academic and experiential exploration of reason and revelation in Scripture and Tradition. Students will develop a basic academic knowledge of the major doctrines and practices of Catholicism. Class readings of textbook and primary documents, discussions, prayer, and personal reflection are essential. Courses explore how each individual is created and unconditionally loved by God; community is the living out of loving respect each person deserves. The Church's teaching on morality and social justice emphasize that faith in Jesus as Christ obligates one to live as a person for others.

### **Requirements and Pathways:**

Students must pass four years of theology to successfully complete the graduation requirements of Pope John Paul II High School.

#### **Catholic Foundations and Personal Identity**

1 credit | 2 semesters

9<sup>th</sup> grade

This course introduces first year students to the foundations of Catholicism with a focus on Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition as the two "pillars" of faith. Semester 1 focuses on the central beliefs, attitudes, and practices of Catholicism. Semester 2 focuses on a deeper study of the Old Testament and the history of our salvation. Students learn how to navigate the Bible with basic exegetical skills within the Tradition of the Church and are challenged to recognize Scripture's relationship to their own personal identity.

#### **Jesus of History, Christ of Faith**

1 credit | 2 semesters

10<sup>th</sup> grade

This course explores Christology in a thorough exploration of the New Testament, Paschal Mystery, and early debates of the person of Christ in the

Christological Controversies. Students are challenged in their own sense of personal discipleship and invited to answer the question of Jesus to His disciples: "Who do you say that I am?"

#### **The Church and Sacraments**

1 credit | 2 semesters

11<sup>th</sup> grade

This course invites students to see their own experience reflected in the living structures of the Church. Semester 1 leads students toward deeper understanding of the Church through ecclesiology and Church history using the Marks and Models of the Church, including an introduction to ecumenism. In Semester 2, students learn about sacramentality and the history and theology of Sacraments as the way to encounter the living Jesus.

#### **Moral Theology and Social Justice**

1 credit | 2 semesters

12<sup>th</sup> grade

This course gives students an opportunity to reflect on their own integration of Catholic moral principles and everyday living. Both general and specific moral issues are examined, with a particular focus on the teachings of John Paul II. Topics for discussion include lifestyles, particularly sexuality, marriage, and vocations; bioethics; social justice and Catholic Social Teaching; and peace, including just war theory and principles of nonviolence.

## **STEM DEPARTMENT**

**Philosophy:** The mission of the JP II STEM Department is to connect Pope John Paul II High School's goals of academic excellence with the values and teachings of the Catholic Church to deepen our understanding of science, mathematics, engineering, and technology in today's world. Our STEM courses are designed to provide students with rigorous academic opportunities that reflect high standards of performance in these fields while fostering inquiry, critical thinking, and an appreciation of God's divine creation.

Through experimentation, reasoning, and innovation, students will gain the knowledge and confidence to become ethical problem-solvers and responsible stewards of creation while developing the fundamental skills necessary to contribute to STEM fields beyond high school. The curriculum emphasizes the nature of scientific knowledge in relation to mathematical reasoning, scientific writing, and computer technology as essential tools for inquiry and discovery.

### Requirements and Pathways:

The STEM program is designed to prepare all students for college and career readiness. The curriculum allows students to take college-level coursework and exceed the WA State Standards. Students must pass three years of science and four years of math to complete the graduation requirements of JP II High School. To meet the needs of all students, JP II High School has developed pathways within the STEM department to provide students with the foundations necessary to be successful in both math and science. Students are assigned to courses based on previous achievement and teacher recommendations. Each course has the prerequisite of a C- or higher earned in the previous class.

### Methods in Scientific Inquiry / Honors Methods in Scientific Inquiry (MSI)

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites for Honors MSI: Algebra 1 (B or higher)*

Methods of Scientific Inquiry is designed as an inquiry-based, method-oriented, interactive examination of science. Topics of study include physical science (physics and chemistry), earth science (meteorology, geology, and climate change), and astronomy. Honors MSI students study the same content as the MSI class but are assigned additional projects to deepen their understanding of the topic and its connections with other scientific concepts. Honors MSI students are assigned a more significant leadership role during lab activities. In addition, the regular unit assessments will include specific problems that

require students to think more profoundly and generate more broadly-useful conclusions.

### Biology / Honors Biology

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites for Honors Biology: Honors MSI (B or higher)*

Biology is the study of life. This course emphasizes the fundamental unity of life via the relationships between structure and function in living organisms. Throughout the course, the major life processes among living organisms are covered. Honors Biology is a rigorous class in which students complete independent projects in each unit while pursuing the same content as the Biology class. In addition, the regular unit assessments will include specific problems requiring more in-depth thought and the ability to see beyond the facts into the strategies behind functions and behaviors we observe in the living world.

	Math Course	Science Course
9 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra 1 Geometry Honors Geometry	MSI Honors MSI
10 <sup>th</sup>	Geometry Honors Geometry Algebra 2 Honors Algebra 2	Biology Honors Biology (Prerequisite—Honors MSI)
11 <sup>th</sup>	Algebra 2 Honors Algebra 2 SMU Pre-Calculus I/II	Chemistry AP Chemistry (Prerequisite—Algebra 2 & Honors Biology)
12 <sup>th</sup>	SMU Pre-Calculus I/II SMU Calculus I	Chemistry AP Chemistry (Prerequisite—Algebra 2 & Honors Biology) Physics

### Chemistry

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

Chemistry provides the student with a comprehension of how and why the periodic table, atomic theory, and molecular theory accurately demonstrate the behavior of the elements and molecules that make up the world. In addition, laboratory investigations are performed to develop a more robust understanding of basic underlying chemical concepts.

### **AP Chemistry**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite: Algebra II and Honors Biology (B or higher); Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This college-level course is based on the College Board's Course and Exam Description (CED) of AP Chemistry, which introduces students to the fundamental concepts of Inorganic Chemistry, including atomic structure and properties, molecular structure and properties, intermolecular forces, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, equilibrium, and acid-base chemistry. Laboratory investigation and mathematical concepts are an integral part of AP Chemistry. The AP designation signifies that this course is taught with the rigor of a college-level introductory chemistry course. This class prepares students for the AP exam in May, with registration in the Fall.

### **AP Environmental Science**

1 credit | 2 semesters

The goal of this college level course is to provide students with the scientific principle, concepts and methodologies to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. Students learn to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the risks associated with these problems and examine solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. The course includes topics such as climate change, alternative energy sources, pollution control, ecology, water treatment, disposal options for hazardous and non-hazardous

waste and other current ecological topics of concern.

### **Physics / Honors Physics**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite for Physics: Pre-Calculus or concurrent Pre-Calculus with faculty approval.*

Physics is a high school-level lab-oriented course designed to be accessible to students with at least Pre-Calculus mathematical skills. Emphasis is placed on a fundamental understanding of physics principles, such as motion, forces, momentum, and energy. Honors Physics students study the same content as the Physics class. However, they are tasked with a more significant leadership role during lab investigations and regularly are assigned homework problems that require the more rigorous application of physics concepts. In addition, the regular unit assessments will include specific problems that require students to think more profoundly and generate more broadly-useful conclusions.

### **Algebra 1**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite: Successful completion of a Pre-Algebra course or math 8 equivalent; Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This is a college-prep course involving algebra processes with real-numbers. Students will learn topics involving linear, quadratic, and polynomial equations. They will learn to solve, factor, and simplify expressions with variables. They will solve and graph systems of equations, as well as be introduced to functions, quadratic equations, absolute value equations and inequalities, and exponents and exponential functions, polynomials, and data analysis.

### **Geometry / Honors Geometry**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite for Honors Geometry: Algebra 1 (B or higher); Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This is a college-prep course involving geometric structure, congruence, similarity, and measurement. Emphasis will be placed on definitions/vocabulary, proofs and problem solving. Logical reasoning and critical thinking are the underlying concepts while exploring relationships with points, lines, angles, polygons, ratios and proportions, transformations, right triangle relationships, introduction to trigonometry, area, volume, and facts about circles. Students will also explore constructions with compasses. The Honors level course provides more rigorous applications and additional practice and assessment problems. Students are expected to work more independently and apply their learning to problem solving.

### **Algebra 2 / Honors Algebra 2**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite for Honors Algebra 2: Algebra 1 and Honors Geometry (B or Higher); Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This is a college-prep course that reviews algebra and geometry concepts with a focus on quadratic, exponential and logarithmic functions through systems of equations. This course will also cover factoring techniques, complex numbers, rational and negative exponents, logarithms, composition of functions, inverse functions, rational expressions and equations. If time allows, then arithmetic and geometric sequences and trigonometric functions from Geometry will be covered. The Honors level course provides more rigorous applications and additional practice and assessment problems.

### **Precalculus**

1 credit | 2 semesters

This is a college prep course where students prepare for the study of calculus. This course is a transition from the study of algebraic functions to the study of transcendental functions. Topics also include systems of equations and inequalities. The second part of this course is designed to prepare students for the study of calculus, focusing on trigonometry and analytic geometry. Topics include

trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, polar coordinates, parametric equations, polar form of complex numbers, conic sections and vectors

### **SMU MTH 121/122 (Precalculus I and II)**

Meets the requirement for JPll Math credit | 6 SMU semester credits

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite for SMU Pre-Calculus: Honors Algebra 2 (B or higher); Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This is a college level course where students prepare for the study of calculus. This course is a transition from the study of algebraic functions to the study of transcendental functions. Topics also include systems of equations and inequalities. The second part of this course is designed to prepare students for the study of calculus, focusing on trigonometry and analytic geometry. Topics include trigonometric functions, analytic trigonometry, polar coordinates, parametric equations, polar form of complex numbers, conic sections and vectors. A fee to Saint Martin's University will apply to this course; an official St Martin's transcript will be issued upon successful completion of the course. Course fees will be processed through SMU.

### **SMU MTH 171 (Calculus I)**

Meets the requirement for JPll Math credit | 4 SMU semester credits

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite: Honors Pre-Calculus (B or higher); Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This college-level course is a thorough introduction to the theory and applications of differential calculus and a basic introduction to the foundations of integral calculus. Students will be able to apply knowledge and skills learned in prerequisite courses to the concepts we are learning in this course, including the abilities to graph basic functions, factor polynomials and other algebraic and trigonometric expressions, and solve many types of equations. Students will

demonstrate proficiency of the concepts of this course through participation in class work and activities. Students will demonstrate competency in the calculation of derivatives and basic antiderivatives without the use of a calculator. Students will be able to use mathematical notation correctly in their solutions. Students will develop new problem-solving skills and enhance critical-thinking abilities. Students will be able to apply the techniques and concepts learned in this course to further study in mathematics or other disciplines such as science and engineering. *A fee to Saint Martin's University will apply to this course; an official St Martin's transcript will be issued upon successful completion of the course. Course fees will be processed through SMU.*

### Statistics

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus (B or higher); Graphing calculator required: TI-84 Plus CE or better*

This course introduces major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Any student interested in a career in business, finance, research, psychology, medical sciences, or degrees requiring statistics would benefit from this course.

## SOCIALSTUDIES DEPARTMENT

**Philosophy:** The social studies department at Pope John Paul II is committed to fostering a culture of critical thinking, civic engagement, and global awareness among our students. We believe that the study of history, geography, economics, government, and culture is essential for developing an informed and responsible citizenship that respects human dignity and diversity. Our curriculum is guided by the principles of Catholic social teaching and the standards of the Washington State Office of Superintendent of

Public Instruction. We aim to provide our students with the knowledge, skills, and values that will enable them to contribute positively to their communities and the world.

### Requirements and Pathways:

Students must pass three years of Social Studies to successfully complete the graduation requirements of Pope John Paul II High School, and many four-year college admission requirements. In order to meet the needs of all students, JP II HS offers three pathways for students to achieve success in Social Studies. While following a specific course pathway is the standard, movement is possible based upon student needs and teacher recommendation and/or approval. Students struggling with Social Studies may be required to attend extra assistance programs either as an elective or on a regular basis before or after school with the consent of the teacher. Each course has the prerequisite of a C- or higher completion of the previous class.

### Washington State History

0.5 credit | 1 semester

*This is a required graduation course for out-of-state transfer students taken in an independent on-line study format.* In Washington State History, students will learn the history of the Pacific Northwest from the frontier to present times, emphasizing Washington State. Topics include structure and function of Washington state and local government, physical and cultural, and economical features of the State of Washington.

### Big History Project

0.5 credit | 1 semester

The Big History Project is an online social studies curriculum that explores the history of the Universe from the Big Bang to the present and beyond. It is a multidisciplinary course that integrates science, history, and humanities to help students develop critical thinking, writing, and reading skills. The course is divided into 10 units, each focusing on a key threshold of increasing complexity in the natural and human world. The course also teaches

students how to evaluate different sources of information and perspectives using claim testing.

### Modern World History

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites for Honors World History: Big History (B or higher)*

Modern World History is a sophomore course designed to provide students with an overview of the major events, themes, and developments that shaped the modern world from 1450 to the present. Students will explore topics such as the Age of Exploration, the Enlightenment, the Industrial Revolution, imperialism, nationalism, revolutions, wars, decolonization, globalization, and human rights. The course will also help students develop skills in historical thinking, analysis, research, and communication. Honors students will analyze primary and secondary sources, engage in historical inquiry and debate, and develop critical thinking and writing skills. The course will also emphasize the connections and interactions among different regions and cultures of the world.

### US History / AP US History

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites for AP US History: Honors Modern World History (B or higher)*

US History is a course for juniors to cover the major events and themes of US history from the colonial era to the present day. Students will learn about the political, social, economic, and cultural developments that shaped the nation and its role in the world. Students will also develop their skills in historical thinking, analysis, and writing. The course will include primary and secondary sources, as well as multimedia materials. AP US History is a college-level course. Students will be expected to read primary and secondary sources, participate in class discussions and activities, and write essays and document-based questions. The course will prepare students for the AP US History exam in May.

	College Prep	Honors College Prep
9 <sup>th</sup>	Big History	Big History
10 <sup>th</sup>	Modern World History	Honors Modern World History (targeting AP exam)
11 <sup>th</sup>	US History	AP US History
12 <sup>th</sup>	Honors US Government Economics	Honors US Government Honors US Government (Independent Study to prepare for the AP Test)

### US Government / Honors US Government

0.5 credit | one semester

US Government is a course which will provide students with an understanding of the principles and institutions of the US political system. Students will learn about the foundations of US democracy, the structure and functions of the federal government, the rights and responsibilities of citizens, and the role of political parties and interest groups in the electoral process. The course will also explore current issues and challenges facing the United States and its relations with other countries. The course will foster critical thinking and civic engagement skills through reading, writing, discussion, and participation in simulations and projects.

The Honors US Government course is designed to prepare a student for the AP US Government and Politics exam. Students interested in taking the AP exam will be registered for a second semester course of Independent Study Honors US Government. This additional course is designed as a

self-paced study course to include comparative government systems and the use of released AP exams as practice in preparation for the May AP exam.

### **Economics**

0.5 credit | one semester

Economics introduces students to the basic concepts and principles of microeconomics and macroeconomics. Students will learn how individuals, households, firms, and governments make decisions that affect the allocation of scarce resources. Topics include supply and demand, elasticity, consumer choice, production and costs, market structures, market failures, national income accounting, inflation, unemployment, economic growth, fiscal policy, monetary policy, and international trade. The course also develops students' analytical and critical thinking skills through problem-solving exercises and discussions of current economic issues.

## **TEACHER ASSISTANT (TA)**

**Philosophy:** Teacher assistants serve JPll by assisting an individual teacher or staff member with support work under their direct supervision. Students receive a pass/fail grade.

*Prerequisite: 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders who are responsible and self-motivated: approval of the teacher/staff member required.*

### **Office Assistant**

0.5 credit | 1 semester

Office Assistants serve JPll by carrying out important tasks such as assisting with clerical work, answering phones, helping with special projects. Students receive a pass/fail grade.

### **Technology Assistant**

0.5 credit | one semester

*Prerequisite: Students with an understanding of computer systems and the ability to assist with troubleshooting problems.*

Technology Assistants serve JPll by assisting the Technology Coordinator with technical work on student and staff computers. Students receive a pass/fail grade.

### **Science TA**

0.5 credit | 1 semester

This TA ensures the science labs are compliant with Health Department regulations, they take inventory and they set-up/clean-up for labs and dissections.

### **Campus Ministry TA**

0.5 credit | 1 semester

This position is appropriate for an individual invested in the Catholic faith, who is willing to assist with administrative tasks, setting up for Mass, supporting spiritual opportunities and planning retreats.

### **Athletics TA**

0.5 credit | 1 semester

Assists the Athletic Director with operational tasks such as uniform distribution, inventory, equipment maintenance and occasional clerical tasks.

### **Academic Tutor**

0.5 credit | 1 semester

*Prerequisite: Advanced skills in the area in which they will tutor others, teacher recommendation.*

Academic Tutors assists individuals who need educational support during their study hall. The academic tutor will be under the direction and supervision of a classroom teacher. Students receive a pass/fail grade.

## **ELECTIVES**

**Philosophy** Electives courses are offered so that students have a choice to learn more about a subject they are interested in or to explore new areas of interest. A variety of elective classes are

offered. Two elective credits are required for graduation.

## **In-Person Elective Choices**

Art I & II  
Art III & IV  
Speech and Debate  
Choir  
World Cultures  
Environmental Science  
Graphic Design and Production  
Jazz Band  
JPII Service in Action

### **Art I & II**

1 credit | 2 semesters

The purpose of this course is to establish basic drawing and painting techniques, familiarize students with various common art media, and to access creativity in two and three dimensions. Students will practice sketching as the primary beginning to all forms of visual art, and do work in charcoal, oil pastel, soft pastel, watercolor and acrylic paint, intaglio printing, and basic hand-built clay. We are also able to do a basic study of copper repousse' and cast bronze sculpture. Students will learn the theory of color compliments, shadow and highlight, textural contrast, and theory of brushstroke. This course is suitable for all students whether they consider themselves artists or not and regardless of the perception of natural aptitude.

### **Art III & IV**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Prerequisites: Art I & Art II*

These classes continue the exploration of all media and the preparation of a professional-quality portfolio. This course gives much more opportunity for self-directed projects and themes. They will also be tasked to commit their entire Art I-IV portfolio to digital format as is required for most art related submissions. Students are encouraged to formulate an Artist's Statement and to display work in public.

### **Choir**

0.5 credits | 2 semesters

JPII Choir students are willing to accept the responsibility of bringing their gifts to create an exceptional ensemble. This course is suitable for all students because vocal technique and musicianship will be developed within the class. Students will sing a variety of music and represent the school community by performing in concerts, liturgical celebrations, and choral festivals. This course will be offered during the zero-hour on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the entirety of the year. There are no pre-requisites except the willingness and effort to learn and contribute to the ensemble.

### **Speech and Debate**

1 credit | 2 semesters

This class will teach students the basic skills of verbal and nonverbal communication, elements that impact the quality of communication, evaluation and critique of public speeches and organization of presentations and speeches. Students will become more effective at meeting others, developing critical thinking skills, creating persuasive oral and written messages, and more. This course will be participatory, and experiential, in an encouraging and supportive environment. We will practice public speaking and presentations, including motivational, instructional, debate, and impromptu speeches. We will also learn conversational skills including active listening, group facilitation, interview skills, and cultural awareness.

### **Graphic Design and Production**

1 credit | 2 semesters

*Approval for this course was by application for students in their junior and senior year.  
Determination was done by the administration and course teacher.*

This media arts course teaches the skills of photography, graphic design, and visual

storytelling. Students will create their own designs and projects in several steps: brainstorming artistic ideas; organizing and developing them; and refining and creating media arts. Individual student projects may include photo portfolios, videos, marketing materials, visual journalism and communications. Students will present their work, and analyze others' work. The class will also work collectively to design and produce the JP11 Yearbook.

### **Jazz Band**

1 credit | 2 semesters

Jazz Band is an exciting performance-based ensemble open to students of all instruments who have a passion for music and a desire to grow as musicians. This course explores a variety of musical styles while developing skills in improvisation, ensemble playing, and musical expression. Students will build on their prior musical knowledge as they learn to collaborate, listen, and perform at a high level.

Jazz Band is a zero-hour class that meets on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, providing a unique opportunity for students to participate in a dynamic musical experience while maintaining flexibility in their regular class schedule. All instruments are welcome, and students of varying experience levels are encouraged to join.

### **JP11 Service in Action**

1 credit | 2 Semester

*Approval for this course was by application for students in their junior and senior year. Determination was done by the administration and course teacher.*

This course addresses one of the pillars of our school mission and provides students with the opportunity to give back to the local community. In this course, students will engage in meaningful service experiences with local Catholic schools and other non-profit organizations, putting faith into action through hands-on work that supports the needs of the community. Rooted in Catholic social teaching, students will reflect on the dignity of every person and the call to serve with compassion and humility. As part of their reflection, students will explore key themes from *Tattoos on the Heart* by Fr. Gregory Boyle, discussing real-world applications of mercy, kinship, and social justice. Through service, discussion, and personal reflection, students will deepen their understanding of servant leadership and develop a lifelong commitment to making a positive impact in the world.