

St. Joseph's Preparatory School Summer Session 2009 Program of Studies

Classics Department

LATIN III - The entire summer course is devoted to the reading, translation and analysis of selected episodes from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*. Depending upon the interests of the class and the teacher, selections from comparable Roman poets may be read. Relevant historical and cultural topics will be addressed, as well as features of literary style.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Latin II

English Department

PERSONAL WRITING - This course offers an opportunity to write intensely and creatively. If sitting down to start a paper gives you a major headache, this course is the cure. Learn how to approach a topic and craft an exciting piece of writing. We will work together in collaborative workshops to produce pieces of which you can be proud. Some creative writing topics will include the college essays, short stories, poetry, the graphic novel, memoir, autobiography, songs/music, journal, and film.

Prerequisite: None

Fine Arts Department

VISUAL LANGUAGE- This is an introductory fine arts course that focuses on understanding art as a visual language. The objective is for the student to develop visual literacy and the ability to discuss and critically analyze works of art. The course centers on the art elements and the artists' vocabulary. Studio projects complement reading, writing and discussion. This course is recommended for all levels of experience. This course provides a basic understanding of how art is made and provides a foundation for further study in visual art.

Prerequisite: None

History Department

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT - The American Government course will commence with an examination of the historical foundations of American government, including the work of John Locke, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the US, and *The Federalist*. Next, students will study how and why government functions in American society today, focusing on the three branches of the national government, and the role of parties and interest groups. Finally, students will study the evolution of rights in American society, including civil liberties, the Women's Rights Movement, and the Civil Rights Movement, paying particular attention to the role of the Supreme Court. Grades will be based on regular quizzes and tests, a research paper, and chapter outlines assigned for homework. A college level text, *American Government* by James Q. Wilson and John DiIulio, will be supplied. Students who take summer government are eligible, but not required, to take the Advanced Placement test in May 2010. Mr. Conners will schedule review sessions after school during the last two weeks of April for those interested students.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of World History and US History

Science Department

BIOLOGY - This course is an introduction to the life sciences. Its major objective is to give the student an appreciation and understanding of life processes. After a brief historical survey of developments in biology, the course proceeds in an evolutionary sequence according to the following topics: atoms to molecules to genes to cells to organisms, and culminates in the study of the human body. Laboratory work is an integral part of the course with students developing skills with the microscope proper dissection technique.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Science

CHEMISTRY- This course provides the student with a fundamental grasp of chemistry which includes classification of matter, the behavior of gases, the characteristics of liquids and solids, atomic structure, periodicity, chemical bonds, equilibrium, and theories and reactions of acids and bases as well as kinetics and thermochemistry. The course also provides a brief introduction to both organic and nuclear chemistry and endeavors to develop sensitivity to concerns about chemical pollution and protection of the environment. General Chemistry may serve as a terminal course or as a preparation for further science courses.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology