

# Academic Guide 2011-2012

**"Helping Young People  
Lead Active  
Christian Lives  
and  
Excel Academically  
Through Christian  
Training and Nurturing."**



Martin

Luther High School

[www.martinlutherhs.com](http://www.martinlutherhs.com)

**A Choice Worth Making...**

***“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, ‘plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and future.’”***

**—Jeremiah 29:11**

### **Mission Statement**

**Martin Luther High School, by God’s grace in partnership with homes and congregations, exists to help young people lead active Christian lives and excel academically through Christian training and nurturing.**

### **Vision Statement**

**The Vision of Martin Luther High School is to be a premier Lutheran Christian secondary school.**

**PERFORMING ARTS-MUSIC: 2.0 credits of any fine arts is needed for graduation.**

**Concert Choir:** 1 Credit. Year/Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Fine Arts Elective. Because God has given all of us talents which we have been instructed to use to the best of our abilities, Martin Luther High School will allow all of its students the opportunity to join our mixed choir. The choir will learn the basics of reading music and will learn to appreciate the various styles and genres of musical literature available to us Christians. The choir will work toward obtaining a sizeable repertoire. The Concert Choir will sing for Martin Luther High School Sundays at area churches, chapel services and other various organizations as they may be requested. Students will be encouraged to pursue their talents in private voice lessons should the instructor recognize a great potential within the student. The instructor will also encourage group ensembles for concerts and the Minnesota Solo Ensemble Contest. The choir will perform at the Christmas Concert, the Sacred Concert (held in early spring), and the Pops Concert (held in May).

**Chamber Ensemble (Instrumental):** 1 Credit. Year/Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Fine Arts Elective. The Chamber Ensemble is open to any student interested in using his/her instrumental music talent to the glory of God. The Ensemble will play for assigned home girls' and boys' basketball games, at the Christmas Concert, the Lutheran Schools Band Festival, the Pops Concert (held in May) and for any other organization that request an instrumental ensemble. Students will be encouraged to take private lessons and to participate in the Minnesota Solo Ensemble Contest. Since the music performed in this group requires a certain level of proficiency, each new student is required to perform privately for the instructor to determine if the student has the required proficiency. If extra time is needed, the student may take lessons from the instructor at no cost until that level of proficiency is reached. Beginners are encouraged to sign up for the ensemble and they may take lessons from the instructor until the level of proficiency is reached.

*Tours: Occasionally, the music groups go on tour. In the past they have traveled to Milwaukee, WI; Branson and St. Louis, MO; New Orleans, LA.; Houston and Dallas, TX; and Denver, CO.*

## Academic Policies

Students graduating from Martin Luther are expected to accumulate the following credits by the end of four years of high school.

*Religion	4 credits	*English	4 credits
*Soc. Studies	4 credits	*Math	3 credits
*Science	3 credits	Computer Science	.5 credits
Physical Education	2 credits	Fine Arts	2 credits
Health	.5 credits	Foreign Language	2 credits
+Plus one elective from any courses above			
<b>Total</b>	<b>26 credits</b>		

A portion of the two credits of Physical Education required for graduation may be waived for students who are taking academic subjects, Band, and/or Choir during the hours Physical Education is offered. Also any athlete involved in two (2) sport activities during the school year may have Physical Education class waived to participate in Fine Arts .

Students are required to take seven courses per year. The seven courses must include five academic courses per year. Band, Choir, Art and PE are not counted as one of the five academic courses. Courses are not transferable from year to year.

Students planning on attending a four-year college must take the following: two years of a foreign language and a math a minimum of Algebra I and II and Geometry.

Any class schedule change once the semester has begun will require the permission of the parents, the classroom teacher, the guidance counselor and administrator. NO STUDENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO CHANGE THEIR CLASS SCHEDULES AFTER THE FIRST WEEK OF ANY GIVEN SEMESTER unless a classroom teacher and the guidance counselor initiate the process in a special academic circumstance.

## Advanced Classes

Students who choose to take Advanced Placement courses receive weighted grades. Advanced Placement students are required to take the AP test. Post-secondary Enrollment Option courses will follow state PSEO guidelines and will not be given a weighted grade.

on the basis of their physical strengths and abilities. The National Youth Physical Fitness (Marine Corps League) test will be given.

Eligible for PSEO are Junior and Senior students. State Guidelines for PSEO are as follows:

“PSEO allows high school juniors and seniors to take courses, full or part-time, at a post secondary institution for high school credit. Eligibility: Any public, non-public, home school or American Indian-controlled tribal contract or grant student classified as an 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grader and accepted by a post-secondary institution, may enroll either full or part-time in nonsectarian courses or programs at that post-secondary institution. Students participating in cultural exchange programs are not eligible. Nonpublic schools are not required to follow all sections of the PSEO law. Students are not permitted to take remedial, developmental or other courses not considered college level. Credits received at a post-secondary institution are on the student’s record and count as courses completed at that institution. Transferring credits to another institution is dependent upon the transfer rules of that institution. PSEO students should expect to be subject to the same procedures and/or penalties as any other high school student when withdrawing from or failing a course. Students are responsible for delivering their post-secondary grades to the high school for recording.”

Martin Luther High School Guidelines for PSEO are as follows:

1. Students taking part in PSEO classes (on MLHS campus or off) must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 prior to enrolling in PSEO classes.
2. MLHS does not allow full time off campus PSEO until the senior year
3. PSEO classes can substitute for MLHS graduation requirements except:
  - Religion courses: Religion courses are required by MLHS for graduation. In order to meet this requirement a student may take Religion III and Religion IV their junior year at Martin Luther High School. They may also take Religion IV at MLHS while taking PSEO courses OR take the required religion course their senior year through one of the MO. Synod Concordia’s or through Bethany College in Mankato. (Courses must be approved by MLHS administration)
  - Social Studies Courses: A student must complete one semester of a government course in order to meet MLHS graduation requirements (Courses must be approved by MLHS administration)
4. Refer to “Academic Policies” on page 8 of the hand book for further information on graduation requirements.

Students participating in on or off campus PSEO classes may not substitute independent study for a required class.

### ***HEALTH: .5 credit needed for graduation***

**Health:** .5 Credit. One semester/Grade 9. The Health course will cover the essentials necessary to maintain a healthy body. Included will be the study of drugs, alcohol, tobacco, appearance, nutrition and weight control, and infectious and non-infectious diseases. Students will view various videos and DVD’s, which will help in learning new information. They will be required to complete a major project on a health topic in connection with their English course.

### **Fine Arts**

***VISUAL ARTS: 2.0 credits of any fine arts is needed for graduation. May only take one hour per year.***

**Art I: Color-** .5 Credit. One semester/Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12. Fine Arts elective. Students will work with watercolor, acrylic, tempera, oil pastels, tie dye, printmaking, chalk and in clay.

**Art II: Paper-** .5 Credit. One semester/Grades 9, 10, 11, or 12. Fine Arts elective. Students will work with paper molas, paper maché, mask making, collage, paper mosaics, cut paper designs, paper relief sculptures, paper folding, calligraphy, and an optional clay unit.

**Television Broadcast Production:** 1 Credit. Year/Grades 11 or 12. Fine Arts elective. This course provides instruction and field experience in all areas of television broadcast production, including camera and recording formats, video editing, and live event production. In order to receive full benefit of this course, the student should be available during and after school hours to be able to participate in live broadcast capture. This is NOT a requirement; however, the student will not gain knowledge of all course content without experiencing live video capture situations. Production projects are aired on Fairmont Cable Channel 12.

ming with an emphasis on how the programs written are applicable to the “real world”. This course can be utilized to fulfill a math or science graduation requirement.

**Advanced Placement Computer Science:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite-Intro to Programming. Advanced Placement courses receive weighted grades. This course is the equivalent of a college level computer science course. It incorporates object orientated programming using the JAVA language. All students in Advanced Placement courses must take the A.P. test. College credit can be gained depending on the college at which the student is enrolled.

***BUSINESS: 1 credit general elective.***

**Accounting:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 12 elective. This course develops skill in the basic accounting cycle, subsidiary ledgers, and necessary journals. Double entry accounting is taught, enabling the student to apply basic accounting skills necessary for personal or professional use. This course may be considered either general education or vocational, depending on the objective of the student. The students will perform complete fiscal period accounting procedures for business simulations.

**Career Development:** .5 Credit. One semester/Grade 11 or 12 elective. This course is designed to give students a work experience while incorporating skills required obtaining employment. Students will work at a job in a field related to their future profession. Requirements of the course include filling out paper work needed to obtain employment (such as a job application, resume, thank-you letter, etc.), evaluating their interests and abilities from the work experience, and working on the job a minimum of five hours per week. This course may be repeated if approved by the administration.

**Health and Wellness**

***PHYSICAL EDUCATION: 2.0 credits needed for graduation.***

**Physical Education I:** 1 Credit each. Year/Grade 9, 10, 11, or 12. It is firmly believed that as Christians we need to give glory to God by caring for and using our bodies and our minds. Therefore, these courses will serve to teach the student how to develop a healthy body and mind, and also how to care for that body during the rest of his/her life. In Physical Education basic skills of physical fitness and proper bodily maintenance will be stressed. Students will be assessed according to their progress, cooperation and attitudes rather than solely

**Grading Standards:**

Each course will be graded per quarter and semester. The following scale will determine semester grades:

First Quarter	40%	Third Quarter	40%
Second Quarter	40%	Fourth Quarter	40%
Semester Final	20%	Semester Final	20%

Semester finals will be given in all academic core courses. In order to receive credit for the semester in each course, a student must pass at least two of three grading elements, i.e. must pass at least both quarters or one quarter and the semester final exam. The combined average of the three elements must be at least 65% to pass and receive credit. To determine the semester grade, the percentage score of each quarter will be doubled and the semester examination percentage will be added once. The total will be divided by five and the number converted back to the proper letter grade. Each semester course will receive .5 units.

Seniors will be excused from the final exam in each subject in the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of their senior year if they had an “A” average in that subject for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters combined.

Letter grades reflect academic progress:

100 - 99%	A+	
98 - 95%	A = Superior	
94 - 92%	A-	4 (3.5 - 4.0)
91 - 89%	B+	
88 - 86%	B = Good	
85 - 83%	B-	3 (2.5 - 3.4)
82 - 78%	C+	
77 - 75%	C = Satisfactory	
74 - 72%	C-	2 (1.5 - 2.4)
71 - 69%	D+	
68 - 67%	D = Poor, conditionally passed	
66 - 65%	D-	1 (0.5 -1.4)
64% or below	F = Failing	0 (0.4 and below)

WF - Withdrew Failing      WP - Withdrew Passing

Med - Medical Excused Physical Education - with doctor verification  
I - Incomplete work due to illness, verified by doctor NC - No Credit  
Individual quarter grades may be given in terms of a plus or a minus; however, semester grades will not.

In addition to letter grades, numbered comments will indicate effort, conduct, class participation, conference desired, etc. Satisfactory (S) or Unsatisfactory (U) will determine level of compliance with Study Hall guidelines. Honor Roll students may not receive a "U".

The grades are a combination of test scores, daily assignments, class work, quizzes, and class participation depending on each individual instructor's method of evaluation. All grades are passing except an "F". Only semester grades are final and are permanently recorded in the student's file. Before a grade "D", "F" or "U" is given to any student, in any class, any quarter, parents are to be notified in writing with the progress reports and by phone or writing at least two weeks prior to the end of the quarter, when possible.

We have implemented a new school management system. ChurchWerks (Cornerstone) Student Information System (SIS) is a Web based application that allows students, teachers, parents and administrators to easily communicate, share information and manage their tasks. ChurchWerks (Cornerstone) SIS unites your school community around a single powerful database, eliminating duplicate data entry and saving time for teaching and caring. Parents can view their student progress and account information to stay informed and involved. Students can connect with detailed course information, grades, assignments, e-mail, and communication tools. After the registration process is complete, parents and students will each receive personal login information.

### **Honor Roll:**

There are two categories on the Honor Roll: "Honor Roll with Distinction", which requires a 3.50 or better with no "C" grade or below; and the "Honor Roll" which requires a 3.0 average with no grade lower than a "C". No "Honor Roll" classification can be given to any student receiving a "U" grade.

Letters of academic achievement are given to students earning a grade-point average of 3.50 (honor roll with distinction) for three quarters out of four quarters in the school year, and achieving at their academic potential.

### **Graduation Honors:**

Graduating with honors requires a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better for the first seven semesters of attendance.

Graduating seniors will be honored for their seven-semester cumulative

God's creation of the physical and chemical earth. An investigative approach is utilized that emphasizes chemical composition, properties, interactions, and transformations. Laboratory work is an integrated part of the course.

**Physics:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 11 or 12 elective. Prerequisite- Algebra I and Geometry. A course designed to acquaint the student with practical and theoretical applications in the areas of heat, light, sound, forces, machines, energy and electricity. An emphasis will be placed on the laboratory and problem-solving approach in the development of concepts of the physical world. Highly math oriented.

**Advanced Biology:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 11 or 12 elective. Prerequisite- Physical Science and Biology. The level of this class is geared toward students in anatomy and physiology who are pursuing careers in allied health fields. Students must have background in physical and biological sciences.

**Environmental Science:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 11 or 12 elective. Will not replace Physical Science or Biology. Environmental Science is not only learning about science, it is about learning the complex issues facing our environment. Students explore different points of view and a variety of differing opinions. As their knowledge and skills in environmental science grow, students will be able to draw their own conclusions about the issues that are facing our environment.

1. How could the demise of a seemingly unimportant insect cause severe damage to the rain forest in which it lives?
2. How could the watering of a lawn affect the quality of a nearby stream?
3. How could a population of iguanas help save a rain forest from destruction?
4. How could recycling an aluminum can help save fossil fuels and reduce both air and water pollution?
5. How could the exhaust from cars in New York City contribute to the decline of salmon in Canada?

### ***TECHNOLOGY: .5 credits needed for graduation***

**Computer Applications:** .5 Credit. 1 Semester/Grade 9. Computer Applications is a one semester, introductory course using Microsoft Office 97. Applications that are covered are word processing, spreadsheets, and presentations. (Students may test out by successfully demonstrating competency in all Office programs. Testing is available the first week of school.)

**Introduction to Programming:** .5 Credit. 1 Semester/Grade 10,11 or 12 elective. Prerequisite- Algebra I or by permission. This will be a full year course in computer programming that covers advanced BASIC program-

quadratic functions and equations, polynomials, rational expressions, and trigonometry. Exponential and logarithmic functions are covered. Students are required to provide the scientific calculator necessary for this course.

**Pre-Calculus:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite-Algebra I, II and Geometry. This a course designed for those students wishing to continue the demanding discipline of mathematics and also to progress into a college environment in a math-related field. Analytical geometry, functions, quadratic functions, polynomials, trigonometry, exponential and logarithmic functions, and solving systems of equations using matrices will be covered. If time permits, sequences, probability, conics, derivatives, and integrals will be introduced.

**Consumer Math:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite- Pre-Algebra or Algebra I. The course is designed to give the graduating senior a practical course in utilizing mathematics in real life situations. Number theory and concepts are not covered, but arithmetic is used daily to compute (for example) the best cost/value purchase, which form of a loan offers the least interest, etc.

**Advanced Placement Calculus:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite-Pre-Calculus. Advanced Placement courses receive weighted grades. This course is the equivalent of a college level Calculus I course. It incorporates the study of limits, derivatives, and integrals. All students in Advanced Placement courses must take the A.P. test. College credit can be gained depending on the college at which the student is enrolled.

***SCIENCE: 3.0 credits needed for graduation.***

**Introductory Physical Science:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 9. A first course in science, laboratory oriented, with no prerequisites, the course is designed around a “hands on “ approach. Basic laboratory technique and the process of science are stressed with the desired objective being an experimentally derived understanding of matter’s atomic nature and appreciation of the created physical world. A special emphasis is given to energy and alternatives to improve our environment.

**Biology:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 10. A course designed to study God’s creation of the human body. Strong emphasis is placed on the anatomical and physiological functions of the human body, nutrition and digestion within the human body, and disease happening in the human body. Also, there is curriculum based on research in genetics and advanced technology that may be approaching in the future.

**Chemistry:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 11 or 12 elective. Prerequisite- Algebra I. A laboratory oriented course that undertakes a study of

high school grade point average. Grades for AP and PSEO are based on a 5 -point scale. To qualify for the two graduation speaking honors, the students must have met all Graduation Requirements listed in the Curriculum Handbook or the Student Handbook including at least one Advanced Placement course, Pre-Calculus, Physics, and two years of one foreign language. Post-secondary Enrollment Option courses follow state PSEO guidelines and do not substitute for Advanced Placement courses. The two speakers must have attended Martin Luther High School both semesters of their senior year. Grade Point Average is carried 4 points to the right of the decimal.

Graduating seniors will be honored for their seven-semester cumulative high school grade point average. This differs from the final transcripts that contain all eight semesters.

**Mid Quarter Reports:**

You will be notified by email when mid-quarter progress reports have been released in Cornerstone for you to view. Parents are encouraged to attend the parent-teacher conference and speak with the teacher concerning these progress reports. Ineligible students are allowed to practice or rehearse but may not perform in any extra-curricular activity. In the case of mid-term ineligibility only, a student will have a minimum of 1(one) week and a maximum of 2(two) weeks to raise the grade(s) during which time the student is ineligible. The ineligibility period is a seven day period, starting with the day the progress reports come out. If the student has not achieved a 2.0 combined average and is not passing all classes after two weeks, he will remain ineligible until the next quarter report card.

**Quarterly Reports:**

A student who is ineligible due to the grades on the quarterly report card will not be allowed to play or perform but will be allowed to practice or rehearse until the mid-term review reflects that the required minimums have been achieved.

**Parent/Teacher Relationships:**

As partners in Christian Education, it is vital to the student's well being that we maintain open parent-teacher communications. Regular parent/teacher conferences are scheduled just prior to the mailing of the quarterly progress reports for the first and third quarters.

In addition to the scheduled conference days, the faculty is available for individual conferences. Parents are encouraged to contact the faculty directly whenever any type of difficulty is encountered or to commend them when something positive occurs. The Administrator is also available for consultation.

Department Offerings

Languages Department

**ENGLISH- 4.0 Credits needed to graduate**

**English I:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 9. No Prerequisite. Required for freshmen. During the course of the year, distinct attention will be placed on the fundamental skills of the English language including grammar, vocabulary, spelling and writing. In addition, time will be spent studying works of basic literature, including short stories, poetry, drama, the epic and the novel. Students may also complete book reports (written and oral) and will write a short research paper. It is fully intended that this course serves as a solid base for further study in the communicative arts during the next three years of high school.

**English II:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 10. Required of sophomores. In addition to serving as a continuation of English I, this course will cover areas of communication that the student has not yet studied. Students will review grammar, vocabulary and spelling skills, as well as study literature and writing. The literature portion of the course will include works in the areas of fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama. Students will also study the novel, both as a work of literature and as a basis for critical analysis. The fundamentals of research will be reviewed, and students will write a research paper along with completing two book reports (written and oral).

**English III:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 11. Required of juniors, unless in A.P. English. The next step in the communication process will include not only a review of basic English skills, but also begin the process of abstract thinking. Students will be taught to analyze a piece of literature for structure, content and implication. This will involve major writing assignments on specific occasions. Strict attention will be given to skills such as public speaking and grammar. As with English II, English III serves as a continuation of all English skills and techniques. The student will also delve into the world of the American short story. More attention will be placed on poetry and drama than was in the preceding courses. Students will continue to write several reports.

**English IV:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 12. Required of seniors, unless in A.P. English. English IV will concentrate on preparing the student for college and life skills. Students will learn to appreciate longer works of literature and will also try their hand at creating their own pieces of literature. Strong emphasis will be placed on writing skills such as analysis and thought process argumentation and on communication and public speaking skills. In addition, students will examine British literature.

**PSEO History of Western Civilization II:  
Renaissance to the Present**

.5 Credit Year/Grade 12 elective.

The History of Western Civilization II will focus on the history of Europe and Europe's interactions from the Renaissance to the present. This course will not only provide a narrative of events and movements, but will also help the student to develop an understanding of the some of the principal themes in modern European history, including social, political, intellectual, diplomatic, and cultural themes; ability to analyze historical evidence; ability to analyze and to express historical understanding in writing.

In addition the student will develop their personal view of their role as Christians in a secular world and recognize Gods gifts of diversity among individuals, cultures, beliefs and customs.

Science and Reasoning

**MATHEMATICS: 3.0 Credits needed for graduation**

**Pre-Algebra:** 1 Credit. Year/No prerequisite. Pre-algebra is a course designed for students to help them prepare for algebra. Pre-algebra enables a student to successfully make the transition between arithmetic and algebra. A review of all necessary arithmetic skills is covered and the basic Algebra skills are introduced. Topics covered are equations and various operations on equations, factorization, fractions, integers, rational numbers, ratio, proportion, percent, geometry, etc.

**Algebra I:** 1 Credit. Year/No prerequisite. This course develops and deals with concepts of real numbers, linear equations, inequalities, polynomials, graphs, quadratic equations, solving equations and additional topics as time allow. Satisfactory completion of this course is required for further study in chemistry, physics, geometry, Computers I and Algebra II. A scientific calculator is required for this course.

**Geometry:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite-successful completion of Algebra I. This course is a study in Euclidean geometry utilizing formal deductive proof methodology. By using this method, a greater understanding of theorems and proofs is made available to apply logic and predetermined definitions in solving a problem not completely related to geometry.

**Algebra II:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite-successful completion of Algebra I. Algebra II is a continuation and expansion of the subject matter covered in Algebra I with an additional emphasis placed on graphing,

historical trends, themes and concepts. Students will be able to determine essential questions, investigate for answers in a variety of sources, draw conclusions, and present their interpretations. In other words they will become better critical thinkers and more able researchers. This class is designed to lead students toward a better understanding of the world in which they live. Global Studies II integrates important geographic information with the study of world history. After a review of the Renaissance, Global Studies II will explore the Reformation, Scientific Revolution, French Revolution, Industrial Revolution, Imperialism, First and Second World War, the Cold War and Nationalism in Asia, Africa and Latin America in the Twentieth Century.

**United States History:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 11. This course is interested primarily with the history of the United States from the time Europeans set foot in the Western Hemisphere until the present day. In the examination of our country's history, we will focus upon important dates and events along with important cultural developments and customs, which affect us to this day. Finally we will discover how our past has brought us to our present position in today's world. It is said that you cannot understand today until you know your yesterdays. The study of our history will prove this to be true.

**American Government and Current Events:** .5 Credit. Year/Grade 12. In order to be an informed and functioning citizen of the United States, a person must be able to understand the workings of his/her government and how to interact with it. This course will focus upon the meaning of democracy, the history of the government of the United States, what government is, and finally what our government looks like and how it functions. It is said that democracy cannot exist without an educated electorate. Our study's goal will be a fulfillment of that saying. As part of this course, students will study current world events and discuss their political, cultural and economic impact on society.

**History Through Film:** .5 Credit. Year/Grade 12 elective. As seniors prepare to go into the world, they need to be prepared to apply their knowledge and ability to learn in society to make decisions for themselves. This course involves watching a series of movies in class that depict "real events" in history and then scrutinizing the films to see if the movie-makers have done history justice in their interpretations. Too many times, we take the things we see on TV, or in the movies, as truth without first taking the time to check the facts for ourselves. The movies will encompass all eras of history.

### **PSEO: Introduction to Literature**

Prerequisite—successful completion of English II

½ credit (MLHS); 4 credits (Concordia University-St. Paul)

This course will study and analyze elements of prose, poetry and drama in English from earlier periods through contemporary. It will emphasize critical reading of literature and include such genres as short story, novel, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Students will analyze works orally in class discussion and in writing of essays, book reports, etc.

### **PSEO: College Composition**

Prerequisite—successful completion of English II

½ credit (MLHS); 4 credits (Concordia University-St. Paul)

The content of a writing course is writing. For students to become proficient writers in all disciplines, they need to learn how to read and analyze a variety of texts and then practice reading and analyzing texts from various disciplines. Through research and writing, students learn what others are saying and how to integrate those ideas into their own writing. Constant practice will guide students into developing their own voice and style. They will make conscious choices related to audience and academic conventions.

**Sustained Silent Reading (SSR):** Required for everyone-no credit.

SSR will take place during a 15 minute period daily between chapel and 2nd period classrooms. Objectives include: improved reading comprehension, greater enjoyment of reading, more frequent engagement in outside pleasure reading, belief in self as a better reader, utilization of a wider range of sources for pleasure reading.

### **WORLD LANGUAGES: 2.0 Credits needed to graduate**

**Spanish I:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 10 or 11 *Navegando 1* is the textbook used for teaching secondary students the basics of the Spanish language, especially as the language spoken in Latin America. The student will be able to meet basic survival needs and courtesy requirements, such as greeting and taking leave, asking and answering simple questions, and taking one's name and age. The student will be able to perform certain functions with the language, such as ordering a meal, making purchases, following directions, and making small talk about family, church, school, and sports. In addition, the student should be able to describe and relate events in the present and preterit tenses, express future time, and have a notion of gender, number, and subject-verb agreement.

**Spanish II:** 1 Credit. Year/Prerequisite successful completion of Spanish I. *Navegando 2* will be used for the second year of Spanish. It builds on the basics of Spanish I and helps students communicate in new areas such as the store, the hotel, and the doctor's office. They will learn the imperfect and the subjunctive tenses. Reading exercises include Bible passages and cultural studies.

### **Humanities Department**

#### ***RELIGION: 4.0 Credits needed for graduation***

**Religion I- Old Testament Bible:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 9. The Bible is the place where we meet God through His Word. In the freshmen year, a systematic study of the Old Testament is undergone. Particular emphasis is given to key events and relationships between God and His people through whom He fulfilled His promise to send a Savior. A great deal of emphasis will also be placed on how the content of the Old Testament is relevant for the Christian today in our modern world. Other matters of interest may be pursued given sufficient time, interest from the students of the class, or at the discretion of the instructor.

**Religion II- New Testament Bible:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 10. In the Bible we meet the central focus of our faith, Jesus Christ. In the sophomore year, the study of the New Testament is two fold. First, an in-depth study of the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is undertaken. Secondly, an overview of the beginning of the Christian church from Pentecost through the journeys of St. Paul will be done. Time permitting, other topics of interest may be brought in such as the development of the Christian church in the centuries following the Apostles. Subjects suggested by the class might also be included, time permitting.

**Religion III- Christian Doctrine and Comparative Religions:** 1 Credit. Semester/Grade 11. The Bible is the source of all we believe. However, in order to become strong in our faith and to confess what we believe in an orderly manner, it is useful to study the many different doctrines found in the Bible. For example, what do the Scriptures have to say about God, man, sin, Jesus, justification, vocation, the Church, the Sacraments, etc.? How has the Church taught these Biblical teachings in both ancient and modern times? To study the chief doctrines of the Holy Scripture in an orderly manner, this class will use as its basis the Augsburg Confession, the first great confession of Lutheranism, which clearly confesses these fundamental Biblical teachings. These Biblical truths will then be

compared to the various branches of Christianity to see how the different denominations of Christianity are similar and different.

We live in a world full of religions and cults, which challenge our Christian faith. In order to be able to know and express our Christian faith better and not to be deceived by falsehood which says it is the truth, we focus our attention upon what the major world religions and cults teach. First a basic overview of what the major world religions and cults teach is conducted. Secondly, a comparison between these non-Christian groups and the Christian faith is made. Finally, some methods are examined that Christians can use to respond to those who are outside the Christian church and are in cults or non-Christian religions.

**Religion IV – 1 credit.** Year/Grade 12 We live in a world with many competing Worldviews – the presuppositions and beliefs that inform our decisions and values. In the senior year, we explore the six major worldviews present in our society today: Biblical Christian, Islamic, Secular Humanist, Marxist-Leninist, Cosmic Humanist (New Age Movement) and Postmodern. We compare and contrast their views on the major disciplines of life: Theology, Philosophy, Biology, Ethics, Law, Politics, Economics, History, Sociology, and Psychology. In the context of these disciplines, we also explore a Biblical Christian approach to current events in light of God's Word (Creation vs. Evolution, Radical Environmentalism, Homosexuality, Radical Feminism, Abortion, Suffering, Euthanasia, etc.). The ultimate goal is to help solidify the faith of students in a logical, rational and persuasive Christian worldview and equip them to apply Scripture to every area of life.

#### ***SOCIAL STUDIES: 4.0 Credits needed for graduation***

**Global Studies I:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 9. As children of God, it is essential that we have a general and specific knowledge of the world's physical and human resources as well as an understanding of historical trends, themes and concepts. Students will be able to determine essential questions, investigate for answers in a variety of sources, draw conclusions, and present their interpretations. In other words they will become better critical thinkers and more able researchers. This class is designed to lead students toward a better understanding of the world in which they live. Global Studies I integrates important geographic information with the study of world history. Global Studies I will explore the early civilizations of the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Americas, Ancient Greece and Rome, and Medieval Europe and the Renaissance.

**Global Studies II:** 1 Credit. Year/Grade 10. As children of God, it is essential that we have a general and specific knowledge of the world's physical and human resources as well as an understanding of