

# MISSION STATEMENT

In the spirit of St. Francis,  
the mission of  
Cardinal O'Hara High School  
is to provide a holistic  
Catholic-Christian environment  
that addresses the  
uniqueness of the individual  
in a total community of learners.

**In the Franciscan Tradition...**

**CARDINAL O'HARA**  
*High School* Est. 1961  
Tonawanda, NY

## COURSE CATALOG & GRADING POLICY

2012-2013



*Academic Achievement - Our Highest Priority*

# CARDINAL O'HARA HIGH SCHOOL

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2012-2013 Academic School Year

## Mission Statement

In the spirit of St. Francis, the mission of Cardinal O'Hara High School is to provide a holistic Catholic-Christian environment that addresses the uniqueness of the individual in a total community of learners.

## Diversity Statement

Cardinal O'Hara High School, as a Franciscan community, seeks to provide a setting for students to grow in faith, love, and hope by serving the poor and working for social justice. As a community of learners, we are strongly committed to the belief that multi-cultural understanding transcends time and place. It transcends trends in technology, educational styles, political correctness and ascends to the level of fundamental human principles of dignity, justice, and understanding necessary to the survival of humanity itself. To this end, Cardinal O'Hara High School actively seeks to educate students to live in a globalized world through celebration and understanding of the world's many cultures and traditions. It therefore becomes incumbent upon us, as a school, to actively pursue academic excellence through including and integrating students who represent all different groups. Through this endeavor, we hope to follow the example of Christ, as interpreted through St. Francis, of serving the poor and being the voice of those who cannot speak for themselves.

## NEW -CULINARY & HOSPITALITY PROGRAM

COHS is excited to offer a well known national program called ProStart to our students. This new two-year program teaches our students all facets of the restaurant and foodservice industry. Students will discover and learn the personal and professional performance standards needed to be successful in this field. It can open doors for fulfilling careers. Students wanting to earn the ProStart National Certificate of Achievement are required to complete the two years, pass two national exams, and complete 400 hours of mentored work experience. This is an excellent program that provides any student with real-world educational opportunities.

## BOARD OF COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (BOCES)

Listed below are one and two year education programs offered through the Kenton BOCES or Niagara/Orleans Occupational Center. Students interested should contact the Student Services/Guidance Department for further information. Most career and technical education programs are two-years (junior and senior). Dual registration is required for this program. **Transportation may be the responsibility of the student.**

### Program Options:

Auto Collision Repair	Culinary Skills	Building Trades
Automotive Technology	Early Childhood Skills	Welding
Criminal Justice	Cosmetology	Electrical Systems
Graphic Design Technology	Fashion Design & Merchandising etc.	

### **Health Careers – Allied Health Tech Prep Program & Introduction to Nursing**

These are programs for students interested in a career in the health profession. Students must have taken Earth Science, Living Environment, Chemistry, Integrated Algebra, Geometry, and taking Algebra II. In Allied Health, students will receive their technical training at DeGraff Memorial Hospital and through internships with community health care professionals. Transportation may be the responsibility of the student.

### **New Visions Honors Level One Year CTE Senior Program Options:**

Health Related Careers	Legal Academy	Education Academy
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## **UNITED STATES HISTORY & GOVERNMENT HONORS**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

Students will discuss and interpret major personalities, events, and philosophies of American History. Students will be required to complete each of the following: a project in participatory government and economics, a term paper, and historical book report, and maintain a minimum of an 85% average grade. All students enrolled in this course can challenge the AP American History Exam in May of their junior year. All participation in this course take a local and NYS Regents exam.

**Prerequisite:** An 85% or better on the NYS Regents Exam in Global II and permission of the Instructor

## **ECONOMICS / PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

The first half of this course presents the student with an examination of the operation of a market economy, income analysis, elements of monetary and fiscal policy, the market system, role of government, economic growth and stability, and the United States economy and its effect on the rest of the world. The second half of year will survey the functions and roles of city, county, and state governments. Students will be able to see inter-relationships of these governments and their responses to the federal system. It is a practical course, which illustrates how personal and community problems can be resolved. A research project is required. Course required by NYS for all seniors.

**Prerequisite:** United States History & Government

## **STREET LAW I & II**

### **Both Semester Courses (1/2 credit)**

Course covers the aspects of law that directly affect the lives of students. Topics include: student rights, “the job” and the law, family law and child custody, religion and school, and juvenile justice. This course examines how personal choices can change your life.

**Prerequisite:** None

## **WELCOME**

The faculty and staff of Cardinal O’Hara High School welcome you to the 2012-2013 school year. New educational opportunities await you and we look forward to helping you grow and learn.

Cardinal O’ Hara has, through the years, developed customs, traditions and procedures designed to serve the best interests of all. Essentially these procedures are:

- \*Repeat yourself with confidence and pride
- \*Treat people with dignity and respect
- \*Give every learning opportunity your best effort
- \*To get respect, you must respect others
- \*Take ownership of your actions

Be assured that the faculty and staff will make every effort to fulfill their responsibility to you and the community we serve. We, in turn, expect the your cooperation and support in maintaining the standards of excellence that have led you to choose Cardinal O’Hara High School .

### **Administration and Directors**

#### **Mr. Michael Rizzo**

Board President

#### **Mrs. Mary Holzerland**

Principal

#### **Mr. Angelo Sciandra**

Vice President

#### **Ms. Michelle L. Willard**

School Counselor

Coordinator for Special Education

#### **Mrs. Laura Meli**

School Counselor

#### **Mrs. Renee Orr**

Advancement

#### **Mrs. Eileen Klipfel**

Enrollment

#### **Mrs. Carol Tabor**

Business

### **Department Chairs**

#### **Ms. Joanne Pera**

English

#### **Mr. Michael Limina**

Foreign Language

#### **Mr. Jordan Martin**

Social Studies

#### **Mrs. Jeanne Wantz**

Religion

#### **Mrs. Helene Herby**

Fine Arts

#### **Mr. Michael Norwood**

Science

#### **Mr. Brian Lamping**

Technology/Business

Technology Coordinator

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## SOCIAL STUDIES

### GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY I

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

The ninth grade global studies course concentrates on major world culture regions: Latin America, The Middle East, Africa, India, East Asia, and Southeast Asia, with an emphasis on the interaction of man and his environment. An overview of the geography of each region is also included.

**Prerequisite:** None

### GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY I HONORS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course will present students with a conceptual global view of our changing world community. The course is chronologically organized around five themes characteristic of all societies: physical/geographic, historical, social, economic, and political. The ninth grade program will include the global regions of Latin America, Africa, The Middle East, India, China, Japan, and Southeast Asia.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of the Instructor

### GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY II

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

The culture, geography, and history of Western Europe and Eastern Europe are presented. Special stress is given to topics such as nationalism, colonialism, and conflicting ideologies. Required for sophomores. Students are required to take the NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** Global Studies I

### GLOBAL HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY II HONORS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Includes a comprehensive study of Latin America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, and the Soviet Union. A concluding unit explores the challenges, which confront the entire world. Students are required to take the Global Studies NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** Maintained an 85% class average in Global I Honors, and permission of the Instructor

### UNITED STATES HISTORY & GOVERNMENT

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

The course includes a Chronological and conceptual study of the development of American Government, and the application of the United States Constitution. Also, students will regard the political, social, and economic maturity of the United States from the Colonial Period to the present day. Students are required to take the NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** Global Studies II

## PHYSICS

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Physics is a comprehensive course dealing with real world phenomena at the macroscopic, subatomic, and cosmic levels. A broad range of topics will be covered, including: mechanics, energy, electricity and magnetism, wave phenomena, modern physics and at least 2 of the following: motion in plane, internal energy, electromagnetic applications, and nuclear energy. Students must complete 1200 minutes of laboratory time for the NYS Regents examination that is required for this course. Students interested in science related careers are encouraged to take this course.

**Prerequisite:** Three years of Regents Mathematics and two years of Regents Science

## FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGINEERING

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Fundamentals of Engineering is a course designed to introduce students to advanced science and engineering topics. The course will allow students to explore multiple topics at their own pace individually and in groups. The course does not center on a traditional lecture-based style. Instead, students are challenged to do assignments that lead them through various topics including advanced physics topics, fundamentals of engineering, computer sciences, and robotics.

**Prerequisite:** Physics and Algebra II and Trigonometry, or, with instructor approval, have taken and passed Algebra II and Trigonometry and are concurrently enrolled in Physics.

## HUMAN ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

### Full Year Course (1 credit) - SUNY College Credit available

#### Grade Level: 11-12

This is an upper level course geared toward students interested in health-related careers. It is also open to students interested in pursuing biological studies in college. Dissection will provide students with anatomical examples of structures. Practical lab assessments and written tests will be completed in class. Students may register to earn college credit for an additional fee.

**Prerequisite:** At least 80% average in Living Environment and Chemistry

## CARDINAL O'HARA COURSE GUIDLINES

### Courses

1. Student schedules consist of required courses and elective courses. Required courses are those that the student must complete in order to graduate from Cardinal O'Hara High School. Electives are those courses that students can choose to take. The School Counselor will meet with your child each year to prepare their schedule for the following school year.
2. When possible, courses are described by the New York State Board of Regents.
3. Roman numerals (I, II, III, etc...) are used to designate courses with sequential subject content.
4. Courses with an asterisk (\*) may not be offered this year.

### Cardinal O'Hara High School Courses (Non-Regents courses)

These courses are developed by the Cardinal O'Hara Academic Committee and must be recommended by the school Principal, and then approved by the Board of Trustees. These courses are created in accordance to the guidelines and standards set by the New York State Department of Education. Religion courses are developed following the criteria set forth by the Diocese of Buffalo, New York.

### New York State Board of Regents Courses

These courses follow the New York State syllabus, which is developed and approved by the NYS Board of Regents. Students enrolled in Regents courses are required to take the state Regents assessment at the conclusion of the course. Students must demonstrate proficiency in required Regents courses to qualify for graduation. (Please refer to graduation requirements for further details).

### Honors Courses

These courses follow the same New York State syllabus as Regents courses. However, students enrolled in Honors courses are expected to meet additional requirements as determined by their teacher. These courses also require significantly more independent reading and study than other courses.

A student may be placed in Honors courses after a thorough review of their academic history and/or a recommendation from their teacher.

## Advanced Placement Courses

The College Entrance Examination Board develops and approves Advanced Placement courses. Advanced Placement courses are designed to provide motivated students with a challenging and rewarding curriculum. Students should anticipate extensive reading and written assignments. There will also be an additional fee for students taking the AP exams.

## College Courses

Through an agreement with local colleges, academically prepared students may earn up to 24 college credits during their junior and senior year of high school. In addition to completing all of their required courses at Cardinal O'Hara, these students may take up to two college courses per semester. The college charges a small tuition fee. The student should contact the college for more detailed information. Students interested in taking a course should meet with their school counselor.

## BOCES

Erie 1 BOCES offers a number of two year career and technical skills programs available to students in 11th and 12th grades. Students that successfully complete the BOCES program will earn a certificate indicating their achievement along with a total of six (6) high school credits. Students electing to enroll in a BOCES program must complete both years of the program to receive credit and/or certification. Students should also note that attending a BOCES program may require them to return for a fifth year of high school to complete any remaining requirements.

## Credits

1/2 unit of credit is awarded upon successful completion of a half-year (semester) course.

1 unit of credit is awarded upon successful completion of a full year course.

6 units of credit are awarded upon successful completion of a BOCES program.

## Exams / Assessments

All courses will include a final exam or project. The type of exam will depend on the course requirements and New York State standards. Please refer to section on Examinations/Assessments.

## Prerequisites

These are courses and/or assessments that must be met prior to enrollment in select courses.

## CHEMISTRY

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Regents Chemistry will cover the NYS Regents syllabus, which covers an extensive range of topics including: matter and energy, atomic structure, bonding, the periodic table, mathematics of chemistry, kinetics and equilibrium, acids and bases, redox reactions, electrochemistry, nuclear chemistry, and organic chemistry. In addition, students will carry out laboratory investigations and turn in written reports. Students must complete 1200 minutes of hands-on laboratory time and complete lab reports as a prerequisite for the Regents examination. Students enrolled in this course are required to take the NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** Math 10 and Earth Science or Living Environment

### INTRODUCTION TO CHEMISTRY \*

#### Full Year (1 credit)

This course is designed to introduce students to the world of chemistry. It is a vigorous tour through the topics included in Regents-Level Chemistry and involves individual research and exploration.

**Prerequisite:** Two prior credits of science

### OCEANOGRAPHY / MARINE SCIENCE \*

#### Semester Course (1/2 credit)

##### Grade Level: 11-12

This course examines the dynamic ocean and its inhabitants as well as factors that affect marine organisms and their ever-changing environment. Included in this is a study of ocean chemistry, ocean geology, ocean biology, and atmospheric variables.

**Prerequisite:** Living Environment

### METEOROLOGY \*

#### Semester Course (1/2 credit)

##### Grade Level: 11-12

This course is the scientific study of the Earth's atmosphere, especially its pattern of climate and weather. Topics that will be covered include: wind and air pressure, storms and weather fronts, floods and droughts, snow and ice, hurricanes, clouds and rainbows, and greenhouse effect.

**Prerequisite:** Living Environment

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

#### Semester Course (1 credit)

##### Grade Level: 11-12

This course is designed to make the students aware of the physical world around them, and the impact humans have on this world. The class will explore the current state of the world's environment, the impact of society's decisions on the environment, and what the future hold for our environment. Topics will include climate change, resource management, conservation pollution, and alternative energy.

**Prerequisite:** Living Environment

## SCIENCE

### LIVING ENVIRONMENT

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Living Environment is the study of living things and their interactions. This course is designed to help students apply scientific concepts, principals, and theories pertaining to the physical setting as well as the living environment. Students also learn to recognize the historical development of ideas in science and have an overview of the biological sciences, including biochemistry, cell biology, taxonomy, plant and animal physiology, ecology, genetics, and evolution. Along with class material, students are *must* complete a minimum of 1200 minutes of laboratory time to be eligible to take the NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** None

### LIVING ENVIRONMENT HONORS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This is a challenging course that will cover the Regents syllabus. The syllabus provides a comprehensive overview of the biological sciences, including biochemistry, cell biology, taxonomy, plant and animal physiology, ecology, genetics, and evolution. However, many of the key concepts and ideas will be studied in greater depth. In addition, more attention will be placed on the laboratory experiences and written reports. Critical thinking and problem solving will be emphasized.

Students are required to take the NYS Regents exam.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of Instructor

### EARTH SCIENCE

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Regents Earth Science is an extensive course that studies the following topics: observation and measurement of the changing environment, measuring the earth and its rotations, weather and atmospheric conditions, the water cycle, weathering and erosion, plate tectonics, volcanoes, and interpreting geologic history. Students must complete class material as well as a minimum of 1200 minutes laboratory time and complete lab reports as a prerequisite for the lab practical and written Regents examination. Students are required to take the NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** Living Environment

### EARTH SCIENCE HONORS \*

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This challenging course covers an extensive range of topics, including observation and measurement of the changing environment, measuring the earth and its motions, weather and atmospheric conditions, the water cycle, weathering and erosion, plate tectonics, volcanoes, and interpreting geologic history. Key concepts will be studied in greater depth than at the Regents Level and critical thinking and problem solving will be emphasized. In addition, greater attention will be given to lab investigations and environmental issues. Students must complete 1200 minutes of hands-on laboratory time and complete lab reports as a prerequisite for the lab practical and written Regents examination. Students are required to take the NYS Regents Exam.

**Prerequisite:** Living Environment & Permission of Instructor

## GRADING PROCEDURES

### Report Cards

Report Cards are mailed out on a quarterly basis (every 10 weeks). The report card provides a detailed summary of each student's academic achievement for that quarter.

### Interim Reports

Interim progress reports are available to parents at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup> weeks of school on the Parent Portal. These reports are designed to update parents on student progress between quarterly report cards.

### Passing / Failing

Most courses are assigned a numeric grade between 0 and 100. A passing grade is 65 or higher. In order for a student to receive credit for a course, their average for that course must be 65 or above. The average is calculated by adding each of the quarterly grades and final exam grade, and then dividing the sum by the total number of grades.

Students must earn a minimum grade of 55 on all non-regents (school) exams. Students scoring below that mark will not receive credit for passing the course, regardless of what their final average may be.

### Honor Roll

Academic achievement is the core of Cardinal O'Hara High School and it is the foundation of our school philosophy. Therefore, we place great emphasis on academic success and recognize outstanding students every quarter. Students must meet the following academic requirements in order to be recognized on one of Cardinal O'Hara's Honor Rolls.

**High Honors** – Students must earn an average of 95% or above.

**Honors** – Students must earn an average of 90% to 94.99%.

**Merit** – Students must earn an average of 85% to 89.99%.

**Black & Gold** – Students must be passing all subjects and show a significant improvement from one report card to the next. Students increasing their cumulative average by 5 point or more will be recognized for this honor.

### Summer Reading

Students are required to complete their assigned reading assignment and/or project during the summer. A list of the required readings are available on the Cardinal O'Hara website.

## EXAMINATIONS / ASSESSMENTS

### Cardinal O’Hara High School

School examinations are given for all non-regents courses. These exams are developed by Cardinal O’Hara teachers in conjunction with the department faculty, and approved by the Principal.

### Regents

Regents examinations are administered at either the end-of-course or end-of-sequence and are developed by the NYS Board of Regents. Students taking Regents courses are required to take the Regents examinations at the conclusion of the course(s) or sequence.

### Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement exams are offered to students enrolled in selected courses. These examinations are developed by the College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) and require students to exhibit in-depth understanding of course material. Students enrolled in these courses may take the AP Exams at their own expense (approximately \$86 per exam). Students are scored on a one to five scale, with five being the highest score. Many colleges grant elective credit to students earning a score of three and higher.

## CLASS RANKING

Students at each grade level are assigned a class rank as a result of their academic performance in comparison to their classmates. The student with the highest overall average at each grade level is ranked “one” in that class. The student with the second highest overall average is ranked “two”, etc...

Each student’s average is determined by calculating the average grade of all the credit bearing courses the student has taken in high school. When determining class rank, courses that are of Regents level and higher are given a weighted value. The chart below indicates the formula used to calculate the weighted average.

Regents courses	- Grade earned is multiplied by 1.02
Honors courses/ECC	- Grade earned is multiplied by 1.03
Advanced Placement courses	- Grade earned is multiplied by 1.05
College Credit/Dual credit courses	- Grade earned is multiplied by 1.05

\*Weighted averages are for class ranking purposes only. Actual course grades will appear on the student’s report cards and permanent record file. However, the class rank and overall average will reflect the weighted formula.

Senior Class Valedictorian and Salutatorian are determined by calculating the students’ cumulative averages at the end of the third quarter of their senior year.

### CHURCH HISTORY (and its Leaders through the Ages)

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course focuses on three types of students: Practicing Catholics, Non-Practicing, and students of other faith traditions. Using a variety of teaching and learning styles, this course engages the students in learning how the message of Jesus has existed in different societies and cultures over the last 20 centuries and to look at the Church through history with “eyes of faith.” In this course, students will study the Church, established by Jesus, how it was guided by the Holy Spirit and great spiritual leaders, and will trace the development of Church through the centuries; from the early Christian communities up to the Catholic Church in the Modern World. They will be able to articulate how Americans have reshaped Catholicism and gain an understanding of how the Church’s social teachings have made her a leading voice for justice in the world. In addition, the students will gain an appreciation of the roles Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI played in bringing the Church into a new millennium, and the role they play in shaping the Church of the future.

**Requirements:** Participation in class retreat and 35 hours of Christian service.

**Prerequisite:** Jesus of History/Christ of Faith

#### RELIGION 12

#### Full Year Course (Every third day- 1/2 Credit)

This course incorporates the materials from the past three years of religious education and applies it with one’s own personal assent and experiences. It provides the basis of developing a Christian lifestyle by examining changes in life. It also discusses the following topics: personal growth, work, money, suffering, sexuality, love, friendship, communication, dating, single life, marriage, and consecrated and ordained life.

**Requirements:** Participation in class retreat and 35 hours of Christian service.

**Prerequisite:** Church History and the Saints

#### ETHICS AND MORALS \*

#### Semester Course ( 1/2 credit)

This course will present moral principles throughout the ages. This includes Natural Law, Philosophy, Intro to Church Teachers, The Old Testament (Commandments), New Testament (Beatitudes), Jesus’ Greatest Commandment, basic Christian values, human development of conscience, and the moral development of a person. The role of the Church in presenting moral education will also be addressed. This Course will provide the foundation to specific moral and contemporary issues.

**Prerequisite:** None

*Dance con't.*

**ADVANCED DANCE \***

**Full Year Course (1 credit-4 days per cycle)**

This course builds upon the foundation established in Dance . The history of tap and jazz will continue with a review of the Minstrelsy Ear through Vaudeville Era. Students will be introduced in beginning choreography

**Prerequisite:** Dance

**RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

**UNDERSTANDING CATHOLIC CHRISTIANITY**

**Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course focuses on three types of students: Practicing Catholics, Non-Practicing Catholics, and students of other faith traditions. Using a variety of teaching and learning styles, the students are led to a meaningful understanding of their personal call to holiness and the means God provides for us to achieve our sanctification through the message of His Son, Jesus, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. They will be introduced to the basics of the doctrinal, sacramental and moral life of the Church founded by Jesus. Using evidence of Scripture, history, the teachings of the Catholic Church, and the experiences of many people, students will learn that the Catholic faith is worthy of belief. The communication of the Catholic/Christian faith traditions will be based on the four pillars of faith—creed, liturgy, morality, and prayer. Students will be invited and motivated to become involved in their Christian/religious communities, and in the lived practice of their own tradition.

**Requirements:** Participation in class retreat and 35 hours of Christian service.

**Prerequisite:** None

**JESUS OF HISTORY / CHRIST OF FAITH**

**Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course is a scriptural based study of the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, in which the student is invited to build a personal relationship with Jesus. It includes: foundation for faith in Jesus; a presentation of Jesus and the early Christian faith as viewed by the four Gospel portraits of the evangelists; a development of the background of Jesus' missions and ministry by an overview of Old Testament expectations; a focus on Jesus and his activity in Palestine, his human personality, message and miracles; a development of the Paschal Mystery and its meaning for contemporary Christians; a lead-in to personal commitment of faith in Christ by tracing the development of Christological faith in the Church, in titles, creeds, and councils. By personal, guided reflection used throughout this course, the student is provided with an opportunity to explore, imitate, and integrate Gospel values.

**Requirements:** Participation in class retreat and 35 hours of Christian service.

**Prerequisite:** Understanding Catholic Christianity

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS\*\***

Students must earn a minimum of 26 credits and meet the following requirements for graduation. Each student's progress will be monitored by the school counselor to ensure that they are on track to graduate.

<b>Courses</b>	<b>Regents Diploma</b>	<b>Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation</b>
English	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
Mathematics	3	3
Science	3	3
Religion	4 plus 35 service hours each year	4 plus 35 service hours each year
Physical Education	2	2
Health	.5	.5
Languages Other Than English	2	3
Art / Music	1	1
Computer Technology	.5	.5
Elective Credits	2.5	1.5
<b>Minimum Number of Credits</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>

**Students must earn the minimum number of credits in each subject area to qualify for graduation**

**NEW YORK STATE REGENTS  
EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

<b>Assessments Required for Graduation</b>	<b>**Regents</b>	<b>**Regents with Advanced Distinction</b>
English	Yes	Yes
Integrated Algebra	Yes	Yes
Geometry	No	Yes
Algebra 2/Trigonometry	No	Yes
Global History and Geography	Yes	Yes
US History and Government	Yes	Yes
Regents Science	Yes	Yes
2 <sup>nd</sup> Regents Science	No	Yes
Languages Other Than English	No	Yes-local exam

Students must score a 65 or higher on Regents examinations to meet graduation requirements.

**Community Service**

In the spirit of the St. Francis, all students are required to complete 35 service hours each year as well as the above stated requirements.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH**

**HEALTH**

**Semester Course (1/2 credit)**

This course explores different factors in human health. An overview of the following topics will be covered: wellness as a way of life, personal hygiene, nutrition, physical fitness, tobacco, alcohol, substance use and abuse, steroids, peer pressure, and AIDS

**Prerequisite:** None

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 9**

**Full Year Course (Alternating days – 1/2 credit)**

Students will be taught the rules, regulations, basic skills, and conditioning principle and sportsmanship in the sports of badminton, basketball, flag football, hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, track and field, volleyball, and new games. Importance of physical fitness, safety, and care and use of equipment will be implemented. Classes meet every third day.

**Prerequisite:** None

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 10**

**Full Year Course (Alternating days – 1/2 credit)**

The Basic skills of the sports learned in the first year will be further developed with a review of the rules and regulations. Classes meet every third day.

**Prerequisite:** Physical Education 9

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 11**

**Full Year Course (Alternating days – 1/2 credit)**

A better understanding of the strategy and concepts of team play will be taught in sport learned in the first two years. Classes meet every third day.

**Prerequisite:** Physical Education 10

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION 12**

**Full Year Course (Alternating days – 1/2 credit)**

Advanced strategies will be taught through actual team play, tournament, and in-class competition. Students will participate in co-ed badminton, softball, track and field, and volleyball. Classes meet every third day.

**Prerequisite:** Physical Education 11

**DANCE**

**Full Year Course (1 credit – 4 days per cycle)**

This course covers dance technique and classroom work. Tap technique will progress from specific footwork, to combination of steps, to set routine. Jazz technique covers the basic stretches, movements, body positions and different styles of jazz dance. This will progress from basic jazz steps, to combinations of steps, to set routine. Class work will include: keeping a notebook and learning the history of tap and jazz terminology and abbreviations. This class may be substituted for a physical education elective or art elective if taking physical education.

**Prerequisite:** None

## ALGEBRA II & TRIGONOMETRY

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This is the third course of the NYS Regents Math Program. The major topics include: rational expressions, irrational numbers, relations and functions, logarithmic functions, complex numbers, geometry of a circle, transformation, trigonometric functions, graphs, trigonometric evaluations and identities, statistics, and probability. A Local exam and the NYS Regents Math exam will be offered. The use of a TI 83+ graphing calculator is required for all students.

**Prerequisite:** completion of Geometry and 80% or higher on Regents exam, and/or permission of instructor

## ALGEBRA II & TRIGONOMETRY HONORS

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

See Algebra II & Trigonometry. Additional topics will be included. Use of a TI 83+ graphing calculator is required. Students will take a local and NYS Algebra II & Trigonometry Regents examination.

**Prerequisite:** Geometry Honors and permission of the instructor.

## PRE-CALCULUS

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course is intended for students who hope to pursue careers in science, engineering, business, and math. Topics will include: advanced algebra, analytic geometry, introduction to vectors, matrices, limits, derivatives, integrals, and the circular functions. Students who have a good interest in math, and have demonstrated an above average aptitude in math, will be considered for this course. A great deal of independent work is expected. A TI-83+ graphing calculator is required.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II/Trigonometry and permission of the instructor.

## ADVANCED PRE-CALCULUS

### Full Year (1 credit)

This honors level course introduces students to calculus (limits, derivatives and integrals) after strengthening algebraic and trigonometric skills. An in-depth functional analysis of rational and polynomial functions is a precursor to the study of calculus. Additional topics of study include: systems of equations and inequalities, linear programming, matrices and determinants, and mathematical induction. Mastery of the TI-83+ graphing calculator is assumed. A local exam will be given in June.

**Prerequisite:** Algebra II-Trig. Honors and permission of instructor.

## CALCULUS

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Calculus is an intense course, which may be accepted for college credit upon passing the AP Calculus Exam. Topics of Calculus along with Analytic Geometry will be covered. Independent work is expected and required. A TI-83+ graphing calculator is required. Students may register to take the AP examination.

**Prerequisite:** Advance Pre-Calculus with an 80% or better and permission of the instructor.

**Examination Fee:** Approximately \$86.00

## SPECIAL INFORMATION

### Promotion Guidelines

In order to achieve Senior status, a student must earn eighteen (18) credits, including successful completion of three units in English and three units in Social Studies. To achieve Junior status, a student must earn twelve (12) credits, including successful completion of two units in English and two units in Social Studies. To achieve Sophomore status, a student must earn six (6) credits, including successful completion of one unit in English and one unit in Social Studies.

### Repeating a Course

Failure in a course is determined by a final average below 65. The final grade earned in January (for a one semester course) or June may not be changed except for highly unusual circumstances, and then only by recommendation of the teacher and approval by the Principal.

A student may be allowed to repeat a full year course while taking the next course in the same subject field by recommendation of his/her counselor after consulting with the previous year's teacher and the current teacher. Each academic department may have specific procedures for repeating courses. Any exceptions must have the approval of the Principal.

### Schedule Change

Student should consult with his/her school counselor about any schedule concerns. Schedule changes are made only after careful consideration of the student's abilities and/or career aspirations. **Under no circumstances may a student simply stop attending a class or study period.**

If a student, his or her parents, the teachers, and the counselor agree that a schedule change is needed, an official drop/add form must be completed. A change is not considered final until all parties agreed to the change, and a new schedule has been created.

### Dropping a Course

A student may drop a course with no notification on the permanent record prior to end of the third week in September for a first semester or full year course. A student may drop a second semester course no later than the end of the second week in February. Dropping a course after these dates is not permitted. If a course is dropped, students are required to replace it with another course. Under no circumstances will a study hall be allowed.

## NCAA Freshmen Eligibility Standards

Student Athletes hoping to play sports in any Division I or II college or university are required to register with NCAA Clearinghouse towards the end of junior year. For detailed information on academic requirements and the registration process visit the NCAA website at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

## Independent Study

Independent Study credit may be granted for approved courses of study in the curriculum. A student who uses Independent Study as one of the courses required to maintain a full schedule must be assigned daily to a supervised area. Credit will be granted if a contract is drawn up stipulating the course content and grading procedures. Independent courses are a Pass/Fail grading system stated on report card and transcript. The breadth and depth of the course will reflect the applicable New York State Regents standards for learning and assessments. This contract will be created by the course instructor, and agreed to by the student and counselor. In addition, written permission is required by the parent) and final approval is needed from the Principal.

## Student Services/Guidance Department

The Guidance Department is designed to assist all students in their development toward becoming self-directed, respectful of themselves and others, responsible, and productive, caring citizens in the community. Our school counselors are trained professionals and experienced in helping students work through situations personally, socially, academically, as well as providing educational and career planning. Contact the Student Services Office for assistance, to schedule an appointment with the counselor, and/or set up teacher conferences.

## Library Media Center

The school library media program is designed to support the educational goals of Cardinal O'Hara. The Library Media Center provides an organized, diverse collection of materials in a variety of formats for students and teachers that supports and enriches the curriculum. The Library Media Specialist provides group and individual instruction in information skills, research strategies, and use of equipment. The Specialist also collaborates with classroom teachers in designing, implementing and evaluating instruction. In addition to books, magazines, and other print materials, the media center houses IBM networked computers with high speed internet access. These computers can be used to access databases such as SIRS (Social Issues Resource Series), Choices Planner (personal portfolio, career interest, and college search program), Gale's Health References, Annals of American History, Castle Learning, and PROQUEST which provide full text articles from journals, newspapers and magazines.

## MATHEMATICS

### INTEGRATED ALGEBRA

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This is a traditional first year college preparatory course that follows NYS guidelines. It is a "gateway" course for which all traditional preparatory courses in math are dependent. Topics will include an extensive review of basic math skills; special emphasis is on problem solving techniques and all algebraic topics appropriate for preparation for the NYS Integrated Algebra Exam. A TI 83+ graphing calculator is required. The course will also be supplemented with other non-algebraic topics as needed in preparation for the local and NYS Regents exam in June.

**Prerequisite:** None

### INTEGRATED ALGEBRA HONORS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Integrated Algebra Course Description above. Additional and challenging topics will be included. Local examination required. The NYS Integrated Algebra Regents Math exam assessment will be administered at the appropriate time, typically following the successful completion of the course.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of the instructor.

### GEOMETRY

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Major topics of geometry include: Euclidian Geometry, Analytic Geometry, probability, logic, mathematical systems, and further exploration of Algebra, including solutions of quadratic equations. The TI 83+ graphing calculator is required. The NYS Geometry Regents exam is administered following successful completion of the course. Local exam is required. **Note:** Incoming Freshman must obtained an 80% or higher on the Integrated Algebra exam to be eligible to take this course.

**Prerequisite:** Integrated Algebra

### GEOMETRY HONORS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

GEOMETRY Course Description above. Additional topics will be included. The NYS Geometry Regents Exam assessment will be administered in at the appropriate time, typically following the successful completion of the course.

**Prerequisite:** Integrated Algebra Honors and permission of the instructor.

### SEQUENTIAL ALGEBRA II & TRIGONOMETRY

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Course is designed to strengthen and build on algebra skills while exploring trigonometry topics including linear functions, quadratic functions, inequalities, rational, roots, and radical functions, complex numbers, polynomials, exponential and logarithmic functions, trigonometry functions, and math skills related to everyday use.

**Prerequisite:** Geometry

## **FRENCH I**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

First level French is an introduction to the fundamentals of communicating the French language. Focus is on the acquisition of the basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and presents an introduction to the cultures of the French-speaking world. This course is for students with no previous study of French or those requiring a review of the foundational skills.

**Prerequisite:** None

## **FRENCH II**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

French II is based in Francophone and African cultures, deepens basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in French. Students will attain the skill necessary to write and speak about the past and future.

**Prerequisite:** French I

## **FRENCH III**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

French III consists of a more challenging and enriched curriculum. Students will gain an enhanced understanding of the culture, grammatical knowledge and story writing abilities. Students will be engaged in more advanced activities that will expand their skills and eventually prepare them for the locally made NYS Comprehensive Regents examination.

**Prerequisite:** French II

## **INTRODUCTION TO HOMERIC GREEK \***

### **Full year Course (1 credit)**

Using Pfarr's Homeric Greek as text, students will learn the grammar deductively as they read Book I of the Iliad. By the end of the year, students will be able to read the Iliad and Odyssey in Homer's own words.

**Prerequisite:** Latin I or teacher recommendation

**Fee:** \$20.00 (approximately) for the text.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ATTIC GREEK \***

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

Through the use of grammar and a text, students will master the foundations of Classical Greek. Students will be reading portions of Xenophon's Anabasis.

**Prerequisite:** Latin I or teacher recommendation

**Fee:** \$20.00 (approximately) for the text.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ITALIAN \***

### **Semester Course (1/2 credit)**

This introductory course is design to teach students to understand and speak basic Italian grammar and vocabulary. Students will also discuss Italian history, and learn about some Italian traditions.

**Prerequisite:** Teacher recommendation

# **COURSE OFFERING INFORMATION**

## **TECHNOLOGY - BUSINESS - HOSPITALITY**

### **NEW CULINARY & HOSPITALITY PROGRAM**

COHS is excited to offer a well known national program called ProStart to our students. This new two –year program teaches our students all facets of the restaurant and foodservice industry. Students will discover and learn the personal and professional performance standards needed to be successful in this field. It can open doors for fulfilling careers. Students wanting to earn the ProStart National Certificate of Achievement are required to complete the two years, pass two national exams, and complete 400 hours of mentored work experience. This is an excellent program that provides any student with real-world educational opportunities.

**Prerequisite:** Upperclassmen or teacher recommendation

### **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Full Year Course (Alternating days 1/2 credit)**

Students will receive an introduction to keyboarding, word processing, databases and spreadsheets, as well as the Microsoft Operating System. Students taking this course will learn various computer skills that are useful everyday.

**Prerequisite:** None

### **CAREER & FINANCE**

#### **Full Year (1/2 credit - 2 days per cycle)**

Career and Finance is a course designed to provide students with resources to help determine a possible career as well as an introduction to financial information including: credit, student loans, and the stock market. Students will take a variety of career-based exercises, as well as determine a list of possible colleges they might attend after graduation.

**Prerequisite:** None

### **MEDIA DESIGN**

#### **Full Year (1 credit)**

This course is designed to focus around the use of the Apple iLife Suite and how to create creative projects using the software. Students will create video and audio podcasts surrounding school events as well as short films. They will act as director, producer, actor, and editor. This is a projects based course.

**Prerequisite:** Studio Art or Computer Technology or Chorus/Band

### **INTERNET AND BUSINESS \***

#### **Semester Course (1/2 credit)**

This course explores the growing phenomenon of the Internet and its application to commerce and businesses. Students will learn the basics of the Internet, web page design, and opportunities for business ventures.

**Prerequisite:** Computer Technology

## ACCOUNTING I

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This is a beginning course designed to prepare students for careers in Accounting and to provide skills needed for careers in related business fields. It is also a foundation on which to continue studying business and accounting at the collegiate level. Course content encompasses the complete accounting cycle and computer applications such as payroll, taxes and sole proprietorship. Accounting may be used as the third year of the required math sequence.

**Prerequisite:** None

## ACCOUNTING II

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This is an advance course designed for students who are interested in the Accounting world and expand their skills needed for careers in related business fields. Course content further encompasses the complete accounting cycle including the inventory cycle, long-term liability, and the deeper analyze of Financial Statements. Students will also get an introduction to Cost Accounting.

**Prerequisite:** Accounting I

## ADVERTISING & MARKETING \*

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course introduces students to the role that marketing plays in our economic system. Students will have the opportunity to explore past and current trends and innovations influencing the marketing system and speculate on future trends related to their career goals. Students will then proceed to a more in-depth study of marketing such as marketing research, promotion, distribution, and retail operations.

**Prerequisite:** None

## ENGLISH

### ENGLISH 9

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Students will be introduced to several genres of literature from different time periods and cultures including folk tales, novels, drama, poetry, short stories, essays, and young adult literature. A minimum of five major works will be covered throughout the year. An emphasis will be placed on the development of writing skills and students will demonstrate these skills in both informative and creative writing. Students will be assessed at the end of the year with a local exam that models the New York Regents Examination. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment due the first week of freshman year.

**Prerequisite:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade English

### ENGLISH 9 HONORS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

In addition to the English Nine description, students are required to read and examine a total of six major literary works. Honors students will be expected to examine the literature on a deeper and more critical level, as well as write two additional

## LATIN IV

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

The fourth level of Latin is devoted to the poets, primarily, with emphasis on Virgil, along with Ovid, Catullus and later writers as well. Ecclesiastical writers, such as The Venerable Bede and St. Jerome, are also discussed.

**Prerequisite:** Latin III

**Fee:** None

## SPANISH I

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

First level Spanish builds a vocabulary for communication at an entry level in a variety of daily life situations. Emphasis is placed on oral communication and accuracy of pronunciation, and written work, with a strong focus on grammar, particularly the mastery of the seven simple verb tenses. Exposure to Latin and European culture is included at every opportunity.

**Prerequisite:** None

**Note:** All Freshmen or upperclassmen taking Spanish for the first time are placed in this level.

**Fee:** Approximately \$15.00 for workbook, as may be directed by the instructor.

## SPANISH II

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Second level Spanish presses on to build upon the work of the first level, expanding vocabulary both in register and in nuance. Virtually the entire verb system is mastered, with strong emphasis on the mastery of the seven compound tenses, and grammatical awareness is deepened. Reading takes to center stage, with conversational and writing skills used to integrate the readings.

**Note:** Incoming Freshman or other students who have studied Spanish for two or more years in grade school and had an 80% or higher are placed in this level.

**Prerequisite:** Spanish I

## SPANISH III

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Third level Spanish seeks to make the student an independent speaker of the language, and to prepare students for the Local Comprehensive Examination.

**Prerequisite:** Spanish II

## ADVANCED SPANISH IV/V

### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Students who have mastery of Spanish (at the instructor's discretion), may take this course that will deepen their cultural and linguistic skills. An introduction to Portuguese, taught in Spanish, is offered; and a crucial centerpiece is the study of Latin cinematography, building on materials mastered in previous levels. Continuous grammar review, short stories and novellas, poetry, and music will seek to offer the students a full year of Latin awareness. Honors work will include further reading and several class presentations, as determined by the student and the instructor.

**Prerequisite:** Spanish III and/or teacher recommendation

**Fee:** \$15.00 for Conversational Spanish Book.

## **SONGWRITING AND COMPOSITION II**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course is designed to further investigate multiple tonalities and teaches students to write for various instruments/groups of musicians. Advanced students in music may take this course before Song and Composition with teacher approval.

**Prerequisite:** Song & Composition

## **MEDIA DESIGN**

### **Full Year (1 credit)**

This course is designed to focus around the use of the Apple iLife Suite and how to create creative projects using the software. Students will create video and audio podcasts surrounding school events as well as short films. They will act as director, producer, actor, and editor. This is a projects based course.

**Prerequisite:** Studio Art or Computer Technology or Chorus/Band

## **MUSICAL THEATRE \***

### **Semester Course (1/2 credit)**

Students will learn the art of acting through the study of numerous dialogs and monologs. Stage movement, voice projection, blocking and direction are taught. Lighting, along with stage and set designs, are also explored.

**Prerequisite:** None

## **WORLD LANGUAGES ANCIENT AND MODERN**

### **LATIN I**

#### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course is a foundational program of the study introducing the student to the basics of grammar, vocabulary, culture, and civilization of ancient Rome and its language, Latin.

**Prerequisite:** None

### **LATIN II**

#### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

Second level of Latin is an in-depth program of study deepening the student's grasp and master of Latin grammar, vocabulary, and comprehension; expanding the student's awareness of cultural implications of Roman civilization; and in-depth reading of Caesar and other Roman writers, I.e., Lucretius, Sallust, Livy, Horace, Sulpicia, Seneca, Juvenal, Suetonius, et al.

**Prerequisite:** Latin I

### **LATIN III**

#### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

The third level of Latin expands on verb conjugations and declensions of nouns and adjectives, as well as the foundational grammar learned in previous levels. Emphasis remains on reading of original texts, in particular Cicero, Ovid, Catullus, Livy, et al., in preparation for the Local Comprehensive Examination.

**Prerequisite:** Latin II

English 9 Honors *con't.*

essays during the course of the year. Placement is determined by past performance, entrance exam, and teacher recommendation.

**Prerequisite:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Performance

## **ENGLISH 10**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course is designed to enhance and improve the basic grammar, vocabulary and literary analysis skills learned in English 9. In addition, emphasis is placed on developing strategies for effective expression in speaking and writing and comprehension in listening and reading. Students will work on various projects throughout the course of the year to improve their skills. This will be aided by exposure to literary works and genres that represent a range of social historical and cultural perspectives encouraging students to express themselves verbally and through the writing process. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment to be handed in beginning of sophomore year.

**Prerequisite:** English 9

## **ENGLISH 10 HONORS**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

Students in the Honors course are expected to perform at a higher standard and remain committed to their work around the entirety of the course. The course reviews topics in grammar and composition, including narrative-descriptive-exposition, and argumentative communication. Students will examine literature at a deeper level and will be required to complete a greater number of writing assignments. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment to be handed in the beginning of sophomore year.

**Prerequisite:** English 9 Honors and/or permission of the instructor

## **ENGLISH 11**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course continues to build on the skills and knowledge gained in grades 9 & 10 with specific focus on the preparation for the SAT and the New York State Regents Examination. For this purpose, every assignment and assessment is designed to hone specific skills of comprehension, analysis and expression as required for both exams. Students will read and analyze both literature and non-fiction information. They will express their interpretations of the written works through writing assignments, oral presentation, multi-media projects, journal entries, tests and quizzes. Through this process, they will learn to work cooperatively with classmates, listen to their points of view and share information while respectfully acknowledging differences of opinion. The course includes in-depth study of six major works of literature that represents both classic and contemporary American authors. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment to be handed in the beginning of junior year.

**Prerequisite:** English 10

## **ENGLISH 11 HONORS**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)-SUNY College Credit available**

This course shares the same objectives as the Regents English 11. Two of the selection are more advance than the Regents class. While the curriculum is similar, the expectations are quite different. This class is structured more like a college level literature seminar, therefore students are expected to be prepared on a daily basis and to engage in in-depth discussions about the works being studied. Assignments are designed to require a deeper level of analysis of each work studied and additional assignments will be required. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment to be handed in the beginning of junior year. Students may register to earn SUNY College credit for an additional fee.

**Prerequisite:** English 10 Honors and/or permission of the instructor

## **ENGLISH 12**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

A survey of British Literature will comprise a major portion of this course that includes critical evaluation, plays, short stories, and poetry. Other key components of the course include vocabulary and formal writing, including both a college application letter and senior thesis, utilizing the MLA format as a guide. Research strategies and techniques will be introduced during the last quarter. This course must be successfully completed in order for the student to graduate. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment to be handed in the beginning of senior year.

**Prerequisite:** English 11

## **ENGLISH 12 HONORS \***

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)- SUNY College Credit available**

In addition to the English 12 description, the Honors Course requires more extensive readings in British literature. Students are required to read additional selections of literature throughout the year. Students are assessed on their ability to exercise critical thinking skills. Students are required to complete the mandatory Summer Reading Assignment to be handed in the beginning of senior year. Students may register to earn SUNY College credit for an additional fee.

**Prerequisite:** English 11 with 88% class average, and permission of the instructor

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILL (ESL)**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course is designed to improve the reading, writing, and study skills necessary for the success in other high school courses. Emphasis is placed on reading comprehension improvement, grammar skills and vocabulary growth. The course includes large group instruction as well as one-on-one tutoring as needed.

**Prerequisite:** English as a student's second language

## **DANCE**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit – 4 days per cycle)**

This course covers technique and classroom work in both tap and jazz dance. Tap I technique will progress from specific footwork, to combination of steps, to set routine. Jazz I technique covers the basic stretches, movements, body positions and different styles of jazz dance. This will progress from basic jazz steps, to combinations of steps, to set routine. Class work will include: keeping a notebook and learning the history of tap and jazz terminology and abbreviations. This class may be substituted for a physical education elective or art elective if taking physical education.

**Prerequisite:** None

## **ADVANCED DANCE \***

### **Full Year Course (1 credit-4 days per cycle)**

This course builds upon the foundation established in Dance . The history of tap and jazz will continue with a review of the Minstrelsy Ear through Vaudeville Era. Students will be introduce in beginning choreography

**Prerequisite:** Dance

## **MUSIC APPRECIATION**

### **Full Year Course (1/2 credit)**

This course will cover a basic comprehensive understanding of the musical arts. Students will utilize the computers and listen to CD's of music to introduce and learn about the many different types of music, and identifying basic elements of jazz, rock, classical, and modern music.

**Prerequisite:** Dance

## **DRAMA \***

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

Drama is an elective for all students interested in literature, acting, set design, production, and live theatre. It will cover all aspects of theatre production including writing, casting, directing, lighting and costume concepts. Through both reading and acting, students will use their knowledge of literature and history to recognize the way in which theatre is a reflection of life and society. Students will participate in a minimum of three major productions throughout the course of the year. Participation in the Greccio/Christmas Concert and the Fine Arts Show are required

**Prerequisite:** None

## **SONGWRITING AND COMPOSITION**

### **Full Year Course (1 credit)**

This course is designed to introduce students to basic skills and composition techniques through the use of Sibelius musical notation software and Apple's Garageband software. Students are taught an element of music theory and then encouraged to make use of that technique in their own compositions. This is a project based course that results in the students having a portfolio of their own musical compositions.

**Prerequisite:** None

## PERFORMING ARTS—MUSIC AND DRAMA

### CONCERT BAND

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course will give students the opportunity to learn a new instrument and play together as a group. Students will learn how to read music and rhythms. Lessons, performances, and concerts in and out of the school are a mandatory part of the course requirement.

**Prerequisite:** None

### WIND ENSEMBLE

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course will give experienced students the opportunity to continue learning their instrument and playing together as a group. Students will learn how to read music and rhythms at a higher level. Performances lessons, and concerts in and out of school are a mandatory part of the course requirement.

**Prerequisite:** Concert Band/Experience or teacher recommendation

### JAZZ LAB

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course will give experienced instrumental students the opportunity to play in a small ensemble group setting. Students will learn the basic of jazz from reading music/charts, rhythms and improvisation. Lessons and concerts in and out of school are mandatory part of the course requirement.

**Prerequisite:** Instrumental Experience

### CHORUS

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course is open to all students. Auditions are not required. This vocal ensemble consists of students of varying ages and musical backgrounds. Students will explore music from all types of backgrounds, from pop to gospel. Lessons and performances in and out of school are a required for this course.

**Prerequisite:** None

### SONG CORP

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course is the advance vocal ensemble. The programs consists of upper level classmen and requires an audition. Freshmen may be considered for membership upon the director's discretion. Song Corp students will study advanced SATB repertoire, travel annually to different locations along the East Coast, and presents an annual Review based around a central musical theme.

**Prerequisite:** Chorus or Teacher Recommendation

### CREATIVE WRITING

#### Semester Course (1/2 credit)-SUNY College Credit available

#### Grade Level: 12

This half-year elective course challenges the student to free his or her creative writing muse. Introspective writing and exploring various styles of writing will be included. The course offers ample writing opportunities, while concurrently examining what factors in the best writing make it publishable. Book and film analysis will also be included. Bring a hearty appetite for reading, writing, and critical thinking as well as a tolerance for healthy, constructive criticism. Students may register to earn SUNY College credit for an additional fee.

**Prerequisite:** English 10

### MYSTERY LITERATURE

#### Semester Course (1/2 credit)

The true mystery story is not a formula, but an equation. This course will explore some of the terrific mystery writers, from Poe to King, from the detective's detective to the hard-boiled hero, paying special attention to structure, style, and conventions. We'll follow the case, clue by clue; of how great mystery story is written. Along the way, students will produce a few mystery stories of their own, and offer analysis and evaluation of both story and film.

**Prerequisite:** None

### DRAMA \*

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Studies in Drama is a full-year elective opened to all students interested in literature, acting, set design, production, and live theatre. The course will cover all aspects of theatre production including writing, casting, directing, lighting and costume concepts. Through both reading and acting, students will use their knowledge of literature and history to recognize the way in which theatre is a reflection of life and society. Students will participate in a minimum of three major productions throughout the course of the year. Participation in the Greccio/Christmas Concert and the Fine Arts Show is required .

**Prerequisite:** None

### LITERATURE AND FILM I & II \*

#### Both Semester Courses (1/2 credit)

This course explores the relationship between film and literature by examining works of literature and the film adaptations made of them. Analysis of film history and the nature of the media including the film techniques and terms will also be explored. The student will be able to critically examine and discuss the choices that the writer/director makes when moving from the written to the visual medium. Various genres in both media will be explored.

**Prerequisite:** A love of reading and film viewing

## ENGLISH con't.

### COLLEGE PREPARATION/ENRICHMENT \*

#### Full Year Course (Alternating days 1/2 credit)

This course is designed to make transition from high school into college and the workplace a lot easier. Seniors will sharpen their writing and reading skills, enhance communication skills, and refine their listening skills in preparation for post-graduation. Students will be graded on a pass/fail scale; student progress will be assessed through a portfolio of writing samples (college application essay, resume, research paper) in combination with reading an interviewing logs, and self – evaluations. The course will be taught in collaboration with the recourses of the Guidance Department and larger community, as students will tour local colleges/ universities and network in their intended career field.

**Prerequisite:** English Nine

## FINE ARTS—VISUAL

### STUDIO IN ART

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Studio in Art is the first course in the visual Art sequence. This course is designed to give the student a comprehensive understanding of the studio experience in the visual arts. As a full year course, students focus on the artistic skills needed in solving visual problems in both two and three-dimensional work. Design principles and elements are introduced as well as explored, in a variety of media. Students will also be introduced to major historical artists and periods throughout history.

**Prerequisite:** None

### DRAWING & PAINTING

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

Drawing and Painting is the next required course in a 5 unit Art sequence and highly recommended for a 3-unit sequence. This course is designed to challenge the student's creative ability and raise the student's potential in the different methods and media used to produce artwork. Various major artists and their techniques will be explored.

**Prerequisite:** Studio In Art

### PHOTOGRAPHY (Traditional Black & White)

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course introduces students to 35mm photography. Workable knowledge and use of the camera will be developed. Darkroom techniques will be utilized in black and white film processing and developing. Students will be introduced to the history of photography and its contribution to modern arts as well as journalism. A manual 35-mm camera will be needed for this course. Students must provide their own camera.

**Prerequisite:** Studio In Art

### CALLIGRAPHY I \*

#### Semester Course (1/2 credit)

This course introduces students to the art of “beautiful writing.” They will learn modified chancery cursive, using special calligraphy pens, and applying this knowledge to different designs and compositions.

**Prerequisite:** None

### CALLIGRAPHY II \*

#### Semester Course (1/2 credit)

Students continue to build their skills and further advance their talent in writing chancery cursive and creating different designs and compositions.

**Prerequisite:** Calligraphy

### ILLUSTRATION \*

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course is designed to challenge the student's creative ability and raise the students potential in the different methods and media used to produce designs. Various major artists and their techniques will be introduced and explored.

**Prerequisites:** Studio in Art

### MEDIA DESIGN

#### Full Year (1 credit)

This course is focused around the use of the Apple iLife Suite and how to create creative projects using the software. Students will create videos and audio podcasts surrounding school events as well as short films; in which they will act as director, producer, actor and editor. This is a projects based course.

**Prerequisite:** Studio in Art & computer technology

### ADVANCED DESKTOP PUBLISHING

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This demanding self-motivation course requires the student to have the accountability of a part-time job. Staff members work individually and in groups to meet deadlines to produce the O'Hara yearbook with an online program. All contents are produced by students such as picture captions, written articles, photographs from school events, etc. The course will consist of: Journalism, Graphic Design, Layout, Theme Development and Computer Skills. This course is an excellent preparation for a career in many different Communications fields.

**Required:** Access to a computer with Internet capabilities outside of school.

**Prerequisite:** Permission of course Instructor & teacher recommendation

### ADVANCED STUDIO / PORTFOLIO DESIGN \*

#### Full Year Course (1 credit)

This course is designed for the senior who is preparing to enter a college art program. This course will allow the serious art student time to develop individual skills on an independent basis. Students will develop a theme or medium to guide their in-depth exploration for the year. Art history and current trends in art will be discussed and explored through selected projects. Portfolio preparation for college acceptance will also be taught with emphasis on matting, photographing work, and presentation.

**Prerequisite:** Studio in Art and Drawing & Painting