

# Curriculum Guide

## 2021-2022



## **ACADEMIC POLICIES**

Peninsula Catholic High School provides its students with a comprehensive college preparatory curriculum through which students may earn a General Studies or Advanced Studies diploma at the end of eight (8) terms of high school study between grades 9-12.

All students are encouraged to follow a college preparatory program of study, as this is the main academic focus of the school. In determining a program and selecting courses, a self-appraisal of interests, attitudes, and career goals should be undertaken. Also, because college entrance requirements vary, students should investigate early on the specific entrance standards of prospective colleges. The School Counselors are available to assist in this process.

Students are accepted at Peninsula Catholic High School based on their academic potential to successfully complete graduation requirements. These include the basic credit requirements for graduation from a secondary school as required by the Commonwealth of Virginia and the specific credit requirements of Peninsula Catholic High School.

Each student must follow a full schedule (i.e. four courses) each term. Seniors who qualify may pursue one independent study option (see page 25).

### **Graduation Requirements:**

The following table reflects the requirements for the Standard Diploma (SD) and Advanced Diploma (AD) effective for student entering during the 2019-20 school year:

	<b>AD</b>	<b>SD</b>
Theology	4	4
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	3
Laboratory Science	4	3
History and Social Science	4	3
World Languages	3	2
Fine Arts or Technology	1	
Health and Physical Education	2	2
Elective courses	2	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>24</b>

For students working towards the **Standard Diploma**,

- Courses in **Mathematics** completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least three different courses from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, or other mathematics courses similar to the level of Algebra II.
- Courses in **Laboratory Science** completed to satisfy this requirement shall include course selections from at least two different science disciplines from among Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.
- Courses completed to satisfy the **History and Social Sciences** requirement shall include US History, US Government, and one course in either World History or Geography or both.
- Courses completed to satisfy the World Languages, Fine Arts, or Technology requirement shall include a combination of semester or year-long courses. One credit must be in Fine Arts or Technology.
- Students may take one credit in fine and performing arts and one foreign language credit.

For students working towards the **Advanced Diploma**,

- Courses in **Mathematics** completed to satisfy this requirement shall include at least four different courses from among: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, and one other mathematics course above the level of Algebra II.
- Courses in **Laboratory Science** completed to satisfy this requirement shall include four different course selections from at least three different science disciplines from among Earth Science, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.
- Courses completed to satisfy the **History and Social Sciences** requirement shall include US History, US Government, and two courses in either World History or Geography or both.
- Courses in **World Language** completed to satisfy this requirement shall include three years of the same language or two years each of two languages.

Additional graduation requirement for all students:

- **Virtual Course:** Students must complete one virtual course, which may be a non-credit bearing course that is offered online. This class (Tech Bootcamp) will be provided by Peninsula Catholic and all new students will take the class after receiving their Chromebooks. The course will take about 6 hours; students should comfortably allow two weeks to complete the online course prior to the first day of school. All work must be completed and submitted by Friday, August 20, 2021 by 11:59 PM. Students who do not successfully complete the course by

the due date will not attend their regular classes but, instead, will be required to attend a mandatory session on the first day of school. (New students who register after the first day of the school year will complete the PC Tech bootcamp on their first day of school)

- Training in Emergency First Aid, CPR, and Use of an AED:**  
 Students pursuing the standard or advanced diplomas are required to be trained in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This requirement will be fulfilled as part of the Health Education course offered by Peninsula Catholic.

<b>Courses Offered in Mathematics</b>	
<b>Courses at or above the level of Algebra I</b>	<b>Courses at or above the level of Algebra II</b>
Algebra I	Algebra II
Geometry	Algebra III/Trigonometry
	Statistics
	AP Statistics
	Honors Pre-Calculus
	Honors Calculus
	AP Calculus AB
	AP Calculus BC

**Physical Education/Health/Driver’s Education:**

All courses are one credit with the exception of Physical Education (0.5 credit); Health I/First Aid (0.5 credit); and Health II/Drivers Ed (0.5 credit).

Freshmen who turn 15 prior to December 31 of the academic year, may opt to reverse Health II/Driver’s Ed (normally taken sophomore year) and Health I/First Aid (normally taken freshman year) with parental approval. Preference, however, will be given to sophomores as classes meet capacity.

**Advanced Placement Courses:**

Peninsula Catholic High School offers Advanced Placement (AP) Courses in the following subjects: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Computer Science, English Literature and Composition, European History, Microeconomics, Statistics, Studio Art, United States History, United States Government, and Human Geography. The prerequisite for all AP courses is a B+/89 final average of the preceding Integrated Honors course in the subject OR a B/86 final average of the preceding AP or DE course, and approval of the Department Chair following a readiness evaluation (see full criteria on page 5). Additional prerequisites or corequisites for individual AP

courses are indicated under the course descriptions.

### **Honors Courses:**

Peninsula Catholic High School offers *stand alone* honors courses in the following subjects: Calculus, Pre-Calculus, Physics, and fourth-level World Languages. The prerequisite for all *stand alone* honors courses is a B/86 final average in the preceding Integrated Honors course or a B+/89 final average in the preceding course in the subject unless otherwise noted and approval of the Department Chair (see full criteria on page 5).

Peninsula Catholic High School offers *integrated* honors courses in the following subjects: English 9, 10, 11 and 12; Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Algebra III/Trigonometry, and Statistics; second and third level World Language courses; World History I, World History II, United States History, Government, Economics & Personal Finance; Earth Science, Conceptual Physics, Biology, and Chemistry. Honors students may be required to complete a project, alternate homework or test questions, or do other in-depth work. All students interested in being classified as honors in an *integrated* honors course will notify each teacher during the first week of class. Those students who have a B/86 average for all grading categories in any integrated honors course at the five week point will be enrolled as honors students for that term.

### **Dual Enrollment Courses:**

Peninsula Catholic High School has established a dual enrollment partnership with Thomas Nelson Community College (TNCC) which allows us to offer certain classes for both high school and college credit after the courses, instructors, and institutions have completed a rigorous review process.

Junior and senior students will be considered for the Thomas Nelson program if they have met the following requirements:

- Peninsula Catholic's prerequisites for each course
- a 3.00 cumulative GPA
- Successful completion of Algebra II

Dual Enrollment through Thomas Nelson Community College is available at no cost to students and parents. Students will be responsible for completing the registration process and providing testing results for approval. Upon successful completion of designated courses, students will receive both high school and college credit.

Students must meet the requirements for admission to and be accepted for enrollment at Thomas Nelson Community College by the first day of the class or they will be disenrolled from the course.

Courses to be offered as Dual Enrollment through TNCC are: DE American Literature, DE Creative Writing, DE Biology, and DE Anatomy.

**Additional Criteria for AP/Stand-Alone Honors/Dual Enrollment:**

A final average from the prerequisite class or most recent course in the relevant subject area is the minimum requirement necessary to be considered for upper level courses. From there, recommending teachers will also review the following:

- Minimum PSAT scores of 500 in math and English (whichever is applicable) is required
- AP Potential (report generated by the College Board based on PSAT scores)
- Results of AP/DE readiness evaluation if applicable (see below)
- Completion of additional DE requirements as established by partner colleges
- Department Chairs will have final approval of any recommended students or students who appeal their non-recommendation.

**Appeals:**

Students wishing to take any other AP or DE course, but who have not met one or more of the prerequisites and, therefore, were not recommended, may appeal but will be required to take a readiness test for the course, which will be assessed by the appropriate AP/DE teacher.

**Readiness Evaluations:**

All students who wish to take AP European History will be tested during the school day in the spring semester prior to being approved for the course.

These assessments are designed to measure whether students have the prerequisite understanding required to succeed in a college level course and are best prepared for the advanced rigor, increased expectations, and accelerated pace of Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment classes.

### **Evaluations:**

Evaluations will use the following alphabetical equivalencies:

<b>Grading Scale</b>		<b>Regular</b>	<b>Honors</b>	<b>AP</b>
A+	97-100	4.3	4.8	5.3
A	93-96	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	90-92	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	87-89	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	83-86	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	80-82	2.7	3.2	3.7
C+	77-79	2.3	2.8	3.3
C	73-76	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	70-72	1.7	2.2	2.7
D+	67-69	1.3	1.8	2.3
D	63-66	1.0	1.5	2.0
D-	60-62	0.7	1.2	1.7
F	59 or below	0	0	0

### **Resource Center:**

A Resource/Learning Center is available for students with documented learning differences. The Resource Teacher assists students with their coursework through teaching study strategies and providing accommodations recommended in educational evaluations. A supervised Study Hall is available for appropriately identified students during daily activity block.

### **Elective Courses:**

Elective course offerings are contingent upon sufficient student enrollment and teacher availability.

### **Books, Fees, and Digital materials/subscriptions/online access:**

To ensure you are aware of books required (hardcover, paperback, and ebook options as available), material fees for any courses being taken, fees for digital material/subscriptions/online accesses that will be provided by the school, please reference Peninsula Catholic's Online Bookstore, BNC K-12. Course fees and digital materials will be billed in the term the course is taken. BNC K-12 will be updated and open for the 21-22 school year in July, 2021. The link can be found on the parent page of the PCHS website ([www.peninsulacatholic.org](http://www.peninsulacatholic.org)).

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ENGLISH

***English 8/Language Arts (Required):*** Students will be exposed to the genres in the literary world. Emphasis is placed on the short story, poetry, non-fiction, folklore, drama and the novel. In addition, particular emphasis is placed on a review of grammar-usage, mechanics, writing different types of paragraphs and compositions. Students write a research paper using MLA format.

***English 9 (Required) or Integrated Honors English 9 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** Students will be exposed to: literature, grammar, composition, and vocabulary. The literary genres of poetry, non-fiction, the epic, drama, and the novel are stressed. Basic grammar skills are reviewed with the focus on paragraph development, especially effective topic sentence and paragraph unity. Students are exposed to various types of essay writing, including a research paper using MLA format.

***English 10 (Required) or Integrated Honors English 10 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at five week point):*** Students will be exposed to an in-depth study of the short story, poetry, drama and the novel as a means of acquiring and developing literature analysis for journal and various types of essay writing. Vocabulary development is stressed. Students write a research paper using MLA format.

***English 11 (Required) or Integrated Honors English 11 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** Students will be exposed to a chronological organization of American Literature which shows the progression of themes throughout the various eras of American history and literature. Within the unit for each period, attention is given to all genres-nonfiction, short story, novel, and poetry. Students study classics from the Colonial Period which have established a place in our culture up to and through the contemporary works which have the promise of becoming tomorrow's classics. The class places a special emphasis on reading, writing, and grammar preparation for the SAT. Students will write a series of papers and learn both MLA and APA format.

***Dual Enrollment American Literature (Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors English 10 and approval of the Department Chair following readiness evaluation. See page 4 for additional DE requirements):***

Students will be exposed to a chronological organization of American Literature which shows the progression of themes throughout the various eras of American history and literature. Within the unit for each period, attention is given to all genres—nonfiction, short story, novel, and poetry. Students study classics from the Colonial Period which have established a place in our culture up to and through the contemporary works which have the promise of becoming tomorrow's classics. The class places a special emphasis on reading, writing, and grammar preparation for the SAT. Students will write a series of papers and learn both MLA and APA format. This semester-long course combines two college level classes and successful completion of this course with a minimum grade would result in students receiving six college credits from Thomas Nelson Community College for English 111 and 112.

***English 12 (Required) or Integrated Honors English 12 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** Students will concentrate on mastery of literary analysis and precise writing skills. These skills are learned through the critical reading of diverse works from English literary history from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present, national epics, and some selected pieces of world literature. Vocabulary development is stressed. Students complete a research paper using APA format.

***AP Literature and Composition (Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Advanced American Literature or B+/89 final average in Integrated Honors English 11 and approval of Department Chair following readiness evaluation if applicable):*** Students are provided an opportunity to work on a college level. It is primarily a course in both effective writing and critical reading. The emphasis is on mastery of literary analysis and acquisition of precise, lucid writing skills. These skills are learned through analysis of works written by authors from around the world. The AP students will learn techniques and skills to prepare for the required AP Exam given in the spring. The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements in the AP Literature and Composition Course description published by the College Board. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***Dual Enrollment Creative Writing (Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Advanced American Literature and approval of Department Chair; see page 4 for additional DE requirements):*** This course will introduce students to the basic techniques and structures of writing fiction—poetry, short story, and drama. The goal of the course is to help students become comfortable with and proficient with all stages of the fiction

writing process--invention, drafting, revision, editing, and publication--with a focus on stimulating creativity. Methodology will include direct instruction, literary analysis, workshops, and conferencing. The students will be encouraged to submit work for publication. The class will also produce and publish a school literary journal. Successful completion of this course with a minimum grade would result in students receiving three college credits from Thomas Nelson Community College for English 211.

***Media Production (Elective grades 8-12):*** Students will learn about filming and editing videos, sound design, lighting techniques, and green screen technology, with the ultimate goal of publishing content in a responsible way on the web. The course incorporates elements of drama, public speaking, technical theater, journalism, and copyright law.

***Public Speaking (Elective grades 10-12):*** Students will deliver several different types of speeches using the delivery methods of impromptu, note cards, manuscript, and memorized. In addition, students will practice and improve the skills of persuasive speaking. Ultimately speakers will gain experience and develop more confidence in communicating with others in both large groups and interpersonally.

## **FINE ARTS**

### **VISUAL ARTS:**

***Art Foundations (Elective grades 8-12):*** In Art Foundations students will learn to understand and appreciate the visual arts, while experimenting with the application of the elements of art and principles of design. Students will develop skills to create, discuss, and understand original works of art while working with a variety of media including drawing, painting, and sculpting. Students will participate in classroom critiques and maintain a portfolio and sketchbook documenting their accomplishments throughout the course. A supply fee of \$50 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course. Students attending virtually will not be charged the supply fee but will be provided a supply list in advance of the first day of classes with the expectation that they will be prepared with the required supplies by the start of the semester.

***Intermediate Art (Elective grades 9-12)*** In Intermediate Art the student expands upon his/her prior knowledge of art, incorporating the use of the elements of art and principles of design. Students will extend and refine their abilities using a variety of media including drawing, painting, printmaking, and sculpting. Emphasis is on the importance of content, concepts, and skills involved in the creation of original works of art as well as art history and how art functions within a multicultural society. Students will continue to maintain a portfolio and select representative work to take to

the next level of study. A supply fee of \$50 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course.

**Advanced Art (Elective grades 10-12):** In Advanced Art students will continue to develop abilities to create original works of art. The focus on art history, critical evaluation, and aesthetics is increased and includes creative problem solving. Students will develop a personal direction in the production of their works of art and further their academic study in the visual arts. Selected works of art will be added to the portfolio and carried forward to the next level of study. A supply fee of \$50 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course. This class is not available to virtual students due to the use of specialized art making materials.

**AP Art & Design (Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: Art 1-3 & Instructor's Permission):** Students will focus on in-depth, inquiry-based art and design making, skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas, and articulating information about their work. Through inquiry based learning and documentation practice, experimentation, and revision, each student's body of work will be open to diverse approaches to thinking and making art, thus aligning with college, university, and contemporary disciplinary practices. A supply fee of \$50 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course. The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements in the AP Studio Art Course description published by the College Board. An exam fee of approximately \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

**Art History (Elective grades 9-12):** This course is designed for students who enjoy art and desire a fine arts credit, but do not wish to take a conventional fine arts course. In this art history course, students will be introduced to the art and architecture of various geographical areas around the world during time periods ranging from prehistoric to contemporary. The major artistic trends, artists, and works of art from each period will be discussed within a historical context. Artistic materials and subject matter will be addressed and students will learn how art has evolved throughout history. Students will learn how to describe and analyze a work of art based on what they see (i.e. form, function, content, style and context).

**Crafts (Elective grades 9-12):** This course is designed for students who are interested in the creative process and wish to create functional as well as decorative art. Students will explore tools and techniques used by different cultures while developing hand-eye coordination skills with a focus on refinement of craftsmanship, design elements, and aesthetic qualities. Throughout the semester, students will create traditional and contemporary crafts with projects that may include but are not limited to decoupage, textile

arts, basketry, weaving, quilling, painting, plaster, ceramics, & wearable art. A supply fee of \$50 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course.

***Digital Photography (Elective grades 9-12; prerequisite: Art Foundations):***

This course is designed to teach digital photography in relation to fine art. Students will explore the basic principles of photography, the history of photography, and be introduced to the basic technology needed to produce their works of art. Students will become familiar with photographic vocabulary as well as how to use tools such as framing, composition, "rule of thirds", light, and the elements and principles of art. Students will be introduced to many works by well-known photographers and will learn how to view and critique photography. Projects include still-life, portraits, photojournalism, architecture, landscapes, and action photography. Students will maintain an electronic portfolio. A supply fee of \$25 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course. A digital camera with a minimum of ten megapixels and with manual or semi-manual controls is required for the class.

***Graphic Art and Design (Elective 10-12; Prerequisite: Art Foundations):***

This course provides an art elective which utilizes the latest technology in the production of fine art and commercial design. Students will become familiar with the major graphics programs utilized by professionals today. These programs will include the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe InDesign. Students will be able to produce quality fine artwork and graphic art of the type typically used in commercial applications. The course will be composed of a number of projects designed to teach the elements and principles of design, the software used and proper approach to design problems. There will be a lab fee of \$50 to be billed the first week of class. Due to specialized software that will be required for many of the projects, virtual students who wish to take this course must purchase a student subscription to Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, & InDesign (bundle) to use on a windows based computer that can support that software. (Virtual learners will not pay the \$50 lab fee).

***Printmaking (Elective grades 10-12; Prerequisite: B- or higher in Art Foundations):***

In this course students will learn techniques of fine art printmaking, including but not limited to relief printing, monotype, intaglio, and screen printing. Students will learn about the tools, inks, papers, plate preparation, registration, printing processes, and qualities of prints while being introduced to the work of artists and the history/tradition of fine art prints. Students will gain the skills and confidence to produce multiple images by hand printing and on a press while exploring personal visual expression and engaging with problem solving in drawing, design and color.

A supply fee of \$50 will be billed at the beginning of the term for all students enrolled in this course.

## **MUSIC:**

**Band** (*Elective grades 8-12*): Students will be offered the opportunity to perform music of many genres using instruments they own or rent. (Some instruments are available such as percussion and keyboard.) Emphasis on technical and musical development accompanies the emphasis on performance. (This course will be offered as a “0” block all year from 7:00am - 7:45am each school day).

**Music Theory** (*Elective grades 10-12*): The Music Theory course is designed to enhance music skills and basic music fundamentals. The essential aspects of melody, harmony, rhythm, and form are studied. Throughout the course of the year students will study basic notation, scales, key signatures, intervals, triads, cadences, non-chord tones, form, part-writing and analysis of a score. Aural and rhythmic dictation through ear training are also an integral part of the course. Individual creativity is nurtured through both rhythmic and melodic composition.

## **THEATRE:**

**Theatre I: Theatre Overview** (*Elective grades 8-12*): Students will learn and execute the elements of acting, through improvisation, mime, voice production, monologues, scenes, and short plays. The focus is on creative development of characters and the development of stage presence. Additionally, the students will execute the technical skills that support the actors, such as stage management, stage design, costume design, lighting and sound design, and makeup. Included in this class is a study of theater, history, theatre types, and a comparison and contrast of how these affect performance. This is an active class, conducted in a participative workshop atmosphere.

**Theatre II: Production and Performance** (*Elective grades 9-12; Prerequisite: Theatre I*): Continuing the skills learned in *Theatre I*, the students will create, write and produce effective theatrical productions, integrating all of the music, for public performance. This is an active class, conducted in a participative workshop structure.

**Theatre III** (*Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: Theatre I or II or Instructor's Permission*): At the beginning of the term, students will select their areas of concentration of study. Choices include: acting, script study, directing, improvisation, make-up, set design, costuming, playwriting, lighting, sound, set model making, production of a play. While all students will work on individual projects, they will also be auditors for other student's

projects.

**Technical Theatre (Elective grades 9-12):** This class will teach students the history of technical properties found within theatre, as well as introduce students to the world of technical theatre by teaching students set design, set construction, light design, light hanging and focusing, costume design, costume construction, and makeup design. This class is not available to virtual students due to the use of power tools and various additional materials.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES**

**Latin I:** Students are introduced to the culture and institutions of the Romans as they begin to read, understand, and interpret Latin. In addition, they use oral skills, listening and writing to assist them in the development of their reading skills. Students gain an appreciation of the Roman contributions to Western civilization and the Latin influence on the development of the English language. Latin is an excellent elective choice for all students, freshmen through seniors, as it helps with English vocabulary and grammar acquisition as well as maximizing SAT scores.

**Latin II or Integrated Honors Latin II (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):** Students increase their ability to read, understand, and interpret Latin. They continue to use oral skills, listening, and writing to assist them in the development of their reading skills. English word derivation, Roman mythology, history, and culture are integral parts of the learning process. Honors Latin II students will complete additional activities that demonstrate higher level thinking as well as more in-depth and independent work.

**Latin III or Integrated Honors III (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):** Students increase their ability to read, understand, and interpret Latin. They continue to use oral skills, listening, and writing to assist them in the development of their reading skills. English word derivation, Roman mythology, history, and culture are integral parts of the learning process. Honors Latin III students will complete additional activities that demonstrate higher level thinking as well as more in-depth and independent work.

**Honors Latin IV (Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors Latin III or B+/89 final average in Latin III; approval of Department Chair):** Students encounter more advanced Latin forms and grammar, word derivations and uses of prefixes and suffixes in the formation of both Latin and English words, learning to translate selected passages from Roman writers such as Vergil, Catullus, Ovid, Pliny, Martial and Cicero. Throughout this course, students continue to study classical Latin literature and to hone

their skills in reading, translating, interpreting and analyzing passages.

**Spanish I:** Students will develop proficiency in three modes of communication: interacting with other speakers of the target language, understanding oral and written messages in the target language, and making oral and written presentations in the target language. Emphasis is placed on the use of the target language in the classroom as well as on the use of authentic materials to learn about the culture.

**Spanish II or Integrated Honors Spanish II** (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point): Students will show a greater level of accuracy when using basic language structures and will be exposed to more complex features of the target language. They will continue to focus on communicating about their immediate world and daily life activities, and they will read material on familiar topics and write short, directed compositions. Emphasis will be placed on the use of the target language in the classroom as well as on the use of authentic materials to learn about the culture.

**Spanish III or Integrated Honors Spanish III** (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point): Students will communicate using more complex structures in the target language on a variety of topics, moving from concrete to more abstract concepts. They will comprehend the main ideas of the authentic materials that they read and hear, and are able to identify significant details when the topics are familiar. The target language will be used almost exclusively in the class as students develop the ability to discuss topics related to historical and contemporary events and issues.

**Honors Spanish IV** (Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors Spanish III or B+/89 final average in Spanish III; approval of Department Chairperson): Students in Honors Spanish IV will exchange and support opinions on a variety of topics related to contemporary and historical events and issues. They will comprehend spoken and written target language texts from a variety of authentic sources as well as produce compositions containing well-developed ideas on various topics. Selections of literature from Spanish and Hispanic sources will also be explored. Students will use the target language to access information in other subject areas and to compare and contrast cultural elements of countries where the target language is spoken with their own. These students will attempt to speak exclusively in the target language during the class block.

**Honors Spanish V** (Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors Spanish IV; approval of Department Chairperson): Students in Honors Spanish V will exchange and support opinions on a variety of topics related

to contemporary and historical events and issues. They will comprehend spoken and written target language texts from a variety of authentic sources as well as produce compositions containing well-developed ideas on various topics. There is a focus on the literary world and larger selections of literature from Spanish and Hispanic sources will be explored. Students will use the target language to access information in other subject areas and to compare and contrast cultural elements of countries where the target language is spoken with their own. These students will attempt to speak exclusively in the target language during the class block.

## **MATHEMATICS**

Students may enroll in two math courses in a year provided they meet the prerequisites and meet the grade level requirement.

***Pre-Algebra: (Grade 8)*** In this course, students will study the arithmetic of integers, rational numbers, and irrational numbers without use of a calculator. Students will be introduced to algebraic concepts in preparation for success in Algebra 1.

***Algebra I: (Grade 8, 9 )Part 1 and 2 or Integrated Honors Algebra I: Part 1 and 2 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories for Part 1 and at the five week point of Part 2):*** In this course, students will study the arithmetic of integers, rational numbers, irrational numbers, and variables. Students will further their study of algebra including, solve linear and quadratic equations algebraically and graphically, factor and solve algebraic expressions and complete the square, and set up and solve advanced algebraic word problems. These skills will be presented over the course of two terms, however, no credit is awarded until the completion of part 2. A one term Algebra I course may be recommended to students who have already completed Algebra I for high school credit but need to strengthen skills as identified by initial math placement testing.

***Geometry (Prerequisite: Algebra I) (Grade 9, 10) or Integrated Honors Geometry (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** This college preparatory course is based on the study of plane and solid figures and their applications. Geometric constructions and formal geometric proof are also included. Throughout the course students are required to engage in hands-on experiences and cooperative group work. A Scientific calculator is required.

***Algebra II (Prerequisite: Geometry) (Grade 9-12) or Integrated Honors Algebra II (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** This is an advanced math course dealing in an extended study of linear and quadratic relations and functions as well as applications of these concepts. The topics of three variable systems, three dimensional

graphing, the imaginary number system, and the complex number system are also included. A Scientific calculator is required.

***Algebra III/Trigonometry (Grades 10-12) (Prerequisite: Algebra II) or Integrated Honors Algebra III/Trigonometry (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** This class builds on concepts learned in Algebra II. Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of trigonometry and transcendental functions and will review their algebra skills. Students may have limited use of their graphic calculators as they develop a mastery of advanced trigonometry. A Scientific calculator is required.

***Statistics (Grades 11-12; Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra II):*** Students will learn basic statistical skills to collect, analyze, and present data. Students will calculate probabilities and confidence intervals and perform hypothesis testing for various types of data information. Emphasis will be placed on real-life applications of statistics in project assessments as well as test assessments. Students will create an original statistical study, perform data analysis, and present their findings.

***Honors Pre-Calculus (Grades 10-12; Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors Algebra III/Trigonometry OR B+/89 final average in Algebra III/Trigonometry):*** The course includes the study of number patterns and extended equation solving and graphing of most algebraic and transcendental functions, including polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric. A significant portion of this course focuses on trigonometric functions, identities, equations, and applications. A scientific-graphing calculator is required, however, its use is limited to only those situations where appropriate or necessary.

***Honors Calculus (Grades 11-12; Prerequisite B/86 in Precalculus and approval):*** This is an advanced math course that studies the basics of limits, derivatives, and integrals for both algebraic and transcendental functions. The course will introduce topics typically covered in a first year college course. A scientific-graphing calculator is required, however, its use is limited to only those situations where appropriate or necessary. This course is required prior to taking AP Calculus, however students taking this course are not required to take AP Calculus as a follow on course.

***AP Calculus AB/BC (Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Honors Calculus and approval):*** The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements of the AP Calculus BC Course description published by the College Board. Students must take either the AB or BC exam. A scientific-graphing calculator permitted for use on the AB or BC exam is required. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each

student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the AP Exam in May may result in one semester of college credit. Students who opt for the AB exam in their junior year may re-enroll to prepare for the BC exam in their senior year.

**AP Statistics** (*Grades 11-12; Prerequisite: B/86 average in Integrated Honors Algebra II or B+/89 average in Algebra II and approval*): The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: Exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. A scientific-graphing calculator permitted for use on the AP exam is required. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the AP Exam in May may result in one semester of college credit.

### **LABORATORY SCIENCE**

**Earth Science** (*Required grade 8 or 9*) or **Integrated Honors Earth Science** (*B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point*): Students will be introduced to the four major branches of Earth Science: Geology, Meteorology, Astronomy, and Oceanography. The Earth's history and environmental issues are also discussed. Students will be involved in lab and problem solving activities and projects.

**Conceptual Physics** (*Science credit grades 9-12; Prerequisite: Algebra I*) or **Integrated Honors Conceptual Physics** (*Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point*): This course is an introduction to the ideas of physics, providing a strong conceptual background in physics and scientific foundations. Through hands-on activities and inquiry-based experiments, students will form connections between physics and the world around them. Students will study foundational concepts such as gravity, force, and momentum, as well as more specific physics topics such as mechanics, electromagnetism, and quantum theory of light.

**Biology** (*Required grade 10*) or **Integrated Honors Biology** (*Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point*): Students will learn the fundamental concepts and interrelating principles of biology, good science, and the scientific method. Beginning with basic chemical and biological information, the student continues with the study of ecology and the complexity and interdependence of life. The students will then study the cell, followed by the fundamentals and molecular biology of genetics.

**Chemistry or Integrated Honors Chemistry** (*Grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Algebra 1; Honors Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at*

*the five week point*) Students will study the composition of matter, fundamental atomic theory, unit conversions, the naming of chemical compounds, the periodic table, balancing of chemical equations, solving basic stoichiometry problems, describing the properties of gases, solids, and liquids, describing acid-base reactions, drawing Lewis structures and 3D models of molecules, and intermolecular forces. Laboratory work will complement these topics.

**Dual Enrollment Biology** (*Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors Biology or B+/89 average in Biology and approval of the Department Chair following readiness evaluation. (See page 4 for additional DE requirements)*): Students will concentrate their studies on major themes of Advanced Biology: science as a process; mechanisms of genetic change and evolution; energy transfer; molecular biology; regulation; interdependence in nature; and emerging science, technology and society. Advanced Biology includes a significant laboratory component of exercises that complement and expand topics in the curriculum. This course will be offered as Dual Enrollment through TNCC and closely aligns with their BIO 101/101L curriculum.

**Dual Enrollment Anatomy** (*Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisites: B/86 final average in Dual Enrollment Biology; approval of Department Chair*): Students will study the structure and function of the human organism. Gross and microscopic structures of the human body are taught with the aid of slides, charts, and laboratory exercises. Students will be involved in lab and projects. This course will be offered as Dual Enrollment through TNCC and closely aligns with their BIO 141/141L curriculum.

**AP Chemistry** (*Two terms and two credits; Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: B/86 in Integrated Honors Chemistry or B+/89 in Chemistry and the approval of the Department Chair following readiness evaluation*): This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college-level general chemistry course and will be aimed at preparing the student for the AP exam. This course differs from the Integrated Honors Chemistry course with respect to the topics covered, the emphasis on chemical calculations, and the type of laboratory work done. Students will study topics such as the gas laws, thermodynamics, atomic theory, theories of bonding, composition of matter, chemical kinetics, equilibrium, acid-base chemistry, and solution chemistry. Students will be required to maintain a laboratory notebook which may be reviewed by the university/college that the student eventually attends. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

**Honors Physics** (*Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisite: B/86 final average in*

*Honors Pre-Calculus*): Students will understand physics concepts and be able to solve practical problems in the following areas: Kinematics and Dynamics; Newton's Laws of Motion; Circular Motion; Work and Energy; Linear Momentum; Rotational Motion; Static Equilibrium; Fluids; and Vibrations & Waves. Students will be able to explain the "why" behind many day-to-day interactions and phenomena and predict outcomes. A scientific-graphing calculator is required.

***Engineering for Us All (Elective grades 10-12; Prerequisite: Algebra I):***

The Engineering for Us All (E4USA) course empowers, engages, and excites students to use what they know and find what they are passionate about to take control and boldly influence the world. In this course, you will learn about the diversity of the engineering discipline and community, as well as the role of engineering in our everyday lives. Students in E4USA could potentially earn college course credit at collaborating American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) universities, such as Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland.

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION, HEALTH AND DRIVER'S EDUCATION**

***Physical Education 9/Health I/First Aid (Required grade 9):*** Students will develop physical skills and knowledge of rules in team sports, individual sports and leisure activities. Classes are coeducational. Students will be introduced to topics relating to General Health with an emphasis on maintaining wellness. Topics include nutrition, physical and emotional fitness, family and social health, body systems, medicine and drugs, disease, consumer health, injury prevention and safety, as well as first aid. Students will also be trained in emergency first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and the use of automated external defibrillators, including hands-on practice of the skills necessary to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

***Physical Education 10/Health II/Driver's Education (Required grade 10):*** Students will develop physical skills and knowledge of rules in team sports, individual sports and leisure activities. Students will continue in topics relating to General Health with an emphasis on maintaining wellness. Topics include nutrition, physical and emotional fitness, family and social health, body systems, medicine and drugs, disease, and consumer health. The Driver's Education is the state required driver's education course in classroom instruction. The course does not include behind the wheel instruction.

***Sports Management (Elective 10-12. Prerequisites: Health 9):*** This course offers students a look at the diverse, expanding field of sport and recreation. Students will examine applications of managerial concepts and processes,

and the ways in which organizations interact with each other. Students will have a hands-on opportunity to get an in-depth look at the practices, procedures and operations of event and facility management, including planning, funding, and managing sporting events at PC. The main focus of these principles will be on sporting events and facilities, but can be applied to many different areas, including corporate and social events.

***Strength Training*** (Elective grades 10-12. Prerequisites: Health 9): Students will be placed on an anaerobic weight training program. They will demonstrate an ability to set personal fitness goals and then be given the tools and knowledge necessary to reach these goals. This knowledge includes proper lifting and spotting techniques, muscle identification and isolation, maintaining a workout journal, and concepts such as overload, progression, frequency, intensity, and time. Students will also begin to develop skills for injury treatment and prevention.

## **HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE**

***Civics/PC 101/Tech Bootcamp*** (Required grade 8): While students are engaged in learning the basic elements of our government at the local, state, and national level. Included in this class will be study and testing taking skills, research skills with emphasis on outline preparation and MLA format, basic keyboarding, various note-taking techniques, organization and time management, and leadership, which will allow them to increase their potential for success at the high school level. These skills will be mastered in conjunction with mastering key concepts and terminology related to Civics which will introduce them to the skills necessary for becoming an active and responsible citizen.

***World History I*** (Required grade 9 or 10) or ***Integrated Honors World History I*** (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point): This course is the first part of a two-year sequence in World History and Geography. Students will explore the impact of geography and historical developments of people, places, and patterns of life from ancient times until 1500 A.D. in terms of impact on Western civilization.

***World History II*** (Required grade 9 or 10) or ***Integrated Honors World History II*** (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point): This course is the second part of a two-year sequence in World History and Geography. Students will examine the geography, social interactions, and cross-cultural comparisons necessary for an understanding of World History during the time period of 1500 A.D. to the present.

***AP Human Geography*** (May be used to satisfy the World History requirement during Freshman year; Prerequisite: B/86 average in English 8

*plus evaluation of high school credits earned prior to enrollment; approval of Department Chair):* AP Human Geography is the study of how humans have understood, used, and changed the surface of the earth. Students will use the tools and thinking processes of geographers to examine patterns of human population, migration, and land use. Students will also learn to connect geographic concepts and processes to real-life scenarios, to understand information shown in maps, tables, charts, graphs, infographics, images, and landscapes; to see patterns and trends in data and in visual sources such as maps in order to draw conclusions from them, and to understand spatial relationships using geographic scales. The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements in the AP European History Course description published by the College Board. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the required AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***AP European History*** (May be used to satisfy the World History requirement during Sophomore year; Prerequisite: B/86 final average in Integrated Honors World History I or B+/89 final average in World History I AND B/86 final average in Integrated Honors English 9 OR B+/89 final average in English 9; approval of Department Chair following readiness evaluation): AP European History is a survey of modern European history from approximately 1450 to the present. In addition to providing the students with a foundational narrative of the cultural and political events in modern Europe, there will also be an emphasis on the skills necessary to analyze historical evidence and documents. The primary approach to the course will be chronological, but a thematic approach will likewise be used to explore themes found in the intellectual, cultural, political, social, economic and diplomatic arenas. The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements in the AP European History Course description published by the College Board. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the required AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***US History*** (Required grade 11) or ***Integrated Honors US History*** (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point): Students study the political, social and economic life of the United States from its origins to the present. This survey course enables students to understand the ways in which our American culture has evolved in response to continuously changing historical demands and conditions. An emphasis is placed on the analysis of each historical period and the transition from one time period to the next.

***Advanced Placement United States History*** (Two terms and two credits;

*Prerequisite: B+/89 final average in Integrated Honors World History or B/86 final average in AP European History; approval of Department Chair following readiness evaluation if applicable. See page 4 for additional DE requirements):* This survey course of US History addresses the major themes of American history from the colonial period to the present in terms of social, economic, political and cultural development. It also analyzes the fundamental political institutions and their impact on the nation's expansion. Emphasis is placed on analytical thinking and problem solving. The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements in the AP US History Course description published by the College Board. An exam fee of approximately \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the required AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***American Government*** (Required grade 12) or ***Integrated Honors American Government*** (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point): Students study the American government in depth with an emphasis on the background and structure of the political system and the nature of governmental decision making. The three branches of government are studied with a focus on the relationship between the institutions and the process.

***AP American Government*** (Prerequisite: B+/89 final average in Integrated Honors US History or B/86 final average in DE US History; and approval of the Department Chair following readiness evaluation if applicable): Students study the branches of the American political system in great depth with an emphasis on the three branches of government and the intricate processes involved in each. Students focus on problem solving, analysis and independent research. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement examination. The course is designed to meet the curricular requirements in the AP American Government Course description published by the College Board. An exam fee of approximately \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the required AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***Introduction to Psychology*** (Elective grades 11-12): This survey course explores and applies basic psychological concepts. The diverse range of topics includes the biology of psychology, sensation and perception, consciousness, learning intelligence, social psychology, abnormal psychology, psychotherapy and human growth and development.

***Life Skills*** (Elective grades 10-12): This course is designed to facilitate the transition for students to an independent and successful lifestyle upon graduation. The course is primarily project-based and will utilize class instruction, guest speakers, web-based resources, and practical

applications. Some of the topics include but are not limited to Career Discovery, Interviewing for a Job, Automotive Care, First Aid, Budgeting, Social Skills, and Domestic Skills.

## **BUSINESS:**

***Economics and Personal Finance or Integrated Honors Economics and Personal Finance*** (*Integrated Honors prerequisite: B/86 in all grading categories at the five week point*). This course emphasizes basic economic concepts related to the students' roles as consumers, producers, and citizens. Students will learn how to shape their own financial lives, influence government and business economic policies and participate fully in the economic system of the United States. Students will learn the benefits of compound interest over time and that poor money management can lead to difficulty in obtaining credit. Students practice weighing costs and benefits of options when making choices about such things as careers, insurance, housing, investments, savings, automobiles, and health care.

***AP Microeconomics*** (*Elective grades 11-12; Prerequisites: B+/89 final average in both Integrated Honors Algebra II and Integrated Honors Personal Finance; approval of Department Chair*): This course is an introduction to microeconomics and prepares students to take the AP Microeconomics Exam that is administered in May. The purpose of the course is to provide a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets, and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the required AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***Introduction to Business*** (Elective 10-12): This course is an introductory look at the business world and includes topics related to the business environment, organization, management, finance, accounting, ethical and social responsibility, international business, and career opportunities. Students create and pitch a business plan and learn the skills involved in marketing the goods and services of their new business.

***Leadership Studies*** (*Elective grades 10-12*): Students will develop and practice the skills and behaviors of good leadership, including understanding leadership styles, goal-setting, ethics and decision making, time management, communication skills, delegating responsibility,

facilitation, and project planning. Students will work collaboratively and independently on high level, real-world tasks such as project proposals, portfolios, and presentations. The end goal is to empower students to confidently pursue future leadership opportunities and use their leadership skills to make a difference.

## **TECHNOLOGY**

***AP Computer Science Principles*** (Elective 10-12; Prerequisite B+/89 or higher in Algebra II; and approval of the Department Chair following readiness evaluation. if appropriate): This course is designed to introduce students to the central ideas of computing and computer science (CS), to instill ideas and practices of computational thinking, and to have students engage in activities that show how computing and computer science change the world. The course is rigorous and rich in computational content, includes computation and critical thinking skills, and engages students in the creative aspects of CS. The course will be conducted in accordance with the College Board's framework for AP CSP. The key concepts are organized around Seven Big Ideas: Creativity, Abstractions, Data & Information, Algorithms, Programming, the Internet, Global Impact. As an essential part of the course and the course assessment, students will complete two performance tasks that require them to explore impacts of computing and create computational artifacts through programming. Writing is an integral part of the curriculum and students will have opportunities to build their writing skills through portfolio, journals, technical writing and the written component of the performance tasks. An exam fee of \$95 will be billed in the spring for each student enrolled in this course. Successful completion of the required AP Test in May could result in one semester of college credit.

***Cybersecurity (Elective grades 11-12)***: This course will prepare students with skills needed in the field of cyber security. Students will learn about security threats and vulnerabilities, how to identify them and how to combat them. This course helps prepare students for career certifications in CompTIA Security+ and Microsoft MTA Security Fundamentals. This is an advanced topic. To be successful, students should have strong technology skills. Completion of AP Computer Science Principles preferred.

## **THEOLOGY**

*Protecting God's Children* is a component of all Theology courses as mandated by the Diocese of Richmond.

***Theology 8: The Church: Christ in the World Today (Required grade 8)***: Students will be guided in exploring and understanding the Catholic Church, as well as its origin, structure, and mission. Additionally, the course

addresses the roles of the hierarchy, those in religious life, and the laity in supporting the mission of the Church. Particular attention is paid to the global presence of the Church as a light to all people.

***Theology 9: Salvation History (Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture) / Christology (The nature, person and deeds of Jesus Christ) (Required Grade 9):*** Students are invited to encounter God through the narrative of Sacred Scripture and the salvation history as fulfilled in Jesus Christ. This will include exploring divine inspiration, and interpreting Sacred Scripture as guided by Dei Verbum and the magisterium. Christ is our source of understanding therefore we will focus on the nature (Divine-Trinitarian and human), person and deeds of Jesus the Christ.

***Theology 10: Soteriology (Saving Works of Jesus Christ) / Morality & Theology of the Body (Life in Christ) (Required grade 10):*** The emphasis of this course will be on the Salvation that Christ won for us through the Paschal Mystery and how all of Sacred Scripture points to this salvific moment. Students will explore the meaning of God's sacred and mysterious plan for their lives and for all people. In light of the Paschal Mystery students will explore the moral concepts and precepts that guide their lives as disciples of Christ. Further students will discover the true dignity and purpose of their bodies through the Theology of the Body developed by Saint Pope John Paul II.

***Theology 11: Ecclesiology (Study of Christ's continued life and mission in the Church) / Sacraments (Privileged encounters with Jesus Christ) (Required grade 11) or Integrated Honors Theology 11 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** This course will focus on living Christ in community. We will explore the structure, nature and history of the Church and its relationship with other Christian Churches and non-christian religions. A central part of the identity of the Church is its sacramental life. We will explore each of the sacraments and how they shape the identity and mission (both evangelical and service) of the Church. The course will work to move students a deeper understanding of who they are and how their sacramental life leads to a life of service and work for the Kingdom of God.

***Theology 12: Capstone: Apologetics / Catholic Social Teaching (Required grade 12) or Integrated Honors Theology 12 (Prerequisite: B/86 average in all grading categories at the five week point):*** Students will strengthen the foundation of Catholic theology and belief through Catholic apologetics. Students will be able to defend the teaching and belief of the Catholic faith in the areas of Theology of God, the Authority of the Catholic Church, the Sacraments of the Church, and the selected Moral teachings of the Church. Particular emphasis on the dangers of relativism will be faced,

while building a strong and competent understanding of a full life within the Catholic Church. Catholic Social Teaching will be explored in relation to each of these units.

***Catholic Culture*** (*This course is for new students to Peninsula Catholic in grades 10-12*). Students will learn the culture of a Catholic school environment and how the Catholic faith guides the way the school is structured. The students will work to understand the foundations of the Bible, Tradition, as well as the Sacramental and Moral life in Catholicism so that they are able to be successful in their grade level Theology course the following school year. The first two weeks of the course, students will also be taking the virtual course, PC Tech Bootcamp, which is designed to help students become familiar with the learning management system (Canvas) and other digital tools used at Peninsula Catholic High School including Google Docs, Google Slides, other Google options; videos and digital citizenship. This portion of the course is a pass/fail and a failing grade will require students to complete it a second time at an additional cost of \$50.

***Comparative Religions*** (*This course is offered to students in grades 11 & 12*) The purpose of this course is to help students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions in the world, particularly major world religions and denominations. Building on Christian faith and tradition, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways that spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches, as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.

***Faith in Action*** (*This course is offered to students in grades 10, 11 & 12*). In a world torn by so many issues of injustice and human need, Students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and vulnerable, is made present today in the Church's social teaching and mission as we address the real issues of our world. Topics concerning justice, charity, dignity of human life, and participation in society will guide the course, which is built upon the framework of Catholic Social Teaching, and the Ten Commandments.

## **VIRTUAL COURSE**

***PC Tech Boot Camp*** (*Required for new incoming students in grade 9*): This course is designed to help students become familiar with the learning management system (Canvas) and other digital tools used at Peninsula Catholic High School including Google Docs, Google Slides, other Google options; videos and digital citizenship. The course will take about 6 hours;

students should comfortably allow two weeks to complete the online course prior to the first day of school. All work must be completed and submitted by Friday, August 20, 2021 by 11:59 PM.

## **COURSES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

***English as a Second Language*** (for International students during their initial semester dependent upon academic language experience and proficiency and placement test results; takes the place of appropriate grade level English course): This course is designed to help students who come from other language backgrounds quickly develop the language ability that will help them succeed in an English language instruction environment. By focusing on practical, academically relevant language, this course will prepare students to understand assignments, lectures, and readings in their other classes.

## **INDEPENDENT STUDY**

Only seniors who are on track to exceed their curriculum requirements for graduation may pursue an Independent Study.

In an Independent Study a senior may work with a cooperating teacher for one term or take an online course. For Option I and II the student will work with the teacher during one block in his/her schedule. This block may be during a teacher's planning or teaching period, depending on which option and the teacher's preference.

After the Add/Drop date has passed for each term, students pursuing an Independent Study may not withdraw from his/her obligations and expectations.

### **Option I: Student Assistant (Seniors only)**

This Independent Study option will be recorded on the transcript with a pass/fail; the student will not receive a high school credit.

- Only eight students will be approved to serve as a Student Assistant.
- Students will be selected based on their GPA at the end of their Junior year.
- A request form to be signed by the student and parent will be turned into the School Counselor prior to the last day of school for the current year.
- Once all paperwork is submitted and the student is selected, the student will be scheduled to serve as a Student Assistant for one block.

### **Option II: Additional Online Coursework (Seniors only)**

This Independent Study option is only for seniors who would like to pursue a

course not offered whose academic rigor exceeds those available at Peninsula Catholic (i.e. AP Physics). Students may not take a course at another institution if that course is offered at Peninsula Catholic unless it meets the specifications detailed above. Any other course taken outside of Peninsula Catholic that has not been approved in advance will not be awarded credit.

The student's grade will be transferred as a high school credit on their Peninsula Catholic transcript. The grade will be averaged into their cumulative GPA. The cost of a student's coursework will be absorbed by the student.

- A student must submit the course description and the name of the institution to the school counselor.
- Attached to this proposal will be an agreement to be signed by the student, appropriate department chair, and parent which will be turned into the School Counselor. This paperwork must be submitted prior to the last day of school for the current year.
- If a student's institution and course is approved, the student will be allowed to have one block for one term devoted to the class.
- The principal will have final course approval prior to scheduling.
- All independent study blocks must be approved prior to August 1, 2021.

### **Option III: Peer to Peer Mentoring (Seniors and Juniors only)**

Prerequisites: Counselor recommendation and interview with Resource teacher. In this option, students are matched 1:1 with a Resource student for the purpose of mentoring during one of the mentee's class periods. Mentors may accompany students to general education classes or serve as aides in small group class settings led by the Resource teacher. Responsibilities of the Mentor would include attending a training session prior to the start of the semester, attending classes with the assigned mentee, supporting the mentee in and beyond assigned class(es), collaborating with related teachers as needed, and completing weekly online assignments designed to provide broader understanding and context to the student's role as a mentor. A limited number of Mentors will be enrolled in this option and assigned to a specific block. This course will be pass/fail with the evaluation appearing on the Mentor's transcript.