

# PARACLETE HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG



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### **NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY**

Paraclete High School mindful of its mission to be a witness to the love of Christ for all, admits students of all races, color and national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at this school. Paraclete High School does not discriminate based on race, color and national and/or ethnic origin in the administration of educational policies, scholarship and loans programs and athletic and other school administered programs. Likewise, Paraclete High School does not discriminate against any applicant for employment based on sex, age, handicap, race, color and national and/or ethnic origin.

## **INTEGRAL STUDENT OUTCOMES (2022)**

**The Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, is the guiding light for faculty, staff and students at Paraclete High School. Through the Spirit we are inspired to teach as Christ taught. Guided by the Spirit we aspire to the following core values: Spirit in Christ, Spirit as family, Spirit as Knowledge, Spirit for success and Inspired to Serve. With these values in mind, Paraclete High School will provide a holistic, Catholic education.**

**Paraclete, a Catholic educational community, contributes to cultivating students who are involved citizens as Servant Leaders. Paraclete graduates:**

- 1. Recognize and understand the Catholic values and ideals as well as the contributions of diverse religious beliefs and traditions.**
- 2. Exhibit social responsibility through Christian service, community involvement, and the demonstration of respect for others.**
- 3. Establish a foundation in Scripture and Catholic traditions and continue to develop these teachings throughout their lives.**
- 4. Demonstrate moral development and growth as a whole person: spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, and socially.**

**The Paraclete academic and family environment creates students who are Effective Communicators. Paraclete graduates:**

- 1. Read, write, listen, and speak reflectively and critically.**
- 2. Communicate information through the use of advanced technologies**
- 3. Articulate personal viewpoints while respecting a variety of other perspectives.**
- 4. Proclaim and defend Gospel values using arguments built on a foundation of logic and faith.**

**Paraclete's college preparatory environment produces graduates who are Critical Thinkers. Paraclete graduates:**

- 1. Can identify, evaluate, organize and synthesize information in multiple fields.**
- 2. Integrate learning and reflective practices to evaluate complex issues**
- 3. Create well-researched and educated solutions to problems to demonstrate social awareness and global thinking**
- 4. Process information, draw conclusions and apply findings effectively and productively**
- 5. Integrate Catholic Social Teaching into a worldview that encourages just decisions and actions that reflect the Gospel.**

**Paraclete's comprehensive curriculum and student-centered environment fosters graduates who are Productive Individuals. Paraclete graduates:**

- 1. Possess the ability to access resources both traditionally and technologically.**
- 2. Set and achieve personal and career goals that utilize their critical thinking, reasoning and communication abilities.**
- 3. Possess reasoning skills that enable them to evaluate options and to make choices compatible with Catholic values.**

## **STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY      Reviewed 2020**

Paraclete High School, as a Catholic school in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, participates in the wider mission of the Church through the proclamation of Christ in the light of Scripture and Catholic Tradition and through its academic, athletic, and social programs.

As a Catholic school the doctrinal elements reflect authentic Church teaching in union with the Pope and Bishops. A community spirit and bond is fostered through the Eucharist, retreats, common work and the discipline program as well as athletic and social activities. Fostering active service through emphasizing the unique value of every person, Paraclete also challenges students to active responsibility and provides a Christian Service Program for outreach to the school community and the outside community.

As an academic institution Paraclete seeks primarily to prepare students for entrance and success at the college level. The school also provides courses for students not necessarily college bound, maintaining for all a challenge to love learning, to respect science and the arts, to be able to think critically and to understand values.

Paraclete encourages athletic participation in physical education classes and on extramural teams seeking to educate and develop the whole person. The school is committed to both girls' and boys' athletics with each program careful to be true to the religious and moral values of the whole institution's philosophy. Social interchange occurs in many ways. The school encourages care for all and celebration of our common life and interests through participation in student government, dances, plays and other extracurricular events.

While desirous of serving first the Catholic families of the Antelope Valley, Paraclete High School welcomes students from other faiths who are committed to the same essential values and standards. The rich blend of perspectives and beliefs is a cherished part of our identity.

Paraclete recognizes the parents as the primary educators of their children. The school reflects the pride of its role of service to God and people with a committed faculty and staff, an energetic, disciplined student body and a dedicated, supportive group of parents, alumni and friends.

Participating in the life and mission of the Church, Paraclete High School seeks to do the good things Christ calls us to do as human beings alive to truth, beauty and charity today and in the future.

### **COLLEGE COURSES/CREDIT FOR OFF CAMPUS COURSES**

If a course is offered at Paraclete, it may not be taken elsewhere for high school credit and placed on the transcript unless such action is approved by the vice-principal or academic advisor. As a general rule, credit will not be granted for courses taken at a high school not accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the WCEA

Classes taken in place of Paraclete requirements must be approved by the college counselor and meet the following requirements: (a) the same or equivalent course is not offered at Paraclete; and (b) the course must be either of superior academic quality as approved by the University of California system for college entrance; or (c) the course is required for graduation but cannot be scheduled for the student during the regular class day at Paraclete due to scheduling conflicts; or (d) the course is a repeat of a course previously failed during the regular term and presently unavailable for repeat at Paraclete. All courses taken elsewhere must be approved by the Counseling Department and/or Vice-Principal.

### **BASIC PROGRAMS**

The curriculum of Paraclete High School is designed to provide every student with sufficient knowledge to enter college. The basic curriculum, therefore, is college preparatory. Special attention is given to meeting the requirements for admission to the University of California system, so that those students who desire immediate entrance to a four year college are provided with adequate courses and course material to meet the requirements. The curriculum is also designed to provide courses for remediation on the freshman level when needed.

Each student at Paraclete High School normally attends six classes per day or forty-eight classes during a complete four years on the campus (six classes per day, twelve classes per year, forty-eight classes for four years).

**Full courses (two semester courses) at Paraclete cannot be dropped at the end of the first semester except with the prior approval of the teacher, counselor and the Vice-Principal.**

### **ELECTIVES**

Electives are courses that the school “elects” to offer in order to round out its total academic program and provide enough courses to fulfill the required number of courses for graduation. Students are given some choice in the selection of which electives they wish to take. We cannot guarantee that students will be given the courses that they select from among the available electives.

### **HONORS LEVEL/ADVANCED PLACEMENT QUALIFYING EXAMS**

Students planning on enrolling in honors level or advanced placement courses are responsible for getting all pertinent information re: dates, prerequisites, and application procedure from the appropriate teacher as announced. Acceptance will be based on a “First Come, First Served” basis once prerequisites are met. Students applying after a class is full will be placed on a waiting list.

Questions regarding eligibility are to be directed to the appropriate teacher and/or department chair first. If there is need to discuss eligibility further after this initial contact, questions for each of the classes should be directed to the appropriate counselor.

### **PARACLETE GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

For graduation from Paraclete High School, the student must successfully complete a course of studies that includes Religion (during each semester that a student is in attendance at Paraclete), four years of English, three years of Mathematics, two years of Laboratory Science, one year of United States History, one semester of American Government (Civics), one semester of Economics, two years of Foreign Language, one year of Visual or Performing Arts, one year of Physical Education/Health, and one year of World History. A student must complete a total of 48 semester units.

### **FRESHMAN YEAR**

1. Religion I: The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture/The Mystery of Jesus Christ\*
2. English I
3. Mathematics
4. English Language Skills or World Languages
5. Physical Education/Health
6. Elective

### **SOPHOMORE YEAR**

1. Religion II: The Paschal Mystery/The Church Our Story: Ecclesiology
2. English II
3. Mathematics
4. World Languages
5. World History or Elective
6. Science

### **JUNIOR YEAR**

1. Religion III: Morality/Social Justice, Sacraments
2. English III: American Literature and Composition or AP English III
3. Mathematics
4. Science
5. U.S. History or A.P. U.S. History
6. Elective





**\*Digital Video Production                      One Year Course    11, 12**  
**Elective Course**

The course will instruct students in communication through the medium of video. Students will express themselves clearly and concisely in their writing about film and television. Students will develop an idea, compose a proposal, and write a script. The completed project will be a video product based on their script. Students will also write and produce live television shows in a variety of formats. Most important are the student study of the art of filmmaking and the creative process that precedes any film or television project. Students will study the impact of film and television on society from a social, economic, and political viewpoint. A variety of films will be studied. Students are expected to know the history of filmmaking and the technological advances in this art form. This course satisfies the UC VPA requirement.

**\*Computer Programming Python    One Semester Course    10, 11, 12**

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 completion or concurrent enrollment

An introductory computer programming course that focuses on programming methodology decision-making structures, and analysis. This course teaches entry-level Python programming skills through data analysis. This class helps beginners understand variables, expressions, strings, conditional statements, loops, file processing, and object-oriented design. By the time students complete this course, they will understand and be able to read, parse, and manipulate data using the Python programming language. Students will also take Java Programming to fill out the year.

**\*Computer Programming Java    One Semester Course    10, 11, 12**

Prerequisite: Algebra 2 completion or concurrent enrollment

This is an introductory computer-programming course that focuses on programming methodology, decision-making structures and analysis. This class prepares students to understand the basics of the Java programming language. Students will be able to understand variable declaration, expressions, string statements, loops, arrays, objects, file processing and Java as an object-oriented language. The goal of this course is to get students introduced to Java that will enable them to grasp advanced programming concepts in mobile, desktop and other types of applications. Students will also take Python Programming to fill out the year.

**\*AP Computer Science Principles    One Year Course    11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2 completion or concurrent enrollment; Completion of one approved computer science course. Application required.**

This course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. In this course, students will develop computational thinking vital for success across all disciplines, such as using computational tools to analyze and study data and working with large data sets to analyze, visualize, and draw conclusions from trends. The course is unique in its focus on fostering student creativity. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. They will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world.

**ENGLISH – FOUR YEARS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**

**\*Freshman English    One Year Course    9**

English I is a course with emphasis on grammar, and usage, sentence structure and sentence types. The students also study poetry, figurative language, short story, drama, mythology and vocabulary. It also includes summer and independent reading.

**\*Sophomore English    One Year Course    10**

English II is a course designed to help students develop critical attitudes toward literature. The students consider short stories, drama, non-fiction, medieval tales and legends. The study of grammar and usage is continued as well as vocabulary study and summer and independent reading.

**\*Junior English    One Year Course    11**

English III is an overview of American literature from the earliest colonists to contemporary times. Fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama are included. The study of grammar and usage will be on an as-needed basis. Writing is emphasized which includes a research paper. Vocabulary and summer and independent reading also continue.

- \*Senior English** **One Year Course** **12**  
 English IV is an overview of British literature from Anglo-Saxon to modern times. Grammar and usage, vocabulary, writing and research techniques are included in this course as well. Summer and independent reading are continued.
- \*Freshman Pre-AP English** **One Year Course** **9**  
**Prerequisite: A grade of C or higher in seventh and eighth grade English. Students must score at least one grade level higher than current grade level on the reading and language portion of entrance exam, and attain the designated standard verbal, reading and language scores.**  
 Students who meet these requirements will be diagnosed as qualified and will be invited to take this class. In addition to literature, grammar, and vocabulary covered in English I, this course will include novels and poetry in the area of world literature. Development of advanced writing skills is part of the course as is summer and independent reading.
- \*Sophomore Pre-AP English** **One Year Course** **10**  
**Prerequisite: 3.3 overall GPA and a C or higher grade in English if you are continuing in honors or A.P. English, or an A- or higher if you are applying to enter honors or A.P. for the first time here at Paraclete.**  
 This course will cover world literature, grammar, vocabulary, independent reading, and analytical writing. In addition to the summer reading, a number of novels will be read during the year.
- \*Junior AP English Language & Composition** **One Year Course** **11**  
**Prerequisite: 3.3 overall GPA and a C or higher grade in English if you are continuing in honors or A.P. English, or an A- or higher if you are applying to enter honors or A.P. for the first time here at Paraclete.**  
 This is a college-level English class focusing on the study of language and its persuasive power through the study of essays, non-fiction works, and selected novels from various time periods. Critical thinking through discussion and extensive writing, which includes several research papers is the foundation for this class. College credit may be earned for this class.
- \*Senior A.P. English Literature & Composition** **One Year Course** **12**  
**Prerequisite: 3.3 overall GPA and a C or higher grade in English if you are continuing in honors or A.P. English, or an A- or higher if you are applying to enter honors or A.P. for the first time here at Paraclete.**  
 This is a college-level English class. Literature and poetry studies are based on world classics, from antiquity to modern times. An extensive writing practicum is an integral part of this class. College credit may be earned for this class.
- English Language Skills** **One Year Course** **9**  
 ELS is a course which provides additional reading skills, provides a tutorial approach to grammar skills and writing skills, and builds a broader base of usable vocabulary. Students will be instructed in methods for improving study skills, study habits, test taking strategies, and organizational skills. ELS is taken in conjunction with English I. A student who earns a grade lower than a "C" may jeopardize his/her continuation at Paraclete.
- \*College Prep Language and Culture I, II, III, IV** **One-year Course** **9, 10, 11, 12**  
**Prerequisite: International Student enrolled in Cambridge program**  
 College Prep Language and Culture (CPLC) is a program in which essential cultural instruction and challenging ESL (English as a Second Language) strategies meet. CPLC accommodates *international students* with different English language proficiency levels in a classroom setting. The goal of each progressive course in the CPLC program is to strengthen international students' English reading abilities, develop critical thinking skills and strategies and gradually elevate their written work to reach college acceptance level. Juniors and seniors with advanced proficiency in English receive guidance in test preparation to learn the test formats and test-taking strategies. This is a UC approved English course.
- \*Beginning Journalism** **One year course** **9, 10, 11, 12**  
**Prerequisite: Requires instructor approval**  
 Introduction to newspaper journalism, stressing beginning reporting techniques, news writing and collecting information. The focus is on content, mechanics, and organization of news stories. Work may include planning news assignments, reporting and writing articles and editorials, photography, copy editing, proofreading, judging news, and exercising editorial leadership using the school newspaper as a laboratory. (Course will be offered at "0" period daily.) Satisfies Paraclete's Art Graduation Requirement. Does not satisfy Cal State Art Requirement. Meets U.C. admission requirements as an English elective.

**+Advanced Journalism** **One year course** **11, 12**

**Prerequisite: completion of Beginning Journalism and requires instructor approval**

This course will allow students to demonstrate their skills in the art of newspaper writing and production: news, sports, feature, entertainment, editorial, captions, headline writing and review writing; proofreading, editing, reporting, interviewing, photography, typing in Microsoft Word and InDesign, and layout design. Students will produce the school newspaper, *Paracletian*. Work will include writing well under pressure, gathering information independently and organizing it effectively, working within deadlines, collaborating with peers as a staff. Through extensive editing and rewriting, students exhibit mastery in all of these skills. (Course will be offered at "0" period daily.) This course is pending U.C. approval.

**MATHEMATICS-- Paraclete students are required to complete three years of mathematics, which must include Algebra and Geometry. Algebra II and Geometry are required for university admissions. We strongly urge all students to take four years of math for college success. For students who will pursue a career in Mathematics, Science, or Engineering, four years of mathematics, including Algebra II and Pre-Calculus, is recommended, and for selective colleges, may be required.**

**\*Algebra I** **One year course** **9**

**Prerequisite: Appropriate mathematical preparation as evidenced on a High School Placement test.**

This course is designed to present the concepts of elementary algebra which includes the topics of signed numbers, evaluation of expressions, solution of equations, word problems, factoring, simplification of radicals, linear equations, and quadratic equations.

**\*Honors Algebra I** **One year course** **9**

**Prerequisite: Appropriate mathematical preparation as evidenced on a High School Placement test and/or MDTP Algebra I Readiness Test.**

This is a full-length Honors Algebra I course for accelerated students. In this course, students will extend topics introduced in pre-algebra or a middle school algebra course and learn algebraic concepts through both theory and applications. Modeling and real-world problems are introduced throughout the course. This course prepares students for Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra II.

**\*Geometry** **One year course** **9, 10**

**Prerequisite: Passing grade in Algebra I at Paraclete High School (Incoming students and 8th graders who have had Algebra I must pass PHS's Qualifying exam.)**

This course introduces students to the inductive approaches to mathematics. It includes the study of angle relationships, parallel lines, congruent triangles, arcs, polygons, coordinates, areas, and basic trigonometry.

**\*Honors Geometry** **One year course** **9, 10**

**Prerequisite: A grade of 83% or higher in Honors Algebra I; good attitude and good work habits, does classwork and homework on a consistent basis; an excellent attendance record; recommendation from a Paraclete Algebra I instructor.**

This honors level Geometry class presents more opportunities to the students strong in mathematical skills to study and discuss geometric concepts and principles. The course also includes interdisciplinary topics and real-world applications.

**\*Algebra II** **One year course** **10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Two semesters of Algebra I with a minimum grade of 73% each semester and two semesters of Geometry.**

One year course covering in-depth solution of linear equations and inequalities and their graphs, quadratic equations and inequalities, graphs of any second degree equation, logarithms, sequences and series. If time permits, selected trigonometry topics will be introduced. This is the third year of mathematics required for entrance to most four year colleges and universities.

**\*Algebra II Honors/Trigonometry** **One year course** **10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Algebra I and Honors Geometry with an 85% or higher would be an indication of eligibility. Additional requirements for admission to the class would be essentially similar to those for admission to any other honors course at Paraclete. Teacher recommendation is required.**

This course is designed to cover Algebra II concepts through Pre-Calculus level Algebra as well as the Trigonometry concepts normally presented in either a one-semester Trigonometry course or within a year-long Pre-calculus course. It is a fast paced

course suitable to students who have demonstrated excellent math aptitude as well as the willingness to do the work required. Successful completion of this course would enable the student to proceed directly into Calculus or AP Calculus with instructor's approval.

**\*Trigonometry** **One year course** **11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2 with a grade of 80%.**

The primary goal of this course is for each student to acquire a solid understanding of trigonometry and its applications in the real world. The secondary goal is for students to keep their knowledge of general functions and equation solving, and to develop a deeper understanding of exponential/logarithmic functions which they were introduced to in Algebra 2. Students will learn trigonometry, general functions, exponential functions and logarithmic functions along with their applications in the real world. This class is geared for the college-bound student who is not necessarily prepared for the rigor and speed of the Pre-Calculus class.

**\*Pre-Calculus** **One year course** **11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Algebra II with a grade of 83% or higher**

This is a college prep course which introduces students to college level Algebra and Trigonometry. Topics include functions, trigonometry, logarithms, analytical geometry, and limits. This a preparatory course for students intending to take college level Calculus.

**\*Calculus** **One year course** **11,12**

**Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II with a 75% or higher or Pre-Calculus with a grade of 83% or higher.**

This course follows Algebra II Honors or Pre-Calculus. Emphasis will be placed on topics such as limits, differentiation, and integration. Each of these topics will also include extensive practice and use of examples. Because it is an advanced course in mathematics, additional time and effort will be required of the students. This course will prepare the student for advanced Mathematics in college.

**\*A.P. Calculus A/B** **One year course** **11,12**

**Prerequisite: Honors Algebra II or Calculus with a grade of 85% or higher and instructor approval**

Calculus A/B is a course in single-variable calculus that includes techniques and applications of the derivative, techniques and applications of the definite integral, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. It is equivalent to a semester of calculus at most colleges and universities. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout this course. To cover the necessary content, this course will demand additional time and effort on the part of the students.

At the conclusion of this course students may petition to take the advanced placement exam for Calculus A/B.

**\*A.P. Calculus B/C** **One year Course** **11,12**

**Prerequisite: Passing grade in Calculus A/B and instructor approval**

Calculus B/C is a course in single variable calculus that includes all the topics of Calculus A/B plus additional topics in differential and integral calculus including series, vectors, parametric and polar equations. It is equivalent to a year of calculus at most colleges and universities. Algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations are emphasized throughout this course.

To cover the necessary content, this course will demand additional time and effort on the part of the students. At the conclusion of this course students may petition to take the advanced placement exam for Calculus B/C.

**\*Statistics** **One year course** **11,12**

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2 with a grade of 73% or higher**

This is an introductory course in statistical reasoning designed to acquaint students with the fundamentals of analyzing data from diverse areas of interest. Topics covered include: probability, data dispersion, tendencies, estimations, correlations, variances, and testing hypotheses. Students conduct surveys on timely topics and use statistical techniques to analyze results. The graphing calculator as well as computer software will be used extensively.

**\*A.P. Statistics** **One year course** **11,12**

**Prerequisite: Algebra 2 with a grade of 85% or higher and English grade of 85% or higher , instructor approval.**

This is an Advanced Placement course in statistical reasoning designed to prepare students for the A.P. exam in Statistics.

Topics covered are those included in the A.P. exam, such as: exploring and analyzing data, making use of graphical and numerical techniques to study patterns; sampling and experimentation with the data, which includes planning and conducting a



The purpose of this course is to help the students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the living Jesus Christ. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

**Religion IIIA: Morality/Social Justice** Semester Course 11  
**Required for all Juniors**

This course centers on study of the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching. In examining each of these seven themes, students are exposed to Catholic moral teaching regarding some of society's most pressing current social issues. Students will examine their responsibility and their call to work for peace and justice in the world.

**Religion IIIB: Sacraments: Privileged Encounters with Christ** Semester Course 11  
**Required for all Juniors**

In this course students will be introduced to the Sacraments of the Church and the mystery of God's presence in our lives through the sacramental system. They will explore the Sacraments of Initiation including Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation. They will discover the healing sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. Finally the students will investigate the Sacraments of vocation in Marriage and Holy Orders.

**Religion IVA: World Religion** Semester Course 12  
**Required for all Seniors**

In this course, students will examine, from the Catholic perspective, Eastern and Western thought and the various expressions of world views in religion including diverse concepts of God and society. The major world religions will be studied: Hinduism, Buddhism, Taoism, Islam, Judaism and Christianity.

**Religion IVB: Christian Life** Semester Course 12  
**Required for all Seniors**

This course is designed to aid students in facing the challenges of young adulthood so that they can shape a future that is hopeful, healthful and full. By focusing on vocations, students come to understand the underlying belief that living a Christian lifestyle is the optimal way to be fully alive.

**Religion IV (Option): Christian Life (Vocations) / Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society** Year Course 12

**Seniors Only**

In addition to fulfilling the Archdiocesan requirement of Christian Life (Fall) as described above, this course will also introduce students to the Church's social teaching and mission (Spring). Seniors will be given the opportunity to practice leadership and ministry skills while assisting in the planning of and participation in religious events. Interested students must have demonstrated an advanced sense of Christian Spirituality and a high level of participation in campus ministries. Required: a letter of request for enrollment and approval by the Campus Minister. This course option is only offered to Seniors.

**SCIENCE --TWO YEARS LABORATORY SCIENCE REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**

**\*Biology** One year course 9, 10

Biology is the study of life. This course is a one-year, college prep, laboratory-based science class in which the interrelationships among living organisms are studied. Content is built around major biological concepts such as biochemistry and the biology of cells, the molecular basis of heredity, biological evolution, matter and energy, and organization in living systems and the behavior of organisms. It includes an introduction to the scientific method, botany, zoology, ecology, taxonomy, and microbiology. Focus is on active student participation in laboratory investigations and the development of critical-thinking skills.

**\*Honors Biology** One year course 9, 10

**Prerequisite: For incoming freshmen, a grade of A- or higher in seventh and eighth grade science and score in the top percentile on the High School Placement Test. For rising sophomores, students must have a 3.3 GPA.**

The content of this course includes cellular structure and function, biochemistry, theories of evolution, structures and functions of single-celled and multicellular organisms (including humans), biotechnology genetics and heredity, and human impact on earth. The pace of this course is accelerated and material is presented in greater depth than in Biology. Emphasis is placed on the utilization of mathematical, analytical, data acquisition, and communication skills as well as interdisciplinary approaches to discovery. Concepts and skills are reinforced by a strong emphasis on hands-on laboratory experiences and the integration of other branches of science. Applications to society, individuals, and the utilization of technology are included.

**\*AP Biology**

**One year course**

**11, 12**

**Prerequisite: 3.3 overall grade point average and the student must have completed Biology and Chemistry with a minimum of a “B”.**

A college-level course for students eligible for honors classes. The course follows the curriculum framework set by the College Board, including recommended laboratory activities, and prepares students for the Advanced Placement exam in Biology. Course of study focuses on the following main topics introduced in Biology: 1) Chemistry of Life, 2) Cell Structure and Function, 3) Cellular Energetics, 4) Cell Communication and Cell Cycle, 5) Heredity, 6) Gene Expression and Regulation, 7) Natural Selection, and 8) Ecology. The ability to read complex material, to think logically, and to write clearly are essential to succeed in this course. In May, students in this class are expected to take the AP examination.

**\*Chemistry**

**One year course**

**10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: The student must have completed Biology and Algebra 1.**

Chemistry is a one year, laboratory-based college-preparatory course. Concepts and skills are reinforced by a strong emphasis on hands-on laboratory experiences. The laboratory work will acquaint students with sound laboratory techniques. Students will utilize mathematical, analytical, data acquisition, and communication skills as well as interdisciplinary approaches to discovery. Applications to society, individuals, and the utilization of technology are included. This course asks students to explore basic chemistry concepts and the impact of those concepts on real-life applications. Problem solving, critical thinking and laboratory skills are emphasized. The course deals with the different kinds of matter, the properties and uses of matter, the changes which matter undergoes, and the conditions which influence these changes.

**\*Honors Chemistry**

**One year course**

**10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: 3.3 overall grade point average and the student must have completed Biology and Algebra 1 with a minimum of a “B”.**

Honors Chemistry is a one year, laboratory-based college-preparatory course. The pace of this course is accelerated and material is presented in greater depth than in Chemistry. It includes both advanced mathematical and theoretical work in chemistry along with laboratory assignments. Concepts and skills are reinforced by a strong emphasis on hands-on laboratory experiences and the integration of other branches of science. The laboratory work will acquaint students with sound laboratory techniques. Applications to society, individuals, and the utilization of technology are included. Major topics include: scientific measurement & conversion, atomic theory and structure, the periodic table, chemical reactions, stoichiometry, nuclear chemistry, thermochemistry, reaction rates, equilibrium, gas laws, and acids/bases.

**\*Physics**

**One year course**

**10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: The student must have completed Biology and Geometry with a “C” or higher and have completed (or be concurrently enrolled in) Algebra II with a “C” or higher.**

Physics is a laboratory-based college preparatory course. Students learn the principles of physics through laboratory investigations, problem solving, teacher-led demonstrations, lectures, discussions, and individual and group study. Students will perform problem analysis using algebraic concepts as they conduct laboratory investigations. The laboratory work will acquaint students with sound laboratory techniques. This course emphasizes study of the basic properties and interactions of matter, force, and energy. In this course, methods used by physicists as they construct a consistent picture of the universe are explored. This course will concentrate on vectors, motion, Newton’s Laws, forces, potential and kinetic energy, momentum, heat, waves, sound, light, and electrostatic forces.

**\*AP Physics**

**One year course**

**11, 12**

**Prerequisite: The student must have completed Physics or Chemistry and Algebra II with a “B” or higher and be concurrently enrolled in Pre-Calculus or higher.**

AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course exploring topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound, and fluid dynamics. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Laboratory experiments, problem solving, and written explanations of physics concepts are emphasized in all units studied. The pace of this course is accelerated and the material is in greater depth, with more mathematical computation than in Physics. In May, students in this class are expected to take the AP examination.

**\*Anatomy** **One year course** **11, 12**

**Prerequisite: The student must have completed Biology and Chemistry with a minimum of a “C”.**

Anatomy is a one year, college preparatory lab course designed to introduce students to the structure and function of the human body. Laboratory investigations are designed to illustrate how the body systems maintain a homeostatic internal environment. Active student participation in laboratory investigations and the development of critical thinking skills are essential. Units include history of anatomy and physiology, extensive vocabulary, human tissues, and all eleven body systems. Course includes model building and dissection activities. This course is an excellent resource for anyone interested in pursuing a career in healthcare, as well as anyone seeking to improve the accuracy of their commercial art, performing art or for those aspiring to gain a deeper understanding of the structure and function of the human body.

**\*Engineer Your World (EYW): Engineering Design and Analysis** **One year course.** **10, 11, 12**

**Prerequisite: The student must have completed Algebra I with a minimum of a C or better and must have completed (or be concurrently enrolled in) Biology.**

Engineer Your World (EYW): Engineering Design and Analysis is a hands-on, design-based, inquiry-focused engineering course. In this course, students discover the engineering design process, make data-driven decisions, and work in multi-level teams to solve complex challenges. Projects explore mechanical, chemical, civil, electrical, and aerospace engineering concepts. Students will discover the design process by creating solutions for people with disabilities, reverse engineer a consumer product to think about how someone else designed it and try to improve upon that design, and much more. They will engage in the challenges and opportunities of working together in teams to collect, analyze, represent, and argue from data. Once students know how engineers design and make data-driven decisions, they will apply these abilities, along with basic coding skills, to design more complex solutions in a systems engineering capstone challenge. Students passing this course can receive college credit through the University of Texas at Austin.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES--THREE YEARS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION**

**\*World History** **One year course** **9, 10**

**Required for sophomores and can be taken as an elective for incoming freshmen**

World History is a study of western civilization from the beginning of man (prehistory) until the modern era. The course will take an extensive look into world pre and historical events using many resources; textbook, primary and secondary documents, as well as visual aids done through video clips and powerpoint presentations. Students will learn how to develop analytical thinking through document analysis.

**AP World History** **One year course** **10, 11, and 12**

Will fulfill sophomore requirement for World History/Elective course for Juniors & Seniors AP World History is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college or university world history course. In AP World History students investigate significant events, individuals, developments, and processes in six historical periods from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. Students develop and use the same skills, practices, and methods employed by historians: analyzing primary and secondary sources; developing historical arguments; making historical comparisons; and utilizing reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course provides five themes that students explore throughout the course in order to make connections among historical developments in different times and places: interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion, and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures.

**Pre AP World History and Geography** **One year Course** **9 and 10**

Pre-AP World History and Geography focuses deeply on the concepts and skills that have maximum value for high school, college, careers, and civic life. The course builds students; essential skills and confidence and helps to prepare them for a

range of AP history and social science coursework during high school, including AP World History. The learning model is that of a disciplinary apprenticeship, with students using the tools of the historian and geographer as sources, data, and analytical reading and writing take center stage in the classroom. In this course, students learn that historians and geographers are investigators intent on using the tools of their disciplines to uncover new evidence about the world and its inhabitants. In addition to providing a basic exposure to the factual narrative, this class will develop an understanding of some of the principal themes in AP World History as well World Geography.

**\*United States History One year course 11**

**Required for juniors.**

This one year course is a study of the persons and events that have influenced American society. This class traces the United States from the Jamestown colonization to the present. Heaviest emphasis is placed on American growth from infant nation to super power.

**\*AP United States History One year course 11**

**Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA 3.3 or better. Grade of “B” or better in World History Honors or World History; completed application submitted.**

Advanced Placement United States History is a rigorous and intensive course that is meant to be the equivalent of an introductory freshman college course in American History. The scope of the class is designed to provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to thoughtfully interpret and relay facts and issues of American history. The course prepares students to critically study, understand, and present ideas clearly and persuasively in regards to American civilization.

**AP Macroeconomics One semester course 12**

**Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 3.3 or better, Grade of “B” or better in U.S. History; completion of Algebra II; completed application submitted.**

This course is a college-level introduction to Macroeconomics. Macroeconomics focuses on principles of economics as it applies to large entities, such as countries. Topic emphasis is interaction of markets in and between countries. These topics include, but are not limited to national income and accounts, financial markets and stabilization policies, national growth models, international trade, currency markets and asset markets. Students learn to analyze and produce charts, graphs, and tables that enable a deeper understanding of economic formulae and models. These fundamentally may be applied to countless avenues of business, government, healthcare, and everyday understanding of prices.

**\*A.P. Government & Politics One semester course 12**

**Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 3.3 or better, Grade of “B” or better in U.S. History or AP US History; completed application submitted.**

This course is designed to give students a critical perspective on government and public policies in the United States. This course involves both the study of general concepts used to interpret American politics and the analysis of specific case studies. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that make up the American political reality. This course is designed to prepare the student for the advanced placement exams in Macroeconomics and U.S. Government & Politics.

**\*Civics One semester course 12**

This one semester course is designed to study the origins, development, and functions of government in the United States. All levels of government are covered with the heaviest emphasis on the workings of the national government. (Students who are enrolled in AP Government & Politics do not need this course)

**\*Economics One Semester 12**

This one semester course is designed to increase the student’s understanding of different classifications of economic organizations, the market system and its functions of production, distribution, the general business cycle, and the role of government, labor, business, banking, and the credit in the economy. (Students who are enrolled in AP Macroeconomics do not need this course)

**\*Psychology Semester Course 11,12 Elective course.** This class is a one-semester course designed to study the origins and development of basic psychological theory. Emphasis is on the terms and ideas that relate most closely to everyday life experiences. Learning theory, early development and theories of personality are examples of areas covered. General and small group discussions are encouraged.

**\*AP Psychology Summer School Elective 11, 12 Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 3.3 or better; completed application submitted**

The purpose of A.P. Psychology is to introduce students to the studies of behavior and mental processes of humans and animals. Students will be provided research methods used in psychological science and practice. Students will use the textbooks and other resources such as the internet, popular media, newspapers, and professional psychological publications in order to conduct research throughout the year. Students will learn about the methods and ethical approaches of professional psychology.

**\*Sociology Semester Course 11,12**

**Elective course.** This course is a general introduction to the study of human beings and their interaction with each other and their environment, culture, the major social institutions, and the structure of society and its effects on the individual. Special topics include the following: cultural norms, social justice, crime, poverty, minorities, political and economic structure, and deviant behavior.

**\*History of 20th Century America Through Music One year course 11,12 Elective course.** This class will take a look at the influence history has had on music in the 20th Century with an emphasis placed on the rock and roll era. The students will be required to demonstrate their understanding of major events in American history through projects, tests, and a variety of homework assignments. The course will be divided into two independent semesters allowing students to enroll for the entire year or for one semester. The only prerequisite for the course is a love for music and an interest in American history.

## **WORLD LANGUAGES - ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE 2 YEARS OF THE SAME LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH (LOTE)**

**\*Spanish I One Year Course 9,10,11**

This is a one year course that introduces students to the Spanish language and culture. This course is designed to introduce students to key vocabulary and grammatical concepts, necessary for development of basic communication skills of writing, speaking, listening & reading comprehension in the language.

**\*Spanish II One Year Course 9,10,11,12**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish I. Incoming freshmen may be advanced to this level who demonstrate proficiency (C+ to B+) on Paraclete's World Language Placement Test.**

This is a one year course aimed at continuing to introduce key vocabulary and grammatical concepts necessary for the development of basic communication skills of writing, speaking, listening & reading comprehension in the language.

**\*Spanish III One Year Course 10,11,12**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish I & II with a grade of "C+" or better.**

This is a one year course offered for students who want to take another year of the same language in addition to the required years necessary to graduate from Paraclete High School. This course aims to review, reinforce and refine the use of vocabulary and grammatical concepts necessary for the development of communications skills of writing, speaking, listening & reading comprehension in the language.

**\*Spanish IV One Year Course 11,12**

**Prerequisite: Completion of Spanish levels I, II, and III with a grade of C+ or better..**

This is a one year course offered for students who want to take another year of the same language in addition to the required years necessary to graduate from Paraclete High School. This is an advanced level course that is designed for students who want to reinforce and continue to expand their communication skills of writing, speaking, listening & reading comprehension in the language.



## **AP Capstone- 2 courses**

**+AP Seminar**

**One Year Course**

**10, 11**

**Prerequisite: Application with Teacher Recommendation**

This is the first course of a two year program called AP Capstone. This course explores issues from multiple content areas and perspectives while investigating different logical effects and formulating arguments and critical evaluations. The course produces a team project, an individual paper and a presentation. Critical thinking, research and collaboration are central components of the class.

**+AP Research**

**One Year Course**

**11, 12**

**Prerequisite: Completion and passing of AP Seminar**

The second course of Capstone is based in research, focused on both method, collection and completion of a project. The focus of the content can be an extension of Seminar or can be on a completely new topic. Students will write an academic paper and present and defend their research findings, both of which will be used in their overall AP Research score.

- **AP Capstone Diploma™**: Granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing.
- **AP Seminar and Research Certificate™**: Granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research.

**Academic Decathlon**

**Semester Course**

**9, 10, 11, 12**

**Open to all students as an elective.**

Academic Decathlon is a one semester course designed to challenge students to master 10 subjects: Language and Literature, Mathematics, Social Science, Economics, Music, Art, Science, Speech, Essay, and Interview. The focus is to prepare for a regional competition in February. The work may include reading the Curriculum Guides, researching additional materials as needed, discussing and applying concepts and information, and supplementing study of the curriculum through practice tests designed to reinforce key concepts and information from the subject area outlines. (Course will be offered at the "0" period.) There is also the \$200.00 fee for the materials and competition.

**Office Aide**

**Semester Course**

**12**

**Prerequisite : Approval of counselor. Open to Seniors.**

Students assist as clerical aides in the various offices and departments of the school. Individual students will work with school personnel, help with mailings and generally be available to assist faculty or staff. The Counselor determines assignments. A student may enroll in this course for only one semester. Students in this course will receive a pass (P) or fail (F) grade.

**Yearbook**

**Semester Course**

**11,12**

**Prerequisite: Approval of teacher.**

The aim of this course is the production of the yearbook. Instruction is given in digital photography, photo editing, and page layout using the Adobe Creative Suite software which includes PhotoShop, InDesign and Illustrator. The students must meet deadlines when completing page layouts. Offered at "0" period with a letter grade for students completing all of the requirements for the semester. Class is limited to 20 students. This course satisfies Paraclete's Art requirement; does not satisfy most university requirements, including UC and CSU.

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT SUMMER READING

### Grade 12 English

*Cry the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton

*Lord of the Flies* by **William Golding**

### A.P. English

*Mythology* by **Edith Hamilton**

*How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by **Thomas C. Foster**

**See Mrs. Seidel to join iTunes class and for other summer work**

### Grade 11 English

*This I Believe II* by **Jay Allison and Dan Gediman**

*Ender's Game* by **Orson Scott Card**

### A.P. English

*1984* by **George Orwell**

*This I Believe* by **Jay Allison and Dan Gediman**

**See Mrs. Johnston to join iTunes class and for other summer work**

### Grade 10 English

*Animal Farm* by **George Orwell**

*Feed* by **Matthew Tobin Anderson**

### Pre-A.P. English

*The Old Man and the Sea* by **Ernest Hemingway**

*Animal Farm* by **George Orwell**

### Grade 9 English

*The Last Lecture* by **Randy Pausch**

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by **Harper Lee**

### Pre-A.P. English

*To Kill A Mockingbird* by **Harper Lee**

*Fahrenheit 451* by **Ray Bradbury**

## SOCIAL STUDIES SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS

**Pre-Ap World History: See Mr. Keever**

**A.P. World History: See Mr. Keever**

**A.P. Government: See Mr. McGuire**

**A.P. Macroeconomics: See Mr. Miller**

**A.P. United States History: See Mrs. Keever**

**Mathematics Summer Assignments**

**A.P. Calculus Summer Packet: See Mrs. Erickson**

## **CHRISTIAN SERVICE GUIDELINES**

### **WHAT IS CHRISTIAN SERVICE?**

A very essential component of our life as Christians is to live our faith through acts of charity. If we claim to be Christian, but never act on it, our faith will become stale and eventually die. Jesus spent his life in the service of others; healing the sick and reaching out to those most ignored by society. These are outward expressions of unconditional love for our neighbors, and one of the central teachings of Christianity.

### **Why are we required to do service hours at Paraclete High School?**

Paraclete, as a Catholic community, is a witness to the larger community, the Antelope Valley, of the love of Christ. When we actively reach out to the world this way, we are representatives of Paraclete and the entire Christian church.

### **How do I find Christian Service opportunities?**

Your parish or church is the best place to start. Most churches have their own outreaches to the poor, homeless, elderly, and children. This way you represent your church and your school at the same time. If you are not affiliated to a particular church, hospitals, convalescent homes, and other service agencies often need volunteers.

### **Then what?**

In Google Classroom you will find a ledger for entering your Christian Service each semester. Complete and submit the form as you would a class assignment. It will be checked each semester and you will be given credit on your report card.

### **How much service is required?**

Two projects or 10 hours per semester are required for Freshmen and Sophomores. Three projects or 15 hours per semester are required for Juniors and Seniors. If you fulfill your hours you will receive a "Pass" on your semester report card. Failure to turn in any hours at the end of a semester will result in an "F" that may remain on your permanent transcript.

### **What qualifies as Christian service?**

1. You may not be paid or reimbursed in any way for your time.
2. Service that can be considered a "family responsibility", such as babysitting for a relative is not acceptable. Service that can be considered a "friendly favor" such as house or pet-sitting for a neighbor is also not acceptable.

Donating supplies such as tissues to your classroom is NOT an appropriate act of Christian Service.

As a guide, ask yourself the following questions:

Could the recipients of your service have afforded to pay you or someone else if they wanted to?

Was the service so easy that it didn't require any real sacrifice on your part?

Were you helping someone in real need or were you just making things more convenient for someone perfectly able, but not willing to help themselves?

If you have any questions see your religion teacher or the Christian Service Coordinator..

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for these least children of mine, you did it for me." (Mt. 25:45)