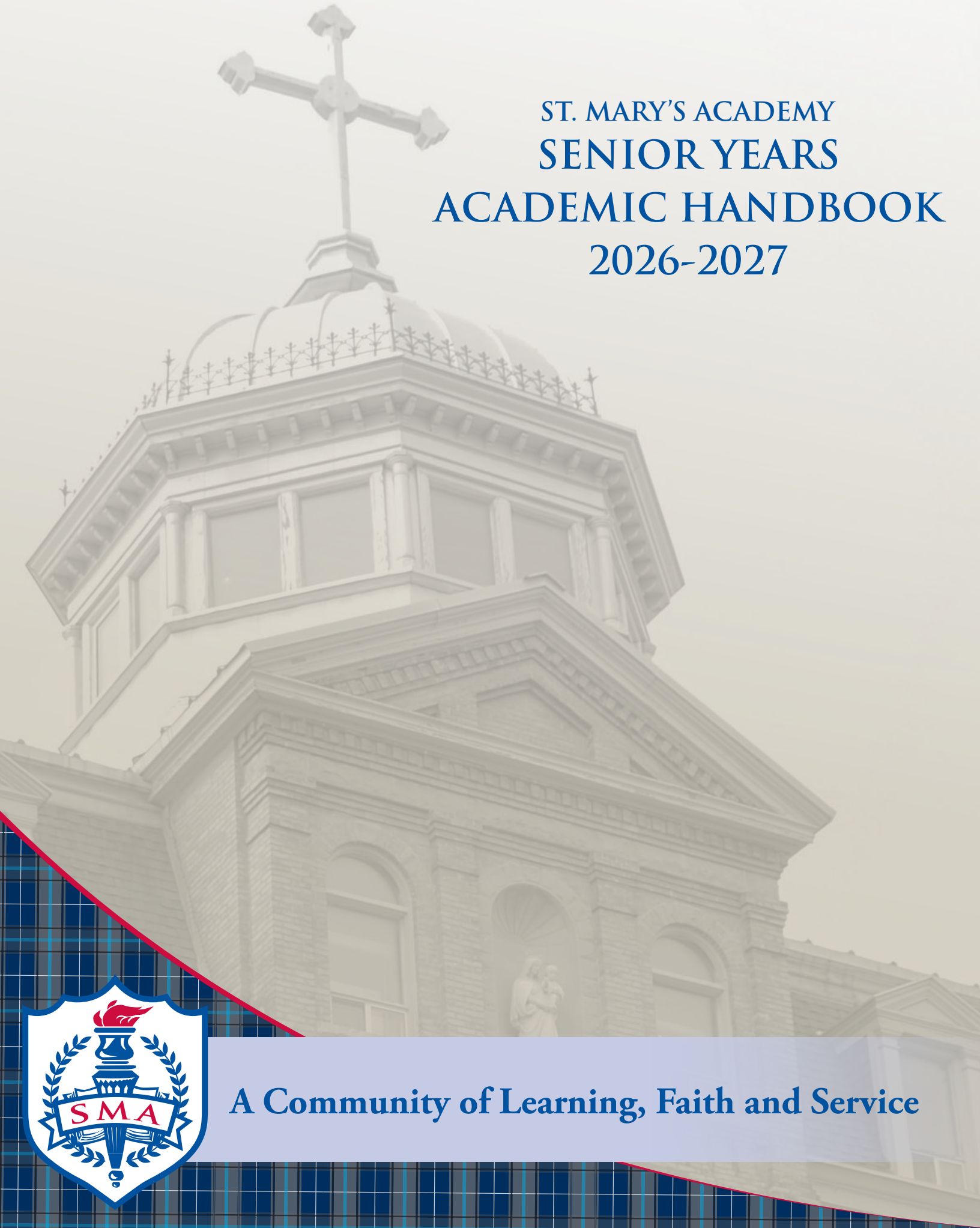

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

SENIOR YEARS ACADEMIC HANDBOOK 2026-2027

A Community of Learning, Faith and Service

ST. MARY'S ACADEMY

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SENIOR YEARS CURRICULA OVERVIEW

SENIOR YEARS ACADEMIC PROGRAM

All senior years' courses prepare students for post-secondary learning at university or other accredited institutions. St. Mary's Academy offers a full variety of courses required by Manitoba Education to meet graduation requirements.

All students are full-time and must take the required courses for each grade level. They may select a number of elective courses to complete a full course load for a given year. In the section **Senior Years Courses at a Glance** (p.3) you will find a complete listing of required and elective courses offered at each level. All courses are full year, non-semestered, except for Grade 12 English Language Arts courses.

It is essential for each student to carefully plan their course selections each year since all students must fulfill the St. Mary's Academy graduation requirements as outlined in the **Graduation Requirements** section. Please note that the school administrators and the academic advisor are available to offer advice and support to students and their families.

Students who are interested and committed to the pursuit of university level course work as part of their high school experience can register for Advanced Placement courses in ELA, Français Avancé, Calculus, and Chemistry. The expectations on the students are similar to what they can expect in university. Students have the option of challenging the Advanced Placement Board exam. If these students obtain a mark of 3 to 5 on the AP Board examinations they may be given advanced standing at university. Parents/caregivers are responsible for payment of the AP Board exam written in May (approx. $150). Please note that the academic advisor can provide assistance with determining how specific universities and faculties within a given university may or may not recognize Advanced Placement credits.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Manitoba Education (MBEd) designates the four levels of the senior high school program as Grade 9, Grade 10, Grade 11 and Grade 12. In Grade 9 students begin earning credits towards a Manitoba high school diploma for which a minimum of **30 credits** is required. Given the nature of our challenging courses, most are designed to exceed the requirements and expectations of Manitoba Education.

All graduates of St. Mary's Academy are required to successfully complete a half-credit Religion course in each of the years from Grade 9 to Grade 12. This accounts for two of the 30 minimum credits required for graduation. In addition, all students must complete two ELA credits as part of their Grade 12 program.

EXTRA CREDIT COURSES

Students can earn extra credits through private music options, Cadets, special language credits, independent study, and summer session courses (non-repeating). There also exists an option to do so through distance learning via InformNet. The school will arrange, with students who provide the necessary documentation, to have these credits recorded on the student's transcript and with Manitoba Education.

COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

1. Students and parents are informed of the required courses and electives available for each grade level.
2. Students are given instructions to complete their course choices via PowerSchool.
3. The administrators and academic advisor will review course selections and advise students and parents/caregivers about any concerns raised by a student's course selection.
4. Upon review of all course selections, the school's administrators will determine whether there is sufficient enrollment to offer electives. If necessary, students will be asked to make an alternative choice. Students will be notified if a change is required.
5. Course change requests may only be made with approval of parents/caregivers and the administrators.

ASSESSMENT

A variety of ongoing course-related assessments occur throughout the year. June exams are completed by all students and are worth 20% to 30% of the final grade. All students are expected to write their assessments and June exams on the dates scheduled.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

We live in an increasingly digital world and, as a community of educators, we have a responsibility to prepare our students for the future. By incorporating technology into our learning and teaching practices, we can provide our students with more interactive, collaborative, and creative learning experiences. In addition, we can take a hands-on approach to ensuring that our students learn to use technology in a way that is safe and responsible. All students in Grades 9 to 11 are required to bring their own personal laptops or tablets to use for educational purposes in the classroom. Specifications about required and acceptable devices will be shared with families upon acceptance into St. Mary's Academy.

SENIOR YEARS COURSES AT A GLANCE

GRADE 9		GRADE 10		GRADE 11		GRADE 12	
7.5 CREDITS		7.5 CREDITS		7.5 CREDITS		7.5 OR 8.5 CREDITS	
REQUIRED COURSES		REQUIRED COURSES		REQUIRED COURSES		REQUIRED COURSES	
English	English 10F	**English**	English 20F	**English (One of)**	Comprehensive Focus 30S Literary Focus 30S Transactional Focus 30S	**English (Two of)**	Comprehensive Focus 40S Literary Focus 40S Transactional Focus 40S AP Literature and Composition 40S
Mathematics	Mathematics 10F	**Mathematics (One of)**	Essential Math 20S Introduction to Applied & Pre-Calculus Math 20S	**Mathematics (One of)**	Applied Math 30S Essential Math 30S Pre-Calculus Math 30S	**Mathematics (One of)**	Applied Math 40S Essential Math 40S Pre-Calculus Math 40S
Religion	Religion 11S	**Religion**	Religion 21S	**Religion**	Religion 31S	**Religion**	Religion 41S
Social Studies	Social Studies 10F	**Social Studies**	Geography 20F	**Social Studies**	Canadian History 30F		
Science	Science 10F	**Science**	Science 20F				
Physical Education	Physical Education& Health Education 10F	**Physical Education**	Physical Education & Health Education 20F	**Physical Education**	Physical Education & Health Education 30F	**Physical Education**	Physical Education & Health Education 40F
ELECTIVE COURSES		ELECTIVE COURSES		ELECTIVE COURSES		ELECTIVE COURSES	
One of **One of**	Advanced French 10F French 10F Dramatic Arts 10S Human Ecology 10G Visual Arts 10S	**Two of**	Advanced French 20F American History 20G Dramatic Arts 20S French 20F Human Ecology 20G Intro to Interactive Digital Media 20S Visual Arts 20S	**Three of**	AP Chemistry 32S Advanced French 32S Biology 30S Canadian Law 40S Chemistry 30S Current Topics in Science 30S Dramatic Arts 30S Family Studies 40S French 30S Interactive Digital Media Design 30S Leadership 31G Physics 30S Visual Arts 30S	**Three (or Four) of**	AP Calculus 42S AP Chemistry 42S AP French 42S Biology 40S Canadian Law 40S Chemistry 40S Dramatic Arts 40S French 40S Global Issues Citizenship & Sustainability 40S Interdisciplinary Topics in Science 40S Leadership 31G Physics 40S Psychology 40S Visual Arts 40S
ADDITIONAL ELECTIVE COURSES AVAILABLE OUTSIDE OF REGULAR SCHOOL HOURS							
Intermediate Debate 21G (Available for .5 of a credit)				**Advanced Debate 31G** (Available for .5 of a credit)			

RELIGIOUS STUDIES

Religious Studies is an essential and integral component of the culture and the academic curriculum at St. Mary's Academy. "Faith seeking Understanding" is our guiding principle which facilitates students' learning and experience. The six year program is designed to *inform*, *form* and *transform* students in their faith journey. They are encouraged to grow spiritually and morally, with the beliefs, values and attitudes needed to build a better world. The Religious Studies program follows the tradition of the Catholic Christian faith.

Religion 11S
Requirement: Participation in and completion of Service Learning
This Grade 9 course *forms* students in Scripture and deepens its meaning in their lives. Through the lenses of the Old and New Testaments, it explores formative events in our faith history and God's relationship with God's people in the theme of covenant. Students will explore modern day prophets including Mother Marie-Rose Durocher, foundress of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

Religion 21S
Requirement: Participation in and completion of Service Learning
This Grade 10 course *forms* students in the knowledge of Christian discernment and morality as they journey through life.
Students experience different prayer methods, such as *Lectio Devina*, and use them to make meaning of New Testament messages.
The course also explores the structure, symbols and themes of the Liturgy.

Religion 31S
Requirement: Participation in and completion of Service Learning
This Grade 11 course *transforms* students as they deepen their knowledge within the themes of Social Justice and World Religions.
Within the Social Justice theme, students will focus on the key social teachings of the Catholic Church, supported by scripture, church documents, media and personal experience. Through reflection, research, service learning, field trips and discussion, students examine the interconnectedness of peace and justice and how it applies in their daily lives.
Within the World Religions theme, students will explore Abrahamic Religions, and participate in an inquiry into other faith backgrounds, such as Sikhism, Hinduism, Buddhism and Indigenous Spirituality.

Religion 41S
This Grade 12 course *transforms* students as they deepen their knowledge of Christian history and apply their discoveries to their personal story. As students prepare for their futures, they continue to develop an awareness of where humanity has come from. Students explore how Christian history has shaped the world we live in, the traditions and practices of the Modern Church, and the people we are today.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA)

The English Department has organized courses that extend the learning outcomes related to listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing and representing as developed by Manitoba Education. In each senior high grade, students are immersed in a challenging program of language and literary study that promotes a lasting appreciation of literature and the development of effective reading, writing and critical thinking skills.

Grade 9: English Language Arts 10F
Students at this level are exposed to literature through the study of short stories, novels, a Shakespearean play and poetry. They examine films and are expected to participate in oral presentations and interpret visual representations. The writing component of the course focuses on expository paragraphs with emphasis on content, organization, style and mechanics. Students are also introduced to the essay.

Grade 10: English Language Arts 20F
This course is organized to provide students with a study of archetypes in myths, film and literature. The poetry component focuses on literary devices, with a special emphasis on symbolism. Students also study a Shakespearean play and two classic novels. Communication skills are taught through essay writing, creative writing and poetry. Many of the techniques and principles covered in the poetry and mythology units overlap into the study of the novels, films and Shakespearean literature.

Grade 11 courses:
Comprehensive Focus 30S
This course examines a variety of literary selections, including short stories, poetry, novels, films, and plays. Students will read and study important literary works from the 19th through the 21st century, with an understanding of their significance in history and the development of feminist and psychological world literature over time.

Literary Focus 30S
This course examines a variety of literary selections, including short stories, poetry, novels, and plays. Students will read various works critically and respond through academic writing, creative pieces, group, and oral work. The emphasis of the course is the use and understanding of the aesthetic nature of creative and expressive language. The course emphasizes the aesthetic purposes of text through the study of novels, drama, Shakespeare, poetry, film, short prose, mass media, and the creation of original work by the students.

Transactional Focus 30S
This course examines pragmatic forms of reading and writing, such as letter writing, non-fiction (memoirs, articles, advertisements, interviews), and media literacy. Students will consider and create functional forms of writing. It is designed for students who would prefer to read a true story rather than fiction and who prefer practical applications of English Language Arts.

Grade 12 courses:
Comprehensive Focus 40S
Students develop and refine a range of literary skills that deepen their engagement with a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts, including novels, poetry, film, artwork, and plays. They extend their knowledge of forms, structures, and language choices as they learn to evaluate literature for the appropriate audience, purpose, form, and effectiveness. This course focuses on Canadian Literature and also studies the tragic form, reading one Shakespearean play.

Literary Focus 40S
The focus of this course is the study of literary works. Students will explore a wide variety of genres, and attention will be paid to the voices of specific literary eras and how key writers were influenced by their times. Students will expend significant effort exploring "how" the past and present writers conveyed their material. Attention will be paid to writing elements such as diction, tone, syntax, literary devices, and the intricate relationship between form and content. Students will enhance their analytical skills through formal, written responses.

Transactional Focus 40S
Students explore several different literary forms in this course, including memoirs, novels, drama, and poetry. Communication skills concentrate on pragmatic forms of writing, such as language that informs, directs, persuades, analyzes, argues, and explains. Although the focus is pragmatic, students also use aesthetic language to compose texts such as editorials, speeches, and advertisements. Students will use technology to publish professional texts.

AP English Literature and Composition 42S
Co-requisite: Literary Focus 40S
Students will study a variety of literature to challenge the AP English Literature and Composition Exam. Students foster their understanding and appreciation of literature through reading and analyzing texts and exploring concepts like character, structure, figurative language, and setting. In addition, students will practice generating on-demand writing pieces and foster their reading stamina skills. **The expectations on the students are similar to what they can expect in university. They will spend considerably more time both on in-class and on at-home study than in a regular high school course.**

MATHEMATICS

Through the curricular outcomes covered in Grades 7-12 Mathematics, students learn to communicate using mathematical reasoning to solve a variety of problems.

Grade 9 - Mathematics 10F
This is the first year of the high school mathematics courses and serves to prepare students for future math courses: Applied Math, Pre-Calculus Math and Essential Math. The Grade 9 math course focuses on problem-solving and mental math skills. Topics covered include: rational numbers, exponents, solving algebraic equations, scale and scale factor, polynomial expressions, linear relations and inequalities, measurement, symmetry, circle geometry, statistics and probability. A portion of class time is devoted to practicing problem-solving geared to the University of Waterloo mathematics competitions in February.

Grades 10-12 Overview Mathematics 20S-40S
In Grade 10, students can begin to choose different streams of math based on their interests and future goals.
The three streams are Essential Mathematics, Applied Mathematics, and Pre-Calculus Mathematics.

Essential Mathematics (Grades 10 to 12)
Courses with this designation are intended for students whose post-secondary planning does not include a focus on mathematics and science-related fields. Students choosing these courses will learn about mathematical topics that are related to daily life, finance, business, industry and government. The focus is on problem-solving, using technology, and communication.

Applied Mathematics (Grades 11 and 12)
These courses are intended for students considering post-secondary studies that do not require the study of theoretical calculus. They are context driven and promote the learning of numerical and geometrical problem-solving techniques as they relate to the world. The primary goal is to have students develop critical thinking skills by describing real-world situations using mathematical language in order to make predictions. Technology is an integral part of learning and assessment in Applied Mathematics. Graphing calculators, spreadsheets, or other computer software will be used by students for mathematical explorations, modeling and problem solving.

Pre-Calculus Mathematics (Grades 11 and 12)
The courses with this designation are created for students who intend to study calculus and related mathematics as part of their post-secondary education. Each course is, primarily, a study of higher-level theoretical mathematics with an emphasis on abstract application of core skills within multiple broad context. Calculators are permitted for less than 40% of the year, and as such, a strong understanding of mental Math strategies is required.

Grade 10 Courses:
Essential Math 20S
Topics include: problem-solving, analysis of games and numbers, personal finance, measurement, 2-D geometry, trigonometry, consumer decisions, transformations, angle construction.

Introduction to Applied and Pre-Calculus Mathematics 20S
Recommended 65% in Mathematics 10F
Topics include: design and measurement (metric and imperial), right-triangle trigonometry, polynomials and factoring, radicals and exponents, relations and functions, linear functions and systems of linear equations.

Grade 11 Courses:
Essential Math 30S
Topics include: problem-solving, statistics, income and debt, credit and interest, data analysis and interpretation, geometry, trigonometry, and communication.

Applied Mathematics 30S
Pre-requisite: 70% in Intro to Applied and Pre-Cal Math 20S
Topics include: trigonometry, geometry, logical reasoning, statistics, and relations and functions.

Pre-Calculus Mathematics 30S
Pre-requisite: 75% in Intro to Applied and Pre-Cal Math 20S
Topics include: sequences and series, trigonometry, quadratic functions and equations, radical equations, rational equations and reciprocal functions, absolute value functions, systems of equations and quadratic inequalities. Study of functions includes graphing, equation-solving, and proficiency with expressions.

Grade 12 Courses:
Essential Math 40S
Topics include: analysis of games and numbers, vehicle finance, statistics, precision measurement, home finance, business finance, geometry and trigonometry, probability, and a career-life project.

Applied Mathematics 40S
Pre-Requisite: Applied Math 30S or Pre-Cal Math 30S
Recommended 70% in Applied 30S or Pre-Cal 30S
Topics include: Functions, Logical Reasoning, Probability, Finance, Combinatorics, Sinusoidal Functions, and Design and Measurement.

Pre-Calculus Mathematics 40S
Pre-Requisite: 70% in Pre-Calculus Mathematics 30S
Topics include: transformations, polynomial functions, trigonometric functions, trigonometric equations and identities, exponential and logarithmic functions, combinatorics and the binomial theorem, radical functions, and rational functions.

AP Calculus 42S
Pre-Requisite: 75% in Pre-Cal Math 30S, Co-Requisite Pre-Cal 40S
This course is concerned with developing the students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its method and applications. The course covers a variety of mathematical topics that students have not previously studied such as limits, derivatives, areas under curves, integrals, rotations of conic sections, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. **The expectations on the students are similar to what they can expect in university. They will spend considerably more time both on in-class and on at-home study than in a regular high school course.**

SCIENCE

The Science program at St. Mary's Academy follows the guidelines developed by Manitoba Education. Students are engaged in laboratory activities, class activities and projects that examine the fundamental processes and skills of science. Science is a required course in Grade 9 and Grade 10, continuing a sequence of units begun at the Grade 5 level that gives a basic understanding of a wide range of scientific disciplines. At the Grade 11 and Grade 12 level, students choose to study specific disciplines in more depth. Choices made at the Grade 11 and Grade 12 level can have a direct impact on post-secondary options.

Grade 9 Science 10F

In Grade 9, learners continue their explorations of science and strenghten their science literacy. They investigate atomic particles, electricity, and how living things reproduce and pass on information. The knowledge areas of matter, energy, genetics, and evolution provide a basis for study. A foundation for an active and practical approach to learning and doing science proceeds in Grade 9. This includes conducting scientific investigations, furthering tool and measurement skills, exploring science in everyday life, and looking into how science interacts with society and the environment.

Grade 10 Science 20F

In Grade 10, learners culminate their K-10 science learning and are prepared to continue onto option sciences in grade 11 and 12. The knowledge areas of matter, force, Earth science, space science, life systems, and evolution are explored. Students complete their basic, active, and practical approach to learning and doing science. This includes conducting scientific investigations, furthering tool and measurement skills, exploring science in everyday life, and looking into how science interacts with society and the environment. Learners strenghten their agency and sense of belonging in science, as well as their science literacy.

Grade 11 Courses:

Advanced Placement Chemistry 32S

Corequisite: Pre-Calculus Math 30S or Applied Math 30S

Advanced Placement Chemistry 32S is the first half of a two-year accelerated Chemistry program. This program is intended to bring students, at the end of their Grade 12 year, to a level normally achieved at the end of a first-year university chemistry course. Students complete the equivalent of the regular high school Chemistry 30S and Chemistry 40S courses plus a first-year university chemistry course over two years. Students taking AP Chemistry 32S in Grade 11 will normally continue with AP Chemistry 42S in Grade 12. Potential students should be highly motivated and have an interest in chemistry. **The expectations on the students are similar to what they can expect in university. They will spend considerably more time both on in-class and on at-home study than in a regular high school course.**

Biology 30S

This introductory course examines the key concepts associated with the structure and function of cells, and then applies these concepts to the human body. The course begins with sections on biochemistry, homeostasis and cell structure; it then progresses to each of the human body systems. Emphasis is placed on developing scientific literacy and critical thinking skills. This is achieved through laboratory work, written assignments, discussions and videos. To enhance the comprehension of content, learning experiences encourage students to make connections between the topics studied and real-life situations.

This course is good preparation for university biology, although it is not a required prerequisite.

Chemistry 30S

Corequisiste: Pre-Calculus Math 30S or Applied Math 30S

The course begins with an exploration of the physical properties of matter and composition of atmospheres. It then progresses to chemical reactions and the study of solutions, with emphasis on molarity calculations and graphical analysis. The final unit focuses on organic chemistry, highlighting the nomenclature and structural features of compounds. Building on the foundation introduced in Grade 10 science, these topics will be examined in greater depth and complexity. A solid mathematical background is essential, as students will apply problem-solving skills to conversion problems, solution concentration calculations, and stoichiometry.

This course is a prerequisite for Chemistry 40S, which is a prerequisite for studying chemistry at university level.

Current Topics in Science 30S
This course looks at the science behind current issues. It is significantly different in nature from the other science courses offered at the 30S level. Those courses are content driven, i.e. there is a specific body of knowledge that students are required to master during the course. This course is context driven. The class investigates topics during the year, chosen at the local level. Good science is learned, but it is the science needed to understand the context being investigated rather than a predetermined syllabus.

Current Topics 30S is multidisciplinary in nature, drawing on all the traditional branches of science as necessary. The emphasis is on critical thinking, problem solving, and research and presentation skills. *Current Topics 30S* is an excellent enrichment course for students who are also studying other sciences and have a real interest in the sciences. It is also an excellent alternative to the university preparation science courses for students who are not looking at studying sciences at university. Students, who are capable of independent work, have good academic standing, appropriate work ethic and research skills are the best candidates for this course.

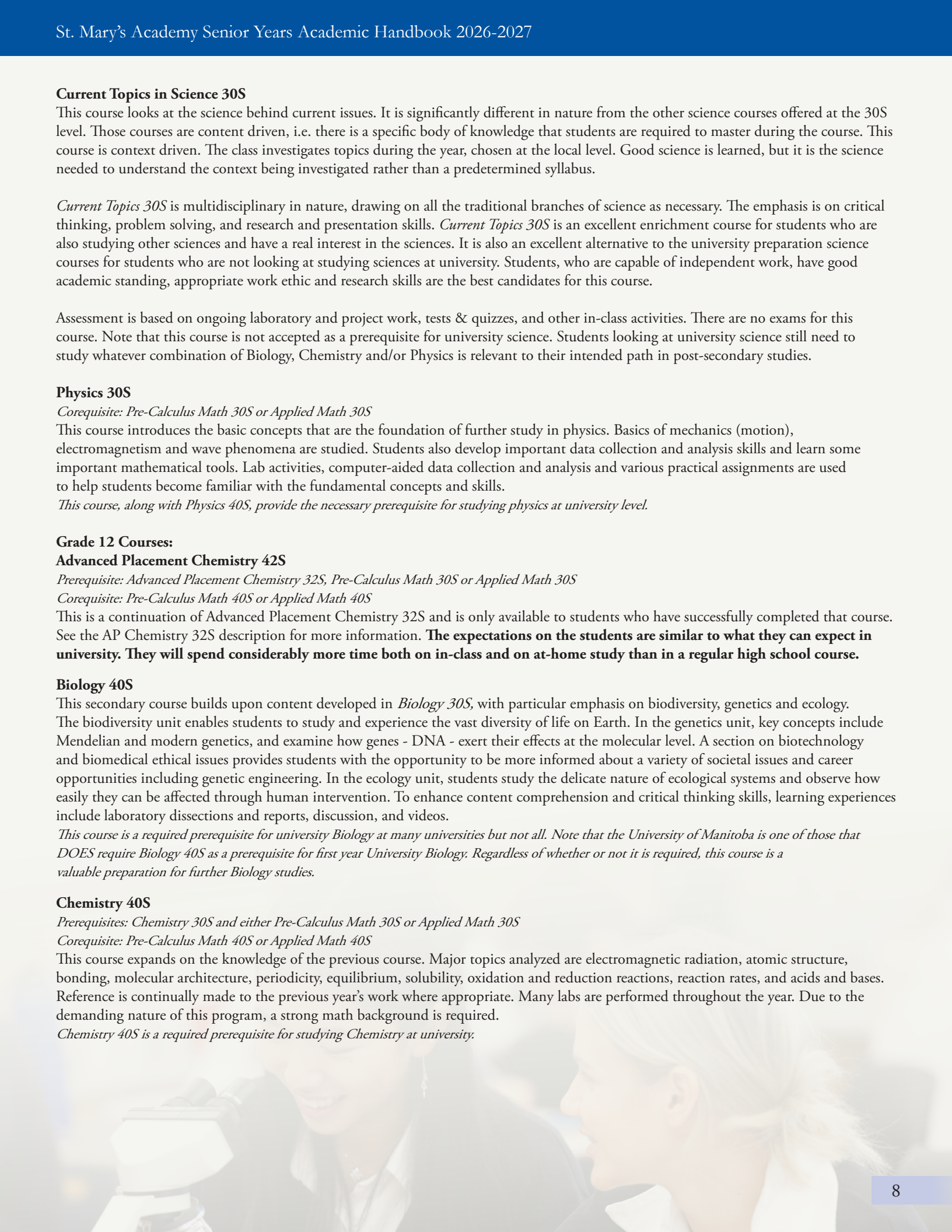
Assessment is based on ongoing laboratory and project work, tests & quizzes, and other in-class activities. There are no exams for this course. Note that this course is not accepted as a prerequisite for university science. Students looking at university science still need to study whatever combination of Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics is relevant to their intended path in post-secondary studies.

Physics 30S
Corequisite: Pre-Calculus Math 30S or Applied Math 30S
This course introduces the basic concepts that are the foundation of further study in physics. Basics of mechanics (motion), electromagnetism and wave phenomena are studied. Students also develop important data collection and analysis skills and learn some important mathematical tools. Lab activities, computer-aided data collection and analysis and various practical assignments are used to help students become familiar with the fundamental concepts and skills.
This course, along with Physics 40S, provide the necessary prerequisite for studying physics at university level.

Grade 12 Courses:
Advanced Placement Chemistry 42S
Prerequisite: Advanced Placement Chemistry 32S, Pre-Calculus Math 30S or Applied Math 30S
Corequisite: Pre-Calculus Math 40S or Applied Math 40S
This is a continuation of Advanced Placement Chemistry 32S and is only available to students who have successfully completed that course. See the AP Chemistry 32S description for more information. **The expectations on the students are similar to what they can expect in university. They will spend considerably more time both on in-class and on at-home study than in a regular high school course.**

Biology 40S
This secondary course builds upon content developed in *Biology 30S,* with particular emphasis on biodiversity, genetics and ecology. The biodiversity unit enables students to study and experience the vast diversity of life on Earth. In the genetics unit, key concepts include Mendelian and modern genetics, and examine how genes - DNA - exert their effects at the molecular level. A section on biotechnology and biomedical ethical issues provides students with the opportunity to be more informed about a variety of societal issues and career opportunities including genetic engineering. In the ecology unit, students study the delicate nature of ecological systems and observe how easily they can be affected through human intervention. To enhance content comprehension and critical thinking skills, learning experiences include laboratory dissections and reports, discussion, and videos.
This course is a required prerequisite for university Biology at many universities but not all. Note that the University of Manitoba is one of those that DOES require Biology 40S as a prerequisite for first year University Biology. Regardless of whether or not it is required, this course is a valuable preparation for further Biology studies.

Chemistry 40S
Prerequisites: Chemistry 30S and either Pre-Calculus Math 30S or Applied Math 30S
Corequisite: Pre-Calculus Math 40S or Applied Math 40S
This course expands on the knowledge of the previous course. Major topics analyzed are electromagnetic radiation, atomic structure, bonding, molecular architecture, periodicity, equilibrium, solubility, oxidation and reduction reactions, reaction rates, and acids and bases. Reference is continually made to the previous year's work where appropriate. Many labs are performed throughout the year. Due to the demanding nature of this program, a strong math background is required.
Chemistry 40S is a required prerequisite for studying Chemistry at university.



Interdisciplinary Topics in Science 40S
Topics 40S is a complementary course to the Grade 11 *Current Topics in the Sciences 30S*, having similar elements in design and approaches. Consequently, rather than emphasizing the principles and foundations of a particular discipline (e.g., Chemistry 40S), this course integrates across disciplines, contextually, in order for the student to better understand a science-related issue, trend, innovation, or point of view.

Interdisciplinary Topics in the Sciences 40S is intended for a broad spectrum of students whose interests, aspirations, science background, and future plans vary. It is an excellent enrichment course for students taking other science courses as well as a good science literacy course for non-science students. Students who are capable of independent work, have good academic standing, appropriate work ethic and research skills are the best candidates for this course.
Assessment is based on ongoing laboratory and project work, tests & quizzes, and other in-class activities. There are no exams for this course. Note that this course is not accepted as a prerequisite for university science. Students looking at university science still need to study whatever combination of biology, chemistry and physics is relevant to them.

Physics 40S
Prerequisites: Physics 30S and either Pre-Calculus Math 30S or Applied Math 30S
Corequisite: Pre-Calculus Math 40S or Applied Math 40S
In this course students build on the fundamental concepts introduced in Physics 30S. They delve deeper into the areas of mechanics and electromagnetism, and meet some basics of nuclear physics and its application to medicine. Mathematical skills and laboratory skills are further developed. Lab activities, computer-aided data collection and analysis and various practical assignments are used to help students become familiar with the fundamental concepts and skills.
Physics 40S is a required prerequisite for studying physics at university.

Psychology 40S
This course focuses on the study of human behaviour and mental processes. It uses the scientific method to discover ways of understanding the complexities of human thought and behaviour, as well as differences among people. Students will also learn the research methods used in the field of psychology. Major topics in the field of psychology are also explored. Among these topics are: social psychology and group dynamics, ethics and experiments, biology and behavior, psychological disorders and treatments, developmental psychology, cognitive psychology, memory, motivation and emotion. The course focuses on areas that are interesting and relevant to the students. Throughout the year, the students will also learn through various film studies, independent experiments and presenters. Assessments will take place in the form of tests, projects, presentations, reflections and other application assignments.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Social Studies 10G
In Grade 9, students focus on the opportunities and challenges at the core of Canada's contemporary plurality. They begin with an overview of Canada today, including its demographics, geography, and political organization. They examine the evolving stories of interaction among the people of Canada, and the influence of the land on the development of Canada. They explore the historical and contemporary complexities of citizenship and identity, considering the challenges and opportunities that emerge when groups with differing identities and perspectives interact with one another. Students are given opportunities to explore how they may become involved in Canadian issues. Through this inquiry, they are enabled to become informed decision makers actively involved in their local, national, and global communities.

Grade 10 Courses:
Geography 20G
Students focus on a variety of issues and challenges of the contemporary world. They explore the nature of geography and develop skills related to geographical thinking. Students use the methods and tools of geography to examine issues and problems and to propose solutions. They study concepts related to ownership and development of natural resources, production and distribution of food, development of industry and trade, and increasing urbanization. Students consider these issues in the context of Canada, North America, and the world. Through their study, students become aware of the importance of the environment, stewardship, and sustainable development, as well as the social, political, and economic implications of their personal choices.

American History 20G
Students will develop a greater understanding of significant historical events that shaped the United States. It is intended to be a survey course with a focus and emphasis on those historical developments that have influenced the world, especially Canada. The course will help students explore and better understand the impact that American history has had on shaping American society and influencing other areas of the world.

Grade 11 Courses:
History of Canada 30F

The Grade 11 *History of Canada 30F* curriculum supports citizenship as a core concept and engages students in historical inquiry. Guided by Essential Questions, students focus on the history of Canada from pre-Contact times to the present. Through this process students think historically and acquire enduring understandings related to the following five themes in Canadian history:

- *First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Peoples*
- *French-English Duality*
- *Identity, Diversity, and Citizenship*
- *Governance and Economics*
- *Canada and the World*

Historical thinking concepts and skills, based on the work of Dr. Peter Seixas of the University of British Columbia, are embedded throughout the curriculum and provide a foundation for historical inquiry.

Grade 12 Courses:
Canadian Law 40S
This course gives students the opportunity to acquire knowledge and competencies that will help them throughout their lives as responsible citizens. Basic practical knowledge of the Canadian legal system allows students to play a positive, active role in society. In addition to understanding the relevance of law in everyday life, the outcomes of this course are aimed at helping students develop critical thinking skills and form personal opinions on contemporary legal issues through case studies, simulations, field trips, guest speakers, and debates.

Global Issues Citizenship & Sustainability 40S
This course provides a lens of ecological literacy through which students can study and understand the complex and often critical global issues that societies face today. Through this lens, students apply concepts related to sustainability; learn about the interdependence of environmental, social, political, and economic systems; and develop competencies for thinking and acting as ecologically literate citizens committed to social justice.

The intent of this course is to help students understand that human societies and institutions can and should be renewed, beginning with matters of personal lifestyle, and extending through to collective, large-scale social change. The role of education in this change is vital—hence the importance of this course both as an instrument of critical understanding (seeking the truth) and as an instrument of hope (seeking to create a better future).

DEBATE AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Intermediate Public Speaking & Debate 21G
This course is an introduction to formal public speaking and debating and offered to students in Grades 9 and 10. It is designed to help students establish a foundation in the fundamentals, with a focus on development of argumentation, refutation, and presentation skills.
This additional half credit course meets after school for two hours once a week.

Advanced Public Speaking & Debate 31G
This course is an extension of the Intermediate Public Speaking and Debate 21G course. Students will explore argument development and persuasive techniques in greater detail. Students will participate in a wider variety of more advanced styles of debate, including cross-examination.
This additional half credit course meets after school for two hours once a week.

THE ARTS

This department is organized into Visual Arts and Dramatic Arts. The learning outcomes match those developed by Manitoba Education and thus are intended to provide students with an understanding and appreciation of The Arts. Students develop skills whereby The Arts become a lifelong source of personal enjoyment.

Grade 9 Visual Arts 10S
This course introduces the building blocks of visual art with a focus on developing and understanding the elements of art and principles of design. Students will practice reflecting and responding critically to their own work and to examples from art history. Students will work with a variety of mediums including photography, pastel, acrylic painting, watercolour, clay and more. Students will work on their personal sketchbook throughout the year to develop their skills and independence as artists. Grade 9 projects will help students explore their identity, make connections to art history, and begin learning how to use visual language to convey their thoughts on issues that are important to them.

Grade 10 Visual Arts 20S
This course sees students expanding their knowledge of the elements of art and principles of design. Students will make connections to cultures around the globe and different movements in art history. Students will continue to develop their critical thinking skills and be challenged to do inquiry-based work. Students will work on their personal sketchbook throughout the year to develop their skills and independence as artists. Grade 10 projects include working with watercolour, acrylic, clay, mixed media, collage and more.

Grade 11 Visual Arts 30S
This course continues to emphasize student's agency in art and their own unique conceptual and visual sensibilities. Students will explore the purposes of art's creation and art's connection to subjects like technology and mental health. Students will develop their independence as artists but will also have opportunities for collaboration, including a stop motion animation project. Students will work on their personal sketchbook throughout the year to develop their skills and independence as artists. Grade 11 projects will introduce students to painting outdoors, linocut printmaking, the potter's wheel, digital art, animation and more mediums of their own choice.

Grade 12 Visual Arts 40S
This course will continue to foster creativity while preparing students for post-secondary education and potential professions in the field of art and design. Projects in this course have a range of parameters to work within. Students will increase their capacity to be self-directed, to critique, and to best utilize references and manage larger projects. These are skills that all working artists need to be successful; whether it be in graphic design, website development, professional artistry, animation, or content creation and curation. Students will create portfolios, which they can use if they choose to apply to an art and design program. Grade 12 will include working with oil paints in both abstract and figurative contexts, multi-block printmaking, hand built and wheel-thrown ceramics, and other mediums of students' choice for major inquiry projects.

Grade 9 Dramatic Arts 10S
This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of theatrical ideas, by creating work as a community. Students will participate in a number of units and exercises that develop acting skills that can be translated to all aspects of the theatre. Students will explore their creativity, building skills through activities and theatre games, team building exercises, monologue work, story to script adaptation, historical drama, and more.

Grade 10 Dramatic Arts 20S
This course is designed to introduce students to a variety of different theatre styles and creating work as a community. Students will explore styles from Realism, Comedy of Manners, Mystery and Musical Theatre, amongst other styles if time permits. Students will explore their own artistry, building skills through activities and theatre games, team building exercises, monologue work and scene work. A one-act play, as public performance, will happen in the second half of the year.

Grade 11& 12 Dramatic Arts 30S/40S
This course rotates on an annual basis, with students completing both courses over two years. It is not required to take it both years, and the course is different each year. This course is designed to hone skills for acting theory and practice. Students will participate in a selection of units and exercises that will help develop acting skills that can be translated to all aspects of the theatre, and beyond. Over a two-year time frame, students will focus on playwriting, varied theatrical formats such as Collective Creation, Theatre of the Oppressed, Improvisation, Monologues, Scene Work, formal play/script analysis, and the development of acting and directing skills. Students will also learn about, and participate in, design aspects for all work behind-the-scenes. In the second half of the year, students will focus on the selection and process of producing a full-scale ensemble as public performance.

FRENCH AND FRANÇAIS AVANCÉ

Knowledge of and fluency in a second language contributes to an understanding and acceptance of diverse cultures. All Grade 9 students are enrolled in a French course. Students can choose to take an advanced French course at this level if they meet course requirements. French is an elective in Grades 10-12. Through personal interest and ability to meet course requirements students can enrol in AP French 42S at the Grade 12 level. Students studying advanced French also prepare for the Canadian Parents for French Concours d'Art Oratoire and are encouraged to participate at the annual provincial competition.

Grade 9 Courses:
French 10F
The communicative approach, with an emphasis on culture, is the basis of the program. Listening, speaking, reading and writing skills are developed through a continuum of new vocabulary and grammar concepts. Students engage with selected literary works, songs, plays/films for cultural enrichment and holistic language acquisition purposes.

Advanced French 10F
This course builds on the language development and literature pillars from the junior years program and is designed to accommodate students who have been in a French Immersion or Français program. The course is instructed in French and emphasizes oral communication. The literature study includes both classic and modern French texts, poetry, and informative pieces. Students engage with aspects of international French culture through studies of films, food, music, and fashion.

Grade 10 Courses:
French 20F
The focus of this program is the further development of the four competencies within the context of culture. Through literature, research and technology, students prepare group skits, presentations, and participate in daily conversations. With the goal of spontaneity, frequent feedback on oral expression is provided to improve communication, comprehension, and confidence.

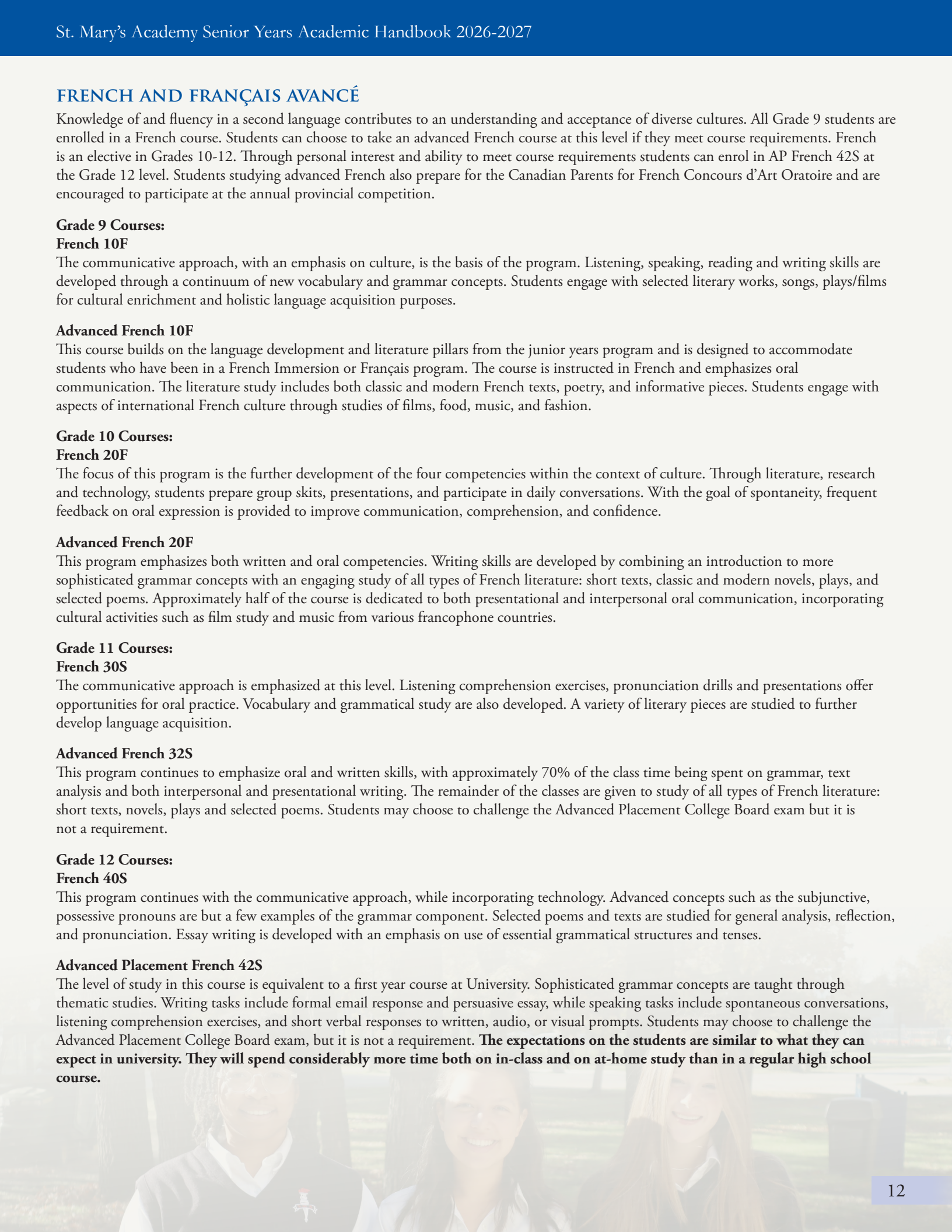
Advanced French 20F
This program emphasizes both written and oral competencies. Writing skills are developed by combining an introduction to more sophisticated grammar concepts with an engaging study of all types of French literature: short texts, classic and modern novels, plays, and selected poems. Approximately half of the course is dedicated to both presentational and interpersonal oral communication, incorporating cultural activities such as film study and music from various francophone countries.

Grade 11 Courses:
French 30S
The communicative approach is emphasized at this level. Listening comprehension exercises, pronunciation drills and presentations offer opportunities for oral practice. Vocabulary and grammatical study are also developed. A variety of literary pieces are studied to further develop language acquisition.

Advanced French 32S
This program continues to emphasize oral and written skills, with approximately 70% of the class time being spent on grammar, text analysis and both interpersonal and presentational writing. The remainder of the classes are given to study of all types of French literature: short texts, novels, plays and selected poems. Students may choose to challenge the Advanced Placement College Board exam but it is not a requirement.

Grade 12 Courses:
French 40S
This program continues with the communicative approach, while incorporating technology. Advanced concepts such as the subjunctive, possessive pronouns are but a few examples of the grammar component. Selected poems and texts are studied for general analysis, reflection, and pronunciation. Essay writing is developed with an emphasis on use of essential grammatical structures and tenses.

Advanced Placement French 42S
The level of study in this course is equivalent to a first year course at University. Sophisticated grammar concepts are taught through thematic studies. Writing tasks include formal email response and persuasive essay, while speaking tasks include spontaneous conversations, listening comprehension exercises, and short verbal responses to written, audio, or visual prompts. Students may choose to challenge the Advanced Placement College Board exam, but it is not a requirement. **The expectations on the students are similar to what they can expect in university. They will spend considerably more time both on in-class and on at-home study than in a regular high school course.**



LEADERSHIP 31G

This course is designed to empower students with the skills, values, and confidence necessary to lead and serve their school and broader community. Through an exploration of leadership styles, personal development, team dynamics, and event management, students will cultivate critical thinking, ethical decision-making, and effective communication skills. Emphasis is placed on servant leadership, fostering empathy, and responding to community needs. Students engage in practical, hands-on experiences, complemented by reflection and collaboration, to prepare for leadership roles that prioritize service, inclusivity, and personal growth. This course aligns with the values of St. Mary's Academy, promoting the full development of the individual and inspiring students to lead with integrity, compassion, and purpose, in the tradition of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Introduction to Interactive Digital Media 20S

This course introduces students to knowledge and skills related to digital media design and development. Students will explore design principles, including typography, colour, and basic layout principles. They will explore aspects of digital asset creation, including photo and video production skills, working with professional editing software such as Adobe Photoshop and Premiere Pro. They will learn about the development side of digital media by coding a personal portfolio website, where they will display some of their other project work.

Interactive Digital Media Design 30S

In this course students will explore some aspects of digital media design and development not covered in the 20S course. There is more emphasis on teamwork and the process of designing and developing larger projects.

PHYSICAL AND HEALTH EDUCATION

The combined Physical Education/Health Education Curriculum is designed to address the major health risks for children and to provide planned and balanced programming to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes for physically active and healthy lifestyles.

Grade 9 Physical Education and Health Education 10F

In this course students are exposed to both individual and team sports and activities. Individual pursuits and fitness management are also integrated. Through these activities, students will learn weight training, mechanics of movement, safety precautions, and how to analyse and evaluate personal fitness levels. Students will also develop knowledge and skills in various health topics.

Grade 10 Physical Education and Health Education 20F

This course focuses on developing physical well-being through education of the body and how it works (heart rate related to exercise and fitness); developing desired movement patterns; learning to express ideas, thoughts, and feelings with confidence through physical activity; developing independence and leadership skills through physical activity; developing positive social interactions through physical activities and developing safety and survival practices. These activities will range from individual, team and lifetime physical activities. Students will also develop knowledge and skills in various health topics.

Grade 11 Physical Education and Health Education 30F

This compulsory full-credit course is designed to help students take greater ownership of their physical fitness, to encourage activities that interest them, and to engage in a healthy, active lifestyle. Students will be required to plan, commit, participate in, and certify their involvement in a variety of physical activities. This physical activity practicum requires the student to participate in a minimum of 80 hours of moderate to vigorous activity. These activities must also contribute to the development of their cardio-respiratory fitness.
As well the students will develop knowledge and skills in various health topics. Students will be graded for completion of the course with a complete or incomplete designation.

Grade 12 Physical Education and Health Education 40F

This compulsory full-credit course is designed to help youth take greater ownership of their own physical fitness, to encourage them to seek out activities that interest them, and to engage in active lifestyles into their futures. Students will be required to plan, commit, participate in, and certify their involvement in a variety of physical activities. This physical activity practicum requires the student to participate in a minimum of 60 hours of moderate to vigorous activity and 20 hours of light activity. These activities must also contribute to the development of their cardio-respiratory fitness. Their physical activity plan must also consider the development of muscular strength and endurance. As well the students will develop knowledge and skills in various health topics. Students will be graded for completion of the course with a complete or incomplete designation.

Note: For the 30F and 40F course, Parents/caregivers will be required to review the student's physical activity plan and sign a Parent Declaration and Consent Form acknowledging their approval of the chosen activities and acceptance of the responsibility for risk management, safety, and supervision. Parents/caregivers will also be required to verify the entries of the student's physical activity log through a sign-off procedure.

HUMAN ECOLOGY

Human Ecology 10G

This Grade 9 program is comprised of Foods and Nutrition, and Textile Arts and Design. Foods and Nutrition focuses on the individual and the relationships and influences that affect food choices, such as food sustainability. Students will examine the fundamentals of nutrition and develop safe food handling and food preparation skills in a practical setting. The Textile Arts and Design component of this course will explore a basic understanding of textiles available to the consumer and how those textiles can be constructed, designed, used in flat pattern construction. Also, students will examine the elements and principals of design fundamentals.

Human Ecology 20G

The grade 10 program encompasses areas of study within Family Studies, Foods and Nutrition and Textile Arts and Design. The grade 10 student will explore the skills and resources required to be an effective caregiver and can experience what it is like be a caregiver in a take home simulation using the Realcare™ baby. The Foods and Nutrition component focuses on the consumer and the influences that marketing and social media have on food choices and impact on their health and well-being. Food preparation labs are conducted to reinforce safe and healthy food practices. Textile Arts and Design examines a broader understanding of textile uses and techniques achieved through practical experiences. Students will examine the fundamentals of design and use those elements and principles to create a personalized project.

Applied Family Studies 40S

This Grade 12 level course is offered to Grade 11 students at St. Mary's Academy. Applied Family Studies prepares students for a caregiving role with infants, toddlers, and children through the study of all 4 areas of child development. The skills and theory are applied to a mandatory 50-hour practicum with children where students will observe, guide behaviour and participate in play-based learning experiences. Practicum opportunities include licensed childcare facilities and/or nursery to grade 3 classroom settings. This course provides a foundation for further study within the field of early childcare education and related careers.