



COURSE CATALOGUE 2020-2021

St. Joseph Academy
328 Vine Street, Hammonton, NJ 08037
609-561-8700 | StJosephAcademy.com



Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools

ACCREDITED

Table of Contents

▪ Statement of Beliefs	2
▪ General Information	3
▪ English	4
▪ Mathematics	5
▪ Science	6
▪ Business/Technology	7
▪ Religion	7
▪ World Language	8
▪ Social Studies	8
▪ Health/Physical Education	9
▪ Arts	10
▪ Guidance	11

Administration

Principal – Nicola Howard: nhoward@stjoseph.academy

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Guidance Counselor – Blake Rosario: brosario@stjoseph.academy

Mission Statement

Guided by the Holy Spirit, Saint Joseph Academy provides a comprehensive, quality education that fosters excellence in scholarship, lifelong learning, enlightened citizenship, and moral integrity.

Statement of Beliefs

At Saint Joseph Academy the active presence of Jesus prevails in every aspect of our being. Grounded in faith, our programs provide a lifetime framework for that which makes committed, faith-filled, productive global citizens.

It is the responsibility of Saint Joseph Academy to deliver a relevant, research-based curriculum which prepares students to meet the challenge of the twenty-first century with knowledge and confidence. Attention to the proper use of technology and media with an emphasis on higher order thinking and critical analysis are integral to our curriculum.

Going beyond the confines of the school and local community is essential as global citizenry is a reality. Such action fosters respect, understanding, and an acceptance of diversity which enables students to form educated opinions in the important work of seeking peace and social justice.

The creation of a safe environment ensures the well-being of our students emotionally and physically. Saint Joseph Academy strongly supports the dignity of every student. Respect for life in all forms stems from the reverence placed on each individual who is made in the image and likeness of Christ.

Academic Policies

Saint Joseph Academy is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools.

Graduation Requirements

The following are the graduation requirements for Saint Joseph Academy:

Religion	4 Years
English	4 Years
Foreign Language	2 Years
Mathematics	3 Years
Science	3 Years
World History/Global Studies	1 Years
United States History	2 Years
Physical Education	2 Years
SAT Preparation	½ Year
Drivers' Education	½ Year

Students will also take various electives during junior and senior years.

Seniors must have completed all of the above coursework in order to be eligible for participation in graduation and graduation activities.

Grade Equivalents

A+.....	97 – 100	C+.....	81 – 84
A.....	93 – 96	C.....	77 – 80
B+.....	89 – 92	D+.....	74 – 76
B.....	85 – 88	D.....	70 – 73

F.....Below 70

Grade Point Average/Class Rank will be determined by students' final grade point average in junior and senior year. This average is weighted according to the academic challenge level of each course.

Academic Honors

In order to achieve first honors, students must earn an "A" in all classes. In order to achieve second honors, students must receive all "A's" and "B's".

Advanced Placement

Students are required to sign a contract stating that they must Take the AP Examination. Students who do not take the AP Examination will receive Honors credit.

Dual Credit College

Credit may be earned from designated colleges through work completed at the college level while in class. Dual credit may be transferable to many four-year institutions.

Guidance

Guidance services are available for every student in the school. These services include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, occupational information, career information, study skills and counseling. The guidance program includes personal interviews with the Guidance Counselor, informational conferences with the faculty, and parent-teacher-student conferences. In junior and senior year, greater emphasis is placed on college and career planning.

Testing is an important part of the guidance program. The school administers to students Basic Skills Tests and the P.S.A.T. SAT preparation is provided as part of the curriculum.

Drop/Add

The final day for students to drop or add courses is the Thursday before the first day of school.

Service Plans

Reasonable accommodations are provided for students with Individual Service Plans. A conference with our Special Education Coordinator / Teacher should be scheduled as early in the academic year as possible.

English Department

English IV World Literature and Composition (322)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

In this course, students will continue to develop their skills in writing and speaking in the rhetorical modes. In writing, the more “sentence level” concerns will be reinforced while the development of style and approaches to organization and content will be stressed. The emphasis of this course is World Literature in all genres, including film. Each student is encouraged to develop a broad perspective as to how all literature is connected in some way to the overall human condition.

Honors English IV Advanced Study of World Literature and Composition (321)

Weight: Honors **5 Credits**

Honors English IV will cover the same basic concepts and skills, but students will also sharpen thinking skills and gain a thorough understanding of “philosophy” as it applies to literature and as a written discipline of its own. Higher order questions will be asked, and more writing will be required of honor students.

Advance Placement English IV (340)

Weight: AP **5 Credits**

This course is a college-level course whose successful completion allows students the opportunity to “place out” of three credits of College work by scoring well on the AP test in Literature and Composition. Works studied are written by British and American authors. The course contains a great amount of reading outside of class as well as three books to be read over the summer. The workload is intense, and the writing should prepare students for college-level composition, especially since these students may place out of college composition 101. The writings in AP English are literature based. A thematic approach to the material is recommended, but instructors will provide adequate historical context for each piece studied.

English Department

Creative Writing (352)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

This is an elective course that is designed to expose juniors and seniors to composition in all of the areas of creative writing: poetry, fiction, drama, musical lyrics, etc. Students with serious interest in writing creatively will thrive in an environment of active writing and philosophical discussion. The class is designed not only to inspire students to write creatively but to think “outside the box”. Creative teaching can be expected, but students will be held to strict standards. A great deal of writing is accomplished in this course.

Mathematics Department

Algebra I (512)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

A TI-84 graphing calculator is required. The Algebra I course concentrates on the understanding of algebraic concepts and processes of both equations and expressions. Students will be able to use these concepts to represent and analyze relationships and variable quantities, and to problem solve using real-life applications.

Geometry (522)

Prerequisite: A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

This course will focus on angles, triangles, motion, quadrilaterals, circles and the beginnings of trigonometry. Students will apply geometry to real-life situations. Students will also be better prepared to take the SATs upon completion of this course.

Honors Geometry (521)

**Prerequisite: B+ or better in Honors
Algebra I A TI-84 graphing calculator is required**

Weight: Honors **5 credits**

Honors Geometry is designed for the student who has excelled in Algebra I. Honors Geometry will move at a faster pace and the level of difficulty will be greater than the College Prep Geometry course.

Mathematics Department

Algebra II (532)

Prerequisite: A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

Algebra II concentrates on skills that were mastered in Algebra I and Geometry. The topics throughout this course include a quick review of polynomials, linear equations, exponents. The course continues with factoring and the sum and difference of cubes; absolute value equations and inequalities by factoring and the sum and difference of cubes; absolute value equations and inequalities by factoring and by formula; graphing and quadratic equations; long division; complex numbers; rational exponents and radical expressions; and an introduction to functions and relations.

Honors Algebra II (531)

Prerequisite: B+ or better in Honors Geometry. A TI-84 calculator is required.

Weight: Honors **5 Credits**

Algebra II concentrates on skills that were mastered in Algebra I and Geometry. The topics covered in this course will provide the student with the tools to be successful in future mathematics courses. This class moves at a faster pace than College Prep Algebra II and the level of difficulty of the problems is increased.

Honors Pre-Calculus (551)

Prerequisite: B+ or better in Honors Algebra II. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Weight: Honor **5 credits/3 possible College Credits**

This course covers more topics than Pre-Calculus and moves at a faster pace. Topics of study include graphing polynomial and rational functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; trigonometric functions; systems of equations and inequalities; and matrices and conic sections. This course covers more topics than Pre-Calculus and moves at a faster pace.

Math Department

Honors Calculus (541)

Prerequisite: B+ or better in Accelerated Algebra II/Pre-Calculus or teacher recommendation. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required. **(Senior Level Course)**

Weight: AP **5 Credits**

This course is intended for students who have successfully completed the Accelerated Program and demonstrate a thorough knowledge of analytic geometry and elementary functions as well as a strong understanding of algebra and trigonometry. Topics of this course include limits and continuity; differential calculus; and taking a derivative and applying the derivative to related rate problems. Integral calculus will also be studied, which includes anti-derivatives and applications of the anti-derivatives. The curriculum develops understanding of the concepts of calculus and provides experience, methods and applications. This course includes one writing assignment per marking period.

Science Department

Biology (722)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

This is a survey class of biology. Topics covered include the structure and function of cells, genetics, microbiology, botany, and zoology. There are numerous labs to promote a hands-on learning environment including dissections.

Chemistry (732)

Prerequisite: B in Biology or B in Algebra I

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

Chemistry is the study of chemicals and their interactions. This course covers basic atomic structure, the periodic table, balancing equations, gas laws, pH, acids, and bases, and other essential areas. Labs are an important part of this class. Math skills are necessary. This class is recommended for college-bound students.

Science Department

Honors Chemistry (731)

Prerequisite: B in Honors Biology; B in Honors Algebra I or A in Algebra 1.

Co-requisite: Algebra II or Pre-Calculus.

Weight: Honors 5 Credits

In Honors Chemistry, students will move at a faster pace and study material in more depth. Chemistry is the study of chemicals and their interactions. This course covers basic atomic structure, the periodic table, balancing equations, gas laws, pH acids and bases, and other essential areas. Labs are an important part of this class. Math skills are necessary. This class is recommended for college-bound students.

Physics (741)

Prerequisite: A in Algebra II or Pre-Calculus
(Junior/Senior Elective)

Weight: Honors 5 Credits

This Course is strongly recommended for those who are college bound. Topics explored include mechanics, heat, sound, light and electricity. Problem solving skills are dealt with in depth since it is essential that students develop a logical and coherent pattern of reasoning and thinking in physics.

Environmental Science (762)

Weight: College Prep 5 Credits

This course investigates the various ecosystems, the species that are intrinsic to these ecosystems, and the ways in which these ecosystems work. Topics include renewable energies, natural resources, climate change, waste management, and conservation.

Forensic Science (772)

Prerequisite: Teacher Interview.

Weight: College Prep 5 Credits

Forensics is an elective science course in which students learn the behind crime and crime scene investigation. Students will experience forensic science through labs, field trips, and classroom study.

Technology/Business Department

Digital Photography I (263)

Prerequisite: A basic camera is required.

Weight: College Prep 5 Credits

In Digital Photography students will learn how to create, format, illustrate, design, edit, and print various kinds of publications, with an emphasis on photography and desktop publishing based on both principles of photography and photographic editing/formatting. Students will create a variety of documents, such as flyers, brochures, newsletters, and business cards. Students will produce multimedia presentations that communicate effectively through good design and application of basic concepts. Website Production, use of sound, animation, and scanning will be introduced and applied in software packages, such as PowerPoint, Flash, Microsoft Publisher, Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, etc. Students will have access to a video camera, a digital camera, color and laser printers to help create their projects. Students may choose their own topics for some projects and they will spend most of their time working independently. The student needs to be highly motivated and focused on project deadlines, as he or she would have to be in industry.

Religion Department

Religion I: Sacred Scripture

An introduction to Scripture and Traditions in Christianity and Catholicism. Freshman will explore the Old and New Testaments to better understand the messages that Jesus Christ brought into our world.

Religion II: World Religions

Students in this class will explore the religions of the world. In an increasingly global society, it is important for young people to see how Catholicism fits in with the other world religions; what ideals are shared and what components diverge from those of the Catholic Church. The goal is to encourage a level of understanding that contributes to peace and brotherhood in our tumultuous world.

Religion Department

Religion III : Social Justice

Based on and driven by the foundations of Catholic morality, students in this year of religion will explore questions of modern ethics in an ever-changing world. In the end, one central question will be answered as fully as possible: What is our responsibility as moral Christians in this complicated world.

Religion IV: The Church and Society

For centuries, the Church has been a presence in the societies in which it has had a presence. In this course, students will explore how the Church has worked in conjunction with government and community and where it stands in modern times as an influence on the world.

World Languages

Spanish I (912)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**
First-year language courses concentrate on basic language skills; vocabulary development and enrichment; pronunciation; grammar including nouns, adjectives, verbs in present and past tense, and adverbs. Culture, reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills will be developed and centered around promoting interest in the heritage of the world languages.

Spanish II (922)

Prerequisite: Level I Course in same language.

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**
Second year languages revisit some of the major themes and concepts from year one. Vocabulary must be reinforced and enhanced as new grammatical structures are introduced. Strategies and skill-building techniques will allow the instructor more flexibility to expand the student's knowledge. In the second year, background knowledge can serve as an important tool for construction of meaning. It may be contextual, topical, linguistic, or cultural

World Languages

Honors Spanish III (932) and Spanish IV (972)

Prerequisite: B+ average in the previous year's Spanish.

Weight: Honors **5 Credits**
Third and Fourth year language courses revisit some of the major themes and concepts from previous years; however, fluency is the goal upon completion of these courses. Third year will emphasize fine-tuning of grammatical structures with emphasis on writing and communication skills. Students in the advanced levels will explore ideas through communication, dialogues, and writing of short essays in the target language. Concentration on literature will be an obvious addition once fluency has been achieved. Suggested readings will follow the course curriculum.

Social Studies Department

World Cultures (812)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**
World Cultures is a history course designed to give students a sense of the development of civilizations. Through the study of these ancient civilizations, students will gain an understanding of the foundations of our own. The course will present civilizations from the Ancient Greeks through Europe in the Middle Ages.

United States History I (822)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**
United States I covers several topics: European exploration; the colonies; the Revolutionary War; formation of our nation; state, and local governments; the War of 1812; the Industrial Revolution; immigration; westward migration; and the Civil War. United States geography and current events will also be included in the course.

Social Studies Department

United States History II (832)

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

This course covers topics pertinent to the understanding and relevance of important issues from the Civil War Era through the 1990's.

American Government (852) **(Junior/Senior Elective)**

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

This course covers several topics, including principles of government; origins of American Government; the Constitution; Federalism; political parties; voters and voter behavior; the electoral process; mass media and public opinion; interest groups, Congress, powers of Congress, and Congress in action.

Sociology **(Junior/Senior Elective)**

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

Sociology is an elective course, which is the scientific study of social behavior and human groups. It focuses on social relationship; how those relationships influence people's behavior; and how societies, the sum total of those relationships, develop and change.

Psychology (872) **(Junior/Senior Elective)**

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

Psychology is an elective course; which is offered to juniors and seniors. This course will cover several topics: the broad coverage of the field of psychology, introducing theories and research, and applications that constitute the discipline. The course will also demonstrate how psychology can have an impact on the lives of the students, including how psychology can increase student's understanding of the world around them. Finally, this course will illustrate the diversity both within the field of psychology and in society as a whole by presenting material that reflects the increasing concern with cultural, gender, racial, and ethical issues.

Social Studies Department

Criminal Psychology **(Junior/Senior Elective)**

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**

This advanced course will focus on the attempt, and the need, to understand the behaviors, actions, and patterns of criminals. Some items of interest that will, in all likelihood, be covered in the class include: repeat offenders (numerous offense-types will be covered); the formation of individual killers' modus operandi; the differences between organized killers and disorganized killers; antisocial personality disorder and its impact on the criminal mind: the differences between mass murder, spree murder, and serial murder; the likelihood of criminal recidivism; and the likelihood of "true" criminal rehabilitation. The course will also look at methods by which experts attempt to identify and capture repeat (serial) criminals. Similarly, the course will also look into criminal investigator's efforts to "read" a crime scene in an effort to further understand the perpetrator's mind and method(s).

Health/Physical Education Department

Freshman Physical Education (412) **5 Credits**

Freshman classes are designed to help students, increase muscle strength, agility, and cardiovascular endurance. The courses stress physical fitness, skill performance, sportsmanship, and individual as well as team play. Instruction in and rules for various games and sports are given, and opportunity for each student to participate is provided. Physical education encourages students to maintain a level of fitness through individual, team, and lifetime activities.

Sophomore Health and Drivers' Education (462) **(one semester each)** **2.5 Credits**

Students will be instructed on the principles of a life-long health program. Students will be prepared for the New Jersey State Written Driver's Examination. Emphasis is placed on the principles of safe driving.

Health/Physical Education Department

Sophomore Health and First Aid (472) **(one semester each)** **2.5 Credits**

Students will be instructed on the principles of individual fitness, lifetime healthy practices, and the most current First Aid techniques and procedures.

Senior Physical Education (412) **5 Credits**

Senior classes are designed to help students increase muscle strength, agility, and cardiovascular endurance.

Arts Department

Theater Arts (185) **(Junior/Senior Elective)**

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**
Students will be introduced to the theater and stage performance. Students will practice singing, acting, and dancing as they experience hands-on learning projects in all aspects of stagecraft.

Music Foundations **(Junior/Senior Elective)**

Weight: College Prep **5 Credits**
Students will develop their understanding of music by listening to, studying the forms of and writing about music from the Middle Ages through Jazz and the modern orchestral and popular era. Students will develop their ear to identify instruments, musical pieces, and musical periods by their sound and structural characteristics. Students will also learn music technology and a small sampling of basic music so that they can talk about and evaluate music in an educated way.

Guidance

Contact Info:

Cathleen Sanders, Guidance Secretary
609-561-8700 ext: 206
csanders@stjoseph.academy

Blake Rosario, School Counselor
609-561-8700 ext: 207
brosario@stjoseph.academy

Memberships and Certifications:

- NJ Certified School Counselor
- ASCA Member
- NJSCA Member
- Trauma-Informed Resilient School Certified
- ASCA Mental Health Specialist

SJA Dual Credit Agreements:

- Stockton University
- St. Peter's University
- Atlantic Cape Community College
- Camden County College

SJA Guaranteed Admissions Agreements:

- Neumann University
- Delaware Valley
- Georgian Court
- Holy Family University

Student Forms:

Request to meet with the counselor –
Click [HERE](#)

Google Classroom Code: vxn5mug

Student working papers - Click [HERE](#)

Important links for Students & Parents:

Naviance - Click [HERE](#)

PowerSchool - Click [HERE](#)

College Resources:

Common App: Click [HERE](#)

SAT & AP College board: Click [HERE](#)

Virtual College Fairs: Click [HERE](#)

ACT Registration: Click [HERE](#)

Khan Academy free SAT prep: Click [HERE](#)

Niche (College Ranking website): Click [HERE](#)

Cappex (All things college): Click [HERE](#)

Financial Aid & Scholarships:

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA):
Click [HERE](#)

Scholarships: Click [HERE](#)

Fastweb: Leading online resource to find
scholarships: Click [HERE](#)

Higher Education Student Assistance Authority
(HESSA): Click [HERE](#)

National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA):
NCAA provides many useful links including recruiting
calendars, lists of schools with different sports, etc.
Click [HERE](#) to visit site.

You need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center
to compete at an NCAA Division I or II school. Create a
Certification Account & we'll guide you through the
process. Click [HERE](#) to begin.

List of Colleges by Sport and Division - search for
which colleges have each sport & at what level/division.
Click [HERE](#)

2020-2021 Guide for the College-Bound Student /
Athlete - useful PDF guide from the for college-bound
student athletes including eligibility, clearinghouse &
recruiting info. Click [HERE](#)

Eligibility Standards Quick Reference Sheet -
Click [HERE](#)

Eligibility Presentation - Click [HERE](#)

Academic Resources:

Academic Resource Center: Click [HERE](#)

Khan Academy: Click [HERE](#)

Career Resources:

Planning a Career Guided Tour: Click [HERE](#)

My Next Move: Click [HERE](#)

Learn How to Become: Click [HERE](#)

O'Net Online Skills Search: Click [HERE](#)

Career Aptitude Test & Job Interview Tools:
Click [HERE](#)

The Princeton Review Career Quiz: Click [HERE](#)