

# URSULINE ACADEMY

## Course Descriptions 2012-2013

COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<b>ENGLISH</b>	
<p><b>8<sup>th</sup> GRADE ENGLISH</b> <i>(Not counted in GPA)</i></p>	<p>This course is designed to introduce students to all parts of speech, to reinforce vocabulary skills through a comprehensive study of words, to enhance comprehension skills through the reading of short stories, novellas, and novels, and to develop succinct writing that relates to reading.</p> <p>Reading: Typically one (1) text per quarter. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>
<p><b>ENGLISH I Honors An Introduction to Literature</b></p>	<p>This course will be an extended, but selective, Introduction to Literature (prose, drama, and poetry). On a daily basis we will be reading, discussing, analyzing, arguing, and writing about literature and all things related. The goals of this course are: to further develop your analytical reading skills, to further refine your analytical writing skills, to enhance your appreciation of literature, and to increase your academic self-confidence by constantly writing about the literary texts you have read (especially under the pressure of time). Those objectives will be achieved as we consistently focus our efforts on advancing your critical thinking skills as we further develop those aforementioned analytical writing skills. The continued development of those two particular skills (and the methods we practice as we develop those) will be crucial to you in the Upper School.</p> <p>Reading: Typically one (1) text per quarter. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>

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<b>READING I: An Introduction to Literature</b>	<p>This course is designed to introduce all elements of literature, to develop vocabulary skills through a comprehensive study of words, to enhance comprehension skills through the reading of short stories, novels, and plays, and to develop succinct writing that relates to reading. The goals of this course are: to develop students' analytical reading and writing skills, to enhance their appreciation of literature, and to increase their self-confidence in reading and writing about those aforementioned literary texts. Those objectives will be achieved by means of a consistent focus on synthesizing each student's critical thinking skills with her own developing style for analytical writing.</p> <p>Reading: Typically one (1) text per quarter. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>
<b>ENGLISH I: Grammar and Composition</b>	<p>This course will include an extensive look at the principles of grammar in the English language and how best to apply those principles to your writing. On a daily basis, we will cover the fundamentals of grammar and the best ways to hone those all-important grammar rules/skills into well-developed, eleven sentence paragraphs. We will cover how best to analyze an article for its point/argument and how to concisely state your positions on what we read in your essays. The goals of this course are: to develop and further your analytical reading and writing skills, to fully understand that rules of grammar in English, and to increase your self-confidence in your writing.</p> <p>Writing: At least one (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>
<b>ENGLISH II Survey of American Literature</b>	<p>This course represents a survey of American literature from the Colonial Period to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Students enrolled in this class are introduced to an in-depth study of major American authors and their seminal works; those authors, and those works, require a student to be a committed and dedicated reader.</p> <p>Reading: Typically one (1) text per quarter. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>

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COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<b>ENGLISH II</b> <b>Honors</b> <b>Survey of American Literature</b>	<p>This course represents a survey of American literature from the Colonial Period to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Students enrolled in this class are introduced to an in-depth study of major American authors and their seminal works; those authors, and those works, require a student to be committed and dedicated.</p> <p>Reading: Minimum of two (2) texts read per quarter.            Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>
<b>ENGLISH III</b> <b>Survey of Women's Literature</b>	<p>This course focuses on women's literature. Students will be reading, discussing, and writing about works of fiction produced by and about women. We will explore how selected writers examine questions about gender and identity, women's roles within the family and the community, and how women have been perceived culturally and historically. For centuries, women were barred from the literary canon, so we will also analyze how women have used literature to claim a voice, defining and writing themselves and their experiences into existence. On a daily basis we will be reading, discussing, analyzing, arguing, and writing about literature and all things related. Class will be conducted in a lecture-<i>discussion</i> format.</p> <p>Reading: Typically one (1) text per quarter.            Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>
<b>ENGLISH III</b> <b>Honors</b> <b>Survey of Women's Literature</b>	<p>This course focuses on women's literature. Students will be reading, discussing, and writing about works of fiction produced by and about women. We will explore how selected writers examine questions about gender and identity, women's roles within the family and the community, and how women have been perceived culturally and historically. For centuries, women were barred from the literary canon, so we will also analyze how women have used literature to claim a voice, defining and writing themselves and their experiences into existence. On a daily basis we will be reading, discussing, analyzing, arguing, and writing about literature and all things related. Class will be conducted in a lecture-<i>discussion</i> format.</p> <p>Reading: Minimum of two (2) texts read per quarter.            Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>

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COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>ENGLISH IV</b> <b>Survey of British Literature</b></p>	<p>This course will be an extended, but selective, survey of British literature (prose, drama, and poetry). This class will be conducted in a lecture-<i>discussion</i> format (please note the emphasis on discussion). The goals of this course are: to further develop and further refine your analytical reading and writing skills, to enhance your appreciation of literature, and to increase your self-confidence by means of constantly reading and writing about literary texts (especially under the pressure of time). Those objectives will be achieved as we consistently focus our efforts on advancing your critical thinking skills while/as we further develop your analytical writing skills. The continued development of those two particular skills (and the methods practiced as we develop those) will be crucial to you in the future.</p> <p>Reading: Typically one (1) text per quarter. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>

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COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>ENGLISH IV</b> <b>Advanced Placement Literature and Composition</b></p>	<p>The AP® English Literature and Composition Course is designed for a limited number of students of demonstrated ability in English. Literature is studied as an art form with emphasis on its technical and artistic values. Writing focuses on, but is not confined to, criticism of works. A large portion of this course is spent in preparation for the Advanced Placement exam offered at the end of the school year. Students will read works from several genres and periods to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of literature and to reinforce their desires to become more avid readers. Students will become better acquainted with literary terms (point of view, characterization, tone, diction, ambiguity, etc) and literary devices (allusion, assonance, simile, metaphor, etc). Students will read to analyze, interpret, and evaluate various works of literature. Students will consider the social and historical values a work reflects and embodies. Students will write to understand a literary work. These formal and in-class essays will focus on the themes, structure, tone, style, and other various elements in works of literature. Placement in AP English Literature and Composition will be determined by the English Department.</p> <p>Reading: Minimum of two (2) texts read per quarter. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p> <p>Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the national exam in May, for which there is a fee. Successful completion of this exam may, depending on the college, result in college level credit.</p>
<p><b>ENGLISH V</b> <b>Survey of Short Fiction</b></p>	<p>This course focuses on the human experience in short pieces of fiction. We will read plays, poems, short stories and novellas. Each quarter focuses on a theme (s), and we will read texts based on that theme. The following themes will be analyzed: Epiphany and Conversion (Q1), Conflict (Q2), Grief (Q3), and Love and Laughter (Q4). On a daily basis we will read, discuss, analyze, and write about literature. Class will be conducted in a lecture-<i>discussion</i> format (please note the emphasis on discussion). I will, on a daily basis, emphasize <i>student-centered</i> dialogues, so make sure you are prepared when you walk in the door.</p> <p>Reading: Minimum of two (2) texts per quarter, perhaps more. Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p>

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COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<p><b>ENGLISH V</b>  <b>Advanced Placement</b>  <b>Language and Composition</b></p>	<p>The AP® English Language and Composition Course is designed for a limited number of students of demonstrated ability in the composition of essays. This course aims to teach students to become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. The writing and reading skills practiced in this course are intended to make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, the audience's expectations, and the conventions of various genres. Additionally, students will study how the various resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. Writing focuses on, but is not confined to, criticism of works of non-fiction. A large portion of this course is spent in preparation for the Advanced Placement exam offered at the end of the school year. All writing components in this class (formal and timed-writing exercises) will require students to synthesize materials from primary and secondary sources in their own compositions, and to cite sources using conventions recommended by professional organizations (i.e. MLA). Placement in AP English Language and Composition will be determined by the English Department.</p> <p>Reading: Minimum of two (2) texts per quarter, perhaps more.  Writing: One (1) formal writing assignment per quarter.</p> <p>Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the national exam in May, for which there is a fee. Successful completion of this exam may, depending on the college, result in college level credit.</p>

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COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<b>ADVANCED COMPOSITION</b> (Elective Course) <i>(NOT a TOPS Course)</i>	<p>The first goal of this course will be to further develop and refine your analytical and expository writing skills. The second goal will be to increase your self-confidence in the art of academic and personal composition. Those two objectives will be achieved through a collective effort to improve your analytical writing skills and further develop your own expository style. The continued development of those two skills will be crucial to you in the coming years. The <i>primary</i> focus of this course will be the continued development of your writing skills. The first few weeks of the semester will be devoted to a review of the various methods, techniques, and practices of analytical and expository writing. As the semester progresses, you will be required to write a series of personal (but still formal) essays over a number of eclectic topics. Throughout the semester you will be required to practice pre-writing, writing, editing, and re-writing skills in a number of ways.</p> <p>Reading: Students are expected to read at least two (2) non-fiction texts.            Writing: At least two (2) formal writing assignments per quarter.</p>
<b>MATH</b>	
<b>PRE ALGEBRA</b> <i>(Not counted in GPA)</i>	<p>In this course you will be asked to use, describe, and perform mathematics in various ways. Critical thinking skills will be highly emphasized. The thought process behind the mathematics is a key focus of this course. Topics covered will include fractions, decimals, measurement, proportions, area, volume, and interpretation of graphs.</p>
<b>ALGEBRA I</b>	<p>This course emphasizes the real number system and develops the student's skills in using equations, inequalities, graphs, and polynomials to solve a wide variety of problems. Problem-solving strategies are also taught. Opportunities for critical thinking and cooperative learning are provided. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required for this course.</p>

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<b>ALGEBRA I</b> <b>Honors</b>	This course is designed for students with a high proficiency in mathematics. It treats in-depth the structures and concepts of the system of real numbers. Cooperative learning and critical thinking skills are stressed. Problem solving will include examples from various sources. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required for the course.
<b>GEOMETRY</b>	Prerequisite: Algebra I. This course stresses the development of deductive reasoning. It uses Euclidean geometry, including angles, triangles, parallel lines, planes, congruence, similarity, proofs, and circles, with algebraic applications to similarity, special triangles, area, and volume. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.
<b>GEOMETRY</b> <b>Honors</b>	Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors. This is an accelerated course which stresses extensive development of deductive reasoning. It uses the Euclidean geometry of lines, planes, angles, polygons, and circles. It includes spatial perception, logic, and some coordinate geometry. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.
<b>ALGEBRA II</b>	Prerequisite: Geometry. This course includes topics such as equations in one variable, systems of equations, functions, polynomials, rational numbers and expressions, irrational numbers, complex numbers, quadratic equations, matrices and data manipulation. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.
<b>ALGEBRA II</b> <b>Honors</b>	Prerequisite: Geometry Honors. This course includes topics such as equations in one variable, systems of linear equations, functions, rational numbers and expressions, irrational numbers, complex numbers, quadratic equations, matrices, logarithms, exponential equations and data manipulation. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.
<b>ADVANCED MATH</b>	Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II. Advanced Math will consist of the following topics: triangle and circle trigonometry, trigonometric equations and identities, descriptive and inferential statistics, and probability. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.
<b>PRE CALCULUS</b> <b>Honors</b>	Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II Honors. This pre-calculus course utilizes algebra and graphing to study circle and triangle trigonometry and advanced function analysis which includes polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.

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COURSE	DESCRIPTION
<b>CALCULUS</b> <b>Advanced</b> <b>Placement</b>	Prerequisite: Completion of Pre Calculus Honors. This course includes an introduction to limits, Calculus derivatives, curve sketching, a continuation of exponential and logarithmic functions, integration, and their applications. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required. Students are expected to take the AP Exam in May.

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<b>SCIENCE</b>	
<b>EARTH SCIENCE</b>	<p>This high school credit course integrates geology with the physical and environmental sciences. Students will acquire a scientific approach to problem-solving as they participate in hands-on activities designed to develop the basic skills necessary for more advanced science study. Topics covered will include the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere, and outer space. Laboratory experiences will emphasize problem-solving through collaboration and investigation.</p>
<b>EARTH SCIENCE Honors</b>	<p>Prerequisite: Above average ability in English, math, and science as determined by the science department. The curriculum will be the same as that of the regular Earth Science with an increased emphasis on problem-solving and research skills. Students will participate in the E-Cybermission competition or some other major science competition.</p>
<b>PHYSICAL SCIENCE</b>	<p>This course is required of all freshmen and is designed to increase scientific literacy by means of a curriculum which emphasizes the impact of physical science (especially physics and chemistry) upon today=s society. investigate, motion, forces, the nature of matter and waves while studying the science concepts necessary to understand current issues in science and technology. Students will use technology as they learn the graphing, laboratory, decision-making, and process skills necessary for success in future science courses. Students will be required to do outside reading. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required for this course.</p>
<b>PHYSICAL SCIENCE Honors</b>	<p>Prerequisite: Above average ability in English, math, and science as determined by the science department. The curriculum will be the same as that of the regular Physical Science with an increased emphasis on problem solving and research skills. Students will be required to do outside reading and to enter the E-Cybermission competition or some other major science competition. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required for the course. Placement in Physical Science honors will be determined by the Science Department.</p>

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<p><b>BIOLOGY I</b></p>	<p>Prerequisite: Physical Science. This course is designed to introduce students to the diversity of life through the study of the cell, cell processes, cell division, the characteristics of living organisms, ecology, genetics, and the systems of the body. Major emphasis will be placed on graphing and laboratory skills. Students will be encouraged to relate information from the course to current topics in biology.</p>
<p><b>BIOLOGY I</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>Reccomended: Physical Science or Honors Physical Science and completion of English I. This is an intensive course of study for the serious biology student. Topics include a detailed study of the cell, biochemistry, genetics, ecology, and human anatomy and physiology. The course will include lab work, outside reading, and outside writing assignments. Honors students will participate in the Science Fair or some other major science competition.</p>
<p><b>CHEMISTRY I</b></p>	<p>Prerequisite: Physical Science, Biology, and current enrollment (or completion of) Algebra II. This college preparatory course reviews the basic chemistry concepts introduced in the freshman year but will require that students demonstrate mastery of the mathematical applications of these concepts as well as mastery of formula and equation writing, analyzing and representing data, and designing controlled experiments. Additional topics may include kinetic and atomic theory, thermodynamics, reaction rate, chemical equilibrium, and acid-base theory. Laboratory and problem solving are integral parts of the course. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.</p>
<p><b>CHEMISTRY I</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>Prerequisite: Must be currently enrolled in Honors Math course. This course is designed for students who are interested in majoring in science in college and have demonstrated an above average ability in science and math. The topics will be the same as those in Chemistry I, but the level of difficulty will be greater. Many of the topics from an AP Chemistry course will be studied and AP Chemistry practice tests will be available. A project and a TI-83+/84 graphing calculator will be required. Honors students will participate in the Science Fair or some other major science competition. Placement in Chemistry honors will be determined by the Science Department.</p>

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<b>PHYSICS I</b>	Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II and Chemistry I. Mechanics, heat, sound, light, electricity, magnetism, and nuclear energy are studied from a conceptual perspective. Mathematical relationships of fundamental scientific principles and concepts are studied. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required.
<b>PHYSICS I Honors</b>	Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II Honors and Chemistry I Honors w or Algebra II and Chemistry I. Must have completed Advanced Math or be taking a senior level math course concurrently with physics. The course applies fundamental science and mathematics concepts to solving problems. Traditional Physics topics such as force and motion, forms of energy and their transformations, conservation of energy, and interactions of energy and matter are discussed. Contemporary applications are illustrated through laboratory procedures and mathematical skills are used in problem solving. A TI-83+/84 graphing calculator is required. Honors students will participate in a robotics competition.
<b>ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE</b>	Prerequisite: Successful completion of Biology I and Physical Science. In this course students will investigate the following topics: Ecological Systems and Interactions, Resources and Resource Management, Environmental Awareness and Protection, Personal Choices and Responsible Actions. Outside readings as well as a research project will be required.

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<p><b>CHEMISTRY II</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>Recommended: Completion of Chemistry I and Algebra II with at least a B average. Students enrolling in this course should exhibit exemplary motivation, interest, and enthusiasm for the subject and have the ability to think critically. Chemistry II is a one-credit course that parallels the material covered in an entry level college chemistry course. After a brief review of Chemistry I topics, major topics in Chemistry II include: Chemical Thermodynamics, Chemical Kinetics, Equilibrium, Solubility, Electrochemistry, Acids and Bases, and Organic Chemistry. Students will do an original research project in which they develop and carry out a controlled experiment to test a hypothesis which answers an investigative question on a topic of their choice. Students may take the A. P. Chemistry examination. Lab activities, demonstrations, and problems are used to connect theory to practical application. Mathematical skills through Algebra II are used in problem solving.</p>
<p><b>ANATOMY &amp; PHYSIOLOGY</b></p>	<p>Recommended: Biology I. This course is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in medicine, allied health services, athletics, or biology. This is an in-depth study of structure and function of the human body. Students will be required to perform an animal dissection as well as complete outside reading and writing.</p>
<p><b>BIOLOGY II</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>Prerequisite: Completion of Biology I or Biology I Honors. Students enrolling in this course should exhibit exemplary motivation, interest, and enthusiasm for the subject and have the ability to think critically. Topics in the course include: Molecular and Cellular Biology, Genetics and Heredity, Evolutionary Biology, Taxonomy and Diversity of Organisms, Structure of Plants and Animals, Ecology, and Population Dynamics. At the end of the course, students may take the AP examination.</p>
<p><b>SOCIAL STUDIES</b></p>	
<p><b>WORLD GEOGRAPHY</b></p>	<p>This course is designed to serve as an introduction to world culture themes. Through course readings, current events, and Internet use, students will become aware of not only a country 's location but also a country 's relevance to the modern world. Texts will be available in class and a lecture format will be supplemented by PowerPoint presentations.</p>

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<b>WESTERN CIVILIZATION</b>	This course includes a comprehensive review of the historical legacies and influential figures that helped shape contemporary life. Students will study technological movements, philosophical ideas, and world conflicts from the rise of the Nile River civilizations to the thought-provoking sophists of Ancient Greece - and - from the rise of the Medieval Church to the paths of destruction and resulting aftermath of ruthless leaders. Videos, literature, PowerPoints, and guest lecturers are components of this course.
<b>WESTERN CIVILIZATION HONORS</b>	Course requirement: enrollment in English (H). Western Civilization (H) is advanced / enhanced version of the Western Civilization course offered during the sophomore school year. The course is a chronological summary of the major historical events that occurred over the past six thousand years. Western Civilization focuses on the societal migration of individuals from the present Middle East to the Western Hemisphere. This course does NOT address issues / history of Asian society (the study of East and South Asian cultures takes place in the World Geography course). The honors sections of Western Civilization include a larger written component where students must successfully demonstrate their knowledge of the material through the creations of essays, reports, and short-answer replies. Students are required to use the format / writing techniques taught to them within their English courses.
<b>AMERICAN HISTORY</b>	U.S. History is a survey course covering the major historical, political, social, and economic trends in the United States from the exploration period to the present; much emphasis is placed on the changing role of the U.S. in the world arena. Also included is a geographical survey of North America.

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<p><b>AMERICAN HISTORY</b> <b>Advanced Placement</b></p>	<p>Course requirement: completion of Western Civilizations Honors and current enrollment in honors English. The Advanced Placement course will provide the student a learning experience equivalent to that obtained from a full year introductory college course in United States History. All areas will be covered beginning with the first European explorations of the Americas and continuing through present day America. During this course the student will analyze and interpret historical documents (including both primary and secondary sources), write analytical historical essays, and think critically about historical concepts.</p> <p>Students enrolled in this course are expected to take the national exam in May, for which there is a fee. Successful completion of this exam may, depending on the college, result in college level credit.</p>
<p><b>CIVICS</b></p>	<p>Students are taught how government functions on local, state, national, and international levels. This includes a detailed study of the three branches of government: executive, legislative, and judicial. Subject matter is related to current happenings through the combined use of textbooks and the news media--television, newspapers, and other news periodicals--and through regular news essays.</p>
<p><b>AMERICAN GOVERNMENT/ CIVICS</b> <b>Advanced Placement</b></p>	<p>This course includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. Students will become acquainted with the variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations for various behaviors and outcomes. All branches of the U.S. government will be studied in depth. There will be required outside reading throughout the year. Enrollment in this course obligates the student to take the advanced placement exam, offered in May, for which there is a fee. Successful completion of this exam may, depending on the college, result in college level credit. Course requirement: signature of the AP Government teacher and recommendation of present English and history teachers. Class rank and standardized test scores are also taken into account.</p>

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<b>LAW STUDIES</b> ½ unit <i>(NOT a TOPS Course)</i>	In this course students will be exposed to the various areas of the law. Numerous issues that foster awareness and understanding of how each student is a part of our legal society will be studied. Guest speakers from the community will add to the development of this course. Students are required to prepare for and to participate in a mock trial.
<b>PSYCHOLOGY</b> 1 unit <i>(NOT a TOPS Course)</i>	
<b>FOREIGN LANGUAGE</b>	
<b>FRENCH I</b>	This course is designed to introduce students to the French language and the culture of French-speaking countries. Listening, conversational, and reading skills are emphasized.
<b>FRENCH II</b>	This course continues the first year's study of basic French grammar, culture, and vocabulary. Listening, conversational, and reading skills are emphasized. Students new to Ursuline are required to take a placement test to determine correct placement in foreign language classes.
<b>FRENCH III</b> <b>Honors</b>	This course deepens the student=s knowledge of the written and spoken language. Emphasis is on listening comprehension, oral fluency, advanced writing skills, and cultural awareness. An introduction to short stories, poems, and selected short essays is included. Students new to Ursuline are required to take a placement test to determine correct placement in foreign language classes. Placement in French III honors will be determined by the Foreign Language Department.
<b>FRENCH IV</b> <b>Honors</b>	This course expands use and practice in the language, including conversations, oral discussions, and literary interpretations. Students are expected to build upon their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary within the context of everyday life. Placement in French IV honors will be determined by the Foreign Language Department.
<b>SPANISH I</b>	This course is designed to introduce students to the Spanish language and the culture of Spanish-speaking countries. Listening, conversational, and reading skills are emphasized.

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<p><b>SPANISH II</b></p>	<p>This course continues the first year=s study of basic grammar, culture, and vocabulary. Listening, conversational, and reading skills are emphasized. Students new to Ursuline are required to take a placement test to determine correct placement in foreign language classes.</p>
<p><b>SPANISH III</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>This course deepens the student's knowledge of written and spoken language. Emphasis is on listening comprehension, oral fluency, advanced writing skills, and cultural awareness. An introduction to short stories, poems, and selected short essays is included. Students new to Ursuline are required to take a placement test to determine correct placement in foreign language classes. Placement in Spanish III honors will be determined by the Foreign Language Department.</p>
<p><b>SPANISH IV</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>This course expands use and practice in the language, including conversations, oral discussions, and literary interpretations. Students are expected to build upon their knowledge of grammar and vocabulary within the context of everyday life. Placement in Spanish IV honors will be determined by the Foreign Language Department.</p>
<p><b>LATIN I</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>The primary concern of this course is an emphasis on the Latin language and its influence on the English language as well as on the Romance languages. Students will acquire knowledge of grammar and syntax. Attention is given to the culture, mythology, and civilization of Rome and their influence in the Western World.</p>
<p><b>LATIN II</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>This course will continue their study of Latin grammar and syntax. Attention is given to everyday life in Roman civilization and to the military. Students new to Ursuline are required to take a placement test to determine correct placement in foreign language classes.</p>
<p><b>LATIN III</b> <b>Honors</b></p>	<p>The primary concern of this course is the application of syntax and grammar while reading various Latin authors. Attention will be given to the historical, political, and constitutional aspects of the beginning of the Roman Empire. Students new to Ursuline are required to take a placement test to determine correct placement in foreign language classes. Placement in Latin III honors will be determined by the Foreign Language Department.</p>

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### LATIN IV Honors

In this course, students will translate into English, analyze, interpret, and discuss selections from Virgil's *Aeneid* Books 1-6 and Caesar's *Gallic War* 1-6. The course will also focus on the historical, cultural, and political background of the *Aeneid* and *Gallic War* as well as literary devices and structures used. In addition, students will be expected to read some of the untranslated sections of the book in English translation. Students will also be expected to sight read passages of Latin with common vocabulary and straightforward grammar and syntax.

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### HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

#### HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**½ credit**

(graduation requirements is 2 units)

(8<sup>th</sup> grade - Not counted in GPA or towards credit)

Emphasis is placed on health and lifetime wellness. Student will participate in the Presidential Fitness test consisting of the mile run, shuttle run, v-sit, curl ups and a strength component of either pull ups or pushups. Student will prepare by participating in various cardiovascular activities such as walking, jogging and various callisthenic exercises. Students will also participate in a variety of life time activities including aerobics, a daily stretching program and be introduced to proper mechanics of using body weight for strength training. Group cooperation and involvement will be encouraged through active participation in sports such as volleyball, basketball, flag football, soccer, cabbage ball, floor hockey, ultimate Frisbee, badminton, tennis and bowling. A general study of nutrition will be incorporated into this course. Students will also be taught CPR with AED training and first aid and have the chance to become certified during their time at Ursuline Academy.

### COMPUTER

#### COMPUTER APPLICATIONS II

**½ credit**

This course is designed to build further on the students= understanding of their computer application skills. The course will stress: the entire Microsoft Office 2003 suite of integrated application techniques, further preparing students for today=s business world.

#### PUBLICATIONS

**½ credit**

This course instructs students in the basic concepts and skills necessary to handle graphics, text, and objects in Adobe InDesign and Adobe Photoshop with an emphasis on creating a print publication (i.e. Yearbook and Newspaper). Assignments in the course will include: choosing photos, designing the layout, selecting fonts and formatting the text for yearbook pages. All students enrolled in the course will also be expected to attend weekly yearbook meetings after school in addition to class time. In order to be nominated for an elected position n the Yearbook or Newspaper staff, students must be enrolled in this course.

# URSULINE ACADEMY

## Course Descriptions

2012-2013

<p><b>WEB MASTERING</b> ½ credit</p>	<p>Prerequisite: The course will provide an introduction to Web Page Development. Students will design, develop, and maintain web pages using appropriate current editors and/or tagging languages. Throughout instruction, the learner will examine and demonstrate elements of the World Wide Web page development. The design of the course will include but is not limited to the following topics: design, copyright issues, HTML editor, resources, and varied tools for web page publication. Career possibilities related to the Internet and web design will be explored.</p>
<p><b>DIGITAL GRAPHICS AND ANIMATION</b> ½ credit</p>	<p>This course is designed for students to use graphics, images, and/or video to create content oriented productions. The media used within these productions will be designed, and edited by the students. Final projects should reflect multimedia elements, knowledge of design theory, and effective use of productivity tools, and the conveyance on content rich information.</p>
<p><b>FINE ARTS</b></p>	
<p><b>CHOIR I &amp; II</b> <b>Beginning Chorus</b> ½ credit</p>	<p>This course is an introduction to basic choral techniques: phonation, tuning/intonation, proper placement, pitch recognition, and harmonization. Elements of music theory will be taught through independent study using interactive computer software. Students are required to participate in all performances, liturgies, festivals, and concerts. During the fall semester, students learn sacred and secular repertoire, build upon sight reading skills, and sometimes travel. Students prepare a Spring Concert and compete in district, state and national music festivals. <u>The Christmas and Spring Concerts are the performance assessment for the course.</u> Open to grades 8-12. Students will be asked to sing individually for voice placement.</p>

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## Course Descriptions

2012-2013

<p><b>CHOIR III &amp; IV: Advanced Chorus</b></p> <p><b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>This course teaches more advanced choral concepts: a cappella singing, 3-4 part harmonization, intonation/tuning complex chords, analysis and musicianship. Elements of music theory will be taught through independent study using interactive computer software. Students perform throughout the school and local community. Students are required to participate in all performances, liturgies, festivals, and concerts. During the fall semester students learn 2- and 3- part sacred repertoire, and refresh their sight reading skills, in preparation for engagements held in the spring and the Christmas Concert. During the spring semester, students learn more complex 3-and 4- part repertoire and advance their sight reading skills as they prepare a Spring Concert, compete in district and state festivals, and sometimes travel for national events. The Christmas and Spring Concert are the semester exam – the performance assessment for the course. Students in grades 10-12 may enroll <b>with the instructor’s recommendation following an informal audition.</b></p>
<p><b>PIANO I, II, III, IV</b></p> <p><b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>This course is designed for students with no prior piano experience. The new digital piano lab provides a group setting where students will learn basic piano playing techniques: proper hand position, finger independence, and playing hands together. Students learn to interpret musical notation and expressions, write simple compositions, and apply these concepts to the keyboard through original and familiar songs. Elements of music theory and ear training will be introduced in a class setting and reinforced using interactive computer software outside of class. <b>Students must have a keyboard instrument with no less than 61 keys for practice at home.</b></p>
<p><b>INTRODUCTION TO ART</b></p> <p><b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>This studio course is designed to introduce the elements of art: line, shape, color, texture, tone, space. A variety of art media is used. The student begins her portfolio.</p>
<p><b>BEGINNING DRAWING AND DESIGN</b></p> <p><b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>Prerequisites: <b>Introduction to Art I</b></p> <p>This studio course is designed to develop skills in the fundamentals of drawing and design; perspective, contour, form, light, shade and calligraphy.</p>
<p><b>PAINTING</b></p> <p><b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>Prerequisites: Art I and Art II (Intro to Art I and Intro Art II)</p> <p>This studio course provides an introduction to fundamentals of painting with water color and acrylic.</p>

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<b>THREE-DIMENSIONAL DESIGN SCULPTURE</b> <i>½ credit</i>	Prerequisites: Art I and Art II (Intro to Art I and Intro Art II) This studio course explores three dimensional design problems and experiments with a variety of techniques and sculptural materials.
<b>INDEPENDENT ART</b> <i>½ credit</i>	
<b>SPEECH</b> <i>½ credit</i>	Speech is a required course in order to make the student aware of their God-given talents that enables them to become an effective communicator through a series of speeches throughout the year. Students are given seven speeches to write and perform along with the positives and negatives of public speaking. Students receive both written and oral critiques after each speech. Students are encouraged in class to build both poise and confidence while speaking in class which will then naturally carry over in other classes as well as a life skill.
<b>THEATRE I</b> <i>½ credit</i>	Students begin the year learning some of the basic history of the theatre. As a first major assessment the students are assigned a movie monologue to copy and perform. Students are then taught the art of pantomime. Students learn some basic acting skills. Exercises in both voice and diction are performed throughout the year. Media with its multiple facets are gone over and students listen to different types of media. Students perform improvisations, movement techniques, and the art of make-up. The student will perform in a class production and if time allows and student written production.
<b>THEATRE II</b> <i>½ credit</i>	Students begin the year performing a movie or theatre monologue using some of their own acting techniques. Students then learn the art of script writing and directing. Students are given the parts of play construction and are encouraged to write a scene. Students are then given the necessary tools to learn to evaluate theatre performances from the acting to the set and more. Students either perform an existing play or write their own as a class.

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<p><b>ADVANCED THEATRE</b> <b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>Students begin the year with scene production performing multiple scenes from a variety of existing plays. Students divide into groups and select a scene, perform it and change groups and repeat the exercise. Duet Acting is then performed while student evaluate and critique each other. The major exercise is the selection and performance of a "Woman of Worth". The student researches a woman she considers a woman of note and then she takes on her character from head to toe for 20 minutes. She gives the audience a short summary of her life and then performs whatever she has made famous or infamous. After their delivery the students are given a 5 minute Q&amp;A time. Critical evaluation is then gone over and a Senior Production is rehearsed and performed for the school.</p>
<p><b>CHOIR I, II</b> <b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>This course is an introduction to basic choral techniques and elements of music theory. Students will learn to sing unison, two and three-part harmonies along with application of musical elements. Students are required to participate in all liturgies and performances. The Christmas and Spring Concerts are the semester exam- attendance and participation of both is mandatory. Parents are expected to make note of performances and schedule other activities around the dates given. Students in grades 8-12 may enroll following an informal audition for placement.</p>
<p><b>ADVANCED CHORUS</b> <b>½ credit</b></p>	<p>This course contains more advanced choral concepts: a cappella, 3-4 part singing, musical analysis and musicianship. Music theory will be taught during the semester by application of skills through repertoire. Students are required to participate in all liturgies and performances. The Christmas and Spring Concerts are the semester exam- attendance and participation of both is mandatory. Parents are expected to make note of performances and schedule other activities around the dates given. Students in grades 10-12 may enroll following an informal audition for placement</p>

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## Course Descriptions 2012-2013

<b>EXTENDED CHORUS</b> ½ unit	<p>This course is designed for those students who are interested in chorus, but are unable to schedule during the class day. This course contains basic choral techniques as well as elements of music theory. Students will learn to sing unison melodies, two and three-part harmonies along with the application of musical elements. Students are required to participate in all liturgies and performances. The Christmas and Spring Concerts are the semester exam-attendance and participation of both is mandatory. Parents are expected to make note of performances and schedule other activities around the dates given. Students in grades 8-12 may enroll following an informal audition for placement.</p>
<b>PIANO I</b> ½ unit	<p>This course is designed for students with <b>no prior piano experience</b>. The digital piano lab provides a learning experience in a group environment. Students will learn basic piano techniques, note reading, basic musicianship through original and familiar songs. Elements of music theory will be taught throughout the semester. The Christmas and Spring Recitals are the semester exam- attendance and participation of both is mandatory. Parents are expected to make note of performances and schedule other activities around the dates given. This class requires outside practice work.  <b>Students must have a piano or a weighted keyboard with no less than 61 keys for practice.</b></p>
<b>PIANO II</b> ½ unit	<p><b>Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation or Completion of Piano I</b></p> <p>This course is designed for students who are playing at the Late Beginner or Intermediate Level. The digital piano lab provides a learning experience in a group environment. Students will learn techniques through duets while also working on individually assigned repertoire. Elements of theory will be taught throughout the semester. The Christmas and Spring Recitals are the semester exam- attendance and participation of both is mandatory. Parents are expected to make note of performances and schedule other activities around the dates given. This class requires outside practice work.  <b>Students must have a piano or a weighted keyboard with no less than 61 keys for practice.</b></p>

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## Course Descriptions

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<p><b>PIANO V INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION</b> <b>½ credit</b> <b>(full year course)</b></p>	<p>he course includes the study of piano repertoire, music theory and composition, improvisation, harmony, sight reading, ear training, technique, music history, performance, and music appreciation. The student receives a one-on-one, weekly lesson either during homeroom, free time, first or second half of lunch, or before/after school. Course requirements include prior history of musical/piano instruction, a piano or “piano-like keyboard” at home on which to practice, short fingernails, a commitment to practice 2 – 5 hours a week, and participation in the spring piano recital. Classes begin the second week of school. All students are encouraged to enter the annual Bach competition at Ursuline. The registration fee is \$100.00 and lessons are \$325.00 per school year (Total: \$425.00).</p>
<p><b>STRING ORCHESTRA</b> <b>½ credit</b> <b>(full year course)</b></p>	<p>Orchestra is designed for string instrument students who play at or above the level of Suzuki Book II and have a working knowledge of staff notation. Students who play other orchestral instruments proficiently may enroll with the consent of the instructor. Students are engaged in a variety of performing and non-performing activities. Lessons are held before, during, and/or after school hours.</p>