

From 2017-2018 Holy Names Academy *Catalog of Course Offerings, Pages 19-21*

RELIGION

(Organized by course sequence.)

The Religion Department of Holy Names Academy provides a four-year sequential program to educate students about the life of Jesus Christ and the teachings of the Catholic Church, as well as to promote moral development and service to others. Throughout the four years of education at Holy Names Academy, students have opportunities to be educated about the life and mission of Jesus, the sacraments of the Catholic Church, and to participate in the liturgical cycle of celebrations with the Holy Names Academy community and their own churches. Since the school culture is diverse, students live and work in an environment of building understanding of the views of others, as well as respect for their own traditions.

Holy Names Academy developed its religion courses within the framework of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' *Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age* (2008).

WORLD CULTURES – Grade 9 (2 semesters – 1 credit per semester)

Students will explore the foundations of Catholicism and the development of other religions. Students will have the opportunity to learn and practice skills used in social studies, such as note-taking, interpreting research, reading maps and graphs, and writing short essays. The components of this course are:

The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery): This course introduces students of all backgrounds to Catholicism and the mission of Holy Names Academy. Students will learn about the redemptive mission of Jesus Christ and learn how discipleship challenges persons today. This theme emphasizes the concepts of an imperfect human condition (fall from grace) and the promise of salvation—ideas that are consistently present in all major world religions. It also emphasizes the concept of prayer and community service.

Ecumenical and Interreligious Issues: After learning about the Mission of Jesus, students learn about other faiths and how they strive to overcome the human condition through different forms of prayer and traditions. Learning about various religions in the 9th-grade year will establish a sense of community and understanding among students of various spiritual backgrounds. Students learn about the historical development of the Jewish faith; Christian diversity; and other religions, such as Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, and Eastern Traditions, through the eyes of the Church in the quest for religious truths and practice of morality.

Prerequisite: None

SCRIPTURE LITERATURE – Grade 10 (2 semesters – 1 credit per semester)

Students will read, analyze and interpret the Old and New Testaments, especially the Gospels. Students will develop skills in locating scripture passages and applying the specific truths to their 21st-century lives. The components of the course are:

The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture & Sacred Scripture: Students are introduced to the Bible, its major sections, and an overview of the Old and New Testaments, especially the Gospels. This course aims to lead students to a deeper understanding of and love for scripture. They will learn that the Scriptures use several literary forms, always designed to communicate the revealed word of God. Students develop further skills in reading and understanding the stories of salvation history in the New American Bible.

Who Is Jesus Christ? Students are introduced to the mystery and revelation of Jesus Christ through a study of the Gospels and the call to mission. Students will have the opportunity to respond personally to the scriptures through reflections, shared prayer, and community service.

Prerequisite: None

MORALITY/SERVICE – Grade 11 (2 semesters – 1 credit per semester)

Students will explore and develop personal moral concepts and precepts. The course fosters reflection on personal ethics so that students will implement these principles in their lives and service. The components of this course are:

Life in Jesus Christ: Students will understand that through Christ they can fully live out God's plans for their lives. Students will learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples. This course will focus on the definition and formation of an informed conscience based on Catholic moral teaching and Sacred Scripture. Students will also prepare for, experience, and reflect upon a specific service commitment.

Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ: Students will understand that they can encounter Christ today through the sacraments. Students will examine each of the sacraments in detail to learn how they may encounter Christ throughout their lives. The course will focus on the historical development of the sacraments, how they are celebrated today, and how they offer opportunities to reflect upon personal morality.

Prerequisite: None

CONTEMPORARY PROBLEMS – Grade 12 (2 semesters – 1 credit per semester)

The course will examine current political, social, and global issues within the context of the social justice teaching of the Church. Students will develop analysis and arguments through research of primary and secondary sources. The components of this course are:

Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church: Students will learn that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today, which provides guidance for contemporary problems. This Body has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn not so much about events in the life of the Church but about the sacred nature of the Church.

Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society: Students will be introduced to the Church's social teaching. In this course, students will learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.

Prerequisite: None