

Religion Department Curriculum Overview

9th Grade

Required
Religion I
Electives
None

10th Grade

Required
Religion II
Electives
None

11th Grade

Required
Religion III
Electives
Campus Ministry

12th Grade

Required
Religion IV
Electives
Campus Ministry
Prayer Ministry

Course Descriptions (Courses listed by grade level)

Religion I: Catholic Faith & Morality *612* Phase 2 [Year]

This course, Fundamentals of the Catholic Faith and Morality, focuses on two major areas. The first introduces the student to the fundamentals of the Catholic faith - who we are, what our lives mean, whether there is a God who really cares about us, what principles we base decisions on and act on, what happens to us when we die, and what ultimately determines our happiness and destiny. The second part of this course exposes the Catholic adolescent to the major principles of Catholic morality and the traditional church teachings on many important moral issues.

Prerequisite: None

Religion II: Bible History *622* Phase 2 SUS/FBF 2109410 [Year]

Bible History is a two semester course dealing with Sacred Scripture. The Old Testament is studied during the first semester, and the New Testament during the second semester. It is a survey of God's revelation to humankind leading to the ultimate revelation of His Word in the person of Jesus Christ. By studying this faith development, students arrive at an understanding not only of fellow travelers on a biblical pilgrimage but also of themselves. It encourages students to examine the foundations of their own faith and to see in the developing faith-life of the Hebrew people a true parallel to their own. The life of a Christian is guided not only by doctrinal and moral directives, but also by taking as one's own the attitudes and values of Jesus. These are found in Scripture.

Prerequisite: None

Religion III: *634 / 635* * Phase 2 SUS/FBF 2108300/2105310 [Year] Catholic Social Teachings & World Religions

Religion III is a two-semester course. The first semester summarizes the key themes of Catholic social teaching including the principle of the dignity of the human person, respect for human life, call to family, community and participation. It will expose students to essential principles of social justice so that they can recognize how behavior affects both the individual and society. The second semester is a comparative study of religions of the world. Students will be acquainted with the varied beliefs and practices of these religions while contrasting these with the uniqueness of Catholicism. The religions studied include Primal Religious Traditions, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, Sikhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Zen Buddhism, Shinto, Ancestors of the West, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Prerequisite: None



Religion III: *660 / 661* * **Phase 2** **SUS/FBF** 2108300/2105310 **[Year]**
Campus Ministry / Social Justice

The two-semester course seeks to provide students with an opportunity to apply the principles of Catholic Social Teaching to contemporary social problems, most notably: abortion, chastity, euthanasia, capital punishment, prejudice, and discrimination against social groups. In this aspect, Campus Ministry shares the same components as other Religion III classes.

The Campus Ministry course would develop students further by training the selected students to better serve their peers and community through retreats and a school-wide abstinence campaign. Community service activities will be encouraged. Participants will be trained in skills such as public speaking, listening, group dynamics, and speech preparation, all necessary to be effective leaders. The course is by *invitation only* after applicants make their interest known via a written application and undergo interviews.

Prerequisites: A 2.5 GPA and a 73 or better in sophomore religion, submission of written application and essay, teacher recommendations, and approval of the Campus Minister

Religion IV: *644/645* **Phase 2** **SUS/FBF** 2105340/2104320 **[Year]**
Christian Lifestyles & Morality

Religion IV is a two-semester course covering Christian lifestyles and Catholic Christian morality. Creating a Christian lifestyle focuses on how human relationships reflect our values and the attitudes we adopt for dealing with particular situations. It is an analysis of the student's present relationships, emphasizing our inborn need for love of God and others. The impact of our rapidly changing technology and the "consumer" values of today's society are examined in terms of their effects on human relationships. Christian faith is presented as an affirmation and a challenge to love deeply, to serve, and to grow beyond the limits of our cultural values. The course is designed to expose students to the study of philosophy and rationale behind making sound moral decisions when facing the challenges of young adulthood so they can shape a future that is hopeful, healthy, and full. The course focuses on life-themes that are common to all lifestyles: single, religious, ordained, married, family, and parenting are presented and explored in terms of how they meet the challenge of the Christian faith. The course concludes with a challenge to live out the Christian faith by becoming sensitive to the needs of the "world family."

Prerequisite: None

Religion IV: *650/651* **Phase 2** **SUS/FBF** 2105340/2104320 **[Year]**
Campus Ministry / Christian Lifestyles & Morality

The two-semester course seeks to provide students with an opportunity to challenge the growth of their conscience and apply that to different lifestyle choices, while maintaining a Catholic-Christian emphasis. While developing Christian lifestyles and Catholic Christian morality in each participant, by exposing students to the study of philosophy and rationale behind making sound moral decisions, the course also focuses on life-themes that are common to all lifestyles in terms of how they meet the challenge of the Christian faith.

Enrollment in Campus Ministry would further develop the course objectives by training the selected students to better serve their peers and community. Training in speech writing, public speaking, listening, and group dynamics are elements of leadership that would also be further developed in participants. The course is by *invitation only* after applicants make their interest known via a written application and undergo interviews.

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Junior Campus Ministry and approval of the instructor.

Religion IV: *652/653* **Phase 2** **SUS/FBF** 2105340/2104320 **[Year]**
Prayer Ministry / Christian Lifestyles & Morality

The two-semester course seeks to provide students with an opportunity to challenge the growth of their conscience and apply that to different lifestyle choices, while maintaining a Catholic-Christian emphasis. While developing Christian lifestyles and Catholic Christian morality in each participant, by exposing students to the study of philosophy and rationale behind making sound moral decisions, the course also focuses on life-themes that are common to all lifestyles in terms of how they meet the challenge of the Christian faith.

Enrollment in Prayer Ministry would further develop the course objectives by training the selected students to better serve their peers and community. Training in planning and leading prayer groups, prayer experiences, and leadership would also be further developed in participants. Students of Prayer Ministry will visit freshman and sophomore religion classes to engage those classes in prayer experiences. The course is by *invitation only* after applicants make their interest known to the department head via a written application and undergo an interview.

Prerequisites: A 2.5 GPA and a 73 or better in junior religion, submission of written application, teacher recommendations, personal interviews by Religion Dept. members and approval of department chairperson. Prayer ministers must attend a retreat scheduled by the department.

