Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic High School

2025 – 2026

Course Catalog

Forming knowledgeable
Christ-centered leaders

Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic High School

Sacred Studies Courses

Sacred Scripture - 0.5 credit
Freshmen Course

This course is designed to introduce students to the knowledge and understanding of Sacred Scripture. They will explore the Bible's value to people throughout the world and come to see it as authored by God through divine inspiration. Students will gain familiarity with reading the Bible, its major sections, and the books contained within each section. Special emphasis will be placed on the Gospels, where students will encounter the love and example of Jesus Christ.

Who is Jesus Christ? - 0.5 credit
Prerequisite: Sacred Scripture

This course introduces students to the Mystery of Jesus Christ—the Living Word of God and the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. Students will come to understand that Jesus Christ is God's ultimate revelation, and in discovering who He is, they will also come to recognize who He calls them to be.

The Paschal Mystery – 0.5 credit

This course is designed to help students understand all that God has done for humanity through His Son, Jesus Christ. Students will learn that from all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with Him, a plan fulfilled through the Redemption won by Christ. They will come to see that we share in this Redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. The course will also introduce students to the meaning of discipleship and what life as a disciple entails.

Christ's Mission in the Church – 0.5 credit
Prerequisite: The Paschal Mystery

This course is designed to help students understand that in and through the Church they encounter the Living Jesus Christ. They will learn that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by Him through the Holy Spirit. Students will come to recognize the Church as the living Body of Christ today, composed of both divine and human elements. The focus of this course is not primarily on historical events in the life of the Church, but on the sacred nature of the Church itself.

Sacraments - 0.5 credit

This course is designed to help students understand the seven sacraments as gifts from God. Students will learn that Jesus Christ, as the ultimate sacrament of God, is the way to the Father. Each sacrament will be examined in depth, with particular emphasis on the Eucharist. Students will explore the origin, rites, and spiritual effects of each sacrament, deepening their appreciation of these encounters with God's grace.

Catholic Morality – 0.5 credit
Prerequisite: Sacraments

This course is designed to introduce students to a traditional understanding of morality, encouraging them to examine their conscience regularly and make daily choices that reflect a moral life. Students will come to recognize all that God has done for us through Jesus Christ and understand that it is through the Church that they encounter the Living Christ.

Apologetics – 1 credit
Senior Course

This course is designed to introduce students to key concepts and arguments essential for defending the Catholic faith and preparing for challenges they may encounter in college. Students will gain a thorough understanding of modern objections to Catholic theology and ethics, learn how to address these objections thoughtfully and respectfully, and develop foundational skills in logic and reasoning to support academic success in any field.

Catholic Social Teaching – 0.5 credit
Senior Course

This course introduces students to the Church's social teaching, highlighting how Christ's concern for others—especially the poor and marginalized—is lived out today through the Church's teachings and mission.

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Mathematics Courses

Algebra 1 – 1.0 credit
This course will introduce students to variables, equations, inequalities, and functions and their various representations. Students will develop the ability to model and explore the real world using these equations and inequalities and solve real-world problems using the same.

Honors Algebra 1 – 1.0 credit
This course will cover all material taught in Algebra 1 at an accelerated pace, with increased rigor and depth of content. Students will learn elements of geometry, statistics, and applied mathematics in addition to all content in Algebra 1.

Geometry – 1.0 credit
Prerequisite: Algebra 1
This course is a comprehensive study of geometric topics and principles, including coordinate and spatial geometry, proofs, parallel and perpendicular lines, angles, congruent and similar triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles, trigonometry, surface area, volume, and transformations.

Algebra 2 – 1.0 credit
Prerequisite: Geometry
This course builds on algebraic and geometric concepts. Students must pass Algebra 1 and Geometry to take Algebra 2. During the course, students will develop advanced algebra skills such as systems of equations, advanced polynomials, imaginary and complex numbers, quadratic equations, and the study of trigonometric functions. The content taught in this course is essential for a student's success on the math portions of both the ACT and SAT and will prepare them for college success.

Precalculus – 1.0 credit
Prerequisite: Algebra 2
This course builds on the concepts students learned in Algebra 1 and Algebra 2. Precalculus builds on students' understanding of various aspects of functions and explores the trigonometric functions and how they relate to geometry and algebra.

Calculus – 1.0 credit
Calculus builds on algebra by introducing the concept of infinity and the ability to repeat processes indefinitely. This course covers limits, continuity, differentiability, and single-variable integration, with applications to real-world situations in biology, physics, and other sciences.

Statistics – 1.0 credit
This course will teach students an overview of statistics, including descriptive statistics, elementary probability, probability distributions, estimation, hypothesis testing, correlation, and linear regression.

Dual Enrollment Math Courses

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Dual Enrollment MTH 161: Precalculus I
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
This class presents topics in power, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic functions and systems of equations and inequalities. This is a Passport Transfer Course.

Dual Enrollment MTH 162: Precalculus II
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Prerequisite: MTH 161
This class presents trigonometry, trigonometric applications (including Laws of Sines and Cosines), and an introduction to conics. This is a Passport Transfer Course.

Dual Enrollment MTH 263: Calculus I
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Prerequisite: MTH 161/162
This class presents concepts of limits, derivatives, differentiation of various types of functions and use of differentiation rules, application of differentiation, antiderivatives, integrals, and applications of integration. This is a Passport Transfer Course.

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Mathematics Courses Continued...

Dual Enrollment Math Courses

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Dual Enrollment MTH 264: Calculus II
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Prerequisite: MTH 263
This class continues the study of calculus of algebraic and transcendental functions, including rectangular, polar, and parametric graphing, indefinite and definite integrals, methods of integration, and power series along with applications. It features instruction for mathematical, physical, and engineering science programs. This is a Passport Transfer Course.

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English Courses

English 9 – Introduction to Literature
1.0 credit
English 9 is a comprehensive course that integrates literature, grammar, vocabulary, and writing to prepare students for college-level reading and writing. Students will explore a variety of literary genres, including short stories, nonfiction, drama, poetry, and classic literature. They will read, interpret, and analyze texts while strengthening grammar skills, expanding vocabulary, and composing a range of formal written assignments throughout the course.

Honors English 9 – Introduction to Literature
1.0 credit
Placement is based on middle school transcripts and an entrance exam.
Honors English 9 is a comprehensive course that covers all of the English 9 material but is taught at an accelerated pace and with increased rigor and depth of content. Students will be expected to read and write more often than regular English 9.

English 10 – World Literature
1.0 credit
English 10 builds on the skills developed in English 9 by engaging students with global literature while continuing instruction in grammar, vocabulary, and writing to prepare them for college-level reading and composition. Students will read, interpret, and analyze classic works of world literature by diverse authors to strengthen their critical-thinking skills. They will also learn grade-appropriate grammar and vocabulary and compose a variety of formal written assignments throughout the course.

Honors English 10 – World Literature
1.0 credit
Honors English 10 is a comprehensive course that covers all of English 10 material but is taught at an accelerated pace and with increased rigor and depth of content. Students will be expected to read and write in more depth and will learn rigorous vocabulary.

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English Courses Continued...

English 11 – American Literature
1.0 credit

English 11 challenges experienced readers to use critical-thinking skills to read, analyze, and interpret works of American literature. Designed for juniors concurrently taking United States History, the course encourages students to make connections between literature and the social, political, and moral issues of the United States. Students will also review grammar and vocabulary while composing multiple formal papers that demonstrate effective communication and critical analysis of literary works.

English 12 – British Literature
1.0 credit

English 12 challenges experienced readers to use critical-thinking skills to read, analyze, and interpret works of British literature, spanning from the Anglo-Saxon period to contemporary writers. Students will continue to review and apply grammar from previous English courses and expand their vocabulary. They will use literal, interpretive, and critical-reading skills to understand and appreciate the writer's use of language and literary techniques, and will compose multiple formal papers demonstrating effective communication and critical analysis of literary works.

Dual Enrollment English Courses

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Dual Enrollment ENG 111: College Composition I
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)

This class introduces students to critical thinking and the fundamentals of academic writing. Through the writing process, students refine topics; develop and support ideas; investigate, evaluate, and incorporate appropriate resources; edit for effective style and usage; and determine appropriate approaches for a variety of contexts, audiences, and purposes. Writing activities will include exposition and argumentation with at least one researched essay. This is a Passport eligible course.

Dual Enrollment ENG 112: College Composition II
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Prerequisite ENG 111

This class continues to develop college-level writing skills with increased emphasis on critical essays, argumentation, and research, developing these competencies through the examination of a range of texts about the human experience. It requires students to locate, evaluate, integrate, and document sources and effectively edit for style and usage.

Dual Enrollment ENG 245: British Literature
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Prerequisite ENG 112

This class examines British literary traditions and texts from diverse time periods, genres, and authors. It develops critical-thinking and interpretive skills through close reading, discussion, and analysis of literary texts in their historical, cultural, social, and/or literary contexts.

Dual Enrollment ENG 246: American Literature
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Prerequisite ENG 112

This class examines American literary traditions and texts from diverse time periods, genres, and authors. It analyzes literary works within their historical, cultural, social, and/or literary contexts and emphasizes skills of close reading. It also develops interpretive and critical-thinking skills through discussion, interpretation, and analysis of these texts.

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Science Courses

Earth Science – 9th Grade

1.0 credit

Science is an ongoing process of discovery of the natural world. Earth science is part of this process and covers four broad areas of study: meteorology, geology, oceanography, and astronomy. Over the course of the year, students will have the opportunity to learn about a variety of subjects and will discover that our stewardship of God's world—our home—is fascinating and wondrous.

Biology – 10th Grade

1.0 credit

This course is designed to introduce students to the fundamentals of biology. It is preferred that students take Chemistry first, as chemical processes related to organisms and cells are taught in the first semester of this course. Students will learn about the fundamentals of life, the study of atoms and molecules, cell structure, genetics, organism classification, fungi, plants, animals, the human organ system, and ecology. Students will take part in various labs throughout the year to extend learning to hands-on activities and prepare students for college-level labs.

Chemistry - 11th Grade

1.0 credit

In this class, students will come to understand that chemical energy is one of the most-used kinds of energy in the world because it is crucial for the existence of not only humans but also all living beings and the natural world. Students will learn to think and communicate scientifically, both orally and in writing. Laboratory experiments are designed to reinforce the scientific method of investigation as well as to build skills in support of good laboratory techniques. The atomic theory, structure and properties of matter, kinetic theory of gases, stoichiometry, acids, bases, solutions, and chemical energy are some of the topics covered. Current topics in technological and environmental applications are supplemented.

Physics – 12th Grade

1.0 credit

High school Physics is an engaging and comprehensive course designed to introduce students to the fundamental principles and concepts of the field of physics. Throughout the course, students will explore the fundamental laws that govern the physical world, from classical mechanics to electricity and magnetism. A solid foundation in algebra and basic mathematical concepts is highly recommended. Additionally, a curiosity for the natural world, an eagerness to explore scientific phenomena, and a willingness to engage in critical thinking are essential for success in this course.

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History Courses

World History I
1.0 credit
This course provides students with an understanding of world history from the Neolithic Revolution through the age of Asian empires. Students will explore how diverse empires, cultures, and experiences around the world have shaped global history.

Honors World History I
1.0 credit
This course covers all the material taught in World History I with increased rigor where students are expected to complete more analytic projects and papers using various sources.

World History II
1.0 credit
This course provides students with an understanding of world history from approximately 1500 A.D., during the era of European exploration, to contemporary global issues. Students will examine how diverse empires, cultures, and historical experiences have shaped world history. While prior completion of Western Civilization I, World History I, or Ancient History is recommended, it is not required.

Honors World History II
1.0 credit
This course covers all the material taught in World History II with increased rigor where students are expected to complete more analytic projects, papers, and compare/contrast many historical elements.

Military History
1.0 credit
This course provides students with a comprehensive overview of the history of warfare, focusing on key military events, strategies, and figures that have shaped the course of human history. Through examining wars from ancient civilizations to modern conflicts, students will explore the causes, conduct, and consequences of war, as well as the evolution of military tactics, technologies, and leadership.

US History – 11th Grade
1.0 credit
This course is geared toward 11th graders as it introduces students to major themes and changes in the United States starting from the Age of Exploration to the early 21st century. Students will learn how key events in the United States, such as European colonization, the Civil War, the Great Depression, and others, have shaped our country.

Honors US History – 11th Grade
1.0 credit
This course covers all material taught in US History with additional rigor toward critical thinking about US history, crafting persuasive arguments, and completing in-depth papers.

Government – 12th Grade
1.0 credit
This course will provide students with knowledge of United States government that will enable them to participate effectively in civic life in America. Students will examine fundamental constitutional principles; the organization of government at the federal, state, and local levels; the rights and responsibilities of citizenship; the policy-making process; and the American economic system.

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Foreign Language Courses

Spanish I - 1.0 credit
Spanish I serves as an introductory course that equips students with the foundational language skills of listening, comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. The primary objectives include language acquisition, the development of critical-thinking abilities, effective real-life communication, and fostering bilingualism.

Spanish II - 1.0 credit
Prerequisite: Spanish I
Spanish II advances the exploration of grammar, vocabulary, and the diverse cultures within the Spanish-speaking world. Students enhance their listening, speaking, reading, and writing abilities, while also beginning to cultivate reading comprehension through literary works.

Spanish III - 1.0 credit
Prerequisite: Spanish II
Spanish III furthers the study of grammar, vocabulary, and cultures of the Spanish-speaking countries. Students improve listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and develop additional reading comprehension skills through literature, oral presentation, and written exercises. They also learn advanced grammar concepts, such as present perfect, imperfect, future, and the subjunctive tenses; learn how to express opinions while making comparisons and discussing plans; read and analyze short stories and texts in Spanish; and explore the culture through art, literature, and history of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish IV - 1.0 credit
Prerequisite: Spanish IV
Spanish IV is taught exclusively in Spanish. It explores topics in advanced composition and conversation, with an emphasis on refining and integrating advanced grammar into daily communication. Emphasis is placed on comprehension as it is spoken by native speakers. Students develop appropriate verbs, sentence structure, vocabulary, idioms, and cultural understanding necessary to perform communicative functions at the advanced level.

Educere Language Courses

Students may opt to take a language course virtually through Educere. Educere offers a wide range of virtual K–12 courses, including core subjects, electives, Advanced Placement (AP) courses, and world languages. These courses are delivered online.

American Sign Language I - IV

Chinese I - IV, AP, Honors

French I - IV, AP, Honors

German I-IV, AP, Honors

Italian I-IV, AP, Honors

Japanese I-IV, AP, Honors

Latin I-IV, AP, Honors

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Elective Courses

Fine Arts Elective

Fine Arts I – 1.0 credit

This course is an exploratory art course that covers a range of theater, drama, drawing, painting, sculpting, music, and digital photography.

English Electives

Creative Writing – 1.0 credit

Prerequisite: English 10 or Honors English 9

This class is an introduction to the major genres of creative writing, including fiction, poetry, drama, and a personal essay. This is a college-preparatory course in which students will compose stories, poems, and dramatic scenes.

Public Speaking – 1.0 credit

This course is designed to foster the fundamental skills and confidence that students need to speak effectively in public. The course includes lectures, group activities, and practical presentations. Students will learn how to craft compelling messages, engage diverse audiences, and deliver speeches with clarity and poise. Students in public speaking will also lector at Mass.

Yearbook and Journalism – 1.0 credit

During this course, students will publish the school newspaper as well as the school yearbook. Students will work collaboratively to design yearbook pages, write content, take photographs, and manage deadlines. They will also learn the principles of journalism as they research, report, and write stories, features, and opinion pieces for the school newspaper.

Career and Technical Education Electives

Economics/Personal Finance – 1.0 credit

State Requirement

Junior/Senior Level Course

This course introduces students to mathematical concepts and practical applications encountered in day-to-day life. It includes resume writing, mortgage and loan calculations, taxes, and stocks and bonds.

Computer Repair – 0.5 credit

This hands-on elective will introduce students to the fundamentals of computer repair. Students will learn how to diagnose, troubleshoot, and repair common hardware and software issues in laptops, desktops, 3-D printers, and other devices. The course emphasizes applied skills through guided lab activities and projects that prepare students for entry-level tech support roles or further study in information technology.

Typing/Office Suites – 0.5 credit

This elective is designed to build essential digital skills that students need to be successful in school, the workplace, and in everyday life. Students will learn proper keyboarding techniques, improve typing speed, and learn Microsoft Office 365 tools, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook, through hands-on experience.

Business– 1.0 credit

This elective is designed to provide students with an introduction to the world of business and the economy. Students will explore the basics of entrepreneurship, marketing, management, finance, and business operations. This course is ideal for students interested in future careers in business, economics, or management—or for anyone who wants to understand how businesses work in everyday life.

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Elective Courses Continued...

Career and Technical Education Electives

Criminal Justice – 1.0 credit

This elective introduces students to the American criminal justice system and explores how laws are created, enforced, and interpreted. Students will learn through hands-on demonstrations, case studies, debates, and projects evaluating current issues like the impact of crime on society and the legal process.

Leadership – 1.0 credit

This elective is ideal for students who see themselves as future leaders. The course covers interpersonal relations in hierarchical structures. Students will examine the dynamics of teamwork, motivation, handling change and conflict, and how to achieve positive results through others.

Physical Education Electives

PE/Health I – 1.0 credit
Freshmen Course

The purpose of this Physical Education and Health program is to provide students with the ability to further their physical, mental, and emotional development. PE I deals with team sports, recreational sports, physical fitness, and wellness. Required health units include wellness, first aid, and safety.

PE/Health II – 1.0 credit
Sophomore Course

This is a more advanced course geared toward sophomores and upperclassmen. Students will be exposed to team sports, recreational sports, physical fitness, and wellness. Required health units include wellness, first aid, and safety. Students are given the opportunity to earn Red Cross certifications in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Weight/Strength – 1.0 credit
Junior/Senior Course

This elective is designed to improve athletic performance through structured training in strength, speed, agility, and endurance. Students will develop proper form, discipline, and confidence while learning how to train like an athlete and build lifelong healthy habits.

Dual Enrollment Electives

Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Dual Enrollment Introduction to Business – BUS 100
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Junior/Senior Level Course

This class presents a broad introduction to the functioning of business enterprise within the US economic framework while also developing business vocabulary. It introduces economic systems; essential elements of business organization; production; human resource management; and marketing, finance, and risk management.

Dual Enrollment Entrepreneurship – BUS 116
1.0 credit (3 Germanna College credits)
Junior/Senior Level Course

This class presents the various steps considered necessary when going into business. It includes areas such as product-service analysis, market research evaluation, setting up books, ways to finance a startup, operations of the business, development of business plans, buyouts versus starting from scratch, and franchising. It also uses problems and cases to demonstrate implementation of these techniques.