MAYER LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

2026-2027

Course Descriptions Booklet

Preparing the Next Generation of Christian Leaders

306 7th St. NE
Mayer, MN 55360
School 952-657-2251

www.mayerlutheran.org

Updated: Jan 2026

CURRICULUM REVIEW: Mayer Lutheran High School engages in ongoing curriculum review. The impact of this process is a curriculum that can be updated and modified to meet the educational needs of today's high school students. The courses in this Course Description Booklet reflect what is currently being offered by Mayer Lutheran High School. Some courses listed do not occur every year. New course offerings, course descriptions, and course prerequisites are a possible outcome of the curriculum review process.

FINAL EVALUATION/EXAMS: Each semester a final exam/project will take place in all classes with the possible exception of activity-based PE classes, Wind Ensemble, and Concert Choir. If these courses do not administer a final evaluation/exam the syllabi for the course will explain how the quarter and semester grade will be determined. Final evaluation/exams may include a semester test, project, or activity that measures the student's knowledge in the class or their ability to apply skills taught through a project or activity. Each quarter grade will count evenly in the calculation of the semester grade. The final exam/project will have a weight ranging from 10-30% of the semester grade. These weights will be determined by the teacher of the course and will be specified in the syllabi for the course.

Semester Grading Calculation Example –

Formula (E% represents the final evaluation/exam weight):
Qtr. 1 x (100%-E%)/2 + Qtr. 2 x (100%-E%)/2 + Sem. Exam x E% = Semester Grade

Example:

Quarter 1 grade =	B+ 89.4%
Quarter 2 grade =	B 87.2%
Final Evaluation/Exam =	C- 76.6%
Final Evaluation/Exam Weight:	30%

Qtr. 1	89.4 X .35 = 31.29
Qtr. 2	87.2 X .35 = 30.52
Final Evaluation/Exam	76.6 X .3 = 22.98
Semester Grade	Total = 84.79 = B-

HONOR ROLLS: Determined using the semester GPA:

High Honor Roll:	4.000+ GPA
Honor Roll:	3.667 GPA with all grades at a "B" or better
Merit Roll:	3.500 GPA or 3.333 or with all grades at a "C" or better

GRADING PROCEDURES:
The Uniform Grading Scales and GPA points that are used at Mayer Lutheran High School are as follows:

	Percent	GPA Points	Weighted GPA Points *+
A	92-100	4.000	5.000
A-	90-91	3.667	4.667
B+	88-89	3.333	4.333
B	82-87	3.000	4.000
B-	80-81	2.667	3.667
C+	78-79	2.333	3.333
C	72-77	2.000	3.000
C-	70-71	1.667	2.667
D+	68-69	1.333	2.333
D	62-67	1.000	2.000
D-	60-61	0.667	1.667
F	0-59	0.000	0.000

*Classes Qualifying for Weighted GPA Points: Advanced Placement course as well as College in the Classroom courses taken for college credit.

CUMULATIVE GPA: The cumulative GPA is based on the average of the grade points (assigned to the respective letter grades) earned in all courses (including PSEO, Independent Study, and in courses taken at other high schools because of a cooperative agreement or transfer to Mayer Lutheran High School) taken during high school. In the case of marking period or course credit systems that differ from Mayer Lutheran High School's system, the grades, grade points, and credits earned are converted to Mayer Lutheran High School's grade point and credit system.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS: To graduate from Mayer Lutheran High School, students must earn 27 credits, including successful completion of theology credit for each semester in attendance. One credit is equivalent to two semesters of credit. The graduation requirements are:

Theology	4.0 credits	Mathematics	3.0 credits	Fine Arts	1.0 credits
English	4.0 credits	Physical Education	1.0 credits	Technology	1.0 credits
Social Studies	3.5 credits	Health	0.5 credits	Elective	6.0 credits
Science	3.0 credits				

**In addition, college bound students should strive to complete the following: Math through at least Algebra 2, Science through Advanced Biology and/or Physics, and 2 or 3 years of Foreign Language.

GRADUATING WITH DISTINCTION: Students who graduate with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.667 will be recognized as having graduated with distinction. The cumulative GPA will include the second semester of the senior year by using a projection of the semester 2 GPA in the final calculation.

ENGLISH – Graduation Requirement: 4.0 credits

Department Purpose
To meet the growing diversity in our world, Christian students will learn to master communication skills. These skills better equip students to interact with others in spreading the Gospel.

Department Rationale
The English curriculum will emphasize a Christian approach in comprehension, interpretation and application. The English curriculum includes literature, grammar, composition, speech, and drama and provides challenging activities for all student levels. For students to become effective Christian leaders, they need to know how best to utilize the skills of effective communication. Applying these skills aids students in understanding the concerns of other people, and in transmitting their own ideas, concerns and emotions to others. As these skills are learned, applied and enhanced, students will gain confidence and self-awareness in their ability to encourage others in the faith and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Sequence:

Grade 9: English 9
Grade 10: English 10 or Honors English 10
Grade 11: World Literature, American Literature, AP Lang and Comp, AP Lit and Comp
Grade 12: World Literature, American Literature, AP Lang and Comp, AP Lit and Comp

ENGLISH 9:
Grade 9 |1 credit | Year Course |No College Credit

Students in English 9 will be exposed to fiction and nonfiction texts, through which they will develop the skills needed to become proficient communicators. Classic and contemporary texts of literature, poetry, and drama will be used for students to practice and master reading, writing, and speaking skills in preparation for more advanced studies in English language. Additionally, students will continually be directed to view the works they are reading and creating through a biblical lens, asking the question, "How does this reflect the biblical commands to love God and love others?"

ENGLISH 10:
Grade 10 | 1 credit | Year Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: English 9 or Department Chair approval.

Students in English 10 will continue to practice for increasing mastery of reading, writing, and thinking skills, as well as expanding vocabulary and applying literary devices to contemporary and classic literature texts. Emphasis is placed on analyzing texts to build the 21st Century skills of critical thinking, collaboration, and communication. Students will also be directed to view all texts and work with the knowledge that all humans are created in the image of God, asking the question, "How does what we read or write reflect that all humans are made in the image of God?" and if it does not, then to ask, "How does this work remind us that sin distorts that image, reflecting that we are in need of a Savior to restore our relationship with God?"

HONORS ENGLISH 10:
Grade 10 | 1 credit | Year Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Grade in English 9 of B – or higher, an approved Honors program application, and/or Department Chair approval.

Students in Honors English 10 will cover a similar curriculum to those in English 10, but with a greater emphasis on critical reading, critical thinking, and critical writing, through the application of different literary lenses. Students will analyze additional texts and apply those concepts to the main texts being taught in class, working on oral, inter-personal, and written communication skills. Students will also be directed to view all texts and work with the knowledge that all humans are created in the image of God, asking the question, "How does what we read or write reflect that all humans are made in the image of God?" and if it does not, then to ask, "How does this work remind us that sin distorts that image, reflecting that we are in need of a Savior to restore our relationship with God?"

English 11-12 WORLD LITERATURE:
Grade 11-12 | 1 credit | Year Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Completion of English 10 or Department Chair approval.

Students will develop an appreciation and understanding of literature and effective composition. They will be challenged to analyze, critique, and respond to different genres of world literature. Selections from each of the genres (poetry, fiction, drama, non-fiction) will be studied. Students will write a variety of papers, including response, informative, persuasive, creative, and research, as they develop their skills in communicating clearly and effectively. As students gain new perspectives from experiencing literature of other cultures, they will be challenged to examine the material through a Biblical lens, to equip them to share the Good News of Christ in an increasingly diverse Church and world. (Offered in 2027-2028.)

English 11-12 AMERICAN LITERATURE:
Grade 11-12 | 1 credit | Year Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Completion of English 10 or Department Chair approval.

Students will develop an appreciation and understanding of literature and effective composition. They will be challenged to analyze, critique and respond to different genres of American literature. Selections from each of the genres (poetry, fiction, drama, non-fiction) will be studied. Students will write a variety of papers, including response, informative, persuasive, creative, and research, as they develop their skills in communicating clearly and effectively. As students examine literature to define the specific characteristics that make it "American," they will be challenged to approach these works from a Biblical perspective with a focus on what it means to share the Gospel through their vocations as students and citizens. (Offered in 2026-2027.)

COLLEGE WRITING AND RESEARCH (CIS):
Grades 11-12 | .5 credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option | Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Students will be introduced to the fundamentals of effective writing in the context of the elements of rhetoric: writer, audience, and purpose, keeping in mind that all their words should reflect the truth found in the Word-Jesus Christ. Students will write narrative, informative, and persuasive compositions and a documented research paper, using APA style of documentation. They will show mastery of the pre-writing and revising techniques that will enhance their ability to write interesting and engaging prose, while also learning how to give and receive genuine and informative self- and peer-assessments, which are also critical skills used within the communication process within the workplace. Successful completion of this course will earn 3 college credits that can be used to fulfill a general education writing course requirement for most degree-seeking students who enroll in an undergraduate program.
Fall Semester (2027-2028)

INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (CIS):
Grades 11-12 | .5 credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option | Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

This course provides the students with an introduction to the theory of communication process. Students will learn how to analyze a target audience, organize material, prepare an effective method of delivery, in order to identify public speaking techniques that are used in private and public sectors, while also evaluating ethical issues related to public speaking. Students will deliver informative, persuasive and inspirational speeches that include research and the proper documentation of outside sources to be used within a speech. All of this will be done in alignment with the knowledge that all the words a person speaks should be used to glorify Jesus Christ. Students who successfully complete this course will earn 3 college credits that typically fulfill a Humanities or General elective for students in undergraduate programs. Fall or Spring Semester (2026-2027).

INTRODUCTION TO LITERARY ANALYSIS (CIS):
Grades 11-12 | .5 credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option | Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Student will develop a Christian worldview from which to compassionately evaluate personal and societal values through the study of literature. This worldview will be formed through the continued instruction and practice in writing and the writing process, with an emphasis on critical analysis of literary genres, focusing on how the texts and the elements they contain align with how the Bible says Christians should live. Students will also learn how to competently, constructively, and graciously critique peers' writing through collaborative processes, skills that can be transferred to the workplace as individuals interact with and collaborate with colleagues. Students who successfully complete this course will earn 3 college credits that can be used to fulfill a general education English course requirement for most degree-seeking students who enroll in an undergraduate program.
Spring Semester (2027-2028)

SURVEY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE (CIS):
Grades 11-12 | .5 credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option | Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Student will complete an overview of non-dramatic literature in the United States, showing its development from colonial times to the present. Students will work individually and collaboratively to explore topics, works, and authors representing multi-cultural voices in the changing canon of American literature, developing an understanding of the historical context and the philosophical background of American literature. Students will also think critically to analyze the structure and style of individual works to appraise the literary value and critical theoretical approaches, recognizing the cultural forces, limitations, and biases that express the authors' sociopolitical, philosophical, and religious views. Students will also apply the teachings of Jesus to the texts that are studied, evaluating how they align with those teaching and what they reveal about humanities need for a Savior. Students who successfully complete this course will earn 3 college credits that typically fulfill a Humanities or General elective for students in undergraduate programs.
Fall or Spring Semester (2026-2027)

WORLD LANGUAGES – Elective Credit

Department Purpose

To meet the challenges of ever-increasing global connections in the 21st century, students must communicate in a culturally appropriate manner with people around the world. They must possess language skills and an understanding of other cultures to be productive members of the diverse communities in which we all live. As a Christian community part of our mission is to share the Gospel with those around us, in our case those who speak Spanish. The purpose of the Spanish Department is to support the development of language learners and equip them to further God's kingdom and be Christian leaders.

Department Rationale

Throughout the Spanish Department curriculum, students are encouraged to develop the basis for communicating in Spanish, knowing and understanding Hispanic cultural practices and perspectives, connecting and comparing their own lives with the world around them. This is important for success in college and future careers, especially with the growing Hispanic population.

SPANISH I:

Grade 9-11 | 1 credit |Year Course | No College Credit

Spanish 1 is an introduction to the sounds, vocabulary, and structures of the Spanish language. The four skills of listening, reading, speaking, and writing are developed, practiced, and evaluated through the three modes of communication -interpersonal (conversations), interpretational (comprehension of spoken and written language) and presentational (communication prepared for an audience). A variety of topics are introduced with the goal of basic communication in those topic areas, reflecting a novice-low to novice-mid level of proficiency. Students will gain an awareness of the cultural context of the language. Classroom time includes a variety of activities, using music, videos, readings and cultural content as well as vocabulary activities and grammar practice. A Christian context is used throughout the course.

SPANISH 2:

Grade 9-12 | 1 credit |Year Course | No College Credit

Spanish 2 builds on the foundation laid in Spanish 1, continuing to develop the skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. Vocabulary and grammatical structures are learned in contexts of everyday topics, including cultural topics. Cultural awareness and appreciation are introduced with the aim of developing intercultural communication competency. Fluency is increased in conversation and writing. Interpretational skills are developed through reading selections and listening activities. Achievement is evaluated through the three modes of communication, interpersonal (conversations), interpretational (comprehension of spoken and written language) and presentational (communication prepared for an audience). The expectation is a Novice-Mid moving toward Novice-High proficiency. The Christian context continues, especially through the use of Scripture and Christian music.

SPANISH 3 (CIS):

Grade 11-12 | 1 credit |Year Course |College Credit Option |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 2 with a C or higher.

Spanish 3 continues to build on the knowledge gained in Spanish 1 & 2. Students will enrich their vocabulary and increase their repertoire of topics they can discuss with ease. More complex tenses and grammatical constructions will be introduced in contexts of music and literature as well as cultural topics. Students will continue growing in the skills of listening, reading, writing and speaking and intercultural communication at a Novice High toward Intermediate proficiency level. The course will be taught with a Christian context. Students who enroll in the College in the Schools section and successfully complete the course can earn four semester college credits for the first semester and three additional college credits for the second semester.

SPANISH 4 (CIS):

Grade 12 | 1 credit |Year Course |College Credit Option |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Spanish 3 with a C or higher.

Spanish 4 continues to build upon the language skills developed in earlier courses. This course provides the opportunity to discuss biblical and cultural themes and, especially, to read works written in Spanish. During second semester, the course studies and discusses selections from Spanish language literature in their various historical and cultural contests. Students read, write and discuss at an intermediate level. Students who enroll in the College in the Schools section and successfully complete the course can earn six upper-level college credits, three each semester.

THEOLOGY – Graduation Requirement: 4.0 credits

(A semester of Theology is required for each semester in attendance.)

Department Purpose

The mission statement of Mayer Lutheran High School is, "Preparing the Next Generation of Christian Leaders." The theology department sees its role in this mission to be primary. One of the main reason parents send their children to a Lutheran High School is to put their children in a place where they can grow in their faith in Jesus Christ. Theology classes are the most obvious place where this must occur. However, theology classes are not meant just to move students to a greater knowledge of their faith in Jesus Christ but also to grow in their capacity to put that faith in Jesus Christ into action. The theology curriculum at Mayer Lutheran High School has been structured in such a way as to provide not merely for the acquisition of theological knowledge but also for the acquisition of skills that will encourage them to be Christian leaders now and in the future according to the individual spiritual gifts each of them has been given and to do so in the context of their home, church (congregation) and society.

Department Rationale

The reality of the student body at Mayer Lutheran High School is that they enter Lutheran High with a variety of levels of Biblical literacy. It is important that from the beginning of their theological formation at MLHS students have a firm understanding of the content and purpose of the Scriptures. As it says in the Epitome of the Formula of Concord, "We believe, teach, and confess that the only rule and guiding principle according to which all teachings and teachers are to be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic writings of the Old and New Testaments alone." Since this alone is the place from which all authoritative doctrine is derived students must be grounded in the Scriptures. The first two years then of theological instruction at MLHS involves a thorough study of the Scriptures with the Freshmen studying the Old Testament and the Sophomores studying the New Testament.

Building upon the foundations of Scripture from their Freshmen and Sophomore years, students move towards understanding Biblical Christianity within the broader range of world religions. The Junior class is entitled "Comparative Religions." In this course, students first understand Lutheran theology which is grounded in the Scripture and the Confessions, the Scriptures being the norming norm for our understanding of the world, and the Confessions being the normed norm. With this foundation of Biblical theology, students compare the doctrines of other Christian denominations. Finally, students compare the tenants of Christianity with the other major world religions. Having now been grounded in both the Scriptures and proper doctrine, students in their Senior year move towards applying their faith to the broader world. This involves first learning the skill of Apologetics, namely defending their faith, by looking at the bigger questions that the world has for Christianity. The Seniors finally move towards applying their faith in the worldly realm in discussing the proper Ethics of a Christian. How should a Christian live in the world? How does a Christian broach a difficult topic? This is effectively the capstone of the whole theology program, providing students the ability to discuss difficult topics and apply their faith in a practical way.

Finally, there is also the curriculum in partnership with the curriculum. This curriculum includes the broader spiritual life activities of the campus: Chapel, Koinonia Groups, Service Projects and Mission Trips to name a few. The theology curriculum sees itself as the place that partners in preparing students to take the lead in the spiritual life of the campus and beyond. All three of these curricula work together towards the goal of graduating students that are prepared to be Christian leaders.

Sequence:

Grade 9: Old Testament
Grade 10: New Testament
Grade 11: Comparative Religions
Grade 12: Christian & Apologetics

OLD TESTAMENT:
Grade 9 | 1 Credit | Year-Long Course | NO College Credit

The presence of Law and Gospel are prominent in God's Word. Specifically, this class will focus on the presence of Christ in the Old Testament. This course reviews the chronological history of God's people, investigates themes found in the Old Testament and encourages an understanding of the student's leadership skills as rooted in the Word of God.

NEW TESTAMENT:
Grade 10 | 1 Credit | Year-Long Course | NO College Credit

This course is an introduction to the New Testament. In the first semester, students will gain a deeper understanding of the Gospel and what God has done for them through the teachings, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In the second semester, students study the history of the early Christian church as they investigate a survey of New Testament books. Emphasis is on Bible study, proclamation of the gospel message, and understanding church structure.

COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS:
Grade 11 | 1 Credit | Year-Long Course | No College Credit

This course will take an in-depth look at the fundamental doctrines of Lutheranism, through the *Book of Concord*, in comparison to other Christian denominations and the other four major World Religions (Judaism, Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism). Christian sects, as well as cults, will also be considered. [This course will seek to answer some of the deeper faith questions posed to Christians, equip students to live out a God-pleasing moral life, and prepare them with the knowledge necessary to give an answer for the faith that they have.]

CHRISTIAN ETHICS & APOLOGETICS:
Grade 12 | 1 Credit | Year-Long Course | No College Credit

The purpose of this course is to give students an introduction into the skill of defending the faith known as 'apologetics' while also examining the Scriptural, theological, and historical approaches to analyzing ethical decision-making from a Christian worldview. The first semester of the course will provide a theological foundation of the appropriate use of reason in matters of faith by looking at the large questions the world has for Christianity. The second semester discusses the ethical nature of topics facing the individual Christian as well as the Church.

SOCIAL STUDIES – Graduation Requirement: 3.5 credits

Department Purpose

The purpose of the Social Studies Department is to tell the history (His story) and the role that the Judeo-Christian faith played in the ancient and the modern world, to proclaim the fact that we are in the world and not of the world and that Christ has a purpose for us, and to reach out in faith to spread the gospel to those whom we meet.

Department Rationale

The Social Studies Department endeavors to put students in contact with a God-centered approach to its curriculum. The department wants to promote as well as challenge students to see the social sciences as a valuable part of their past, present, and future. Social studies are those disciplines that study interactions between people and their environment. Because the results of these interactions are not always positive or predictable, students need to practice the skills of cooperation, compromise, adaptation, conflict resolution, innovation, information gathering and human understanding. At the same time, students will learn the ways in which similar interactions have been dealt with in the past to better understand the present and to project the future. Finally, the Lutheran High School social studies curriculum will address the ways Christians can respond in these situations to an otherwise secular world.

Sequence:

Grade 9: Geography
Grade 10: US History, World History, AP US History, AP World History
Grade 11: US History, World History, AP US History, AP World History
Grade 12: AP US History, AP World History, Psychology, US Government, Macroeconomics

GEOGRAPHY:
Grade 9 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course introduces world geography with a focus on human geography, viewed through the biblical framework of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Students will examine the five themes of geography—location, place, region, human-environment interaction, and movement—to understand how people and cultures reflect both God's design and the effects of a fallen world. Emphasis will be placed on how human relationships, cultural development, and interactions with the environment reveal God's purposes for creation and humanity's calling as stewards of the earth. All freshmen are required to take this course.

WORLD HISTORY-ANCIENT:
Grade 10-11 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course will cover the history of the world from Creation through the Industrial Revolution. Emphasis will be placed on non-Western civilizations. Students will be able to describe the foundations of the modern world including the impact the major world religions have had on world history. Students will also learn about significant empires, and how these empires have influenced society throughout the rest of history. (Offered in 2027-2028.)

WORLD HISTORY-MODERN:
Grade 10-11 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course will cover the history of the world from the industrial revolution to the present. Students will demonstrate their understanding of the interaction of cultures and their continued impact on the modern world. Students will also learn about our ever-changing world and how past events have affected our current status as a nation. (Offered in 2027-2028.)

UNITED STATES HISTORY 1:
Grade 10-11 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course includes basic historical facts and periods in American history from the early colonization of America to the progressive movement. It is the study of the economic, political, and social changes that occurred in America from the organization of the English Colonies to the end of Reconstruction. The students will learn about the founding of our nation and how America was truly founded on Christian Principles. (Offered in 2026-2027.)

UNITED STATES HISTORY 2:
Grade 10-11 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course includes basic historical facts and periods in American history from the early 1900's to the present. It is the study of the economic, political, and social changes that occurred in America from the Roosevelt administration to the current administration. (Offered in 2026-2027.)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT:
Grade 12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course covers United States government at the national, state, and local levels, with an emphasis on the meaning and history of the United States Constitution. The U.S. Constitution and other primary sources will be used to discover how Christian Principles and the Founding Father's belief in God shaped the United States plan of government.

UNITED STATES HISTORY-ADVANCED PLACEMENT:
Grade 10-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | College Credit: Yes, with passing AP Test score | Weighted GPA

Prerequisite: A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and instructor approval.

This course will help students become familiar with historical facts and periods in United States history. An emphasis will be placed on understanding the causes, effects, and results of individual periods. Students will better understand the political, economic, and social situations today by studying the past. Higher level thinking skills will be stressed through reading, writing, and analyzing documents. This course specifically prepares students to take the AP U.S. History test in May. (Offered in 2026-2027.)

WORLD HISTORY – ADVANCED PLACEMENT:
Grade 10-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | College Credit: Yes, with passing AP Test score | Weighted GPA

Prerequisite: A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher and instructor approval.

Students will explore key themes of world history, including interaction with the environment, cultures, state-building, economic systems, and social structures, from approximately 8000 B.C.E. to the present. Students will also learn to apply historical thinking skills including the ability to craft arguments from evidence; describe, analyze and evaluate events from a chronological perspective; compare and contextualize historical developments; and analyze evidence, reasoning and context to construct and understand historical interpretations. This course specifically prepares a student to take the AP World History test in May. (Offered in 2027-2028.)

PSYCHOLOGY:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course is an introduction to the discipline of psychology, including the principles, methods, vocabulary, and major theories in the study of human behavior. Applications of psychology for life and ministry will be examined. Biblical teaching will be brought to bear on the subject matter to enable the student to develop a Christian perspective of psychology.

MACROECONOMICS:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

This course will deal with basic Macroeconomics theories such as scarcity, factors of production, trade-offs and opportunities costs, types of economic systems, market demand and supply curve, partnerships and corporations, and business consolidation.

MATHEMATICS – Graduation Requirement: 3 credits

Department Purpose

To be effective problem solvers of the 21st century, students need to understand mathematics. The purpose of the Mathematics Department is to support the development of each student as a problem solver and to provide them with enduring understandings in mathematics to be equipped to further God's kingdom and be Christian leaders in their community and world.

Department Rationale

Students must encounter problem situations that require reasoning, computation, and communication to enhance their mathematics preparation. To prepare each student for his or her role as an effective problem solver in an increasingly changing world, the Mathematics Program provides instruction in four essential content strands: Number and Operations, Algebraic Relationships, Geometric and Spatial Measurement, and Data Analysis and Probability. The mathematics curriculum is designed to enable students to be successful in college and in employment after leaving high school by helping them apply knowledge in different contexts, articulate their thinking, and efficiently use mathematical processes.

Sequence:

Grade 9: Pre-Algebra, Algebra, Geometry
Grade 10: Algebra, Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, Algebra 2, Applied Topics in Mathematics
Grade 11: Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, Algebra 2, Applied Topics in Mathematics, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus
Grade 12: Algebra 2, Applied Topics in Mathematics, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Calculus I, Consumer Math

Students interested in careers in Math, Math Education, or Engineering are encouraged to follow the course sequence below. This sequence primarily features courses offered by Mayer Lutheran and is supplemented by PSEO courses offered during their junior and senior years.

Engineering/Math Career Sequence:

Grade 9: Algebra, Geometry
Grade 10: Algebra, Geometry, Algebra 2, Applied Topics in Mathematics
Grade 11: Algebra 2, Applied Topics in Mathematics, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Calculus,
Grade 12: Applied Topics in Mathematics, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Calculus I,-Calculus II (online PSEO), Statistics (PSEO)

PRE-ALGEBRA:
Grade 9 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

An introductory course on basic math and algebra skills that are necessary for success in Algebra 1. Starting with a review of the four basic mathematical operations, this course covers: solving equations and inequalities, factorization, working with and applying fraction rules, simplifying exponents, understanding linear functions including graphing lines, simplifying polynomial expressions, and as time allows introductions to Geometry, Proportions and Probability. Students in Pre-Algebra learn about the order God built into his creation within the rules and formulas of Algebra.

ALGEBRA 1:
Grade 9-10 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra and/or qualifying performance on required Algebra Readiness Test.

This course is designed to emphasize the study of multiple representations of linear and non-linear functions. It includes mathematical concepts for working with rational numbers, various expressions, analyzing and solving linear equations and inequalities, data analysis, probability, statistics, and polynomials. Students in Algebra 1 learn about the order God built into his creation within the rules and formulas of Algebra.

GEOMETRY:
Grade 9-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra I or qualifying performance on required Algebra Mastery Test.

This course is designed to emphasize the study of the properties and applications of common geometric figures in two and three dimensions. It includes the study of transformations and right triangle trigonometry. Inductive and deductive thinking skills are used in problem solving situations, and applications to the real world are stressed. It also emphasizes writing proofs to solve (prove) properties of geometric figures. Through all of this, students will have opportunities to explore God's creative beauty in analyzing complex geometric figures.

CONSUMER MATH:
Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra 1

This course is designed in response to God's call for us to be stewards of Creation. It will expose students to a variety of real-life math issues, including banking, budgeting, paying taxes, taking out and paying off loans, buying a car or home, investments, saving for retirement, and other assorted topics. Students will have the opportunity to view each of these topics through the lens of Good Stewardship as they learn to participate in the world as good Christian Consumers.

INTERMEDIATE ALGEBRA 2:
Grade 11-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 and Geometry or teacher approval.

This course is designed to engage students at a level between Algebra 1 and Algebra 2. The course continues to develop Algebraic concepts that students need to master for college placement testing and for college math courses. Concepts are covered at a reduced pace and at a basic level. Topics covered include equation solving, factoring and solving quadratic functions, linear equations, rational expressions and equations, trigonometry, conic sections, and probabilities. Upon completion of the course students will be able to take Algebra 2 next. (This course is offered based on sufficient enrollment.)

ALGEBRA 2:
Grade 9-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Geometry.

An in-depth continuation of the materials studied in Algebra I with emphasis on the theoretical aspects of Algebra as it examines the real and complex number systems. As time allows, the course also touches on trigonometry, logarithms, and other advanced topics. Students in Algebra 2 learn about the order God built into his creation within the rules and formulas of Algebra.

APPLIED TOPICS IN MATHEMATICS
Grade 10-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II with a grade of C- or higher

This course is designed to meet the needs of aspiring students who have completed Algebra II. This course will provide students with an opportunity to grow in mathematics knowledge and foundational skills, preparing students to advance to College Algebra/Precalculus following this course. This course will also help students ponder their God-given vocation by exposing them to different mathematical career opportunities. In semester 1, the course will cover topics in functions, systems of linear equations, matrices, and probability and statistics. In semester 2, the course will cover the foundations and applications of trigonometry.

COLLEGE ALGEBRA (CIS)
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Must have passed Algebra II with a C or higher.

This course provides a short review of Algebra II, followed by a concise study of algebraic, polynomial, exponential and logarithmic functions and their graphs. Linear, quadratic and systems of equations are included, along with their applications. This course also offers students opportunities to view the ordered nature of God's creation. This course provides a foundation for students wishing to take Calculus. (3 college credits if taken as a College in the Classroom course.)

PRE-CALCULUS (CIS):
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Must have passed Algebra II and College Algebra with a C or higher or have instructor approval.

This course covers concepts that are foundational for calculus. Students will work with the unit circle to learn the trigonometric functions and their identities. These functions will be used to solve real-life functions and will be applied in analytic trigonometry. Students will also use trigonometric functions in the study of conic sections in analytic geometry. These functions will be used to gain an understanding of the ways in which mathematical equations can model predictable patterns found in God's ordered creation. Additional topics to be covered include probability, vectors, sequences, and series. Students will also gain an introductory understanding of limits. (3 college credits if taken as a College in the Classroom course.)

CALCULUS 1 (Part 1) (CIS)
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit Option |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Must have passed Pre-Calculus with a B- or higher.

This course is the first of a two-part series that covers Calculus I. Students must take both parts to get credit for the course. Following a review of limits, functions, and trigonometry, derivatives are studied in depth exploring linear, power, and implicit functions. Applications of the derivative are explored including related rates, rates of change, curve sketching, and optimization. Students will also be challenged to uncover new ways in which complex equations simplify to beautiful formulas. This will allow them opportunities to reflect on God's work to transform chaos into order. (2 college credits if taken as a College in the Classroom course.)

CALCULUS 1 (Part 2)
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Must have passed Pre-Calculus with a B- or higher.

This course is the second part in the two-part Calculus I series. It begins with an exploration of applications of the derivative as it pertains to curve sketching. Basic integration is also introduced including work with the definite integral. Students will also be challenged to uncover new ways in which complex equations simplify to beautiful formulas. This will allow them opportunities to reflect on God's work to transform chaos into order. (2 college credits if taken as a College in the Schools course).

SCIENCE – Graduation Requirement: 3 credits

Department Purpose
The Science and Reasoning Department supports the development of problem-solving skills, the integration of technology, and the accumulation of knowledge necessary for the students to be equipped to further God's kingdom and be Christian leaders.

Department Rationale
The science department at Lutheran High School is concerned with the development of a Creation worldview; God created the universe and established laws and truths to help us fulfill our role as caretakers of His creation. Science courses will incorporate basic science knowledge, problem solving strategies, inquiry-based activities, and diverse methodologies to prepare students for lives of stewardship and leadership.

Sequence:

Grade 9: Physics and Engineering
Grade 10: Biology or Honors Biology
Grade 11: Chemistry, College Physics, Advanced Biology – Anatomy & Physiology, Environmental Science, Everyday Chemistry, Astronomy and Meteorology
Grade 12: Chemistry, College Physics, Advanced Biology – Anatomy & Physiology, Environmental Science, Everyday Chemistry, Astronomy and Meteorology

Students interested in careers in engineering and the medical field may consider the sequences below for assistance in course selection. These sequences primarily feature classes taught at Mayer Lutheran and supplement with PSEO courses in the junior and senior years.

Pre -Engineering Sequence:

Grade 9: Physics and Engineering
Grade 10: Biology or Honors Biology
Grade 11: Chemistry, PSEO Python Programming
Grade 12: CIS Physics, and PSEO General Chemistry I

Pre -Medical Sequence:

Grade 9: Physics and Engineering
Grade 10: Honors Biology
Grade 11: Chemistry, PSEO Statistics
Grade 12: Anatomy and Physiology, and CIS Physics, or PSEO General Chemistry I

PHYSICS AND ENGINEERING:
Grade 9 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

This course is strongly recommended for all 9th grade students. The course is designed to prepare students for upper-level science classes in high school. Emphasis will be placed on developing laboratory skills and techniques, explaining physical phenomena, and applying mathematical formulas to physical systems. Engineering content will introduce basic CAD software and 3D printing. These engineering skills will be applied in our study of machines and engineering projects throughout the year. Physics topics will include energy, heat, waves, electromagnetic radiation, electricity, magnetism, and gas laws. Students will see how engineering can be a way to serve God and share Christ's love with others by using technology to improve their lives.

BIOLOGY:
Grade 10| 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Sophomores, juniors, and seniors must have completed Physics and Engineering to enroll in this course. Freshmen must test out of Algebra I and have instructor approval to skip Physics and Engineering.

Biology is a survey course of the life sciences where students will discuss topics such as the definition of life, cytology (the study of cells), genetics, taxonomy, organismal biology, and an introduction to human anatomy. Throughout the course, students will evaluate their role as stewards of the earth as they learn about the world that God has created for us. This course is intended for sophomore students taking their second year of science.

HONORS BIOLOGY:
Grade 10| 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Students must pass Physics and Engineering with a C- or better and complete the application into the honors course. Freshmen must test out of Algebra I and have instructor approval to skip Physics and Engineering.

Honors Biology will cover the same topics as Biology, but in further depth with a higher emphasis on memorization, application, and college preparation. This allows students to be challenged and grow in their vocation as a student, especially in the realm of science. If students intend to take Anatomy and Physiology, they should be in Honors Biology. If students aspire to a career in the medical field, they should enroll in Honors Biology with the intent to also enroll in Chemistry and Human Anatomy and Physiology in their junior and senior years.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Juniors and seniors must have passed Biology or Honors Biology or have taken Chemistry or Everyday Chemistry.

Environmental Science will investigate the environment and how it relates to organisms and to people. Some points of emphasis include but are not limited to water testing, soil sampling, and evaluating some issues in the world dealing with the environment including overpopulation, climate change, hunting, deforestation, pollution, and the like. This course is designed to equip students to both understand their place in the environment and consider their perspectives on some of the "hotter" topics dealing with the environment today. Students will be challenged to consider their role as stewards of the environment that God has created for us. (Offered in 2027-2028.)

EVERYDAY CHEMISTRY:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Passed Physics & Engineering and Biology or placement approved by instructor. Students should not take this course if they have passed Honors Biology or Chemistry with a C or higher or if you intend to take the regular Chemistry course.

Everyday Chemistry is an introductory course designed to cover the main concepts, skills, and applications of chemistry. Topics in this course include matter classification, atomic structure, chemical reactions, nuclear reactions, and applications of chemistry. Students will learn to separate and identify matter including elements and compounds as well as describe the composition of matter from a subatomic framework. Students will analyze chemical reactions to determine how chemical reactions form and break chemical bonds. Students will investigate conditions necessary for nuclear reactions and the types of radiation produced from these reactions. Students will also explore applications of chemistry in their lives and industry. This course includes numerous labs designed for students to practice accurate measurement, safety in working with chemicals, collect data, and analyze the results of the experiments through lab reports. These points of emphasis allow students to grow in their knowledge of the world and study the creation that God has created and the patterns He has left behind. (Offered in 2027-2028.)

CHEMISTRY:
Grade 10-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Must have received a C- or higher in Biology or Honors Biology and Algebra I. Or have instructor approval.

In chemistry students' study two fundamental questions of the universe: What is the structure and essence of all matter? And how does matter interact, react, and combine? This course studies the basic terms, theories, and applications of God's building blocks, the elements. The major topics include nomenclature, gas laws, periodic table, atomic structure, bonding, kinetics, acids and bases, and organic chemistry. This class is designed for the college-bound student; higher level thinking and problem solving are involved. During this course, students will learn and practice many standard laboratory techniques used by collegiate and professional labs. As students follow the development of chemistry over history, they will see how the Christian faith inspired scientists to seek out patterns and order in the world.

HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY:
Grade 11-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | NO College Credit

Prerequisite: Juniors and Seniors must have passed Biology or Honors Biology with a C or higher and Chemistry with a C or higher (or concurrent enrollment with permission from the science department faculty).

Human Anatomy and Physiology will be a mastery course detailing the structure and function of the body systems. Topics included are basics of anatomy, tissues, and the major body systems (integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, endocrine, cardiovascular, lymphatic, respiratory, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems). Memorization of vocabulary, body structures, and bodily

processes is a significant part of this course. **This course is intended to prepare students for Human Anatomy and Physiology in college, so students that intend to take further biology in college leading specifically to a medical field are recommended to take this course, along with honors biology and chemistry.** This class allows students to explore the complex design that God used as He created us.

ASTRONOMY AND METEOROLOGY:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | NO College Credit

Astronomy and Meteorology is a junior/senior elective science course. In the astronomy portion of the class students will learn about the structure of the solar system, the composition and life progression of stars, the structure of galaxies, and the technology that allows astronomers to study these distant objects. The class will prominently feature discussion on cosmology and evidence for creation. In the meteorology portion of the class students will learn about local and global weather patterns, measure atmospheric variables, and predict upcoming weather events. Many labs in this class have an engineering component where students will construct, calibrate, and use their own measuring devices to make observations. (Offered in 2026-2027).

COLLEGE PHYSICS (CIS):
Grade 11-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | College Credit |Weighted GPA if taken for college credit

Prerequisite: Students must have passed Chemistry and Algebra II with at least a C. Concurrent enrollment in College Algebra/Precalculus or Calculus is recommended.

This college-level algebra-based physics class will prepare students for future coursework and careers in science. The course will emphasis critical thinking, problem solving, and quantitative analysis. Topics covered will include vectors and dimensional analysis, kinematics, forces and

Newton's laws of motion, work and energy, impulse and momentum, gravitation, rotational and oscillatory motion, waves, and sound. Additional topics may include electrostatics and circuits, special relativity, and optics. Throughout the coursework students will encounter natural constants and discuss their connection to creation evidence. Laboratory investigations will include an in-depth analysis of physical situations. Students will use equations and models to make predictions about physical situations and explain outcomes.

Elective Courses – Elective Credit

FRESHMEN SEMINAR:
Grade 9 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Sequence:
Grade 9: Freshmen Seminar is taught in the first semester.

The Freshmen Seminar is designed to prepare students for success in high school and life through academic, personal, and spiritual growth. Grounded in the biblical themes of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration, this course helps students understand their God-given purpose, develop healthy relationships, and build habits that reflect Christian character and stewardship. Students will learn essential skills for studying, organization, time management, and effective communication while exploring how to approach challenges and growth from a Christ-centered perspective. Instruction in technology— including programs such as Teams, OneNote, MLHS Email, OneDrive, and PowerSchool—will equip students to use digital tools responsibly and ethically. Internet safety, integrity, and respectful online conduct are also emphasized. This course is required for all freshmen.

PERSONAL FINANCE
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course is based off the Five Foundations of Personal Finance taught by Dave Ramsey: Build an emergency fund, get and stay out of debt, pay cash for a car, pay cash for college, and build wealth so you can be generous. The course covers topics from basics of budgeting and how to save money, the impact of debt, considerations for choosing a college and major, to the role of insurance and how taxes impact your finances. All topics are considered from the viewpoint that God has given us all our resources and calls us to be good managers of them.

LEARNING LAB:
Grade 9-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: GPA of 2.25 or lower, Individualized Education Program (IEP), working under an academic plan, or formal request through resource teacher, classroom teacher and/or Principal.

Learning Lab is supervised by a teacher. The purpose of the class is to guide, support and encourage students to, despite challenges, reach their full potential God has designed for them and to believe what Psalm 139:14 states, "I praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." Students in grades 9-12 receive focused support for homework completion, testing, progress towards IEP and/or personal academic goals along with assistance with organization and time management. Class size is limited to 5.
Maximum of 1 credit per enrollment duration at Mayer Lutheran unless administrative approval is given to exceed the 1 credit. Pass/Fail Grading.

TECHNOLOGY – Graduation Requirement: 1 credit

Department Purpose

The Technology Department prepares students to use the tools of modern creation—computers, digital media, robotics, and engineering systems—in ways that honor God and serve their neighbors. By developing creativity, problem-solving, technical skill, and responsible digital citizenship, students become confident caretakers of God's creation and leaders equipped to impact an increasingly digital world.

Department Rationale

The Technology Department at Mayer Lutheran High School provides students with foundational and advanced experiences in computer science, engineering, digital media, and information technology. These courses help students understand, design, and apply technology through hands-on, project-based learning rooted in Christian stewardship.

Students gain practical skills used in college programs, technical trades, communication, business, and emerging technology fields. Coursework emphasizes creativity, logical reasoning, ethical decision-making, collaboration, and problem-solving. Whether students are building robots, designing 3D models, creating digital media, managing IT systems, or writing software, they learn to use technology with purpose, responsibility, and excellence. Through these experiences, students develop the confidence and discernment necessary to make wise, Christ-centered decisions in their vocations, communities, and daily lives.

MICROSOFT OFFICE

Grades 9–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course introduces students to essential productivity skills using the Microsoft Office suite. Students develop proficiency in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, focusing on document formatting, data organization, formulas, charts, and professional presentations. Additional topics include file management, cloud storage, computer care, and responsible digital citizenship.

Students may enroll in either Microsoft Office or Honors Microsoft Office. These courses are scheduled concurrently.

HONORS MICROSOFT OFFICE

Grades 9–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Strong academic standing or instructor approval.

Honors Microsoft Office expands upon the standard curriculum by adding Microsoft Outlook and database fundamentals using Microsoft Access. Students complete advanced projects emphasizing professional communication, workflow efficiency, database design, queries, and reporting.

Students may enroll in either Microsoft Office or Honors Microsoft Office. These courses are scheduled concurrently.

CREATIVE DIGITAL MEDIA

Grades 10–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course combines photography, video production, and multimedia storytelling to help students become effective digital creators. Students learn to capture, edit, and present visual content using modern tools and workflows. Topics include photography composition, lighting, image editing, video shooting techniques, video editing, audio integration, and visual storytelling.
Students will design and build a personal digital portfolio website to showcase their best photo, video, and multimedia projects.

DIGITAL MEDIA STUDIO

Grades 11–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Creative Digital Media, Digital Photography, Multimedia Presentations, and instructor approval.

This advanced course allows students to refine photography, video, and multimedia skills in a studio-style environment under the direction of Mr. McClintock and Mr. Bode. Students work on independent and collaborative media projects while applying professional workflows.
A major emphasis is placed on curating and refining a professional digital portfolio website, along with developing collaboration, communication, and time-management skills.

TOPICS IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Grades 11–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course provides a broad, hands-on survey of modern computer science and technology concepts. Through project-based learning, students explore multiple disciplines to gain exposure before pursuing more specialized coursework.
Topics include:

- Electronic circuits and sensors
- Microcontroller programming
- Introductory robotics concepts
- Web design and basic animation
- Training and using AI models responsibly

- Computer hardware, operating systems, and virtualization
- Ethical use of technology, privacy, and cybersecurity
- Networking fundamentals

CAD & DIGITAL DESIGN (ONSHAPE)
Grades 10–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Instructor approval required.

Students learn Computer-Aided Design (CAD) using Onshape, a cloud-based 3D modeling platform. Topics include sketching, constraints, part modeling, assemblies, mates, technical drawings, and design for 3D printing or engineering applications.

PROGRAMMING 1
Grades 9–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit
Scheduled concurrently with AP Computer Science Principles.

Prerequisite: Instructor approval required for Grade 9 enrollment.

Programming 1 introduces students to foundational programming and computational thinking in a beginner-friendly environment. Students learn to design algorithms, write programs, and solve problems logically.
Topics include variables, conditionals, loops, functions, and basic program structure.

Summer Option- Programming 1 may be offered as a summer course for students looking to also do AP Computer Science. Additional cost applies.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES
Grades 10–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit Possible | Weighted GPA
Scheduled concurrently with Programming 1.

This course introduces computer science concepts aligned with the AP Computer Science Principles framework. Students explore programming, data, algorithms, the internet, cybersecurity, and the societal impact of computing through hands-on projects.

AP Exam Preparation Expectations

- Fall Semester: Students complete 10–20 hours of guided AP exam preparation during the spring semester.
- Spring Semester: Students are encouraged to take the AP exam the following year, completing 10–20 hours of preparation during the spring of the exam year.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A (JAVA) – SEMESTER 1
Grades 11–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit Possible | Weighted GPA

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science Principles or instructor approval.

Students begin preparation for the AP Computer Science A exam using Java. Topics include classes, objects, methods, constructors, control structures, arrays, and algorithmic problem solving.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A (JAVA) – SEMESTER 2
Grades 11–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | College Credit Possible |Weighted GPA

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science A (Java) – Semester 1
Students complete the AP CSA curriculum with inheritance, recursion, interfaces, 2D arrays, and searching and sorting algorithms. A capstone project reinforces object-oriented design and problem-solving skills.

IT TEAM INTERNSHIP
Grades 11–12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course

Prerequisite: Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 and/or instructor approval.

Students serve on the Mayer Lutheran High School IT Team under the direction of the Technology Coordinator. Responsibilities include troubleshooting, system setup, documentation, and technical support. Students maintain logs and documentation of completed work.

SHOP - Elective credit

Sequence:
Woodworking I, Woodworking II, Woodworking III

WOODWORKING I:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course is designed to enable the student to learn the safe and proper operation of hand and power tools generally associated with woodworking shops. Each student will have the opportunity to use each of the power tools in the shop in a safe and efficient manner. Through the construction of a variety of projects, the student will come to understand and appreciate the planning, construction, and finishing of items made from a variety of hard and soft woods.

WOODWORKING II:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Woodworking I.
The goal of the course is to enable the student to further his/her knowledge of woodworking. Students in Woodworking II will be required to select projects that will challenge them to do their finest work with an emphasis on projects involving a great deal of detail and needing very careful construction and assembly. Students will explore various techniques used to construct projects in the fields of cabinetry and small building construction. Work in this class will include independent work and a portion of the student's grade will be determined by their work ethic in class.

WOODWORKING III:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Woodworking I, Woodworking II, instructor approval.

Woodworking III is designed for students who are interested in independently working on more advanced woodworking projects. Students will research, plan, construct, and finish projects with the approval of the instructor. This class will help prepare students who are interested in pursuing a career in the construction industry.

FINE ARTS (MUSIC & VISUAL ARTS) – Graduation Requirement: 1 Credit

MUSIC

Department Purpose

One of God's most precious gifts to mankind is the gift of music. It exhilarates us on life's highest mountaintops and uplifts us in life's lowest valleys. It connects us to our deepest inner thoughts and feelings, to each other, and, most importantly, to our God. We at Mayer believe that a well-rounded education includes such connections and thus appreciate the importance of music in life and in school. We make music here at Mayer to entertain, to deepen our cultural understanding and appreciation, and to praise and worship our God for sending his Son to save us.

Department Rationale

Music is a gift of God. It is a special blessing because He asks His creatures to use that gift to praise His Holy Name. (Psalm 95; 96; 98; 150) The study of music allows us to develop aesthetic sensitivity, critical thinking skills, self-expression, and creativity. In music, people find freedom and means to express their most personal thoughts and emotions. This expression is vital to our emotional growth and health as well as contributing to our spiritual wellbeing.

Sequence:

Can be taken at any time. Students with vocal and instrumental gifts are encouraged

---

GUITAR CLASS: Not currently offered.
Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

No previous guitar experience is required. This is an elective course for beginning guitarists with no experience of the instrument. Students will learn open chords, movable chords, single note (melody) playing, and accompaniment techniques. The course also includes music fundamentals, theory, songs, performances, listening, improvising, and learning to read standard music notation as well as tablature.

CONCERT CHOIR:
Grade 9-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Pass an audition with the choir director.

Concert Choir members perform in three concerts a year and graduation. This course seeks to develop good vocal technique and musicianship skills. Repertoire for Concert Choir ranges from traditional choral literature to contemporary arrangements. This gives each student a chance to be exposed to different styles of music.
Basis for Student Success: Participation in daily rehearsals and three required concerts. Basic part-singing skills in small and large group settings, and basic note-reading skills.
(Can be taken as a semester course, earning .5 credit **with director approval**.)

WIND ENSEMBLE:
Grade 9-12 | 1 Credit | Year-long Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Pass an audition with the band director or reasonable ability on your instrument.

A performance-oriented course that uses the God-given talents of young musicians to praise God through music.

Musicians will study performance techniques including basic theory, intonation, scales, tone, rhythm, balance and interpretation. Musicians will develop skills necessary to continue instrument performance/study after high school. Musicians will perform at least three major concerts a year in addition to various church services, pep band, and contest/festival performances. Wind Ensemble members also share their God-given abilities with audiences across America on biannual musical tours. (Can be taken as a semester course, earning .5 credit.)

VISUAL ARTS

Department Purpose

The Visual Arts Department supports the development of creative problem-solving skills while observing God's creation through an artist's eye. Intentionally supporting the school's mission by nurturing skillful artists, ready to impact the world for Christ, while establishing a life-long appreciation for the arts.

Department Rationale

Artistic Foundations

The art program emphasizes the skills of observing and drawing, visual thinking, creativity, skill development, problem solving, persistence, personal expression, and critical analysis. Learning to take informed risks and being inventive in making images and objects are central to the program. Students will be able to recognize and become successful at using the elements of art and principles of design in their work. Fundamental and advanced levels of design, drawing, painting, ceramics, sculpture, art history, and contemporary art are pillars of the curriculum. Students will work through a wide variety of mediums

Classroom (create or make)

The classroom is where students are strongly encouraged to learn technique, tackle the creative process head-on, take risks, foster self-knowledge, and grow as artists. Through in-depth classroom instruction by an artist-teacher, students are exposed to the fundamentals of technique, encouraged to fully explore these elements in a personal way, and to reflect on their work as well as the work of others. In other words, the classroom is the foundation for students for building their technique and approach to their work, as well as developing a deeper understanding of the process.

Exhibition (present)

Public art exhibitions are a vital part of the creative process, and all artists need to experience a public aspect of sharing their work. There are several opportunities throughout the year for students to demonstrate their skills whether it be in the classroom, at a school sponsored art exhibit, a juried art show, or at an art gallery. The focus of exhibition is to create a dialogue and enhance the connection between artists and their audience.

Critique (respond or critique)

Reflection and critique deepen our knowledge of who we are as artists and God's children. Reflection is built into the daily classroom instruction. The creative process is on-going, never ending, and not an end in and of itself. Each experience builds on the last and propels an artist's work into the future. Teacher and student-led critique sessions are incorporated into each class to celebrate successes as well as shed light on what can make future projects better. This process results in a determination to continue to explore, deepen students' understanding, encourage constructive critique and respond to that critique, and courage to pursue their individual voice.

FUNDAMENTALS OF ART:
Grade 9-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course is designed to enhance the enjoyment of visual arts by studying the elements of art and principles of design while working with a wide variety of materials to create works of art. A short survey of art history, art movements, and artist's styles is incorporated into the course to deepen the understanding of art's role in daily life.

CERAMICS I:
Grade 9-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Students will learn to make pots by a variety of methods. Basic glazing techniques and a historical overview of ceramics are also part of the course. Emphasis is on making well-designed, well-crafted pots, both by hand and on the wheel. Assignments provide a great deal of latitude for creativity.

DRAWING:
Grade 9-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Students will enhance their ability to draw, through observation and practice, with line, value, texture, perspective, volume, detail, composition, and the relationship of individual elements.

CERAMICS II:
Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Ceramics I.

Explore new ways to construct works of art from clay. Enhance skills developed in Ceramics 1, learn casting, figure sculpture, glazing techniques, and advanced work on the wheel. Much of the semester is spent working independently (with teacher instruction/demonstration) on individually chosen projects.

PAINTING:
Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Drawing.

Students apply color and design theory to expressive communication on canvas. Subjects for paintings include still life, landscape, figure, and abstraction. The class also studies major movements in art and standards for evaluating paintings.

SCULPTURE:
Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: At least one of the following classes - Drawing or Ceramics 1.

A study of the basic additive and subtractive methods of creating three-dimensional forms. Students work with wire, clay, wood, plaster, and other materials to create pieces, which reflect proficiency with the materials and understanding of aesthetics. (Offered in 2026-2027.)

STUDIO ART:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Students are encouraged to wait until their senior year.

Prerequisite: Two previous art courses demonstrated expertise and interest, and art teacher's approval.

This is a course for students who wish to do advanced work in an area of art of their choosing. Students complete a written project proposal for each work of art. Students may receive tutoring from the instructor, other students, artists outside the classroom, and the internet. Students may choose to spend the entire semester in one medium or may try several media. Each student will create a portfolio of their work in one area of art. The student may choose to create a 2-D Design, 3-D Design, Drawing, or Painting portfolio. The portfolio will be graded on quality of work, mastery of design, concept, concentration (a body of work that is unified by an underlying idea that has visual coherence), and breadth (works demonstrating a variety of design principles or drawing/painting techniques).

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH – Graduation Requirement: 1.5 credits

(including one semester of Health)

Department Purpose

Physical education courses will provide lifetime learning opportunities that benefit all students. The content will stress the knowledge, skills, and develop the confidence students need to maintain meaningful physical activity throughout their lifetime.

Department Rationale

Physical education involves not only learning about physical fitness and lifetime recreation activities, but also the development and use of skills and proficiencies for participation in a variety of those activities. As Christians, we recognize that our bodies are gifts from God. Therefore, the physical education curriculum emphasizes care for our bodies through instruction related to nutrition and exercise. Social and emotional skills are taught in close interaction between classmates. Knowledge of the benefits of physical activity is applied resulting in healthy lifestyles. Physical education supports the philosophy of providing challenging learning opportunities which strive for excellence and to prepare the next generation of Christian leaders. Fitness classes will provide the foundation for physical fitness. These classes will provide a variety of different anaerobic and aerobic conditioning activities to teach students the importance of fitness. These classes will also analyze their eating habits and how they relate to their fitness performance. Activity classes will provide students with the opportunity to explore a variety of physical activities in search of ones they enjoy and would choose to participate in for a lifetime.

HEALTH:

Grade 9-10 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

The emphasis and goal of this required class is for students to recognize and practice safe health habits. A wide variety of health topics are taught starting with mental health and self-esteem. A study of Erickson's stages of growth from birth to old age with an emphasis on adolescence helps students cope with the normal ups and downs of teenage life. Problems and diseases associated with body systems are studied. Learning about the components of physical fitness as opposed to physical skills (along with a fitness test), help students recognize their individual fitness level and help them start to think about and plan for becoming fit and remaining fit for a lifetime. The dangers and problems connected with substance abuse are taught with the goal of students making God-pleasing choices that will affect their body now and in the future. Proper nutrition from all the basic food groups rounds out education of the three basic health habits of getting proper rest, exercise, and eating right. If time permits, basic first-aid instruction will be covered.

FITNESS FOR LIFE:

Grade 9-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This course will be held every other day and will consist of anaerobic and aerobic activities. Students will recognize the value of physical activity through the social, mental/emotional, physical and spiritual domains. It is important that everyone acknowledge that God has made each person individually and that all are given one unique body. Students will learn to care for their bodies. Students will learn strength – training protocols that will enhance their strength, power, speed, agility and body composition. Wellness concepts such as rest and recovery and nutritional principles that will boost performance will also be addressed. Proper and safe ways to exercise will be addressed immediately. The emphasis in Fitness For Life is on a variety of activities while incorporating cardiovascular, strength, and flexibility concepts. Students enrolled in FFL will engage in a variety of sports-based activities every other day of the week including, but not limited to, pickleball, basketball, volleyball, floor hockey, soccer, flag football, and tag/ball games.

COED 1:

Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This PE class helps students learn more about recreational activities, games and sports that can be done throughout life. Most of these units will be individual and dual activities. The activities in this class could include archery, badminton, bocce ball, bowling, croquet, Frisbee golf, golf, pickleball, shuffleboard, darts, and ping-pong. A basic unit involves an in-depth study of the history, background, teaching skills, and game strategy followed by competitive games and tournaments. A written test and skills test complete the unit. Daily points for participation are awarded based on sportsmanship, activity involvement, attitude, and respect for others. This class may be repeated.

COED 2:

Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This PE class helps students learn more about team sports and fundamental skills. Most of these units will emphasize team sports and team activities. Basic skills are taught for skill improvement and testing to gain a fuller experience and appreciation of the activity. Team play will comprise the main time, which builds on cooperation, playing by the rules, good sportsmanship, positive interaction, support of teammates and treating opponents with respect. The activities in this class will be speedball, soccer, volleyball, basketball, floor hockey, softball, track and field, and

ultimate Frisbee. A written test and skills test complete the unit. Daily points for participation are awarded based on sportsmanship, activity involvement, attitude, and respect for others. This class may be repeated.

ADVANCED PE:
Grade 10-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

This class is designed for students to improve their power, strength, and quickness. Students begin by establishing a personal weight-lifting program. The three core lifts (bench, squat, and clean) are mandatory lifts. Auxiliary lifts are built into the program; three days a week will be core lifting and two days a week will be plyometric training and conditioning. Mayer LHS offers an excellent weight-room facility with lots of free weights and lifting stations. In addition, a full line of nautilus equipment is available as students' progress through an increasing program. This class may be repeated as students increase their goals in their training program.

PRINCIPLES OF ATHLETIC TRAINING:
Grade 11-12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: Students taking this course should have taken Biology already.

Students going into the medical field, teaching and/or coaching should consider taking this course. This upper-level class will be of interest to those that have an interest in the teaching and coaching field and/or the medical field; physical therapy, athletic training, nursing, doctor and/or sports medicine. The course is designed to lead students from general foundations to specific concepts related to injury prevention, evaluation, management and rehabilitation. A wide variety of sports medicine topics will be the target starting with the history of athletic training. Other topics that are covered include: nutritional considerations, drugs and sports, first-aid emergency procedures, psychology of sports, injury/illness and there will be a hands-on unit in bandaging and taping.

PSEO AND ONLINE COURSES:

Mayer Lutheran offers independent study in two categories:
Category 1: for high school credit
Category 2: for dual credit, high school and college, via PSEO courses taken online or on the college campus.

Category 1: 1/2 credit. Semester/Grade 10-12.
Additional credits may be earned through outside curriculum providers. *This requires the approval of the principal and guidance counselor.*

Category 2: 1/2 credit. Semester/Grade 11-12.

Prerequisites: Vary by college. Contact the Guidance Counselor for more information. Mayer Lutheran works with University of Northwestern (St. Paul) and Crown College (St. Bonifacius). Other colleges offering PSEO can be used; and requests to do so are made to the Guidance Counselor.

These classes are taken either online at Mayer Lutheran High School or on the college campus under the supervision of a Mayer Lutheran teacher.

- Juniors are limited to one PSEO course in their first semester of taking online college courses. With demonstrated success, juniors can take two PSEO courses in their second semester.
- Seniors who have demonstrated success in online PSEO classes can take two courses in a semester.
    - *Exceeding this number requires that the course be outside the scope of courses offered at Mayer Lutheran High School and the approval of the principal.*

STUDENT/TEACHER-STAFF ASSISTANCE OPTIONS – Graduation Requirement: Elective credit

CLERICAL ASSISTANT:
Grade 12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: GPA of 3.3 or higher and/or administrative approval.

An office assistant works in the office one period per day assisting the office personnel in attendance, duplicating, filing, assembly, and the like. Under normal conditions, this is not a study period, although at times some studying may be done. Applications should be made through the Guidance Counselor, and the principal must give approval. Maximum of 1 credit per enrollment duration at Mayer Lutheran. Pass/Fail grading.

TEACHER'S ASSISTANT:
Grade 12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: GPA of 3.3 or higher and/or administrative approval, student in good standing and permission of a teacher.

An aide is assigned for one period and works under teacher supervision. Maximum of 1 credit per enrollment duration at Mayer Lutheran. Pass/Fail grading.

KITCHEN ASSISTANT:
Grade 12 | .5 Credit | Semester Course | No College Credit

Prerequisite: GPA of 2.5 or higher and/or administrative approval, student in good standing.

A Kitchen Assistant performs tasks that facilitate the school's lunch program Maximum of 1 credit per enrollment duration at Mayer Lutheran. Pass/Fail grading.