



Owensboro Catholic High School

Program of Studies

2011-2012

Table of Contents

General Information..... 2

Diplomas offered 3

Freshman Program of Studies..... 5

Freshman Course Descriptions 6

MISSION STATEMENT

The Owensboro Catholic Schools share in the mission of the Church, in cooperation with families, to provide a religious and academic education which prepares students to become responsible members of family, Church, and community.

PHILOSOPHY

We, at Owensboro Catholic High School, believe that each person is sacred and individual, and both called and destined by God for continued growth of all his or her faculties, abilities and awarenesses, both spiritual and material.

We believe, therefore, that it is the primary responsibility of the school to create a truly Catholic environment in which each student is afforded the opportunity to become aware of his or her own worth and be inspired to seek fulfillment in all levels of his or her existence.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Within the broad limits of state requirements, this Program of Studies, as a guiding instrument, is to be as flexible as may be necessary in attempting to meet the needs of every student. The several curricula are set up as guides for a wide selection of learning experiences, not as narrow, restricted lanes or tracts of study.

From the time each student enters high school, every effort is made to discover his interests, aptitudes, and abilities--for wise program planning and adjustments in order to meet graduation requirements and life goals.

All students will be required to carry a normal load of at least seven credits each semester. Exceptions to this policy require approval from the principal.

Grading scale:

A	93 - 100
B	85 - 92
C	77 - 84
D	70 - 76
F	0 - 69

Point scale for calculating Grade Point Average (GPA):

NOTE: GPA is calculated on semester grades only

A	4.0
B	3.0
C	2.0
D	1.0
F	0.0

Honor Roll points and Quality points granted for each level:

NOTE: Honor Roll is calculated on quarter grades only.

Quality points are calculated on semester grades only and are used to determine rank in class.

	LEVEL 0	LEVEL I	LEVEL II	LEVEL III
A:	7	6	5	4
B:	6	5	4	3
C:	5	4	3	2
D:	4	3	2	1
F:	0	0	0	0

DIPLOMAS

Owensboro Catholic High offers three levels of diplomas: the Standard High School Diploma, the College Preparatory Curriculum Diploma, and the Honors Curriculum Diploma. Below are listed the minimum requirements for each.

STANDARD HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

Religion	4
English 9, 10, 11, 12, all Reg	4
Math (Alg I A, Alg I B, Geom, Alg II, all Reg)	4
Science (Int Sci I & II, III)	3
Social Studies (Govt, Econ, US Hst, Wld Civ)	3
Fine Arts (Music, Art Appreciation)	1
Health & PE	1
Computer Basics	1/2
Personal Enrichment	1/2
Total including electives:	26

COLLEGE PREPARATORY CURRICULUM DIPLOMA

This diploma's requirements satisfy Kentucky's Pre-College Curriculum, which is the minimum required for admission to any state-supported four-year college in Kentucky. The colleges are each free to impose additional requirements, and most do have some additional coursework, GPA, or ACT requirements of their own.

Religion	4
English 9, 10, 11, 12; all CP	4
Math (Alg I A CP, Alg I B CP, Geom CP & Alg II CP)	4
Science (IPS CP, Bio CP, Chem CP)	3
Social Studies (Govt CP, Econ CP, US Hst CP, Wld Civ CP)	3
Fine Arts (Humanities or Music, Art Appreciation)	1
Health & PE	1
Computer Basics	1/2
Personal Enrichment	1/2
Foreign Language (both years of same language)	2
Total including electives:	26

Recommended additional coursework:

An additional year of science and social studies.

HONORS CURRICULUM DIPLOMA

This diploma is Owensboro Catholic's very best preparation for college, provided the student is capable of the coursework.

Religion	4
English 9, 10, 11, 12; all Honors	4
Math (Alg I Hon, Geom Hon, Alg II Hon all required; one other math course)	4
Science (IPS Hon, Bio Hon, Chem Hon)	3
Social Studies (Govt Hon, Econ Hon, US Hst Hon, Wld Civ Hon)	3
Humanities	1
Health & PE	1
Foreign Language (Honors level only and both years of the same language)	2
Computer Basics	1/2
Personal Enrichment	1/2
Total including electives and no sem failures	29

THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND COMMONWEALTH DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

Advanced Placement (AP) is a national program whereby a student may take an AP course in high school and then take an AP test over the material covered in that class. If the student achieves a specified score on the test, he or she may transfer college credit to specific colleges. The cost per test is \$100.00. OCHS offers the following AP courses:

CLASS	TEST
English 12 AP	English Lit and Comp
Calculus AP	Calculus AB
US History AP	American History
General Biology AP	Biology
French AP	French Language
Spanish AP	Spanish Language

The Commonwealth Diploma is a Kentucky state diploma that requires that a student fulfill the following.

1. Successfully complete at least 22 approved credits, including all of the requirements for high school graduation.
 2. Successfully complete the requirements of Kentucky's Minimum Pre-College Curriculum.
 3. Successfully complete at least four AP courses (receive a grade of C or better in each course).
 - a. English AP
 - b. Spanish AP or French AP
 - c. Biology AP or Calculus AP
 - d. One additional AP course
 4. Complete examinations in at least three of the four required AP courses.
- The student is required to pay the cost of the AP exams involved, which is \$100.00 per test.

OWENSBORO CATHOLIC HIGH FRESHMAN PROGRAM OF STUDIES

REQUIRED COURSES

1. INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLICISM
2. HEALTH & PE
3. ENGLISH
 - A. English 9 Regular
 - B. English 9 CP
 - C. English 9 Honors
4. MATH
 - A. Algebra I A Regular
 - B. Algebra I A CP
 - C. Algebra I Honors
 - D. Geometry Honors (only for those who had Algebra for high school credit and a “B” average in 8th grade Algebra I)
5. SCIENCE
 - A. Integrated Science
 - B. IPS CP
 - C. IPS Honors
6. FOREIGN LANGUAGE
 - A. French I Hon
 - B. French II Hon (only for those who had French I for high school credit and a “B” average)
 - C. Spanish I CP
 - D. Spanish I Honors
 - E. Spanish II Hon (only for those who had Spanish I for high school credit and a “B” average)
7. COMPUTER BASICS (1 semester)
8. PERSONAL ENRICHMENT (1 semester)
9. ELECTIVES - *choose 1 and 1 alternate*

<u>LEVEL I</u>	<u>LEVEL II</u>
Geography Hon	Agriscience
Band	Band
	Business Principles
	Choral Music
	General Art
	Geography CP
	Life Skills

NOTE: **teachers' signatures required** (in ink) for all English, math, science, foreign language, and social studies classes.

FRESHMAN COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

INTRODUCTION TO CATHOLICISM 610 (9) level II, one year

This comprehensive introduction to the Catholic faith explains in a thorough and straightforward manner what it means to be a Catholic. This course takes an enthusiastic look at issues concerning: The Church, Prayer, holiness, The Trinity, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Sacred Scripture, The Ten Commandments, The Sacraments, and much more. This course boldly addresses issues relevant to young people and offers a realistic synopsis of how the Faith can and should be practiced in the modern world.

HEALTH & PE 751 (9) level II, one year

Health will acquaint students with healthful living to assist young adults making decisions regarding health practices. Students will learn basic First Aid and CPR. Physical Education will emphasize the importance of fitness being a lifelong commitment by teaching physical fitness through daily exercise with the Fit for Life program.

ENGLISH 9 REGULAR 010 (9) level III, one year

This course is required for that student whose entrance scores show that he is below grade level in reading and language meaning, reading speed, recall, and comprehension. It involves strengthening literary skills, vocabulary skills, speaking and writing abilities, comprehension and critical thinking.

ENGLISH 9 CP 011 (9) level II, one year

This course deals with literature (short story, poetry, novel, nonfiction, drama, prose works), composition, grammar--with extra concentration given to the basics of grammar. A unit on library skills and study skills will be included.

ENGLISH 9 HONORS 012 (9) level I, one year

This course deals with literature, composition, and grammar, as does the level II English. But here, more concentration is on composition. This course also includes a more in-depth study of grammar and literature. This class will progress at the fastest pace of the three freshman English classes. It is strongly recommended that students going into this class have good preparation in grammar and good study habits.

Prerequisite: recommendation of the eighth grade English teacher.

ALGEBRA I A REGULAR 110 (9) level III, one year

This course is designed for the student who has great difficulty in math. It is the first part of a two-part Algebra I series. It is an elementary approach to algebraic concepts. Topics include linear equations, inequalities, functions, non-linear functions, proportional reasoning, sequences, and probability.

ALGEBRA I A CP 111 (9) level II, one year

This course is designed for the college-bound student with average mathematical ability. It is the first part of a two-part Algebra I series. Topics include linear equations, inequalities, functions, non-linear functions, proportional reasoning, sequences and probability.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Pre-Algebra.

ALGEBRA I HONORS 112 (9)**level I, one year**

This course is designed for the college-bound student with self-motivation and high mathematical ability. Topics include linear equations, inequalities, functions, non-linear functions, proportional reasoning, sequences, and probability.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Pre-Algebra with an "A" or "B" average.

GEOMETRY HONORS 122 (9,10)**level I, one year**

This course is designed for the college-bound student with self-motivation and high mathematical ability. It is a formal approach to geometric concepts, with an emphasis on formal proofs. Topics include general relationships, triangular relationships, quadrilateral relationships, other polygons and circles, congruence and similarity, measurements, coordinate geometry and transformations.

Prerequisite: successful completion of Algebra I Honors with an "A" or "B" average.

INTEGRATED SCIENCE 230 (9, 10, 11)**level III, one year**

This course covers material that will help the student to better understand the composition and function of all living things. Units on such topics as AIDS, blood, animal reproduction (human), and organic gardening are used to stimulate interest. Laboratory experiences are used where appropriate.

Prerequisite: the recommendation of the middle school and/or freshman science instructor.

INTRO TO PHYSICAL SCIENCE CP 211 (9)**level II, one year**

This course is designed to give the student a basic understanding of science concepts that include: Measurements, Motion, Energy, Forces, Machines, and Chemistry. This class will also include laboratory activities to reinforce these science concepts in which laboratory techniques and safety will be taught. Many of the concepts will include the use of basic mathematical processes used in Algebra.

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra and the recommendation of the middle school science teacher and /or science departmental approval.

INTRO TO PHYSICAL SCIENCE HON 212 (9)**level I, one year**

This course is designed to give the student a basic understanding of science concepts that include: Measurements, Motion, Energy, Forces, Machines, and Chemistry. This class will also include laboratory activities to reinforce these science concepts in which laboratory techniques and safety will be taught. Many of the concepts will include the use of basic mathematical processes used in Algebra.

Prerequisite: **Algebra I during the 8th grade or Algebra I Honors taken concurrently** and above average assessment in middle school science and math courses and a recommendation from the middle school science teacher and/or science departmental approval.

FRENCH I HONORS 412 (9, 10, 11, 12)**level I, one year**

This level I course introduces the student to the French language and culture. The four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in French are presented. Many aspects of French customs and culture, compared to those of our own, are explored. In addition to being open to students who choose French to meet their graduation requirement, the class also welcomes those who would like to experience a second foreign language as an elective, provided space is available.

Prerequisite: minimum grades of "B" in level I English, "B+" in level II English, a good background in grammar; or, successful completion of a first foreign language requirement. Note: Students must pass the first semester of the course in order to continue the second semester.

FRENCH II HONORS 422 (9, 10, 11, 12)**level I, one year**

The French II course builds upon the foundation achieved by the student in French I. The focus is on expanding vocabulary, intermediate grammar and an increased ability to communicate in both writing and speaking. The culture and customs of French-speaking countries is an integral part of the course.

Prerequisite: recommendation of French I teacher and a final grade of “B” or better, having passed both semesters of the course.

SPANISH I CP 410 (9, 10, 11, 12)

level II, one year

This level II class is designed for students who want to fulfill the minimum requirement for admission to a Kentucky public college or university. It introduces the student to the Spanish language and the customs of countries where it is spoken. The four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing in Spanish are presented. The CP level course covers the same material as the Honors class, but at a slower pace. The CP label in no way indicates lack of rigor or lessening of the student's need to accept responsibility for his/her own learning. All students must expect to invest a minimum amount of time outside of class to be successful in any foreign language.

Prerequisite: minimum grades of “C” in English with a solid understanding of grammar; freshmen must also have the signature of their 8th grade teacher. Note: Students must pass the first semester of the course in order to continue the second semester.

SPANISH I HONORS 411 (9, 10, 11, 12)

level I, one year

This level I course introduces the student to the Spanish language and customs of countries where it is spoken. The four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in Spanish are presented. The goal is for the student to obtain an equal degree of success in each of these areas, upon which he or she can improve at the Spanish II, III and AP levels. Therefore, students are expected to be self-motivated and above average in work ethic and responsibility. Seniors may not take the first year class without special permission of the teacher.

Prerequisite: minimum grades of “B” in level I English or “B+” in level II English, both with a good background in grammar. Note: the foreign language department makes no grade adjustment when students drop from level I to level II mid-course.

SPANISH II HONORS 421 (9, 10, 11, 12)

level I, one year

Based on the Spanish I course, this is a continuation of the development of Spanish language skills, but with an equal emphasis on listening comprehension, reading, speaking, and composition. The culture, customs, and history of Spanish-speaking world will be covered through appropriate reading material. Since this class is more in-depth and will progress at a faster pace than the CP level course, students taking this class will need good study habits and a strong background from Spanish I Honors.

Prerequisite: recommendation of Spanish I teacher and a final grade of “B” or better in Honors Spanish I, having passed both semesters of the course. Note: the foreign language department makes no grade adjustment when students drop from level I to level II mid-course.

COMPUTER BASICS 710 (9)**level II, one semester**

This course consists of an introduction to the keyboard and timed writings. The use of Word, Excel, Access, Power Point, and Publisher are also introduced. Power Point presentations are made in the media room. All other work is done in the computer lab.

PERSONAL ENRICHMENT 721 (9)**level II, one semester**

This course is a comprehensive basic curriculum covering study skills, cooperative learning, time management, and careers. Also included is drug and alcohol awareness through the Smart Moves program.

AGRISCIENCE 701 (9, 10)**level II, one year**

This course is a science based introduction to Agriculture in the United States and around the world. Membership in FFA is strongly recommended.

BAND I 511 (9, 10, 11, 12)**level II, one year**

This class combines instrumental music training as well as music theory and history. Marching band rehearsal will take place after school the first semester through October and the week before the Christmas Parade. Participation in the OCHS pep bands will be required each semester to receive credit. Level I status will be determined by meeting criteria set out for the advanced level as stated in the Grading System for Band Students policy.

BUSINESS PRINCIPLES 711 (9, 10)**level II, one year**

This course is a study of basic business terminology and operations. Students will learn about day-to-day business decisions, ethics, and business activities. Students will be challenged to plan an event, develop a product, market their goods, create a budget, and manage their resources.

CHORAL MUSIC 512 (9, 10, 11, 12)**level II, one year**

This course is designed for students who desire to serve as music ministers during school and special Masses throughout the year (Sr. Ring Mass, snowball Mass, Days of Recollection, etc.). This course will enable vocalists and musicians to become familiar with all aspects of liturgical celebrations. Students will be expected to fully participate in all practices and assist in the preparation work before Mass.

Prerequisite: recommendation from the middle school teacher.

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS 712 (9, 10, 11, 12)**level II, one year**

This course includes computer terminology and its application to daily life. The purpose is to give students an overall view of various computer uses, including word processing, database, spreadsheet application, power point and digital camera use.

GENERAL ART 510 (9, 10, 11, 12)**level II, one year**

This is an introductory art course designed to reacquaint students with the elements of design by applying various media, including pencil drawings, pen and ink and painting with watercolor. The course will also include art criticism, and teach students to develop an appreciation for art.

GEOGRAPHY CP 310 (9, 10)**level II, one year**

This course will include the study of nations, cultures, civilizations, and geography focusing on the interconnections of these and how change reflects on a global community. The goal of this course is to enhance the student's ability to understand the geographical conditions that exist in his/her community and his/her relationship to the conditions that exist throughout today's rapidly changing world. Current events impacting geographic regions will also be studied.

GEOGRAPHY HONORS 311 (9, 10)**level I, one year**

This course is an interdisciplinary approach to geography. Its aim is to relate physical geography to the economic, social, historical, and cultural aspects of human activity. The course is intended to provide the student with a core of knowledge about the world and relate that knowledge to today's rapid world changes. Students will develop basic skills, including map reading, map making, and the interpretation of charts and diagrams.

LIFE SKILLS 722 (9, 10)**level II, one year**

This course is designed to allow students to explore their full potential. The goal of this class is to give students the skills they need to prepare for the future. Life Skills is a course, which includes goal setting skills, communication skills, career preparation, managing time wisely, food preparation, and manners. Students will further their life skills, and learn basic skills for their future.