FRESHMAN YEAR CURRICULUM

IN FRESHMAN YEAR FORMAL LOGIC (SEMESTER 1) our students will:
• learn the definition and application of simple apprehension, proposition, and syllogism
• make deductive inferences using the rules for categorical syllogisms
• translate ordinary sentences into logical statements
• understand conditional, disjunctive, and conjunctive syllogisms

IN FRESHMAN YEAR RHETORIC (SEMESTER 2) our students will:
• use the three modes of persuasion: ethos, pathos, and logos
• apply the five canons of rhetoric: invention, organization, style, memory, and delivery
• learn how to identify formal and informal fallacies of logic
• study and recite speeches, both historical as well as original student compositions

IN FRESHMAN YEAR ANCIENT LITERATURE our students will read and discuss:
• the Greek epics of Homer: The Iliad and The Odyssey
• the plays of Sophocles: Oedipus Rex and Antigone
• the greatest Roman epic tragedy: The Aeneid by Virgil
• Julius Caesar by William Shakespeare

IN FRESHMAN YEAR ANCIENT HISTORY our students will:
• discuss the effects of the principles of Greece and Rome on the American political process
• explain how the Roman Republic built upon Greek ideals — and what those Greek ideals are
• identify how the Roman Republic contributed to the development of democratic principles
• study the major events of the ancient world to A.D. 500

IN FRESHMAN YEAR LATIN III our students will:
• translate Latin texts from Catullus, Quintilian, Pliny the Elder, and Lucretia
• study subjunctive mood, indirect questions, cum clauses, conditions, and gerunds
• complete Wheelock’s Latin chapters 28-39
• translate Caesar’s commentaries on the Gallic Wars

IN FRESHMAN YEAR GEOMETRY our students will:
• study Euclid’s Elements (Books 1-3) to understand definitions, postulates, and propositions
• understand and use the structure of multiple-step geometric proofs
• determine the length of line segments, the measure of angles, and the area of polygons
• know the value and use of π when determining measurements of a circle

IN FRESHMAN YEAR BIOLOGY our students will:
• use the steps of the scientific method throughout the course
• study cell structure, function, growth, division, and reproduction
• study Mendelian genetics, DNA, RNA, and protein synthesis
• explore the subjects of microorganisms, fungi, plants, animals, and the human body

AS FRESHMEN STUDENTS MAY ALSO TAKE SEMESTER ELECTIVES IN ART & MUSIC