

# Brookewood SCHOOL

*An Independent Catholic School for Girls  
in Kensington, Maryland*



## **COURSE OFFERINGS**

**HIGH SCHOOL**



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### Grading Scale for Upper School:

Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
A+= 97-100	B+= 87-89	C+ = 77-79	D+ = 67-69
A = 93-96	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 63-66
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70- 72	D- = 60-62
			F= below 60

P = Passing, S = Satisfactory, U = Unsatisfactory, I = Incomplete

### Grade Point Average (GPA):

A+ (4.33)	B+ (3.33)	C+ (2.33)	D+ (1.33)
A (4.00)	B (3.00)	C (2.00)	D (1.00)
A- (3.67)	B- (2.67)	C- (1.67)	D (0.67)
			F (0.00)

Brookwood adds ½ point to a student's GPA for honors courses and 1 point for AP courses.

### Graduation Requirements for Upper School

English: 4 credits

Mathematics: 4 credits

History: 2 credits (one year of U.S. History required)

Science: 2 credits (1 yr. of Biology and 1 yr. of Chemistry)

Language: 3 credits (Latin or Italian)

Religion: 4 credits

Electives: 5 credits

A student must complete 5 credits, including English and Mathematics, during the school year to be promoted. Some requirements may be waived with the permission from the head of the school. A student must pass 21 credit hours to graduate from high school in the state of Maryland. This must include at least 4 credits in English, 3 credits in mathematics, and 1 credit in US History.

### Definition of Credit

One credit is given for the completion of each high school course (four marking periods) with a grade of D- or above. Students can earn ½ credit for any course taken for two or more marking periods with a grade of D- or above.

## Course Offerings

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### ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Goals by year:

**9th** Write a well-argued essay organized around a thesis; give presentations organized around a central idea; use precise and clear, non-colloquial language; gather relevant data for a persuasive essay; integrate quotations into a written report; confidently use the entire writing process including prewriting, outlining, drafting, revising, and finalizing; understand the idea of plagiarism and how to avoid it; create a simple bibliography; confidently recite poetry aloud.

**10th** Write a well-argued persuasive essay; use standard English comfortably; continue to improve all other skills; analyze poetry.

**11th** Write a research report making your own arguments; continue to improve all other skills; create a comprehensive, MLA-style bibliography.

**12th** Write a beginning-college-level literary analysis; be able to read and comment on critical articles; continue to develop all prior skills.

#### English I

Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit

In Exploration of Classical Literature course texts include: *The Orestia* (Aeschylus), *Oedipus Rex* and *Antigone* (Sophocles), Greek Mythology, *The Odyssey* and excerpts from *The Iliad* (Homer). Anouilh's twentieth-century *Antigone*, and Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*; or *The Modern Prometheus* are read in treating the universality of mythology and classical literature. Lastly, Shakespeare's *Macbeth* is read for its literary richness, as well as for its relationship to Aristotle's *Poetics*. In addition, there are reviews of formal grammar, common usage challenges in academic writing, vocabulary, etymology, and regular poetry study and recitation.

#### English II

Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit

In Classical and Medieval Literature course readings include: *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, *Confessions* (Augustine), *Frankenstein* (Shelley), *The Odyssey* (Homer), *Purgatorio* (Dante), Excerpts from *The Canterbury Tales* (Chaucer), *Sense and Sensibility* (Austen), and *Henry V* (Shakespeare). Poetry study is continued using Perrine and Arp's *Sound and Sense*.

#### English III

Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit

Based around literature American Literature also includes works of non-fiction--including essays, journals, speeches, autobiography, and letters--that correspond with each unit. Course texts include: *The Great Gatsby* (Fitzgerald), *The Scarlet Letter* (Hawthorne), *Billy Budd, Sailor, and Other Stories* (Melville), *Fascicle 13* (Dickinson), *Stories from Winesburg, Ohio* (Anderson), *In Our Time* (Hemingway), *As I Lay Dying* (Faulkner), Readings from the Harlem Renaissance, and Excerpts from *Invisible Man* (Ellison). Shakespeare's *Othello* is read as part of the study of rhetoric. In order to build academic reading and writing skills, the course treats many non-fiction texts and uses Graff and Birkenstein's *They Say/I Say*. Grammar study is mostly through usage and vocabulary study, including etymology, emphasizes words in context as well as literary and rhetorical terms.

## **AP English Language & Composition**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course follows the syllabus from The College Board AP English Language and Composition course and prepares students to sit the AP exam in May. It is designed to be the equivalent of a one semester college-level English class. At Brookewood this class starts with the curriculum of English III and adds readings from Melville, Wharton, Crane, Hurston, O'Connor, O'Brien, Hemingway, Faulkner, and Silko in addition to sophisticated writing assignments, and some test preparation.

## **English IV**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

World Literature emphasizes the development of reading and writing skills while reading poetry from across the centuries and using the following texts: *Hamlet* (Shakespeare), *Anna Karenina* (Tolstoy), "The Dead" (Joyce), Excerpts from *In Parenthesis* (Jones), *Brideshead Revisited* (Waugh), *Crime and Punishment* (Dostoyevsky), and *Mrs. Dalloway* (Woolf)

## **AP English Literature and Composition**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course follows the syllabus from The College Board AP English Literature and Composition course and prepares students to sit the AP exam in May. It is designed to be the equivalent of a one semester college-level English class. At Brookewood this class starts with the curriculum of English IV and adds readings from: *Metamorphosis* (Kafka), *Canterbury Tales* (Chaucer), *Pride and Prejudice* (Austen), *To the Lighthouse* (Woolf), *Heart of Darkness* (Conrad), *100 Years of Solitude* (García Márquez), *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (Joyce), *Wuthering Heights* (Brontë).

## **Poetry**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course focuses on the study of classical and contemporary versions of seven different forms of poetry: Sonnet, Villanelle/Pantoum/Ghazal, Dinggedicht/Epiphrammatic, Poem Translation, Long lyric, Prose and Free verse. The composition of poems in a student journal and sharpening of the skills of observation, memorization and reflection are emphasized.

# FOREIGN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

## **Latin I**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Latin I examines the language, culture, and history of the Romans, emphasizing comprehension of the Latin language by reading it and thus gaining insight into the social and political history of the Romans, especially during the first century AD. Latin I focuses on learning the basics of Latin grammar; III, III-io, and IV conjugations; third declension and relative pronouns; syntax, and vocabulary. Additionally, basic prefixes, suffixes, and roots of vocabulary words and word families will be studied.

## **Latin II, Latin II/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

In Latin II study continues in order to expand Latin vocabulary and use of the fourth and fifth declensions, to compare adjectives and adverbs, and to apply infinitives. Also introduced are the subjunctive mood, the subjunctive verbs, irregular verbs, gerunds and gerundives, and the many uses of the ablative and dative cases all while learning about the Roman gods and the legendary and real heroes of the Roman Empire.

## **Latin III, Latin III/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Latin III focuses on the continued acquisition of skills for reading Latin. The course begins with a thorough review of basic grammar, syntax, and vocabulary then transitions to the study of new syntax and an emphasis on reading Latin. Texts studied include the poetry of Ovid and the commentaries of Caesar, Mythology and the study of the ancient world.

## **Italian I**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Intended for beginning-level students. Emphasis on building communicative competence and oral proficiency. All four skill areas are covered including reading, writing, listening and speaking. This is accomplished through vocabulary building, conversation, grammar exercises, short stories read aloud, and poetry recitation and the study of: Regular nouns in A, O, E; Gender and number; Adjectives; Definite and indefinite Articles.; Simple Prepositions; Verbs: Present tense of regular and main irregular verbs; Number; Interrogatives; Adverbs; Main idioms with avere; An appreciation of Italian culture and geography is also developed within the course.

## **Italian II, Italian II/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

In this course students continue to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in basic Italian. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to: express themselves with simple sentences on topics such as family, hobbies or interests; maintain simple face-to-face conversations and write simple essays on topics of interest. Studied are: Adjectives: Regular and irregular comparatives and superlatives; Pronouns: Use and position; indirect, possessive, direct, demonstrative, reflexive, and reciprocal; Verb tenses & moods: present perfect, future, conditional, imperfect, imperative, present & past progressive, reflexive verbs and reciprocal verbs; Adverbs: Regular formation, comparative/superlative forms (regular and irregular); and Culture: art (Renaissance and Baroque), music (opera), literature (Dante, Montale)

### **Italian III, Italian III/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

In this course students continue to develop listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in basic Italian and knowledge of Italian culture. Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to: understand a clear standard speech on familiar matters, and read and understand straightforward, factual texts. Studied are: Irregular nouns; Adjectives used as nouns; Pronouns: double object and relative; Verb tenses & moods: future perfect, conditional perfect, pluperfect, present and present perfect subjunctive; Prepositions with infinitives; Impersonal construction; and Culture: Geography, history, music, food and literature.

### **Italian IV, Italian IV/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Italian IV expands the emphasis on communicative competence and oral proficiency into developing fluency by mastering the spoken language and reading. There is further review and intensified study of grammar, readings, vocabulary building, composition, listening comprehension, and conversation. Studied are Grammar structures; Verb tenses and moods: passive construction; Verb phrases/usage: “if” clauses, hypothetical period; Indefinite adjectives; Indefinite pronouns; and Culture Geography, history, art, music, food, literature.

### **AP Italian**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course follows the syllabus from The College Board AP Italian Language and Culture course and prepares students to sit the AP exam in May. It is designed to be the equivalent of a one semester college-level Italian class. The course emphasizes communication by applying the interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness.

# HISTORY DEPARTMENT

## **Medieval/Early Modern History**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course looks at the significant people, institutions, events, ideas and innovations that shaped the western world in particular and human history in general during the years following the collapse of the Western Roman Empire in the fifth century until the middle of the sixteenth century.

## **US History**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course provides a one-year survey of American history from the Colonial Period and the American Revolution to the present day. Using the textbook and primary documents, students learn about the various political, social, religious, and economic developments that have shaped and continue to shape the United States.

## **AP US History**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course follows the syllabus from The College Board AP U.S. History course and prepares students to sit the AP exam in May. It is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester introductory college-level U.S. history course. Students investigate significant events, individuals, and developments, from approximately 1491 to the present: analyze primary and secondary sources; develop historical arguments; make historical comparisons; and utilize reasoning about contextualization, causation, and continuity and change over time. The course also provides seven themes that students explore throughout the course: American and national identity; migration and settlement; politics and power; work, exchange, and technology; America in the world; geography and the environment; and culture and society.

## **World Geography**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

In this course students learn to use geographical information, understand and use maps, and acquire knowledge of the economies, geography, and cultures that influence our world, its countries, and people. The course explores how the boundaries of countries have a major role in economics, environmental issues and warfare. Topics include the history of nation states, boundary formations, issues of natural resources, geopolitical history, political and economic systems, the development of cities, and the impacts of globalization.

## **Modern European History**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course begins with an exploration of Aristotle's types of constitutions and political theory. It continues with themes of European history, including: types of states, the growth of the modern state, the evolution of competing economic and social systems; wars and their causes; and the people, philosophies, art, culture and ideas that dominated the nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first centuries in the Western world.



# MATHEMATICS DEPARTMENT

## **Algebra 1/2**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Algebra 1/2 represents a culmination of pre-algebra mathematics, covering all topics normally taught in pre-algebra, as well as additional topics from geometry and discrete mathematics.

## **Algebra I**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Algebra I provides a comprehensive teaching of the fundamental aspects of problem solving. Major topics include: evaluation of expressions involving signed numbers and the absolute value of numbers; exponents and roots; properties of real numbers; solving linear and simultaneous equations; polynomials and rational expressions; word problems; the Pythagorean theorem; algebraic proofs, functions, and functional notation; scientific notation; solution of quadratic equations; multiplication and division of polynomials; domain and range; unit conversions; computation of perimeter, area, surface area, and volume; statistics and probability.

## **Algebra II, Algebra II/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Algebra II offers a substantial review of all topics in Algebra I and then moves on to cover these topics at an advanced level. Topics include: imaginary and complex roots of quadratic equations; solutions of simultaneous linear and non-linear equations and inequalities; conic sections; logarithms and antilogarithms; exponential equations; basic trigonometric functions; advanced factoring techniques; proofs of congruence; deductive reasoning; properties of parallel and perpendicular lines; properties of triangles; chords, arcs, and inscribed angles in circles; basic geometric constructions; Venn diagrams; vectors; polar and rectangular coordinate systems; set theory; advanced algebraic word problems; and mathematical aspects related to concepts in physics and chemistry.

## **Geometry, Geometry/Honors**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Specifically, in addition to reviewing concepts taught in Algebra II in more depth, this course covers Geometric properties of plane and solid figures; inductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles. The study of geometry; continues with: properties of plane and solid figures; deductive methods of reasoning and use of logic; geometry as an axiomatic system including the study of postulates, theorems, and formal proofs; concepts of congruence, similarity, parallelism, perpendicularity, and proportion; and rules of angle measurement in triangles.

## **Trigonometry w/ Analytical Geometry**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course provides instruction in formal geometry by integrating the concepts of geometry within algebraic application. Topics covered in this course include trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, upper level algebraic concepts, and completion of advanced topics include: reciprocal, exponential, combining, and decomposing functions; sums of and inverse trigonometric functions; solving trigonometric equations using factoring; laws of logarithms and logarithmic equations; linear regression; permutations; factoring over the complex plane; abstract coefficients; single variable analysis; and polar forms of complex numbers.

## **Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus/H**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course combines the study of trigonometry, elementary functions, analytic geometry, and math analysis topics as preparation for calculus. Topics include the study of complex numbers; polynomial, logarithmic, exponential, rational, right trigonometric, and circular functions, and their relations, inverses and graphs; trigonometric identities and equations; solutions of right and oblique triangles; vectors; the polar coordinate system; conic sections; Boolean algebra and symbolic logic; mathematical induction; sequences and series; and limits and continuity; roots and powers of complex numbers, non-linear systems of equations, and matrices; determinants and solutions of equations; law of sines and law of cosines; logarithmic inequalities; binomial theorem; synthetic division, and the Remainder Theorem.

## **Calculus**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course entails a rigorous completion of the topics in Pre-calculus and an introduction to limits, differentiation techniques (derivatives) and their applications, and integration techniques and their applications. Special attention will be given to helping students master the art of graphing first using non-calculus based analytical tools and finally with the help of the derivative. By carefully working through difficult systems and mathematical problems, students will continue to develop their ability to think logically and clearly, with a mind well-trained to make appropriate reasonable distinctions.

## **AP Calculus AB**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

The syllabus from The College Board AB Calculus course guideline is followed presenting basic calculus at the university level while at the same time preparing for the AP exam given by the College Board in May. It is the equivalent of one semester of college Calculus. The course begins with a review of and further development of Pre-calculus concepts and then moves on to three basic segments of unequal lengths: Limit theory, Differential Calculus and Integral Calculus.

## **AP Calculus BC**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course continues the work begun in AP Calculus AB and prepares students for the BC Calculus exam in May. It is the equivalent of two semesters of college calculus. Topics include the study of conic sections, polar coordinates, vector functions, parametric functions, more advanced methods of integration, and infinite series. Once the material for the BC exam is covered, additional topics in Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Complex Analysis and Dynamical Systems are covered in small blocks.

## **Probability and Statistics**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course introduces combinations, permutations, independent and dependent events, probability and odds, frequency distribution, descriptive and inferential statistics, and data analysis and their applications in real life. The main foci of the course will be exploring data, producing models using probability theory, and making statistical inferences. Students will work with statistical measures of centrality and spread, methods of data collection, methods of determining probability, binomial and normal distributions, hypothesis testing, and confidence intervals.

# RELIGION DEPARTMENT

## **Introduction to Sacred Scripture**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course introduces students to the traditional Christian understanding of Revelation as God's self-testimony to humanity. After looking at the necessary principles for sound Scripture study, students will read each book of the Bible and see how they come together in the Gospels to reveal the Loving Father through the Incarnate Son by the grace of the Holy Spirit. In addition to studying the Scriptures, students will learn the traditional method of "Lectio Divina" and learn to pray with Sacred Scripture.

## **Church History**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course looks at the history of the Church from the Biblical foundations up to present day. Particular attention will be paid to the significant leaders and saints of the Church, so students will see the hand of God at work in the Church. Students will also be introduced to the villains of Church History, both from outside the Church and inside to see that though the Church has been plagued with evil, the message of Christ remains at the center.

## **Fundamentals of Christian Theology**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course introduces students to the Christian approach to theology. After an introductory look at logic and argumentation, students will learn the Catholic approach to the study of Revelation rooted in the Fathers and Doctors of the Church. Students will learn the basic theology of the One God, the Trinity, Creation, the Fall, the Incarnation, Redemption, Grace, the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the seven Sacraments, and Eschatology.

## **Moral Theology and Apologetics**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

The senior religion course is designed to prepare the Brookewood student to go forth into the world and "be not afraid." The course begins by introducing students to moral theology by examining human nature and purpose, how we define the "good" and "the good life". Students are introduced to virtue ethics through the lens of St. Thomas Aquinas, the relationship between faith and reason; the nature of religious language; rational arguments for and against the existence of God; the problem of evil; the problem of suffering; and the relationship between God and human freedom.

# SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

*At the end of the four year high school science curriculum a Brookewood student should have a strong grasp of the important concepts in the life sciences and physical sciences including atomic theory, genetics, evolution and motion. She should have a detailed understanding of the structure and function of atoms, cells, and organisms; a working knowledge of how science proceeds in different fields and the important historical developments in each field; lastly, a sense of amazement at the beauty and intricacy of nature and awe at the goodness of creation.*

## **Biology**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course encompasses the following topics: atomic structure and bonding, molecular Biology including proteins, carbohydrates, lipids and nucleic acids, Mendelian and modern genetics, cell theory and structure, evolution, homeostasis, animal physiology and the human body systems; bacteria and viruses, and plants and fungi. Included are the structures, function, growth, origin, evolution and distribution of living things. Classifications and descriptions of organisms, their functions, how species come into existence, and the interactions they have with each other and with the natural environment are also incorporated.

## **Chemistry**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Chemistry is a comprehensive course in which students will learn about the fundamental properties of the materials in the world around us and the ways in which these materials are formed and transformed in addition to the historical development of scientific concepts and the processes which led to new discoveries and theories. Topics covered include: matter and energy, atomic structure, bonding, organization of the periodic table, stoichiometry, equilibrium, acids and bases, phases of matter, solutions, chemical formulas and chemical reactions, including redox reactions. Concept development and mathematical formulation of chemical principles are emphasized equally.

## **Physics**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Topics covered in Physics include: waves, electricity and magnetic forces; optics, interactions of matter and energy, velocity, acceleration, force, energy, mass, momentum, gravity and charge; Newtonian physics and the fundamentals of quantum mechanics. Students will be challenged to apply their knowledge of the laws of physics to solve physics related critical thinking problems while grasping the significance of energy in understanding the structure of matter and the universe.

## **Anatomy & Physiology**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

This course investigates the structure and function of the human body. Topics include anatomical terminology, biochemical composition, cellular structure, organs and organ systems. Furthermore, important diseases and dysfunctions in the body systems are studied and a review of the medical interventions which correspond to these. All of the major organ systems are covered as well as an additional study of the blood, immune function, and the special senses.

# ELECTIVES

## **Art**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Provides an opportunity for students to develop their classical drawing and painting talents through disciplined study. Emphasis is placed on experience with design principles, drawing techniques, and painting skills leading to the development of abilities that are necessary for the study of art in college.

## **Art Appreciation**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/1 credit*

Students learn how to look at and appreciate great art. This includes an overview of the fundamentals of art, such as line, space, color and composition. Students will build a basic vocabulary related to art as they learn to evaluate it from a formal perspective. The course includes a survey of artistic periods from the Early Renaissance to the present day, as well as a study of several Catholic writers (St. Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict) on the meaning of beauty and the role of artists.

## **Music**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/0.5 credit*

Music at Brookewood is a non-selective choral performance class in which students prepare a variety of music from ancient polyphonic chant to music for Mass settings to show-tunes for the school musical gala.

## **Music History**

*Length/Credits: 2 Semesters/0.5 credit*

This music appreciation course is primarily a survey of the history of Western music from the end of the Roman Empire to the present. The course focuses on a select group of great compositions and composers and reveals the basic elements of music through these compositions. No musical background or training is assumed or required.