

REGISTRATION AND COURSE SELECTION

St. Francis High School
2012—2013

HOW TO COMPLETE THE PROCESS

- Check (x) all desired courses
- Student, parent, and teacher signatures
- Attach \$400 non-refundable deposit OR
- Pre-pay to business office
- *Attach Tuition Preference Form (In Feb mailing)*
- Submit to counselors on registration day
- See Mrs. Johnson if student might not return

HOLD ON REGISTRATION

- If missing check for \$400
- If missing any teacher signature
- If missing parent signature
- If missing gold Tuition Preference Form
- Result: loss of priority for in demand courses

COMPLETING THE FORM

- X all courses needed for your grade level
- Fill at least 7 periods but no more than 8
- MUST have 3 alternate choices!!
- Stay in the same subject area when backing up elective choices with alt. choices
- Alternate choices may be used—choose carefully.

REGISTRATION DEADLINES

- Juniors (Class of 2013) Tuesday, Feb. 14
- Sophomores (Class of 2014) Thursday, Feb. 23
- Freshmen (Class of 2015) Wednesday, Feb. 29
- See counselor well in advance of deadline
- No counseling sessions on registration day
- Completed paperwork = priority scheduling

WHAT COURSES REQUIRE SIGNATURES

- All honors and AP courses
- All math courses & science courses
- All world language 2--5
- Art 2—4 & AP
- Yearbook
- Creative Writing 2
- Computer Hardware & Visual Basic
- Guitar 2
- Theater 1 for Sophomores
- Audition required for Music Ensemble, Wind Ensemble Blue (not White) & Chamber Choir

OBTAINING SIGNATURES

- Some courses are pre-signed
- Missing signature = HOLD on registration materials
- If currently enrolled in subject area, see current instructor
- If not currently enrolled in subject area, see course instructor or dept. chair.
- Advocate for your choices
- If deferred, select alt. course and contact instructor in late April

HONORS AND AP COURSES

- Require extra reading, work, and rigor
- Are grade weighted in GPA
- If pre-signed, student may decline—not X
- May NOT be dropped after first 5—10 classes semester 1 and 5 classes semester 2
- Needed for admission to highly selective colleges who look at # AP offered vs. # taken

PROGRAM OF STUDIES BOOKLET

- On Academic page of school website
- College and graduation requirements
- Grading scale
- Four year plans
- Math and Science sequence
- Review course pre-requisites
- Note course credit .5 or 1.0
- One semester courses marked * and low HW intensive # on back of selection sheet

8 PERIOD DAY

- Must take 7 periods of course work
- Only 1 study hall per day
- May take classes all 8 periods
- 8th class must be “low homework intensive”
- Low homework courses marked # on back of selection sheet

CHOICES FOR 8TH CLASS

- All Visual & Performing Arts classes except AP
- Office, Visual Basic & Web Design
- Lifetime Fitness & Yearbook
- These courses are not limited to 8th class

ZERO HOUR

- Can be added as a 9th course
- 7:00 to 7:50 AM
- Newspaper
- Creative Writing 2 (independent/tutorial)
- AP Science Labs
- Extra Band practices

RELIGION CHANGES

- All Diocesan schools must require four years of Religion
- Class of 2013, 2014, 2015 NO CHANGES
- Class of 2016 3.5 credits required
- Class of 2017 4.0 credits required

RELIGION REQUIRMENT 2013-- 2015

- Religion 1—2 Semesters
- Religion 2—2 Semesters
- Religion 3—1 Semester
- Religion 4—1 Semester
- Seniors pick from—Spirituality, Church History, or H. World Religions (signature required)

FINE ARTS COURSE CHANGES

- AP Music will be offered in 2012-2013
- Intro to Theory & Music Survey not offered until 2013-2014

SCIENCE COURSE CHANGES

- Chemistry or H. Chemistry required grade 10
- Physics or H. Physics required grade 11
- Conceptual Physics is now Physics
- Physics not offered until 2013-2014
- AP Bio & OR AP Chemistry in grade 12
- Anatomy OR Environmental Science/Forensic Science in grade 12

IMPACT OF SCIENCE CHANGES 2012-2013

- All sophs will take Chem or H. Chem
- Juniors who took H. Chem as sophs this year will take AP Bio or AP Chem
- All other juniors will take Chem
- Seniors may take AP Bio, AP Chem, H. Physics, Anatomy, Env Sci or For Science
- See diagram in Program of Studies

MATH COURSE CHANGES

- College Algebra renamed Pre-Calculus I
- Take Trig or Finite semester two
- Pre-Calculus I/Trig (OR)
- Pre-Calculus I/Finite
- Juniors in this sequence take PC I/Trig and Intro Stats/Finite grade 12
- See diagram in Program of Studies

US HISTORY CHANGES

- US History now 3 semesters/2 required
- US 1 Pre-Columbian to Post Civil War
- US 2 Post Civil War through World War II
- US 3 Post World War II to Present
- All non AP students must take US 1 grade 10
- Can take either US 2 or US 3 grade 10 or 11
- Non AP students can take all three (optional)

AP US HISTORY

- Still two semester course
- Will cover 1495—present
- Best taken sophomore year
- Junior who took US I in grade 10 can still take AP

OTHER SOCIAL STUDIES CHANGES

- Geography open to grade 10 & 11 not 12
- Psychology one semester course
- Supreme Court Decisions no longer offered

FOREIGN LANGUAGE (Now World Language) CHANGES

- Mandarin Chinese I added 2012-2013
- Mandarin Chinese II added 2013-2014

TYPICAL COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS (ex. non-flagship state schools)

- 4 English
- 3 Math--Algebra, Geometry, Adv. Algebra
- 3 Lab Science-- Biology, Physics, Chemistry
- 3 Social Studies
- 2 World Language
- 1 Fine Arts (in some states)
- .5 or 1 Computer (in some states)

SELECTIVE COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS (ex. Big Ten, Marquette, Miami OH)

- 4 English
- 4 Math
- 3—4 Science
- 3—4 Social Studies
- 3--4 World Language
- Some Honors or AP Courses
- Strong core curriculum

HIGHLY SELECTIVE COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS (ex. Ivy, ND, NW, GT)

- 4 English—AP English preferred
- 4 Math—AP Calculus preferred
- 4 Science—Hon/AP preferred
- 3—4 Social Studies Hon/AP preferred
- 4 World Language—Hon preferred
- 1 Fine Arts same subject—U Cal system
- At least 3—5 Hon/AP per year
- Samples p. 6 Program of Studies

AP COURSES NOW OFFERED

- AP English 4
- AP Calc & AP Stats
- AP Bio & AP Chem.
- AP US Hist., AP Psych. & AP Gov
- AP Art & AP Music
- For ND, NW, GT, BC, Wash U, Ivy—6+ AP

HOW MANY HARD CLASSES SHOULD I TAKE?

- How stressed am I this year?
- How much am I increasing my load?
- Time for co-curricular activities?
- Do I need a study hall?
- How competitive is the college or major I am targeting?
- If I want to attend a very selective college I must be able to handle challenging courses

AM I READY FOR DIFFICULT COURSES?

- Do I enjoy learning?
- Can I master lengthy reading assignments?
- Do I have long term retention of material?
- Do I have higher level critical thinking skills?
- Can I handle challenges?
- Do I handle stress well?

MATH GRAD REQUIREMENT IN ILLINOIS

- 3 years through Geometry
- Ex. 1—Alg. pt. 1, Alg. pt. 2, Geometry
- Ex. 2—Algebra, Geometry, Adv. Algebra
- Ex. 3—Geom, Adv. Alg, PC 1/Trig or PC 1/Finite
- Ex. 4—Geom-H, AAT-H, Pre-Calc-H

WORLD LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

- Most colleges: 2 yrs. same language for admission
- Some colleges—3 to 4 yrs. proficiency in same language to earn college degree
- Proficiency requirement most common for Arts and Sciences majors (& U of I Business)
- Examples: U of I, UIC, NIU, ISU, Iowa
- Advise—take four years if possible

MAKING A FOUR YEAR PLAN

- Use outline in Program of Studies
- Meet grad and college requirements
- Meet major, career, and job requirements
- Try new areas & expand interests
- Must meet prerequisites for future courses

CAN'T MEET SOME COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS?

- May eliminate some public universities
- Take extra core courses in other areas
- Need strong core program overall (ex. U of Iowa RAI formula)
- Prepare for intended major

SOPHOMORE CURRICULUM

- Must take Rel, PE/He, Eng, Math, Sci., WL, US 1
- Room for .5 elective and full year study hall or low homework elective
- May take AP US (full year) if qualified
- May take US 2 or 3 in lieu of elective
- Prepare for junior year
- Improve grade point average
- Explore interests

JUNIOR CURRICULUM

- Must take Rel./PE, Eng, Math
- Must take US 1, 2 and/or 3 if not yet taken
- Need 3rd Science for college
- Prepare for college work and major
- Demonstrate steady or upward trend in grades
- Meet pre-requisites for senior courses

SENIOR CURRICULUM

- Must take Rel./PE, English
- Strongly recommend senior math
- Strength of curriculum important
- Take several core courses
- May need to send 7th sem. grades to colleges
- Prepare for college rigor

TIPS

- Plan for next 2—3 years
- Strong core prepares for ACT/SAT
- Grad requirements must be taken at SFHS
- Stay in sequence for math & foreign language
- Be realistic--know oneself
- Be flexible with electives
- Don't count on August/December changes

HEALTH SCIENCES; PRE MED, PT, PHARM, NURSING

- 4 Math
- 4-5 Science
- Chemistry or Honors Chemistry
- AP Chemistry recommended
- Anatomy &/or AP Bio (preferred)
- Honors Physics
- Computer—Excel (take M. Office) and Programming

PRE-LAW

- 4 Math
- Honors/AP English if possible
- AP Gov, Bus. Law
- Develop strong reading and critical thinking skills

BUSINESS

- 4 Math-strongest possible program
- Accounting
- Economics or Honors Economics
- Computer—especially Excel (take M. Office)
- Other Business Electives
- World Language for International Business

ENGINEERING

- 4 Math—strongest possible program
- 4 Science—H. Physics recommended
- AP Chemistry recommended
- Visual Basic or Java recommended

ARCHITECTURE

- 4 Math—strongest possible
- H. Physics
- Art—strongest possible
- Computer

COMMUNICATIONS

- English & Speech
- Office, Web Design, Design Basics
- Publications—Yearbook and Newspaper

EDUCATION

- Coursework in your teaching area
- English & Speech
- Computer
- Psychology

FINE ARTS

- Course work in area of concentration
- Instrumental/Vocal music (Theory preferred)
- Art (Pre-Portfolio or AP preferred)
- Performance opportunities

CAREER RESOURCES

- Naviance Career Planner
- Collegeboard.com
- Occupational Outlook Handbook
- What Can I Do With This Major?
- MyMajors.com
- See SF Guidance Websites for College Info

POTENTIAL COLLEGE STUDENT ATHLETES

- Register with NCAA Eligibility Center
- Take required 16 core courses
- Need minimum 2.0 un-weighted core GPA
- See Mrs. Rigney

DRIVER EDUCATION

- Top Driver offered at St. Francis
- Summer school in some districts
- Private driving schools
- SFHS credit only for public school course

SCHEDULE CHANGES

- Make changes as soon as possible
- Don't wait until August
- Some courses close early
- Schedule changes in August may cost \$45

NEED HELP?

- Contact teachers and department chairs
- Contact Guidance Counselors ASAP—Don't wait!
- Juniors may see Mrs. Rigney
- Appointment requests at Mrs. Ellis's desk
- Email and phone ext. on website