

# 2020-21 Course Selection



# The Goals

1. Help you to successfully navigate the course request process...the logistics
2. Address your concerns and questions...short and long-term
3. Assist you and your son in making informed, thoughtful, and appropriate decisions about his 2020-21 school year and beyond
4. Provide you with the tools to continue the dialogue through the process
5. Reduce parent, student, and faculty anxiety and stress
6. Prepare you for success in the upcoming school year and beyond



# The Players

Mr. Horne – Principal

Mr. Hecht – Asst. Principal for Academics

Mrs. Oliwa – Registrar

Dr. Rey – Director of Counseling Services/AP Econ

Ms. Colorado– Counselor/AP Psych

Mr. Golden – Counselor/Psych

Mr. Bronson – Frosh Counselor

Ms. Cindy Au – AP Music Theory/Band

Mr. Freestone– AP Physics 1 and C

Mrs. Walker – AP Biology

Ms. Villa - Sports Medicine

Mrs. Walp – Science Chair/ AP Chemistry/

Mr. Craig da Luz – Computer Science & Tech Chair

Mr. Todd Igelman - AP Computer Sci A

Mr. Johnston – World Lang. Chair/AP Latin/AP English Lang.

Mrs. Allen – AP French/French

Ms. Drummy – VAPA Chair/AP Studio Art/Art/Painting

Mr. Davis – Spanish III/AP Spanish Lit.

Mrs. Gormly – Spanish II/AP Spanish Lang

Mr. Lamerato – English Chair /AP English Lit

Mr. Matt Linville – Athletic Director/P.E. Chair

Mr. Manley - H. Pre-Calc./Adv. Math

Mr. Ozdowski- Math Chair/AP Statistics/AP Calc AB-BC Mr.

Christian da Luz –Social Studies Chair/APUSH /AP Gov

Mr. Sipper – AP World History/World History

Mrs. Crachy – Religion Chair

Mr. Vignol - Honors Philosophy

Mr. Alcoser – Librarian

# Beginning the Process...A Look Back

1. Review your four year plan and ask questions...Are you on track?
2. Graduation requirements (VAPA, PE, World Language, Social Sciences, Speech, etc.)?
3. Unit totals (260 to graduate or 65 units per school year)?
4. Remediation of 'D' and/or 'F' grades?
5. Review your personal goals for this past year...Are you in the process of achieving those goals or are there adjustments to be made?
6. Understand the nature of each course and your own gifts and talents
7. Are you realistic about time, effort, and energy...Is life "out of balance?"
8. Utilize the counseling staff for planning and questions



# Striving to Achieve a Healthy Balance

1. Sleep? Nutrition? Play? Exercise? Study? Family? Faith? Friends?
2. Look for the fit...would/should you wear something that does not fit? Same is true in life...especially college
3. Don't keep up with the 'Joneses'...Stay in touch with your son
4. Do what is best for **YOUR** son... As of 2018 there were over 4,706 post-secondary degree granting institutions in the United States...94 per state on average (U.S. Dept. Of Ed)
5. Students...OWN YOUR EDUCATION! Be your own advocate!



# The Process Updates for 2020-21

1. 2020-21 Curriculum Guide available online January 2020 at [www.sahs.org](http://www.sahs.org) (front page and academic section)
2. Interface with counselors and staff to catch concerns
3. 2021 Intersession selection part of this process
4. Course additions to curriculum- Engineering & Robotics
5. Course selection dates - Class of 2023 - Jan. 31 & 31; Class of 2021 - Feb. 5-6; Class of 2022 - Feb. 12-13
6. **REQUIRED DOCUMENTS FOR COURSE SELECTION**



# Academic Policies – The “Fine Print”

1. Course request process begins now...not finalized until May/June
2. There are no request for teachers...please do not ask
3. Pay attention to the “add/drop” deadlines once school is underway
4. Must be enrolled in six (6) courses during the regular school hours
5. A zero block (before school) would be seventh (7th) course
6. All students must take a final exam if one is required
7. Note the acceleration and remediation policies for each department



# The “Fine Print” continued

7. Required remediation of all ‘D’ or ‘F’ grades in Math immediately following that semester.
8. Student should remediate all other ‘D’ or ‘F’ grades across curriculum for credit/graduation/college considerations
9. Only up to five (5) semester courses can be taken outside of Saints for credit, whether for remediation or enrichment
10. ALL OUTSIDE COURSES, ONLINE OR OTHERWISE, MUST BE APPROVED BY SAINTS AND PROPERLY DOCUMENTED
11. Be cautious of “online” courses...not all are the same

***260 units+Requirements+100 Approved Christian Service Hours + 2.0 = Graduation***







# Check the “Prerequisites”

1. Found in the Curriculum Guide and Parent-Student Handbook
2. Some traditional and **all AP** Courses have prerequisites
  - ✓ By grade level
  - ✓ By performance in another setting or course (sequence)
  - ✓ By counselor, department, or administration (e.g. Chemistry with Alg. II; **NO** Summer Geometry without an ‘A’ in both semesters of ALG 1 and approval of Math Department)
  - ✓ By minimum grade point average (G.P.A)
  - ✓ By signature (department chair or instructor)- required before final approval
  - ✓ BY A COMBINATION OR ALL OF THE ABOVE

# The AP Program

1. Twenty-three (23) courses offered across the curriculum
2. Take the class – No Independent Study
3. Cost involved – **current** rate is \$100 per test, 2020-21 To Be Determined
4. Commitment is KEY! These are college courses!
5. Four AP Cap – **exception for terminal sequence (next and only course in the series)**
  - ✓ Rationale – Four AP classes equates to average course load in college
  - ✓ Survey of Saints seniors - overwhelming recommendation for **NO MORE THAN THREE**
6. AP CONTRACT – Signatures Required
7. Pay Attention to the Prerequisites!
8. Speak with the teacher...learn about the expectations



# The “How To”

1. Review 1<sup>st</sup> semester performance against prerequisites
2. 1<sup>st</sup> semester transcript will be basis for **request**; HOWEVER, 2<sup>nd</sup> semester performance and faculty review will **finalize** student standing
3. Carefully consider summer plans...Summer Session? Online Course?
  - ✓ If you plan to take a course but do not fulfill obligation, your schedule WILL CHANGE
  - ✓ YOU must request transcript and have it sent to St. Augustine (Mrs. Oliwa)...No transcript no course...remember you must be preapproved (counselor)
4. Complete Course Selection Requests and AP Contract **with PARENT SIGNATURES** (faculty signature exemption at this stage)
5. This process is NOT A GUARANTEE of RETURN OR ADMISSION. Registration/Financial process is a separate process



# *Traditional Summer Offerings\**

1. Math Remediation
2. Biology
3. Chemistry
4. Civics (government)
5. Economics
6. Geometry (acceleration)
7. United States History
8. World History

***\*Please note that the above course are based on enrollment and subject to change – See Assistant Principal O’Beirne for details***



# Common Concerns

## Freshman to Sophomore Year

1. How do I get to Algebra II-Trig sophomore year?
2. What if I have not completely met prerequisites for an AP course?
3. How many AP courses, if any?
4. How do I get to English II A Honors from English IA?
5. What about “online courses?”

## Sophomore to Junior Year

1. How many more years of a World Language should I take?
2. What if I am missing units, how do I get that solved?
3. Have I completed (or have a plan) for completing my PE requirement?

## Junior to Senior Year

1. Do senior year courses count for college admission?
2. How many AP courses should I take?
3. Is my Naviance information current and accurate?



# The Dates for Course Requests – During school with students

Current Freshmen – Thursday, January 30 and Friday, January 31

Current Juniors – Wednesday, February 5 and Thursday, February 6

Current Sophomores – Wednesday, February 12 and Thursday, February 13

**The student must have the following completed and with them  
at the time of selection:**

- 1. Completed and *Signed* Course Selection/Request Form (can be downloaded from website if needed)**
- 2. Completed and *Signed* AP Contract (if applicable)**



THANK YOU

