

# HOLY CHILD

EDUCATING YOUNG WOMEN OF CONSCIENCE AND ACTION

## DEPARTMENT PHILOSOPHIES & COURSE OF STUDY 2020-2021

### CLASSICAL & MODERN LANGUAGE

The world language curriculum begins in fifth grade with an introduction to French, Latin, and Spanish. In sixth grade, students choose either French or Spanish and begin learning the fundamentals of these languages. All students develop communication skills as well as an understanding of the culture they are studying. The materials presented encourage a steady improvement in the four areas developed in learning a foreign language: speaking, writing, reading, and listening skills. In ninth grade, students have the opportunity to continue in Upper School Spanish or French courses through the AP level. In addition, Mandarin, Latin, and a two-year program in classical Greek are also offered. The curriculum infuses regular use of technology as a learning tool, specifically DiLL, a software-based wireless language lab. In addition, our Global Programs offer international experiences to deepen students' love of language and culture. Appropriate level determined prior to placement.

<b>Grade 5</b>	Survey of French, Latin, and Spanish
<b>Grade 6</b>	Spanish 6 or French 6
<b>Grade 7</b>	Spanish 7 or French 7
<b>Grade 8</b>	Spanish 8 or French 8
<b>Grade 9</b>	French, Latin, or Spanish
<b>Grade 10</b>	French, Greek, Latin, or Spanish
<b>Grade 11</b>	French, Greek, Latin, or Spanish
<b>Grade 12</b>	French, Greek, Latin, or Spanish

### ENGLISH

The English curriculum is designed to cultivate a love of reading and writing. Students study a range of literature, including fiction, nonfiction, short stories, plays, essays, graphic novels, and poetry. In the Middle School, students embrace opportunities to choose their own books through a strong independent reading program; they are also immersed in reading together with their classes as they share in discussions about the texts. Students write creatively and analytically about literature; they also study grammar and vocabulary throughout the year. As students move to the Upper School, they build on the skills learned in middle school. The Upper School English program focuses on analysis through close reading, class discussion, and the writing process. Students continue to study grammar and are engaged in innovative projects. Faculty members collaborate to provide students with rich interdisciplinary opportunities. Students explore diverse literature through print and digital media, honing critical thinking and communication skills.

<b>Grade 5</b>	World Literature: Celebrating Our Differences
<b>Grade 6</b>	Breaking Barriers: Making Our Way in the World
<b>Grade 7</b>	The Individual Society
<b>Grade 8</b>	Coming of Age
<b>Grade 9</b>	English 9 World Literature
<b>Grade 10</b>	English 10 World Anglophone I
<b>Grade 11</b>	English 11 World Anglophone II
<b>Grade 12</b>	English 12 or AP English Literature
<b>US Elective</b>	Communications and Publications

## HISTORY

*History and Social Studies offer a variety of introductory courses, challenging Advanced Placement classes, and various engaging electives that build critical thinking skills to prepare students for college and beyond. Students attend discussion-centered, inquiry-based classes where they critically analyze primary and secondary sources while also developing the skills that define historical research and writing. The interdisciplinary nature of history is celebrated through the integration of literature, religious studies, and art. Each course builds on the skills and knowledge learned the previous year.*

<b>Grade 5</b>	Geography
<b>Grade 6</b>	Ancient Civilizations
<b>Grade 7</b>	United States History (up to Civil War)
<b>Grade 8</b>	United States History (Reconstruction to Present) Service Learning: Journey to Justice
<b>Grade 9</b>	World History I and Geography: Ancient Civilizations to Modern
<b>Grade 10</b>	World History II: Renaissance to Present or World History II Advanced
<b>Grade 11</b>	United States History or AP United States History
<b>Grade 12</b>	Economics or AP American Government
<b>US Elective</b>	International Relations

## MATHEMATICS

*The mathematics program provides each student with the tools necessary to explore and understand mathematical concepts. The curriculum focuses on the mastery of mathematical skills, as well as problem-solving and logical thinking. Faculty strive to promote an appreciation for mathematics that will encourage students to embrace careers in a variety of STEM fields. Many courses offer two levels of rigor to meet the needs of students. Within the classrooms, flexible classroom furniture allows for both spontaneous and intentional collaborative learning. In addition, technological strategies, like the flipped classroom and Classkick, help to differentiate learning. Students are assessed every year to determine the best placement level for them to be successful. This annual practice allows girls to develop math skills at their own pace. Faculty are available to students outside of class for additional support. Middle School students have a regular Consult Period, and Upper School students engage with their teachers during office hours and in the Math Center.*

<b>Grade 5</b>	Fundamentals of Mathematics
<b>Grade 6</b>	Pre-Algebra Preparation
<b>Grade 7</b>	Pre-Algebra or Pre-Algebra Advanced
<b>Grade 8</b>	Topics in Algebra or Algebra 8
<b>Grade 9</b>	Algebra I, Geometry or Geometry Advanced
<b>Grade 10</b>	Geometry or Geometry Advanced, Algebra II/Trigonometry or Algebra II/Trigonometry Advanced
<b>Grade 11</b>	Algebra II/Introduction to Trigonometry, Algebra II/Trigonometry, Algebra II/Trigonometry Advanced, Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus Advanced
<b>Grade 12</b>	Advanced Math Concepts, Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus Advanced, Calculus or AP Calculus AB or BC

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

*Religious studies at Holy Child fosters an understanding of how Catholic religious values, stories, teachings, and traditions shape one's understanding of the Divine, the human person, and one's personal call to positively impact the world. Special emphasis is placed on social justice and service throughout the curriculum so that students have a deeper understanding of what it means to be a "woman of conscience and action." Classroom lessons encourage openness, exploration, and acceptance of differing religious views so students are prepared to engage in our pluralistic religious world.*

<b>Grade 5</b>	Introduction to World Religions and the Sacraments
<b>Grade 6</b>	Old Testament and Exploring the Pilgrimage
<b>Grade 7</b>	New Testament and Jesus of Nazareth
<b>Grade 8</b>	History of Christianity
<b>Grade 9</b>	Introduction to the Bible
<b>Grade 10</b>	Social Justice
<b>Grade 11</b>	Christian Theology and World Religions
<b>Grade 12</b>	Ethics; Social Justice in the Criminal Justice System or Technology and the Human Person

## SCIENCE

*Middle and Upper School science courses encourage curiosity, innovation, and critical thinking. Courses offered foster a spirit of inquiry where students discover and challenge their understanding of the natural world through hands-on labs and field experiences that are current and applicable to real-world science. This provides students with the opportunity to further their understanding of the main concepts, themes, and laws developed within the domains of the biological and physical sciences. Faculty look to create knowledgeable, creative, technologically capable, and collaborative problem-solvers. The addition of the pollinator garden on campus illustrates the School's commitment to using the outdoors as an extension of the classroom. Outdoor education initiatives deepen the learning experiences students have in the natural world.*

<b>Grade 5</b>	Survey of Science: Earth, Life, and Physical Science
<b>Grade 6</b>	Earth Science
<b>Grade 7</b>	Life Science
<b>Grade 8</b>	Introduction to Physical Science
<b>Grade 9</b>	Biology
<b>Grade 10</b>	Chemistry or Chemistry Advanced
<b>Grade 11</b>	Physics, Physics Advanced, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Science or AP Biology
<b>Grade 12</b>	Physics, Physics Advanced, AP Physics C, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Science, AP Biology, or AP Chemistry

## **ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE**

*The Engineering and Computer Science curriculum is designed to teach students to think critically, problem-solve creatively, and work collaboratively. Students have the opportunity to apply math and science principles to solve real-world problems, build and test models to develop creative solutions, work in teams to produce stronger solutions than they could develop on their own, and communicate those solutions verbally, as well as in writing. They develop an appreciation for the iterative design process that encourages perseverance in the face of setbacks and challenges. Students are also encouraged to consider the social and ethical responsibilities of using technology and to develop a passion for improving the world.*

<b>Grade 5</b>	Build-It
<b>Grade 6</b>	Robotics
<b>Grade 7</b>	Gaming
<b>Grade 8</b>	Introduction to Programming and Physical Design
<b>Grade 9</b>	Introduction to Computer Science, Web Design, Robotics
<b>Grade 10</b>	Introduction to Computer Science, Web Design, Robotics, AP Computer Science Principals
<b>Grade 11</b>	Introduction to Computer Science, Web Design, AP Computer Science Principals
<b>Grade 12</b>	Introduction to Computer Science, Web Design, AP Computer Science Principals

## **SIGNATURE PROGRAMS (application and approval required)**

### **ADVANCED HUMANITIES INSTITUTE**

*The Advanced Humanities Institute is a dynamic, two-year seminar course where students study interpretation, critical thinking, and intellectual and cultural history, while also learning to become bold and confident thinkers. Students interpret and analyze art, music, and literature alongside contemporary and experimental masterpieces. Students will see how a single work of art can produce multiple valid interpretations and explore how theories in psychology and critical theory have shaped the way we make sense of the world around us. A final unit on "Participant Observation" will allow students to learn through doing. Art projects, book and print-making, and music-making will allow students to see the technical and commercial aspects of the humanities as well. Between the first and second year of the program, students will embark on a summer fieldwork trip to a global and rotating series of culturally-significant locales.*

### **ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING & DESIGN FOR THE COMMON GOOD**

*The Architecture, Engineering and Design Program is an innovative, two-year program for juniors and seniors that provides an interdisciplinary STEAM curriculum, combining the study of art and architecture with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The first year culminates in field-based work that inspires the students' individual research projects as seniors.*

## **SIGNATURE PROGRAMS (application and approval required)**

### **LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE IN FINANCE**

*The Leadership Institute in Finance is a two-year seminar course designed to empower girls to master financial literacy, explore business ethics, and develop effective leadership skills to prepare for competitive internships and careers in finance. Year 1 of the program will also include a one-week immersion experience during spring break where students will begin to define the area of finance or leadership that will become the subject of their senior project.*

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

*Physical Education is based upon the acquisition of knowledge and skills that are the foundation for engaging in physical activity. The curriculum is designed to empower all students to sustain in regular, lifelong physical activity as a foundation for a healthy, productive, and fulfilling life. Every student participates in a wide variety of physical activities and challenges that will contribute to the development and maintenance of her physical and cognitive well-being. Students are given the tools to make informed decisions that will empower them to achieve and maintain a healthy lifestyle.*

## **HEALTH, WELLNESS, & GUIDANCE**

*The Health and Wellness curriculum is designed to support and advance the social-emotional growth and development of girls in all grades. Predicated on the Seven Dimensions of Wellness, each class is designed to address age and developmentally appropriate topics. Each course builds upon the skills and knowledge from the previous year. The curriculum seeks to support and complement the intellectual and academic growth of every student by focusing on the issues most relevant to overall Wellness.*

## **VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS**

### **DANCE**

*Dance is a required course for all students in fifth and sixth grades. In seventh grade and above, students can elect to participate in trimester or full-year Modern Dance, Ballet, Jazz, and/or Hip Hop classes. Students in our advanced dance classes create original works, solo performances, and choreograph pieces as an ensemble. All year-long dance students perform in an annual Dance Recital in May. Advanced dance students also attend performances in New York City throughout the year.*

<b>Grade 5</b>	Ballet
<b>Grade 6</b>	Modern Dance
<b>Grade 7—12</b>	Dance I, II, III

## **MUSIC**

*Starting in fifth grade, students participate in instrumental and choral music classes designed to develop a deeper understanding of music theory, proper diction, and rhythm, as well as instill a life-long love and appreciation for music and the arts. Students have the opportunity to continue these studies through senior year. All Music students participate in two major concerts annually, as well as smaller recitals throughout the year. Music students also attend performances in New York City during the school year.*

<b>Grade 5 &amp; 6</b>	Choral Ensemble and Instrumental Ensemble
<b>Grade 7 &amp; 8</b>	Choral Ensemble or Instrumental Ensemble
<b>Grade 9—12</b>	Capella Nova, Madrigals, Chamber Ensemble, Music Theory

## **THEATRE**

*Middle and Upper School students have the option to participate in Theatre courses that develop skills in composition, picturization, movement, and gesture. Students study history and design, as well as musical theatre and dramatic performance. Middle School theatre students work towards a Spring musical, while Upper School girls focus on techniques and methods necessary for productions. Theatre students attend multiple Broadway and Off-Broadway productions in New York City throughout the year. Upper School students can audition for roles in afterschool productions or join the stage crew where they learn the fundamentals of lighting and sound as well as offer backstage support.*

<b>Grade 7 &amp; 8</b>	Musical Theatre
<b>Grade 9—12</b>	Musical Theatre Performance

## **VISUAL ARTS**

*The Visual Arts program at Holy Child strives to instill in each student a life-long love of the arts. From studio art courses in printmaking, sculpture, drawing, and painting, to digital art offerings in photography, film, and design, students are exposed to a variety of forms and techniques. Through our wide range of offerings for all grades and skill levels, as well as local, domestic, and international immersion and research opportunities, students can explore, create, and grow as artists and art historians. It is also our hope that students will begin to recognize, appreciate, and consider more fully the art they encounter in their daily lives.*

<b>Grade 5 &amp; 6</b>	Introduction to Studio Art
<b>Grade 7 &amp; 8</b>	Foundations of Art and Design
<b>Grade 9—12</b>	Digital Media, Studio Art, Advanced Media Studies, Digital Photography and Film, Advanced Art, Senior Portfolio