

Benedictine High School

Vision for Curriculum
Sequence, Scope, and
Design

November 28, 2006



Goals for Curriculum Revision

- Enhance college-preparatory work and the quality of our college-preparatory diploma
- Take advantage of Benedictine strengths as a college preparatory school for young men
- Broaden opportunities to offer leading edge classes to all students



College Admissions

- Better class choices enhance college opportunities
- According to the College Board "A high school curriculum of high academic intensity and quality is THE factor that most contributes to a student's likelihood of completing a college degree. Exposure to this curriculum is a much better predictor of college success than a high GPA or test scores."



Why now?

- Many faculty with expertise are in place to facilitate curriculum development
- The facility, resources, and technology are supportive of goals and school improvement plan
- Student and future student needs are changing; we must respond to them



What is the process?

- Specific changes in 2005-2006
 - Staffing & administrative restructuring
 - Government, foreign language offerings, AP classes
- Understanding by Design lesson planning in place; new curriculum process in development
- Administration requested departments to brainstorm, consider changes & enhancements
- Department meetings & discussions
- Chairs met with Principal & Vice-Principal
- Information shaped & presented to faculty; published to parents



A Look Ahead

- By department
- By grade level
- Scheduling-
 - Maintain traditional schedule with 8 instructional periods plus lunch
 - Maximize daily learning and interactions



Science Sequence

- College Prep
 - Biology
 - Chemistry or Conceptual Chemistry
 - Physics
 - Special Topics in the 12th grade elective-recommended
- Honors
 - Honors Biology
 - Honors Chemistry
 - AP Biology
 - (Dual offering: PSEO Biology as funding and demand allow)
 - Honors Physics
 - Chemistry II



Science: PE/Health

- PE/Health to join Science Department
- PE I & II remain
- Develop Advanced PE for $\frac{1}{4}$ credit
- Develop semester course in Athletic Leadership & Coaching Principles



Math Required Sequence

- College Preparatory
 - Algebra I*
 - Geometry (or informal)
 - Algebra II
 - Trigonometry or Probability & Statistics
- Honors
 - Honors Algebra I
 - Honors Geometry
 - Honors Pre-Calculus
 - AP Calculus or Probability & Statistics

*Continue/expand math tutoring services



Math: Computer Offerings

- Computer department join the math department for '07- '08
 - Computer Apps 1 (required)
 - Drop low subscription classes
- Develop ½ Credit electives:
 - Database & Website Management
 - MIS/Network Essentials
 - Java Programming (develop as an AP Computer Class)



Fine Arts

- Music
 - Choir (can be taken 4 times)
 - Adv. Choir by audition
 - Marching/Concert Band
 - Jazz Band by audition
 - Novice Band: Marching requirement added
 - 1 year of fine arts still required
- Art
 - Semester Classes include:
 - Drawing I/II
 - Painting I/II
 - Graphic Design
 - Ceramics/ Sculpture
 - 1 year of fine arts still required
 - Classes may be offered in alternate years



English

- English I, II, III at college-prep and honors levels
- English IV at college prep and AP levels
- Electives put on two year rotation per department-developed schedule



Theology

- Theology I, II, III, IV
 - 1st year: Benedict, Old Testament, New Testament
 - 2nd year: Liturgy, Sacraments, Church History
 - 3rd year: Morality
 - 4th year: Apologetics & Contemporary Catholic Theology
 - Develop Honors Senior Theology for '07- '08



Foreign Languages

- Keep current offerings
- Develop 3+1 (3+2) diploma to encourage multiple language study
- Department to recruit school-wide for enrollment in non-Spanish classes
- Develop department policies for language make-up classes



Social Studies

- Add AP World History to encourage 9th graders to begin Advanced Placement studies
- Add classes in marketing, living history, continue to require government class for graduation



College Preparatory Programs

- 9th grade
 - English I
 - Theology I
 - Algebra I
 - Biology
 - Computer Apps I*
 - Foreign Language
 - Health/PE*
 - World History
 - Fine Arts Elective*
- 10th Grade
 - English II
 - Theology II
 - Geometry
 - Chemistry
 - Foreign Language II
 - 20th World/US 1825
 - Fine Arts Elective*
 - Elective (s)*



College Preparatory Programs

- 11th grade
 - English III
 - Theology III
 - Algebra II
 - Physics
 - Foreign Language III
 - US History
 - Electives
- 12th Grade
 - Theology IV
 - English IV
 - Trigonometry
OR
Probability & Stats
 - Government (1/2)
 - Electives



Post-secondary enrollment options (PSEO)

- State program will remain per our handbook as state funding allows



Advanced Placement Classes

- For '07– '08*
 - AP Government
 - AP English IV
 - AP US History
 - AP European History
 - AP Calculus
 - AP Biology
 - AP World History
- Other Future *Suggestions*
 - AP Computers
 - AP Languages
 - AP Art

*AP Classes to be submitted for audit and inclusion on national listing of approved AP courses distributed to colleges and universities.



Exploring Summer Enrichment

- To fulfill specific requirements such as physical education
- To achieve advanced standing in specific classes and/or solidify basic and advanced skills
- To attract incoming 9th graders interested in a strong academic program



Next Steps

- Prepare course catalog for online publication
- Develop new course selection sheets
- Talk to students in January/February about course selection process
- Complete course selection process by March 2007
- Register Class of 2011 on March 3, 2007

