MISSION STATEMENT

Archbishop Alter High School is a co-educational, comprehensive Catholic school that is committed to challenging students to reach their full potential by providing academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment.
Alter High School is more than just a building in Kettering. We are a diverse community where students travel together as they grow in maturity and expand their minds. Our 570 students come from approximately 53 different schools and 20 cities in four counties. While the majority are Roman Catholic, a wide variety of religious denominations are represented at Alter. Although students come from different cultural backgrounds, they all have an opportunity to flourish and excel as they bring their talents and experiences which enrich the Alter family.

With experiences unique to Alter such as our one-to-one technology initiative, the Alter Scholars Program, the Taylor College Resource Center, and our Conservatory for the Arts, you will emerge confident, motivated, prepared and ready to take on the challenges ahead. With an Alter High School education, you will be prepared for the rigors of the next level of education and have the skills necessary to make appropriate decisions. We at Alter understand the important role we play as students travel down life’s road, and we are committed to helping our students be prepared to reach their destinations.

“There are many, many schools with excellent academics and wide-ranging extracurriculars, but there aren’t as many that pair those things with spiritual retreats, theology courses, and the active development of an inner life. That kind of foundation prepared me well for college, grad school, and beyond and instilled in me something which I’ve been able to hold onto well into my adult life - something even beyond the excellent academics.”

Howard Watkins Class of ’82
Assistant Conductor, Metropolitan Opera
New York, NY
Alter High School has a professional staff of 55 who have a combined average of over 14 years teaching experience. A Masters Degree is held by 54% of the faculty, and the student to faculty ratio is 10:1. We believe that the key to high performing students is high performing teachers. Our generous and gifted educators encourage students to dream big and reach higher.

In addition, our caring staff of intervention specialists work closely with classroom teachers and parents to help students who need additional academic support find success. Alter faculty and staff members continue to teach long after the bell has rung. Their dedication to our students' needs extends beyond the classroom as they mentor students through various clubs and other co-curricular activities.

“My freshman year at Notre Dame was easier than Alter. I was completely prepared for any of the top 20 colleges. After graduating from Alter, you feel comfortable that you have the foundation to do whatever, or achieve whatever you want to achieve.”

Ryan Sharkey ’91
Senior Vice President, Program Acquisitions & Administration for USA Network, Sleuth and Universal HD
**Course Levels.** Alter’s comprehensive curriculum offers more than 120 courses across 13 departments at the college preparatory, as well as Honors Level. Eight Advanced Placement Courses are offered. In addition, students are permitted to independently study for AP examinations in subject areas for which there is no course offered. Our Catholic faith is integrated into every class, promoting the school’s mission to educate students in spirit, mind, and body.

For incoming freshman, placement in Honors courses is based upon student achievement on the high school placement test, teacher recommendations, Iowa Basic Scores, and academic grades earned in junior high.

**Graduation Requirements.** All students are required to complete a minimum of 24 credits for graduation.

- 4 credits **Theology** (1 credit for each year at Alter)
- 4 credits **English**
- 4 credits **Mathematics**
- 3 credits **Social Studies**
- 3 credits **Science** (must include one Biological & one Physical)
- .5 credits **Physical Education**
- .5 credits **Health**
- .5 credits **Speech**
- .5 credits **Technology Skills & Ethics**
- 1 credit **Fine Arts**

Archbishop Alter High School administers tests required for graduation and 100% of our students successfully complete these exams.

**Grade Equivalents**

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**College Destinations of Recent Graduates**

- Alma College
- Ball State University
- Bellarmine University
- Belmont University
- Berklee College of Music
- Boston College
- Boston Conservatory at Berklee
- Bowling Green State University
- Cincinnati State Technical College
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth University
- DePauw University
- Duquesne University
- Eastern Kentucky University
- George Washington University
- Heartland Community College
- High Point University
- Hiram College
- Indiana University
- Loyola University Chicago
- Marian University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Miami University
- Michigan State University
- National Guard
- North Carolina State University
- Northern Kentucky University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio Northern University
- Ohio State University
- Ohio State University-Newark
- Ohio University
- Oklahoma State University
- Purdue University
- Robert Morris University
- Saint Louis University
- Sinclair Community College
- Stephens College
- Thomas More College
- United States Air Force Academy
- United States Naval Academy
- University of Akron
- University of Chicago
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Dayton
- University of Denver
- University of Findlay
- University of Kentucky
- University of Michigan
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Pittsburgh
- University of Scranton
- University of Southern Indiana
- University of Toledo
- Valparaiso University
- Wright State University
- Xavier University
Alter Scholars Program

The Alter Scholars Program is for high-achieving, self-motivated students who are looking to increase their college potential by expending extra effort during their high school career. Students accepted into the Scholars program are those students who have demonstrated excellent scholastic achievement during elementary school and wish to continue that achievement as they pursue college and career related goals.

STEM

Alter High School proudly has an extensive STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) program in partnership with Project Lead the Way.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is the leading, non-profit, national provider of rigorous and groundbreaking STEM curricular programs used in approximately 4700 middle and high schools in the U.S. Project Lead the Way’s mission is to “prepare students for the global economy” of tomorrow with a designated curriculum for engineering and biomedical sciences, promoting critical thinking, creativity and collaborative problem-solving skills.
One-to-One Technology Initiative

Alter is committed to preparing students to be lifelong learners and experienced users of current technologies, software, and learning opportunities within their school, their community, and the global community. For this reason, freshman students become part of a program that will give them access to technology in every class and at home. Each freshman student has a wireless tablet computer on which they can create products, complete assignments, take tests, communicate with the Alter and outside community, and experience tools used in both the college and business worlds. Every student at Alter is equipped with this one-to-one technology.

Taylor College Resource Center

In 2009, the doors of the Taylor College Resource Center opened at Alter High School. Through the generosity of alumni parents, John and Connie Taylor, this highly interactive college preparation center is a benefit for every Alter High School student. Equipped with 20 desktop computers and seven wireless notebook computers, the Center can assist individual students as well as entire classes on college preparation assignments.

Students visiting the Center can:

• Prepare for the PSAT, ACT, SAT and AP exams
• Explore colleges, admission requirements, steps for enrollment, college costs, scholarship opportunities and financial aid information
• Attend seminars on writing a great college essay, creating a blockbuster résumé or finding the right college, just to name a few
• Take inventories which help with decisions on courses of study and career paths

Alter Conservatory for the Arts

The Alter High School Conservatory for the Arts is dedicated to the finest teaching of performance and academic core standards in music, theater and the visual arts. The Alter Conservatory for the Arts will promote age-appropriate development of our student artists. Skills are advanced both individually and collectively.

Our Faculty Artists will strive to provide an education that promotes creative learning and critical thinking while advancing each individual and the Fine Arts in the core curriculum. The objective of the conservatory is to offer superior artistic opportunities and create the highest quality music, theater and visual arts while developing the overall creative growth of the student.

“Our children attend Alter because everything they learn and participate in at school is based around the Catholic Faith. Alter High School develops students with a strong sense of community and faith that will help guide them to be successful in life, and most importantly, become well rounded, kind and generous human beings!”

Mark and Pam Miller
Madison ’16, Max ’17, & Jack ’19
It’s where you engage!
Each Alter student contributes to the life of the school through active participation in co-curricular activities. With over forty different co-curricular opportunities ranging from performing and visual arts, academic enrichment, student government, faith and service to recreational athletics, students can pursue a vast array of activities to stimulate the mind, strengthen the body, and refresh the spirit.

**Academic Enrichment**
- Academic Team
- Alter Scholars
- Creative Arts Club
- Book Club
- French Club
- German Club
- Horizons in Medicine
- National Honor Society
- Philosophy Club
- Science Olympiad
- Spanish Club
- Technology Club
- University Club

**Publications**
- Excalibur
- Knightly News

**Recreational**
- Chef Club
- Lifting Club
- Ski Trip

**Performance Arts**
- Castle Players
- Cheerleading
- Color Guard
- Drama Club
- Film Club
- Lancerettes
- Marching Knights
- Millers Babies Improv
- Muse Machine

**Student Government**
- Class Delegates
- Student Council
- SAAB (Student Advancement Advisory Board)

**BOYS**

**Fall Sports**
- Cross Country (V,R)
- Football (V,R,F)
- Golf (V,R)
- Soccer (V,R,F)

**Winter Sports**
- Basketball (V,R,F)
- Bowling (V,R)
- Hockey (V)
- Swimming/Diving (V,R)
- Wrestling (V,R)

**Spring Sports**
- Baseball (V,R)
- Lacrosse (V,R)
- Tennis (V,R)
- Track (V,R)
- Volleyball (V,R,F)

**GIRLS**

**Fall Sports**
- Cross Country (V,R)
- Golf (V,R)
- Soccer (V,R)
- Tennis (V,R)
- Volleyball (V,R,F)

**Winter Sports**
- Basketball (V,R,F)
- Bowling (V,R)
- Gymnastics (V,R)
- Swimming/Diving (V,R)

**Spring Sports**
- Softball (V)
- Track (V,R)

V=Varsity  
R=Reserve  
F=Freshman

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**Faith, Service and Social Justice**
- Bible Study Club
- BOLD
- Dare to Care
- Diversity Club
- Junior Optimist
- Key Club
- Knights for Life
- Liturgical Choir and Musicians
- Men’s Fellowship
- Peer Ministry
- Student Ambassadors
- World Awareness Movement

**Academic Team**
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- Student Council
- SAAB (Student Advancement Advisory Board)
At Alter, faith in Jesus is behind all things we do. From classes to sports to clubs, we believe that there are limitless ways to know and love God, and we strive to see His presence in all things.

But beyond incorporating our faith into our daily lives, we also let our faith shape who we are and what we do. Our faith encourages us to be a welcoming community and it challenges us to work for justice. It ignites our passion for service and reminds us to practice compassion. It calls us to prayer and a deeper relationship with Christ, and it inspires us to be leaders who can share our faith with the larger community and the world.
Community
We are a community that welcomes all people. Students at Alter come from many different places, backgrounds and faith traditions. During their time here, they are formed as members of one community that deeply values the diversity of each of its members. Our community spirit is fostered by our retreat program. Students make a retreat each of their four years at Alter and are given time to get to know their classmates in a different way and to build strong bonds of friendship and support while, at the same time, coming to a new understanding and appreciation of their faith.

Prayer
Prayer is a constant in the lives of Alter students. Each day begins with prayer, as does every class. Teams and clubs gather regularly to pray as a group, and students prepare prayer experiences for their classmates as part of theology classes. In addition, celebrating the sacraments together offers students another way to engage in prayer. These celebrations mark important events in our church as well as important events in our school community. Mass is celebrated daily before school and the entire Alter community comes together to celebrate the Eucharist several times throughout the year. The sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in Advent and Lent. Our annual retreat program provides students with new ways to engage in prayer and sacraments in a new setting and allows them to make new discoveries about their faith.

Service
Commitment to service is evident at Alter. With curriculum-based service learning, the largest Key Club in Ohio and a Junior Optimist club, our students generate over 14,000 hours of community service and tens of thousands of dollars every year to benefit local and global organizations. The emphasis of ministry to others through very personal, hands-on opportunities shapes the souls of our students and establishes a lifetime habit of community service.

Leadership
At Alter, students learn to be leaders in service of their peers, the community and the world. Many of our Masses, retreats, prayer experiences and service opportunities at Alter are planned and executed by trained student leaders. Students take an active role in shaping their school and forming the faith of their peers. They learn how to be faith-leaders in service of one another. These are skills they take with them to become leaders in our church and our world.

“Our decision to invest in an Alter education for our four children was not only about the excellent educational program that prepares them for college but also the Catholic faith enriched environment that would continue to provide our children the opportunity to build a foundation for life. With the varied interests and abilities of all our children we found a unique atmosphere where students are supported and encouraged to grow as individuals. Whether they are interested in the performing arts or service, academics or athletics, the support is provided by not only the faculty and staff but by the student body as well.”

Jim and Suzanne Finke
Parents of Alex ’08, Sarah ’12, Chris ’15 and Jimmy ’17
It’s where you invest!

**Points of Interest**

- Enrollment: 570 students
- Student/Teacher Ratio: 10:1
- 2002-2017: 106 National Merit Scholars

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**SAT Critical Reading Mathematics ACT Composite**

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<td>National Mean</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>National Mean</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>20.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2017 GRADUATE SUCCESS:**

- 269 students enrolled in one or more AP classes
- 570 all students equipped with a computer tablet
- 82% of 2017 graduates offered $19.5 million in scholarships
- 87% of seniors were admitted to their first choice school

- Every Alter Student takes the ACT test with a composite of: 26
- 100% participation in Christ-centered retreats
- over 14,000 hours of community service
- National Merit Finalists 4

**#1** The top Catholic school in Ohio as ranked by The Washington Post Most Challenging High Schools List

**10:1** student teacher ratio

**19** Team State Championships in nine sports since 2000

**100%** All Alter students are required to complete two semesters of Fine Arts credits

**1** Only Catholic school with a Conservatory for the Arts program & five Marching Band Class A State Championships

**1** of four Ohio Catholic schools to compete at the State Science Olympiad

**100%** participation in Christ-centered retreats

**The STEM**

- 4 National Merit Finalists
- 100% participation in Christ-centered retreats
- 19 Team State Championships in nine sports since 2000
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Alter High School’s financial awards are funded in a variety of ways. Numerous Alter families have established scholarship awards for incoming high school students. Also, the State of Ohio provides EdChoice Scholarship to families that reside in qualifying school districts. Lastly, Alter gives qualifying families tuition assistance or financial aid awards that are funded annually through careful management of the school’s Annual Fund and operating budget.

SCHOLARSHIPS:
More information at alterhs.org/academics/scholarships

ACADEMIC
Alter Scholars Grants
STEM Scholarship
Quinn Scholarship
The AMA Scholarship Grant
The Kenneth Quinter Family Conservatory of the Arts Scholarship
The Impressionist Scholarship
Mary Ruth Shearer STEM Scholarship

NEED BASED
The Lee Otero Scholarship
The Alter Booster Association Grant
The Monsignor Breslin Scholarship
Pay it Forward Grant
The Bill Eisenhauer Scholarship
EdChoice Scholarship Program
The Gustufson Scholarship Grant
The Joey Kraemer Scholarship Grant
The Drayer Family Scholarship
The Mike Fowler Scholarship Grant
Tom Nikolai Scholarship

SERVICE/LEADERSHIP
Elizabeth Ann Seton Scholarship
Tony Huesman Scholarship
Legacy Scholarship
Vincent and Bernice Trick Memorial Scholarship
The Robert Bonanno Scholarship
The Knights Council Leadership Award
The Tony Rocco Scholarship
Kurt Murnen Memorial Scholarship
The Jack Ward Scholarship (In honor of Stuart Smith)
The John D. O’Brien Scholarship Grant
Maggie Zimmer Scholarship
Tina Gobrail Scholarship
The Nick Hess Scholarship

GRADUATING ALTER SENIORS
The Mildred Arch Scholarship
The Toni Irvine Scholarship
The Bill Rankin Scholarship
The Tom Nikolai Scholarship
The Easterling Studio Scholarship

EdChoice Scholarship Program
The Educational Choice Scholarship (EdChoice) Pilot Program was created to provide students from underperforming public schools the opportunity to attend participating private schools. The program provides up to 14,000 EdChoice scholarships to eligible students.

Alter High School participates in the Ohio EdChoice Scholarship Program. Students must first be accepted at Alter High School for the next school year in order to apply for an EdChoice Scholarship. Students wishing to apply for an EdChoice Scholarship must submit their application and school records to Alter no later than April 1, 2016. Please contact Mary Ruth Shearer, Director of Admissions, with any questions at 937-428-5335.

Tuition Assistance or Financial Aid
At Alter, we understand that choosing a private, parochial high school is a major financial decision for families. For that reason, we have worked very hard to keep our overall tuition as low as possible through careful management of our operating budget and the tireless work of our Boosters. Through the generosity of alumni, parents and friends, Alter is able to offer scholarships and tuition assistance that can greatly reduce the cost of a student’s Alter experience. A tuition guide can be found in the back folder of this book.

Families must complete the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment in order to be considered for financial assistance. Financial aid is awarded to those families who demonstrate a financial need. All current and future students are invited to apply by completing the FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment online at alterhs.org > Admissions > FACTS.

OVER $560,000 IN FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIP WAS DISTRIBUTED LAST YEAR TO 225 ALTER FAMILIES.
It’s where you learn!

ALTER Course Catalog
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**COURSE CATALOG**
PROGRAM OF STUDIES

Graduation Requirements:

1. Each student is required to successfully complete a minimum of 24 units of credit in order to receive a diploma from Archbishop Alter High School. Listed below are the required courses:

   - English: 4 credits
   - Mathematics: 4 credits
   - Social Studies: 3 credits
   - Science: 3 credits
   - Theology: 1 credit for each year enrolled at Alter
   - Fine Arts: 1 credit
   - Technology Skills and Ethics: 1 credit
   - Physical Education: .5 credit *
   - Health: .5 credit
   - Speech: .5 credit

   * Students who participate in interscholastic athletics or cheerleading for two full seasons will be exempt from the physical education requirement. Students must take another course of at least 60 contact hours in its place. Any student wishing to exercise this option MUST see their counselor in advance for full details.

College Requirements

Many Ohio colleges and universities require the following units of high school study:

- 4 units of English
- 3 units of Mathematics (Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2)
- 2 units of Foreign Language
- 3 units of Laboratory Sciences
- 3 units of Social Studies
- 1 unit of visual or performing arts (Fine Arts)

Alter High School recommends that students take as many units of academic course work as possible during the high school career to avoid a deficiency for college entrance. However, since our students attend such a variety of colleges and universities, it is the responsibility of students and parents to contact the college of choice to determine specific entrance requirements for that institution.

NCAA Eligible Classes

If you wish to participate in NCAA Division I or II athletics, you need to be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center. A student becomes certified by acquiring credits (16 for Division I and II) in the core subject areas. Only certain courses count towards that certification. These courses are marked with the following icon. Please see your counselor for complete details.

Diploma with Honors

To earn the Diploma with Honors from the State Board of Education, a student must earn any seven of the following eight criteria:

1. English: 4 credits
2. Mathematics: 4 credits (including Algebra 1 and 2 and Geometry)
3. Science: 4 credits (including 2 credits of advanced science)
4. Social Studies: 4 credits
5. Foreign Language: 3 credits (3 credits in one language or 2 credits each in two different languages)
6. Fine Arts: 1 credit
7. Maintain an overall high school grade point average of at least 3.5 on a four-point scale up to the last grading period of the senior year.
8. Obtain a composite score of 27 on the American College Testing (ACT) tests or an equivalent composite score of 1210 on the Scholastic Achievement Test (SAT) with no regard for its new writing portion.

Courses for which high school credit has been given in the eighth grade or as part of the post secondary option apply toward the performance criteria for the diploma with honors; provided at least 21 credits are earned in grades 9-12 for graduation.
Scholars Program
Application Requirements:
• Student must score in the top 10% on the High School Placement Test
• Student must be in the top 15% of elementary school class
• Letter of recommendation from current teacher

Program Requirements:
• Selected students must:
  o Maintain a minimum GPA of 3.6
  o Accumulate fewer than seven absences per year
  o Accumulate fewer than four tardies per year
  o Remain a student in good standing accumulating fewer than nine demerits per year

Academic Requirements:
• Freshman Year – Focus on discovering learning styles and exploring all that Alter offers
• Sophomore Year – Focus on ethics and scholarship
• Junior Year – Job shadowing
• Senior Year – Exit project presented to panel of faculty

If you are interested in being part of the Alter Scholars program, please contact the Director of Admissions.

Conservatory for the Arts
The Alter High School Conservatory for the Arts and the Conservatory Certificate is dedicated to the finest teaching of performance, pedagogy and academic core standards in music, dance, theater and the visual arts. The objective of the conservatory is to offer superior artistic opportunities and create the highest quality music, theater and visual art while developing the overall creative growth of the student.
• The Alter Conservatory for the Arts will promote age-appropriate development of our student artists. Skills are advanced both individually and collectively.
• Our Faculty Artists will strive to provide an education that promotes creative learning and critical thinking while advancing each individual and the Fine Arts in the core curriculum at Alter.
• Students will learn to analyze and learn from music, dance, visual arts and theater traditions of the greatest artists throughout history to gain the best creative perspective and develop their critical thinking and performance skills.
• As we expand our buildings and horizons with our capital campaign, we are building toward the future at Alter. We are expanding the Fine Arts at Alter to offer the highest quality arts curriculum, ensembles, productions and programs in Catholic education in the Miami Valley.

Fine Arts Conservatory Requirements:
Take 3.5 credits of Fine Arts (Music, Art, Theater or Dance) classes for the culminating Conservatory Certificate
Must maintain a 4.0 GPA in Fine Arts classes
Involvement in Alter's Fine Arts organizations/ensembles/productions/clubs each year enrolled at Alter

Freshman Year: Enroll in the Conservatory, take Fine Arts classes, complete semester Fine Arts activity logs.
Sophomore Year: Attend 2 approved off campus productions/concerts/showings and write one page reflection and review for each of the events.
Junior Year: Total of 8 hours of an apprentice/shadow with a professional in an area of concentration - Music, Art, Theater or Dance.
Senior Year: Present a production/recital/showcase/project as the culminating achievement of the Conservatory program.
Failure Of Courses - English And Theology
Because English and Theology courses are sequential, students must pass these courses in order to be promoted to the next grade level. If a student fails English, he/she has the opportunity to make up the course in summer school. Failure to make up English or Theology courses places the student in jeopardy of not graduating from Alter High School.

Failure Of Courses - Senior Year
If a senior fails a required course during the first semester, he/she may elect to make up the course through an approved correspondence or web based program at an accredited educational institution or during summer school. If a senior fails a requirement for graduation, he/she may participate in the commencement ceremonies, however, the diploma will not be issued until completion of the make-up course.

Advanced Placement Courses
Advanced Placement courses offer students the opportunity to participate in college-level studies. Upon completion of the AP course, students are required to take the nationally administered examination in May at the prevailing fee. According to their performance on the examination, students may receive college credit. This makes it possible for the student who is successful on the exam(s) and in the course(s) to enter college at a level beyond that of a beginning freshman.

Each college has its own criteria for granting AP credits. Please check with the college admissions office for specific information.

Advanced Placement courses are offered in the following subjects at Alter High School:
- AP American Government
- AP English Language
- AP United States History
- AP English Literature
- AP Biology
- AP Psychology
- AP Calculus
- AP Chemistry

Please check course prerequisites in this book.

Description of Grading System
- A - outstanding, superior performance/achievement
- B - above average performance/achievement
- C - average performance/achievement
- D - below average performance/achievement, but passing
- F - failing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Numeric</th>
<th>Regular</th>
<th>Honors</th>
<th>AP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>98-100</td>
<td>4.333</td>
<td>4.833</td>
<td>5.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>95-97</td>
<td>4.000</td>
<td>4.500</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>89-91</td>
<td>3.333</td>
<td>3.833</td>
<td>4.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>86-88</td>
<td>3.000</td>
<td>3.500</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>83-85</td>
<td>2.667</td>
<td>3.167</td>
<td>3.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>80-82</td>
<td>2.333</td>
<td>2.833</td>
<td>3.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>77-79</td>
<td>2.000</td>
<td>2.500</td>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>74-76</td>
<td>1.667</td>
<td>2.167</td>
<td>2.667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>71-73</td>
<td>1.333</td>
<td>1.833</td>
<td>2.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>68-70</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>1.500</td>
<td>2.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0-67</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grade Point Average And Honor Roll
Each letter grade on a student’s quarter report card (excluding Yearbook) is converted to a number from 0 to 5 according to the grade and weight of the course. The sum of these numbers divided by the number of credits earned in the quarter is the student’s grade point average for the quarter.

Students receiving all As in any quarter will receive Honors with Distinction. Students receiving all As and no more than one B will be awarded First Honors for the quarter; students who receive a combination of As and Bs with no more than three Bs and no grade lower than B- will be awarded Second Honors for the quarter.

Honor Rolls are based on quarter grades. Poor attendance may affect honor roll status.

Report Cards/Permanent Records (Transcripts)
A special evaluative report is made in each subject after each quarter. This report includes the student’s progress and present status in the course. Status is indicated by letters (A, B, C, D, and F) and the final grade in the course appears on the student’s permanent record (transcript) at the end of each semester. In order to receive the credit assigned to each course, the student must complete the course and have a passing final grade (D or higher).

Credit Flexibility
Students may earn high school graduation credit by demonstrating subject area competency through the completion of traditional coursework, testing out or otherwise demonstrating mastery of course content and/or pursuing an approved educational option made possible by the model for credit flexibility adopted by the State Board of Education. However, students are required to earn a minimum of 5 traditional credits in classes offered here at Alter each year. For complete policy guidelines and the Flex Credit application, please see your counselor.

Schedule Change Policy
Student schedules are prepared with great care to ensure students success and learning. Schedule changes are made only:

1. If the student has been academically misplaced by a teacher and/or has not met the requirements of the course, or
2. If there is an irresolvable scheduling conflict.

Students must confer with teachers, parents, and counselor prior to requesting a change in schedule. The fee for dropping a class is $100 and must accompany the parent permission. The counselor will not process the schedule change without the $100 and parent permission in writing.

All course changes must be requested within the first fifteen days of the semester. If approval is not given and parents insist that the schedule be changed, the course will be shown as Withdrawn/F on the student’s transcript. Students are limited to one schedule change per semester.
24 credits are required for graduation, including:

English | 4 credits
Mathematics | 4 credits
Social Studies | 3 credits (including 1 World Studies; 1 U. S. History; 1 Government)
Science | 3 credits (including 1 Biology; 1 Physical)
Theology | 1 credit for each year at Alter
Technology Skills & Ethics | 1 credit
Fine Arts | 1 credit
Speech | ½ credit
Physical Education* | ½ credit (one semester equals ¼ credit)
Health | ½ credit

* Students who participate in interscholastic athletics, band or cheerleading for 2 full seasons will be exempt from the physical education requirement. Any student wishing to exercise this option MUST see their counselor in advance for details.

- Use the below chart to help plan for your freshman year at Alter, while referencing the above requirements, the scheduling information sheet, and the course description booklet.
- If you are attempting to earn the Honors or Conservatory for the Arts diplomas or are a member of the Alter Scholars Program, refer to pages 5 and 6 of the course description booklet for requirements.
- Be sure you meet the prerequisites listed in the course description booklet for every class you request.
- Write the specific course name in the area provided below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>First Semester Class Names</th>
<th>Second Semester Class Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Theology 1</td>
<td>The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture</td>
<td>Who is Jesus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. English 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Social Studies</td>
<td>World Studies or Honors World Studies</td>
<td>World Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Science</td>
<td>Biology, or Honors Biology</td>
<td>Biology, or Honors Biology</td>
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<td>7.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
24 credits are required for graduation, including:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>First Semester Class Names</th>
<th>Second Semester Class Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Theology 2</td>
<td>Paschal Mystery: The Mission of Jesus Christ</td>
<td>The Church: Christ’s Mission Continues in the World Today</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. English 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Social Studies</td>
<td>Government AP or B</td>
<td>Government AP or B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Science</td>
<td>Chemistry or Physical Science</td>
<td>Chemistry or Physical Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Science Lab</td>
<td>Chemistry Lab/Study Hall</td>
<td>Chemistry Lab/Study Hall</td>
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<td>8.</td>
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Schedule Planning Worksheet: CLASS OF 2020

24 credits are required for graduation, including:

- English 4 credits
- Mathematics 4 credits
- Social Studies 3 credits (including 1 World Studies; 1 U.S. History; 1 Government)
- Science 3 credits (including 1 Biology; 1 Physical)
- Theology 1 credit for each year at Alter
- Technology Skills & Ethics 1 credit
- Fine Arts 1 credit
- Speech ½ credit
- Physical Education* ½ credit (one semester equals ¼ credit)
- Health ½ credit

* Students who participate in interscholastic athletics, band or cheerleading for 2 full seasons will be exempt from the physical education requirement. Any student wishing to exercise this option MUST see their counselor in advance for details.

• Use the below chart to help plan for your sophomore year at Alter, while referencing the above requirements, the scheduling information sheet, and the course description booklet.
• If you are attempting to earn the Honors or Conservatory for the Arts diplomas or are a member of the Alter Scholars Program, refer to pages 5 and 6 of the course description booklet for requirements.
• Be sure you meet the prerequisites listed in the course description booklet for every class you request.
• Write the specific course name in the area provided below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>First Semester Class Names</th>
<th>Second Semester Class Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Theology 3</td>
<td>The Sacraments of Christ</td>
<td>Our Life in Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. English 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Social Studies</td>
<td>US History AP or B</td>
<td>US History AP or B</td>
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</table>
24 credits are required for graduation, including:

- **English**: 4 credits
- **Mathematics**: 4 credits
- **Social Studies**: 3 credits (including 1 World Studies; 1 U. S. History; 1 Government)
- **Science**: 3 credits (including 1 Biology; 1 Physical)
- **Theology**: 1 credit for each year at Alter
- **Microsoft Office**: 1 credit
- **Fine Arts**: 1 credit
- **Speech**: ½ credit
- **Physical Education***: ½ credit (one semester equals ¼ credit)
- **Health**: ½ credit

* Students who participate in interscholastic athletics, band or cheerleading for 2 full seasons will be exempt from the physical education requirement. Any student wishing to exercise this option MUST see their counselor in advance for details.

- Use the below chart to help plan for your junior year at Alter, while referencing the above requirements, the scheduling information sheet, and the course description booklet.
- If you are attempting to earn the Honors or Conservatory for the Arts diplomas or are a member of the Alter Scholars Program, refer to pages 5 and 6 of the course description booklet for requirements.
- Be sure you meet the prerequisites listed in the course description booklet for every class you request.
- Write the specific course name in the area provided below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject Area</th>
<th>First Semester Class Names</th>
<th>Second Semester Class Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Theology 4</td>
<td>Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society</td>
<td>Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. English 4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Mathematics</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

Technology Skills & Ethics
Accounting 1
Accounting 2
Business Law
Entrepreneurship
Marketing
Multimedia
Personal Finance
Information Literacy

- Tech Skills & Ethics is taught to all freshmen with an emphasis on learning management systems, research and Internet skills.
- Personal Finance students participate in a program which encourages students to learn about financial issues relevant to adult life.
- Personal Finance students partner with 5/3 Bank and the Dave Ramsey Foundation Personal Finance series for teens.
- Entrepreneur students partner with Alter’s Development Office for real life experience.
- Marketing students participate in a Consumer Research project.
- Business Law students participate in a Mock Trial.
- Accounting students hear about real world experiences through guest speakers and field trips.
ACCOUNTING 1
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Cumulative GPA of 2.0
Description: This course teaches accounting principles and terminology. The student learns how the accounting cycle works for service businesses organized as proprietorships and for merchandising businesses organized as corporations. Students complete Internet research activities related to the science of accounting. In addition, students will use Microsoft Excel to complete classroom assignments. Accounting 1 and 2 are recommended for students planning any business major in college.

ACCOUNTING 2
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Accounting 1
Description: This course teaches accounting for a merchandising business organized as a corporation—adjustments and valuation, accounting for partnerships, and the recording of international and Internet sales. Students will complete Internet research activities related to the science of accounting. They will use Microsoft Excel to complete many of their classroom assignments. Accounting 1 and 2 are recommended for students planning any business major in college.

BUSINESS LAW  NCAA
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: An interest in business as a course of study in college
Description: This course is designed to prepare students to recognize and understand how the law works in their communities and throughout the country. Specific topics include constitutional laws and freedoms, civil and criminal law, contracts, credit, and insurance. Guest speakers, projects and activities will complement this course.

MULTIMEDIA
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Students use software programs including Publisher, Movie Maker, Audacity (sound editing), and PhotoStudio (photo editing). Students will use the Internet, digital cameras, scanners, microphones, photo and sound-editing software and video cameras to make multimedia presentations. This course will prepare students to add multimedia components to personal or classroom presentations.

INTRODUCTION TO MARKETING
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course includes all the activities required in a business or organization to get goods and/or services from where they are produced to where they are consumed. The study of marketing enables students to identify and learn concepts that will be helpful to them in future years as consumers. Students will be completing projects and activities to learn about marketing. They will also have the opportunity to use the Internet and software provided with their textbooks.

PERSONAL FINANCE
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course provides students with the opportunity to learn how to manage some of the financial obligations of living as an adult. Students will be exposed to financial topics that are of interest to young adults: salary and benefits, taxes, budgeting, bank accounts, benefits and responsibilities of credit cards and loans, renting a residence, and procuring insurance.
TECHNOLOGY SKILLS AND ETHICS
Grade 9 Required 2 Semesters 1 credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course will review proper Keyboarding skills and the use of Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint as it applies to requirements of Alter High School and everyday life. Fundamental concepts of computer hardware and software will be discussed as well as introducing students to Alter’s Learning Management System, Student Information Portal and Alter’s email. Course work will include the skills and understandings that are necessary for students to be responsible and ethical digital citizens.

ONLINE PERSONAL FINANCE
Grade 11, 12 Elective 1 Semester ½ credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This online course provides students with the opportunity to learn how to manage some of the financial obligations of living as an adult. Students will be exposed to financial topics that are of interest to young adults: salary and benefits, taxes, budgeting, bank accounts, benefits and responsibilities of credit cards and loans, renting a residence, and procuring insurance. The work will be completed via Moodle and assignments will be submitted online. Testing will be conducted through Moodle with time limits set and penalties incurred for exceeding time limits.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP
Grade 11, 12 Elective 1 Semester ½ credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course is designed for students interested in a business career and/or those who aspire to owning their own business. The course includes a study of what it takes to own and run a business. Creating a business plan is covered, and students will develop a business plan project for launching their own business ideas. Additionally, students will gain hands-on experience through working with the Director of Advancement in the Development Office.
CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

- Chef 1
- Chef 2
- Health
- Work It Out 1
- Work It Out 2
- Ultimate Pursuits

- Explore culinary skills while incorporating service related projects:
  - Superbowl meal for St. Vincent Men's Shelter
  - Gingerbread men for St. Vincent Family Shelter
  - Students bake cookies for Open House
- Compete in various culinary challenges:
  - Ultimate Cake Challenge
  - Iron Chef competition
- Students create their own “Food Network” video as their family meal project.
- Physical Education hopes to provide challenging and satisfying experiences in meaningful movement, self-expression, physical well-being and knowledge and techniques of sport activities.
- Health will prepare and empower students to value and engage in life-long healthy lifestyles which will allow them to reach their fullest potential and assure that they become productive, responsible citizens.
- Students who participate in interscholastic athletics, band or cheerleading for two full seasons may use their participation experience as their physical education requirement.
- Students have the opportunity to assist athletic teams as student athletic trainer aides.
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

CHEF 1
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Chef 1 is designed for students with little or no knowledge of food preparation. Through lecture and extensive lab work, Chef 1 covers: reading a recipe, basics of food preparation spanning all three meals and snacks; cooking terms and techniques; identification, use, care and selection of kitchen equipment/utensils; nutrition as the foundation of wellness. The Chef program also focuses on expanding a student's appreciation of all foods; therefore, students are expected to eat the food that is prepared in class. Preparation of a simple family meal is required with a video project submitted for documentation.

CHEF 2
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Chef 1 or moderate food experience (see instructor at scheduling)
Description: Chef 2 continues the skills learned in Chef 1 with a heavy focus on meal planning, organization, preparation, service and dining etiquette. Students prepare a full meal each week. Working in a team environment, students use recipes focused on a variety of preparation techniques and include foods across the entire Food Pyramid (including vegetarian options). There is a strong emphasis in Chef 2 on expanding a student's appreciation of all foods as well as learning how seasonings affect flavor. Therefore, students are expected to taste and eat the food that is made in class. Students complete a family meal project with a video project submitted for documentation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students who participate in interscholastic athletics, band or cheerleading for two full seasons may use their participation experience as their physical education requirement. Students must take another course of at least 60 contact hours in its place. Students wishing to exercise this option must see their counselor in advance for full details.

Students who wish to complete their physical education requirement through Alter High School may take any two semester physical education courses of their choice.

WORK IT OUT 1
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  1/4 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course, which will introduce and develop the FIT Principle, is designed for male students. The fitness components of flexibility, cardiovascular health, strength, muscular endurance, and body composition are assessed and developed. Lifetime fitness is stressed as the desired outcome. This class meets daily.

WORK IT OUT 2
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  1/4 Credit
Prerequisite: Work It Out I or instructor signature
Description: This course picks up where Work It Out I left off. This course is geared toward the male individual who is self-directed and wants to follow a personal workout. The student will develop personal fitness goals and a weekly plan to achieve them. This class meets daily.

PERSONAL FITNESS 1
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  1/4 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course is designed for female students who are interested in improving their overall fitness. The students will be introduced to activities such as weight training, yoga, Zumba, Pilates, dance, circuit training, and cardio training. Students will evaluate their current fitness level and identify areas for improvement.

PERSONAL FITNESS 2
Grades: 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  1/4 Credit
Prerequisite: Personal Fitness 1 or instructor signature
Description: This course picks up where Personal Fitness I left off. This course is focused more on the female student's personal fitness goals. More challenging work outs will be introduced, however, each student will work more independently on how to develop and achieve their personal fitness goals through a weekly work out plan.

HEALTH
Grade 9, 10  Required  1 Semester  1/2 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course develops attitudes and skills conducive to positive spiritual, mental, social and physical health. Students explore mental and social issues including symptoms and sources of help as well as the physical health topics of drug education, nutrition, fitness, reproductive health, disease, and CPR. Students become equipped to access, analyze, and apply health information in their daily lives.

ONLINE HEALTH
Grade 10  Meets the Health requirement  1 Semester  1/2 Credit
Prerequisite: Instructor's Signature
Description: This course develops attitudes and skills conducive to positive spiritual, mental, social and physical health. Students explore mental and social issues including symptoms and sources of help as well as the physical health topics of drug education, nutrition, fitness, reproductive health, disease, and CPR. Students become equipped to access, analyze, and apply health information in their daily lives. This course requires that the student have daily home internet access, computer literacy, self-motivation, and the ability to work alone.
CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:
American Literature/College Prep
American Literature
Honors American Literature
World Literature
Honors World Literature
British Literature
Honors British Literature
AP English: Language and Composition
English 4
AP English: Literature and Composition
College Bound Writing
Gender Studies in Literature
Creative Writing
Speech 1
Speech 2
Yearbook

- Honors or AP courses are offered at most levels.
- Two Advanced Placement courses are offered.
- Many of our students participate in local, state and national writing competitions. Several students have won contests.
- All students are required to take a semester of Speech.
- Integration of state-of-the-art technology in daily classroom teaching
- Graduates consistently tell us they are well prepared for the demands of writing at the collegiate level.
- Students explore novels from the classics to contemporary.
Prerequisites for AP classes may not be waived.

PLACEMENT POLICY
The English Department offers regular and advanced classes at all grade levels.

FRESHMAN ENGLISH
The English department places incoming freshmen students primarily on the basis of standardized test scores, eighth grade scores, and teacher recommendation.

SOPHOMORE ENGLISH
The English 1 teachers and English department chair will determine student placement and designation based on student performance in freshmen English. Honors English 2 is required for possible placement in AP English Language junior year or AP English Literature senior year.

JUNIOR ENGLISH
The English 2 teachers and English department chair will determine student placement and designation based upon student performance in sophomore English. Honors English 2, as well as Honors English 3, is required for possible placement into AP English.

SENIOR ENGLISH
The English 3 teachers will determine student placement and designation based upon student performance in junior English. Enrollment in AP English will be based the recommendation of the Honors English 3 and AP English Language teacher(s). Honors English 2 and Honors English 3 are required for possible placement in AP English Literature. Exceptions are made only by the English Department Chair or the Principal.

**ENGLISH 1C**
Grade 9  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  

Description: This course offers students the opportunity to develop and polish their written expression. Principles of unity and coherence as well as sentence structure and subordination will be practiced. Projects will strengthen pre-writing and paragraphing. Research skills will be introduced and students will improve their usage of standard English. The course will include techniques of research and vocabulary study; students will write an annotated bibliography. Students will develop their reading comprehension by various exercises with a wide variety of American reading material along with language and vocabulary study.

**ENGLISH 1 B (PART I: AMERICAN LITERATURE – PRE-CIVIL WAR)**  
Grade 9  
Required  
1 Semester  
½ Credit  

Description: Students in this course will concentrate on improving their ability to develop various forms of exposition. These include paragraphs of definition, classification, example, etc. Students will also organize paragraphs with major and minor support sentences that develop in depth the controlling idea of a clear topic sentence. These skills all contribute to good essay writing. Students will also proofread their own work. This course will cover American Literature prior to and up to the Civil War viewed in relation to the historical background which created it. Vocabulary, grammar, and language study will accompany reading and writing assignments for this course.

**ENGLISH 1 B (PART 2: AMERICAN LITERATURE – POST-CIVIL WAR)**  
Grade 9  
Required  
1 Semester  
½ Credit  

Description: This course will cover American Literature post Civil War viewed in relation to the historical background which created it. The course continues to emphasize the development of composition, grammar, and vocabulary skills. Composition skills will include the writing of essays. Students will continue to proofread their own work. This course will include techniques of research and vocabulary study. Students will write an annotated bibliography, using MLA format.
HONORS ENGLISH 1 (AMERICAN LITERATURE)  
Grade 9  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  
Description: This course is intended for students whose reading skills are very well developed and whose writing skills are developed for essay composition. Students will be expected to analyze challenging works of literature and to express that analysis in written as well as oral composition. The writing in this class will focus on developing compositions of various lengths. The content of the class will require students to analyze concepts and synthesize divergent ideas. Students should expect lengthy reading assignments as well as intense vocabulary and language study. This course will include techniques of research; students will write an annotated bibliography using MLA format. This course will stress the study of American literature viewed in relation to the historical background that created it.

All students must read 2-3 books, depending on length of book, and write 1-3 papers over the summer. The students will receive the appropriate instructions, through the mail, at the beginning of summer.

ENGLISH 2 B (PART 1: LITERATURE OF THE ANCIENT WORLD)  
Grade 10  
Required  
1 Semester  
½ Credit  
Description: This course will cover Egyptian, Indian, Greek, Chinese, Japanese, and African literature. Students will write several multi-paragraph themes and will learn vocabulary development, grammar, and language usage skills in conjunction with the course material. The teacher will also reinforce library research skills and documentation of sources, using MLA format. Students will write a research paper.

ENGLISH 2 B (PART 2: LITERATURE OF EUROPE AND RUSSIA)  
Grade 10  
Required  
1 Semester  
½ Credit  
Description: This course will cover European and Russian literature from the 19th Century until today. A service project is included in this semester. This course emphasizes the development of composition skills including outlining, pre-writing, composing, and revising. Students will write multi-paragraph essays and will learn vocabulary development, grammar, and language usage skills in conjunction with the course material.

HONORS ENGLISH 2 (WORLD LITERATURE)  
Grade 10  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  
Prerequisite: Honors English 1 or recommendation of department chair  
Description: Students will learn vocabulary and word usage skills in conjunction with course material. Through the study of literary classics of Western Civilization, Greek, Roman, and Norse mythology, the teacher will emphasize the development of students' analytical skills and introduce them to the major literary movements. The teacher will also reinforce library research skills that will include paraphrasing, summary, and documentation. The development of composition skills will be stressed and students will write a research paper. This is a very work intensive course.

All students must read 2-3 books, depending on length of book, and write 1-3 papers over the summer. The students will receive the appropriate instructions at the end of the school year.

ENGLISH 3 B (PART I: BRITISH LITERATURE THROUGH THE ENGLISH RENAISSANCE)  
Grade 11  
Required  
1 Semester  
½ Credit  
Description: This course stresses the study of British Literature within the historical context that produced it. In addition, the course emphasizes the development of composition, grammar and vocabulary skills.

ENGLISH 3 B (PART II: BRITISH LITERATURE – SEVENTEENTH CENTURY TO MODERN PERIOD)  
Grade 11  
Required  
1 Semester  
½ Credit  
Description: This course stresses the study of British literature within the historical context that produced it. In addition, the course emphasizes the development of composition, grammar, and vocabulary skills. The students will write a research paper, using MLA format.

HONORS ENGLISH 3 (BRITISH LITERATURE)  
Grade 11  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  
Prerequisite: Honors English 2 or recommendation of department chair  
Description: This course is highly intensive, stressing the study of British literature within the historical context that produced it. The course emphasizes reading and writing critical analyses of selected works of major British writers in preparation for continuation into the AP English course. Students will write a research paper, using MLA format.

All students must read 2-3 books, depending on length of book, and write 1-3 papers over the summer. The students will receive the appropriate instructions at the end of the school year.
ENGLISH 3: ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LANGUAGE  [NCAA]
Grade 11  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors English 2 or recommendation of department chair
Description: Enrollment is based on a formal application and the recommendation of English 2 teacher. The English Department Chair will make the final selection. All students will read several books from a list of recommended reading and write several papers during the summer. All pertinent information in this regard will be handed out at the end of the school year. The AP English Language and Composition course is built around a Non-Fiction base and is designed to help students become skilled readers of prose in a variety of rhetorical contexts and to become skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Students will learn to read primary and secondary sources carefully and to synthesize materials from these texts for their own compositions. Students will research, write, and present a research paper, using MLA format. Students will take the AP exam in May at the prevailing fee.

FOCUSED SELECTIONS

Two semester classes are required to meet the senior English requirement for graduation, which students can take in place of English 4 during either semester. The following focused selections (electives) will be offered (pending approved class sizes.)

ENGLISH 4  [NCAA]
Grade 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Students in this course will be expected to master the techniques used in the analysis of works such as short stories, novels, poems, plays, and essays. Through a variety of literature, students will practice identifying literary techniques, writing styles and themes. Students should expect lengthy reading assignments as well as intense vocabulary and language study. This course will include the writing and revising of a research project during the first semester.

ENGLISH 4: CREATIVE WRITING  [NCAA]
Grade 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course will focus on creative writing through the process of brainstorming, drafting, editing, and perfecting writing pieces. Students will create a portfolio of written work. Students will be encouraged to enter writing competitions and use this portfolio for college admissions. In addition, basic grammar, structure, technique and style will be mastered. Students should expect daily writing assignments.

ENGLISH 4: ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION  [NCAA]
Grade 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit
Prerequisite: Honors English 2 and Honors English 3
Description: Enrollment is based on the recommendation of the Honors English 3 teacher. The department chair teacher will make the final selection. All students must read several books and write several papers during the summer. All information will be handed out at the end of the school year. This AP course is designed for students who are capable of doing college-level work in English. It stresses the study of a variety of theme-based works. The students will take the AP exam in May at the prevailing fee. The students will write a research paper, using MLA format.

ENGLISH 4: COLLEGE BOUND WRITING
Grade: 12  Elective  1 Semester  1 Credit
Description: Students will focus on improving their writing skills. Vocabulary building in addition to grammar training will help enrich students’ writing. A variety of different writing forms will be presented with an emphasis in fluent, college-worthy writing. Potential forms of writing: journalism, essay, research, lab report, and multimedia presentations. Students will also be trained in how to become better editors for their peers and for their own work. Students should expect daily writing assignments.

ENGLISH 4: GENDER STUDIES IN LITERATURE
Grade: 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Description: Students will discover how literature defines gender through the ages. Students will read a variety of novels and short stories and take part in group presentations and discussions to analyze these pieces. Students will collaborate to create a written piece reflecting their insights on gender and literature. Major events in movements such as the women’s movement will be studied. Students should expect daily written assignments.
**SPEECH 1**

Grade 10, 11, 12  
**Required**  
1 Semester  
½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** None

**Description:** This course provides a study of the fundamentals of public speaking in contexts ranging from small group communication to formal presentation and debate. A primary goal in this course is to provide ample opportunity for students to develop confidence in their ability to articulate ideas in any public situation.

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**SPEECH 2**

Grade 11, 12  
**Elective**  
1 Semester  
½ Credit

**Prerequisite:** Speech 1

**Description:** This course provides an advanced study of public speaking with an emphasis on participation in outside speech competitions. The primary goal of this class is the continued development and further building of students' confidence in their ability to articulate ideas in any public situation. This class would also serve as the basis of Alter's Speech and Debate team. Students would be required to participate in two outside competitions. This class would be offered in the Spring semester.

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**EXCALIBUR YEARBOOK**

Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  
**Elective**  
2 Semesters  
½ Credit

**Limit:** 20 students

**Grade:** Pass/Fail

**Description:** This class will design, compile, and publish the Alter High School yearbook, Excalibur. The student will utilize design, planning, and journalistic skills in creating the annual. Students are required to sell a minimum of six ads to local businesses.
FINE ARTS

CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

- Art History
- Art 1
- Art 2
- Art 3
- Ceramics 1
- Ceramics 2
- Ceramics 3
- Portfolio
- Digital Photography & Art 1
- Digital Photography & Art 2
- Jazz Dance 1
- Jazz Dance 2
- Ballet Dance 1
- Ballet Dance 2
- Tap Dance
- Band
- Marching Band
- Visual Ensemble 1
- Visual Ensemble 2
- Music Appreciation and Music Theory
- Jazz/Rock Improvisation
- Music Technology
- Chorus/Vocal Class
- Advance Vocal/A Capella
- Liturgical Ensemble
- Theatre 101
- Acting 1
- Advanced Acting
- Acting 3
- Triple Threat 1
- Triple Threat 2
- Musical Theatre

- Alter High School’s Conservatory for the Arts has the most comprehensive and intensive Art, Dance, Music and Theater academic programs among private schools in Southwest Ohio.

- Our comprehensive music education program features Wind Ensemble, Jazz Ensemble, Percussion Ensemble, Winter Guard and the Alter Marching Knights. Achievements include:
  - BOA Regional Class Champions - 2016 (Dayton and St. Louis)
  - BOA National Semi Finalists - 2013, 2014
  - Winter Guard Championship - 2015 MEPA Scholastic AA, 2016 MEPA Scholastic A

- Theater classes and productions boast numerous DayTony awards for excellence in performance, direction and technical theatre.

- We offer dance classes open to students of all skill levels.

- Student art work is consistently featured in local, regional and national art shows.
The art department offers a wide range of courses for students at all levels of interest in art, from recreational to career-oriented. It is suggested that students who plan to major in an art-related field arrange their schedule to include Art I in the freshman year in order to provide opportunities for advanced study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>ART 1</strong></th>
<th>Grade 9, 10, 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>In this course students learn about the elements and principles of design in order to have a better understanding and appreciation of works of art and to incorporate these into a variety of materials and techniques. Much emphasis is on exposure to, and experimentation with a wide variety of drawing materials. Sculpture, painting, and printmaking are taught.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>ART 2</strong></th>
<th>Grade 9, 10, 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Art 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>This is a second level course with emphasis primarily on improving skills in drawing and painting techniques. Students will discover new ideas for subject matter and strive to develop their personal style of art. Historical and experimental approaches are encouraged.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>ART 3</strong></th>
<th>Grade 10, 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Art 1 and 2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>This course is designed as an intensive study in art for those who have completed the requirements for Art 2 and demonstrate continued interest and talent in art. In-depth exploration of drawing and painting techniques are encouraged.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>PORTFOLIO</strong></th>
<th>Grade 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Art 1 and 2, and other visual art classes with approval from teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>This course is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a career in the visual arts after high school. We will work on developing your personal interests and talents while building a portfolio for you to use for college applications &amp; scholarships. There is a summer/winter break assignment and students are required to complete eight projects by the end of the semester.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>CERAMICS 1</strong></th>
<th>Grade 10, 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Art 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Ceramics or pottery is a popular and practical area of interest in art. Students experiment in the various clay hand-building techniques of pinch, coil, and slab as well as throwing on the potter's wheel. Glaze application techniques are also covered.</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>CERAMICS 2</strong></th>
<th>Grade 10, 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Ceramics 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>The emphasis in this course is on developing further skill in working with clay, particularly on the potter's wheel. Unique surface decoration and glaze experimentation is encouraged.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>CERAMICS 3</strong></th>
<th>Grade 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Art 1 &amp; Ceramics 2</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>The emphasis in this course is on developing advanced skills working with clay. Students will be given the opportunity to cultivate their own body of work and will be encouraged to experiment with surface decoration and glazing.</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND ART</strong></th>
<th>Grade 11, 12</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>1 Semester</th>
<th>½ Credit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
<td>Art 1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>In this course students will learn the basic settings of DSLR cameras. Projects will also cover composition, lighting, fun techniques, and CS6 PhotoShop. Students will be able to use school cameras or their personal cameras. (Personal cameras must be DSLR - not a point and shoot or a cell phone.)</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>ART HISTORY</strong></th>
<th>Grade 10, 11, 12</th>
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<th>1 Semester</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prerequisite:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
<td>Art history is a fascinating subject that makes us aware of the imagery that surrounds us, and how that imagery has affected the way people perceive the world and humanind from the beginning of time to the present day. In this course, students will study work from pre-historic to contemporary artists. This course is not a studio based class, but students will be engaged in visual and contextual analysis through a variety of activities.</td>
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DANCE

JAZZ DANCE 1
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Jazz Dance offers a broad range of dance styles. During this class you will learn classical jazz, contemporary and lyrical jazz, along with some modern and hip hop movement. No previous dance training is necessary.

JAZZ DANCE 2
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: Jazz Dance 1 or teacher's signature.
Description: Students may continue jazz dance training by taking this course. In this class students will continue to explore the different types of jazz dance at a higher and more intricate level.

BALLET DANCE 1
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: Ballet shoes
Description: Learn the basics of ballet. Ballet is the center of all dance. During this class students will learn basic ballet movement, style and language along with some dance history. No previous dance training is necessary.

BALLET DANCE 2
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: Ballet Dance 1 or instructor approval. Need ballet shoes or lyrical shoes.
Description: Continue learning more intricate ballet steps and dance away from the basic movements. In this class you will learn the intermediate to advance ballet moves and learn some classical ballet variations as well.

TAP DANCE
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: Tap shoes
Description: Learn the basic skills of tap dance. Students will learn many different styles of tap, including: improvisational, vaudeville, theatre, and classical. No previous dance training is necessary.

CONTEMPORARY & LYRICAL DANCE
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: Ballet Dance 1 or Jazz Dance 1 or approval of instructor
Description: This is a performance based dance class incorporating a variety of techniques and movements drawn from ballet, modern, and jazz. Students will learn movement and incorporate these steps and techniques into dance.

TAP & JAZZ DANCE
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester
½ Credit
Prerequisite: Jazz Dance 1 or Tap Dance Class or approval of instructor
Description: This performance based dance class will focus on both tap and jazz. Students will rotate learning each style of dance throughout each week. They will focus on learning the technique and movements of each style and then incorporate those movements into dances. The student is required to have tap shoes.

MUSIC

BAND: BRASS, WOODWIND AND PERCUSSION
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
Prerequisite: All instrumental band members must be enrolled
Description: Band Class is taken in conjunction with Band PM and meets during the school day. This course involves participation in the Marching Band in the fall semester and the Alter Wind Ensemble in the spring semester. Students are involved in a comprehensive music learning environment in the study of their individual instrument as it relates to the current music curriculum. Students are exposed to the latest technology as it relates to the pageantry arts and symphonic band. Students will grow technically and expressively by performing band literature by the world's finest composers and gain essential elements of theory and historical context. Students are responsible for all activities performed by the ensemble, including: rehearsals, festivals, and concerts both on and off campus. Students must also be enrolled in Band PM (after school marching band rehearsal).
MARCHING BAND
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Director's approval. In some cases, an audition may be required.
**ALL STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED IN BAND PM AS A MEMBER OF THE MARCHING BAND/MARCHING KNIGHTS**
Description: This course involves after school participation until the Christmas/semester break. The course includes marching band/color guard season and the annual Christmas concert (rehearsals and performance). The goal of the Marching Knights is to learn values and standards of performance, both musical and non-musical, including music literature, music theory and music history. Students will grow technically and expressively as an ensemble. Students are responsible for all activities performed by the Marching Knights, which include: all summer rehearsals, band camps, parades, competitions, festivals, football games, and after school rehearsals and sectionals. This course meets Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 3:30-5:30 and Friday 3:30-4:30 plus travel to and from football games.

VISUAL ENSEMBLE 1 - Fall Color Guard
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: The Visual Ensemble is comprised of students grade 9-12 interested in learning and developing advanced performance techniques in dance, movement, and equipment. Students will progress in techniques of spinning flag, rifle, and saber, as well as techniques in all forms of dance choreography from ballet to contemporary. During the first semester, the Visual Ensemble serves as the color guard of the Marching Knights. Students must also be enrolled in Band PM (after school marching band rehearsal).

VISUAL ENSEMBLE 2 - Winter Guard
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Tryout
Description: The Visual Ensemble is comprised of students grade 9-12 interested in learning and developing advanced performance techniques in dance, movement, and equipment. Students will progress in techniques of spinning flag, rifle, and saber, as well as techniques in all forms of dance choreography from ballet to contemporary. During the second semester, the Visual Ensemble serves as the competition winter guard. There are also fees associated with the winter guard.

MUSIC APPRECIATION AND MUSIC THEORY
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course is designed for the musician and non-musician. Students acquire the basic understanding of musical concepts through vocabulary, basic music theory, history, and develop skills in listening, performing, creating, and critiquing music. By studying classical, jazz, rock, pop, country and world music, students will gain a greater understanding of music’s role in society and culture. Includes the fundamentals, techniques, language and resources behind music and music composition in the Western world. Students will gain a working knowledge of how melody, rhythm, form and composition work through lectures, discussions, concentrated listening, assignments, research, and composition projects.

JAZZ / ROCK IMPROVISATION
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Reading music and basic skills on a musical instrument
Description: Improvisation is the art of playing and creating melodies based on chord and scale structures in music. This class is intended for students beginning or continuing their skills in musical improvisation. The course will provide the student with an essential understanding of the basic rules of jazz/rock improvising and an appreciation for the history of jazz. Computers, music software and audio aides will be utilized to develop improvisational skills. Students will also transcribe from recordings, and be involved in recording projects. The course provides hands-on introduction to the essential tools needed for improvising.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Reading music and basic skills on a musical instrument suggested
Description: Course is designed to study the use of technology in music education. MIDI technology, music software, podcasting, composing, recording, editing and using a variety of hardware and software, synthesizers and integrating all of it to produce audio projects. Basic skills on a musical instrument and a desire to be creative are essential. No previous keyboarding or composing skills are necessary.

MUSIC TECHNOLOGY 2
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 semester  1/2 credit
Prerequisite: Music Technology (1)
Description: Course is a continuation of skills learned in Music Technology and will focus on music creation and composition through digital mediums, including editing/creating software, with the goal of a digital music portfolio/album.
CHORUS & VOCAL TECHNIQUES 1
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This class is for any vocalist at any ability level. The objectives of the class are to teach correct vocal production and the basic musicianship essential to good individual and group singing. Students will learn how to achieve range, accurate intonation, proper breath support, correct diction as it pertains to the individual and group. Performances include Christmas and/or spring concerts as well as school and community functions/ assemblies.

ADVANCED CHORUS & A CAPPELLA
Grade 9,10,11,12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Chorus & Vocal Techniques 1 or approval of instructor
Description: The objectives of the class are to continue to advance correct vocal production and advance total musicianship essential to high quality individual or group singing. Students will learn to further expand range, accurate intonation, proper breath support, correct diction as it pertains to the individual and group. Performances include Christmas and spring concerts as well as school and community functions/ assemblies.

LITURGICAL ENSEMBLE - All instruments and voices
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  2 semesters  ½ or 1 credit
Prerequisite: Reading music and basic, continuing skills on a musical instrument
Description: All orchestral string, wind, percussion instruments, vocalists and guitarists welcome. This class will prepare instrumental and vocal music for all school masses along with special music for other concerts, occasions and school events. Students must provide their own instrument.

THEATRE CLASS OFFERINGS BY SEMESTER:
1st Semester: Theatre 101, Advanced Acting , Triple Threat 1, Independent Study, Visual Ensemble A
2nd Semester: Acting 1, Acting 3, Triple Threat 2, Musical Theatre , Visual Ensemble B

THEATRE 101
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course will take you on a theatrical journey of the world of theater. You will learn everything from theater technology, improvisation, make-up, pantomime, theater history, and playwriting. This is not a performance based course, but you will learn the basic skills needed to be a professional artist, technician, director, and producer.

ACTING 1
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theatre 101
Description: Students will continue to learn about the theatre with an emphasis on performing. Those enrolled will work on accents, scene work, monologues, and the business side of being a professional actor, audition technique and script analysis. This is a performance based class.

ADVANCED ACTING
Grade 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theatre 101 and Acting 1
Description: Students will continue their experiences in theatre with an emphasis on performing. Those enrolled will continue with advanced level acting, building on techniques learned in previous classes. The advanced actor will be responsible for finding some materials used during the semester, including monologues, scenes, scripts and auditioning for one show during the school year to practice his or her skills.

ACTING 3
Grade 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theatre 101, Acting 1, and Advanced Acting
Description: Students will continue growing as actors and as artists by building on techniques learned in previous classes.

MUSICAL THEATRE
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theatre 101 and Triple Threat 1
Description: This course will focus on the Golden Age of musical theatre through present day musicals. This is a developmental performance and skill based class. Students will acquire and advance skills learned.

THEATRE TRIPLE THREAT 1
Grade 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theatre 101
Description: This course will focus on singing, acting and dancing in the context of musical theatre. This is a developmental performance and skill based class. Students will acquire and advance skills learned.

THEATRE TRIPLE THREAT 2
Grade 10, 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theatre 101 and Triple Threat 1
Description: This course will be a continuation of Triple Threat 1. Students will continue focusing on singing, acting and dancing in the context of musical theatre. This is a developmental performance and skill based class. Students will acquire and advance skills learned.
Alter High School’s Learning Center
Alter High School provides assistance to eligible students in a small group setting where students work with highly qualified staff members for one period daily or on a consultation basis. Intervention Specialists reinforce content area academics, organizational and study skills. Individualized goals are monitored and collaboration between Intervention Specialist/Teacher/Parent is established. The Learning Center’s goal is to teach students strategies they need to compensate for learning problems and to encourage students to use those strategies to become independent, successful learners while in high school and beyond.

Alter High School is committed to including individuals with disabilities as full participants in its programs, services and activities through compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the American Disabilities Act of 1990 and the applicable provisions of IDEIA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004). The Kettering public School Psychologist works in conjunction with the Learning Center staff in regards to Multi Factored evaluations as mandated by the state of Ohio.

Eligibility for the Learning Center
Current IEP or Service Plan for Learning Disabilities and Other Health Impairments. Other students may be considered through an approved process including the counselors and the Learning Center Staff.

For further details regarding the Learning Center Program contact Theresa Ott: Theresa.Ott@alterhs.org
• Alter students have several opportunities to receive college credit while at Alter. Credit can be earned by taking AP Calculus.

• Through our one-to-one laptop program, students use technology every day in their math class. This includes using online textbooks, instructional videos, WebAssign, Calculus in Motion, and Geometer’s Sketchpad, as well as using TI-84 calculators.

• Teachers offer extra instruction to students before and after school.

• We offer several different levels in many courses in order to meet the different ability levels of our students.

• We apply as many math concepts as we can to real life situations. Application is important to understanding.

CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:
Integrated Algebra
Integrated Algebra and Geometry
Algebra 1C
Algebra 1B
Honors Algebra 1
Geometry C
Geometry B
Honors Geometry
Algebra 2C
Algebra 2B
Honors Algebra 2
PreCalculus B
Honors PreCalculus
Honors Calculus
AP Calculus
Selected Topics
Statistics
Trigonometry
In general, the mathematics courses at Alter High School are separated into Honors, B and C levels. There are other courses for students to take if they are not ready for the C level classes. There are also electives for seniors to take to prepare them for college.

In the C level, material is presented with emphasis on review, practice and application. Concepts are developed primarily through example. The student at this level will do exercises designed to check the grasp of the concepts and his/her ability to apply these ideas in basic situations. Some challenging problems will be assigned as the student demonstrates understanding.

In the B level, the concepts are developed with some theory and proof. In addition to basic problems, the student at this level will do exercises that are more challenging and that call for more sustained application.

In the honors level, a rigorous approach is taken to develop mathematical theory. Proof is used as a tool extensively. In addition to basic and intermediate level exercises, the student will do challenging problems requiring higher level thinking skills. Success in handling these problems will depend on the student's ability to evaluate given information, to discover relationships that are not obvious, and to reason out a method of solution. Prerequisites for AP and Honors classes may not be waived.

Placement into freshman classes is determined by the High School Placement Test, grade school curriculum and eighth grade teacher observation of performance. Placement of all non-freshmen is based on the average of the first three quarters in the current math course. However, all Algebra 2 courses carry an additional prerequisite from Algebra I as noted in the individual course descriptions. The present teacher's signature is required to guarantee the prerequisites (minimum stated for each course) are met.

All students are to have a TI84+ graphing calculator.

**HONORS ALGEBRA 1**

Grade 9  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  

**Prerequisite:** Placement determined by the Math Department  
**Description:** In addition to the concepts presented in Algebra I B, this course enriches the Algebra I concepts with an in depth study of theory and problem solving. Additional topics include direct proofs, factoring cubics, simplifying zero and negative integral exponents, solving systems of three equations in three variables, and an introduction to irrational numbers.

**ALGEBRA 1 B**

Grade 9  
Required  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  

**Prerequisite:** Placement determined by the Math Department  
**Description:** In addition to the concepts presented in Algebra I C, this course includes transforming formulas, combined inequalities, absolute value equations/inequalities, and functions and relations.

**ALGEBRA 1 C**

Grade 9, 10  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  

**Prerequisite:** Placement determined by Math Department  
**Description:** This course is an introduction to the study of the structure of the algebra of the real number system. It is designed to help the student recognize the techniques and properties of algebra as reflections of this structure and to be able to apply algebraic concepts and skills to equations, inequalities, and problem solving.

**HONORS GEOMETRY**

Grade 9, 10  
Elective  
2 Semesters  
1 Credit  

**Prerequisite:** A in Algebra I B; C+ in Honors Algebra I  
**Description:** In addition to the concepts presented in Geometry B, this course presents geometry as a mathematical system and uses proof as an integral part of most topics covered, including flow proofs.
**GEOMETRY B**

Grade 9, 10  Required  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** A- in Algebra I C; C- in Algebra I B; D in Honors Algebra I

**Description:** In addition to the Geometry C content, this course includes use of two column deductive proofs to introduce and explore many topics, an introduction to indirect and paragraph proofs, an introduction to right triangle trigonometry, and area and volumes of 3-dimensional figures.

**GEOMETRY C**

Grade 10, 11, 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** D in Integrated Algebra 1/Basic Geometry; D in Algebra I C; D in Algebra I B

**Description:** This course includes the use and understanding of the language of geometry, spatial relationships of lines and planes, properties of polygons with emphasis on triangles and quadrilaterals, properties of circles, areas and perimeters of polygons and circles, special right triangle properties and the Pythagorean theorem, coordinate geometry of a line, and an introduction to the two column proofs for congruent triangles.

**INTEGRATED ALGEBRA 1**

Grade 9  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** Placement by the Math department

**Description:** This course, paired with Integrated Algebra 1/Basic Geometry is designed to be a two-year course covering Algebra 1 C topics and an introduction to basic Geometry topics. This course is designed for the student who needs to explore basic algebraic concepts at a slower pace than the Algebra 1 C course. Math review topics and pre-algebra topics will be integrated with an introduction to the study of the structure of algebra of the real number system. Emphasis on review of techniques and applications of algebraic concepts will be used.

**INTEGRATED ALGEBRA 1 / BASIC GEOMETRY**

Grade 10  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** D or above in Integrated Algebra I

**Description:** This course is paired with Integrated Algebra 1 to give the student a complete Algebra course and an introduction to basic Geometry topics. It will review and strengthen previously introduced Algebra 1 topics and will introduce new topics to complete an Algebra 1 course. As time allows, Basic Geometry topics will be introduced to help the student prepare for Geometry C.

**HONORS ALGEBRA 2 - TRIG**

Grade 10, 11  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** A in Geometry B and Algebra I B; C+ in Honors Geometry and Honors Algebra I

**Description:** In addition to the concepts in the other Algebra 2 courses, this course includes algebraic proofs of real number properties and absolute value, solving linear equations using determinants, working with trigonometric identities and graphs of sine and cosine functions.

**ALGEBRA 2 B**

Grade 10, 11  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** A- in Geometry C and B in Algebra I C; C- in Geometry B and Algebra I B; D in Honors Geometry and C in Honors Algebra I

**Description:** In addition to the concepts presented in Algebra 2 C, this course includes complex numbers, polynomials, solving radical and rational exponent equations, and exponential and logarithmic functions.

**ALGEBRA 2 C**

Grade 11, 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

**Prerequisite:** D in Algebra I C and Geometry C; D in Algebra I B and D in Geometry B

**Description:** This course reviews and strengthens Algebra 1 Concepts such as solving linear equations and inequalities, operations with radicals, finding slopes of lines, and graphing and writing linear functions. This course also covers solving systems of equations and inequalities, the properties of exponents and solving quadratic equations by factoring, square root method, completing the square and the quadratic formula.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HONORS PRECALCULUS</strong></td>
<td>11, 12</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>2 Semesters</td>
<td>1 Credit</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Description:</strong></td>
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<td>In addition to concepts presented in the other Precalculus courses, this course will also include coordinate geometry proofs, defining “e” and natural logarithms, polar graphing, power series, mathematical induction, an introduction to derivatives.</td>
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| **PRECALCULUS B**                           | 11, 12         | Elective      | 2 Semesters | 1 Credit |
| **Prerequisite:**                           | C in Algebra 2B; D in Honors Algebra 2 |              |          |         |
| **Description:**                            | This course will include analytic geometry of all conic sections, trigonometric formulas, equations and identities, advanced graphing, polar coordinates with complex numbers, binomial theorem with probability, first derivative theory and practice, and an extensive use of graphing calculators. |              |          |         |

| **SELECTED MATH TOPICS**                    | 12             | Elective      | 2 Semesters | 1 Credit |
| **Prerequisite:**                           | C- or lower in Algebra 2B; D or better in Algebra 2 C |              |          |         |
| **Description:**                            | This course is for students who need a math course, but not at the PreCalculus level. Topics include, but are not limited to: voting and appointment; graph theory; probability and statistics; loans, installment buying and investments. |              |          |         |

| **TRIGONOMETRY**                            | 12             | Elective      | 1 Semester  | ½ Credit |
| **Prerequisite:**                           | C or better in Algebra 2 B |              |          |         |
| **Description:**                            | This course is designed to prepare students for college math courses required for a liberal arts major. In this course, students will study right triangle trigonometry, degree and radian measures, trigonometric functions, and the Law of Sines and Law of Cosines. |              |          |         |

| **STATISTICS**                              | 12             | Elective      | 2 Semesters | 1 Credit |
| **Prerequisite:**                           | C or better in Algebra 2 B |              |          |         |
| **Description:**                            | This course is designed to prepare students for college math courses required for a liberal arts major. In this course students will study ways to graph data, lines of regression, probability, normal curves and distributions and inferences. |              |          |         |

| **HONORS CALCULUS**                         | 12             | Elective      | 2 Semesters | 1 Credit |
| **Prerequisite:**                           | B- in Precalculus B; D or C- in Honors Precalculus |              |          |         |
| **Description:**                            | This course covers topics in elementary functions, differential and integral calculus comparable first year courses in colleges and universities. Topics include properties of functions, limits, derivatives of elementary, composite, implicitly defined, inverse, and logarithmic functions, applications of the derivative, techniques of integration and applications of the integral. |              |          |         |

| **ADVANCED PLACEMENT CALCULUS**            | 12             | Elective      | 2 Semesters | 1 Credit |
| **Prerequisite:**                           | A in Precalculus B; C in Honors Pre-Calculus |              |          |         |
| **Description:**                            | Advanced Placement Calculus emphasizes a multi-representational approach to Calculus with concepts, results and problems being expressed geometrically, numerically, analytically and verbally. Broad concepts and widely applicable methods are emphasized. Technology is used regularly to reinforce the relationships among the multiple representations of functions, to confirm written work, to implement experimentation, and to assist in interpreting results. It is expected that students enrolled in AP Calculus will take the AP Calculus exam in May at the prevailing fee. |              |          |         |
CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:
- Physical Science
- Biology: AP, Honors, College Prep, Biology 1
- Chemistry: AP, Honors, College Prep
- Physics: AP, Honors, College Prep
- Anatomy and Physiology: General and Honors
- Genetics
- Environmental Science
- Earth Science I and II
- Invertebrate Zoology
- Vertebrate Zoology
- STEM: Principles of Engineering
- Computer Science

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math): this unique curriculum, in partnership with Project Lead the Way, is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative education programs used in high schools across the U.S.

Alter consistently has a strong presence at all levels of Science Fair in the state of Ohio. During the past five years, 560 students have participated in the Science Fair at Alter, and many go on to participate at the county and state levels.

At both West District and State levels, students have been awarded 58 superior rankings while earning numerous awards.

Alter is the only area Catholic school that has competed at the Science Olympiad at the state level for the past five out of six years.

Numerous enrichment opportunities are offered including Horizons in Medicine lecture series, STEM Talks, DNA Essay Writing Contest, Envirothon, Environmental Awareness Clubs and trips to the Kettering College of Medical Arts Cadaver Lab.
All freshmen are required to select one of the following three levels of Biology. Their placement is based on the recommendation of the grade school science teacher.

**HONORS BIOLOGY**
Grade 9 2 Semesters 1 Credit
**Description:** Honors Biology is an inquiry-based course which requires more than memorization skills, but also critical thinking skills. High motivation, good study techniques, and attention to detail are critical for success in this class. Topics include biochemistry, cell biology, genetics, evolution, microbiology, animal/human physiology, and ecology. The beginning of a two year science fair project (topic, research, and mentor established.)

**BIOLOGY B**
Grade 9 2 Semesters 1 Credit
**Description:** Biology B is a college preparatory course which places much emphasis on the chemical basis of life processes, relationships between science and other academic disciplines and how they relate to everyday life. Units include studies of the Scientific Method, the metric system, nutrition, cell structure and function, genetics, evolution, and taxonomy. A research project will include an in-depth study of a current environmental and/or energy topic of the students choosing. Students will be expected to work cooperatively in a laboratory setting and become proficient in the use of the microscope and other scientific equipment.

**BIOLOGY C**
Grade 9 2 Semesters 1 Credit
**Description** Biology C follows the same curriculum as Biology B but moves at a slower place and takes more class time for review. The same points of emphasis and topics will be covered. Students will also complete a research project.

All sophomores are required to select one of the following three levels of a Physical Science. Their placement is based heavily on the recommendation of their Biology teacher as well as their math grade.

**HONORS CHEMISTRY**
Grade 10 2 Semesters 1 Credit
**Prerequisite:** Completion of Honors Algebra 1 with a B+ average. Students not enrolled in Honors Biology as a freshman will be required to complete a research paper in the summer before class starts.
**Description:** This course is designed for the above average science student. Topics studied include the metric system, atomic structure, periodicity, chemical reactions, bonding and structure, gas laws, the mole concept, solutions, equilibrium, acid base chemistry, energy concepts and nuclear chemistry. Concepts are covered in greater detail with added emphasis on quantitative aspects. Laboratory investigations on both the macro and micro level reinforce topics discussed in lecture. Continuation of the Science Fair project from Biology is required of all students enrolled. (The actual experimentation and data analysis will be covered at this level.)

**CHEMISTRY B**
Grade 10 2 Semesters 1 Credit
**Prerequisite:** Completion of Honors Algebra with a C Average or Algebra 1B with a C+ average.
**Description:** Chemistry is a physical science that studies the composition, properties and reactions of matter. Topics studied include the metric system, atomic structure, periodicity, chemical reactions and bonding, gas laws, the mole concept, solutions, acid base chemistry, energy concepts and nuclear chemistry. A variety of laboratory investigations are used to reinforce concepts studied in class.
PHYSICAL SCIENCE

Grade 10
2 Semesters  1 Credit

Description: This course combines chemistry and physics. Students will be exposed to motion and the forces that cause motion. Topics include work and energy, heat, waves, sound, and electricity. Students will also be exposed to atoms, how they are structured, and how they react with each other. Topics include states of matter, the Periodic table, chemical reactions, solutions and nuclear changes. Unit appropriate labs and activities are included. Students will be required to utilize appropriate technology software.

Junior and Senior year students have a variety of electives to choose from in both Life and Physical Sciences.

LIFE SCIENCE ELECTIVES:

ADVANCED PLACEMENT BIOLOGY

Grade 11, 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit
Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Biology with a B- or higher, Biology B with an A- or higher. Honors Chemistry is strongly recommended.

Description: AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory course for science majors. Biochemistry, cells, genetics, evolution, plant structure and function, and animal structure and function will be covered in depth. Students must complete a summer assignment and/or project in preparation for the school year. The course prepares the student for the AP exam in May. Students are required to take this exam at the prevailing fee. Previous or concurrent enrollment in Anatomy and Physiology is encouraged.

HONORS ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY

Grade 11, 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit
Prerequisite: For success in this course completion of an honors science class is recommended or completion of any Chemistry with a B or higher.

Description: This course is designed for students who are interested in the medical field, who are preparing or concurrently in AP Biology or AP Chemistry, or who simply want more biological information. Structures (anatomy) and functions (physiology) at both the micro- and macro- level will be studied. Honors Anatomy and Physiology will emphasize more micro-anatomy and physiology than Anatomy and Physiology. The major systems of the body will be covered along with an extensive dissection of the cat. Other lab work will be incorporated as appropriate. The course emphasizes analytical and critical thinking skills along with conceptual learning. All dissections are required to receive credit for the course. This course is a prerequisite for AP Psychology.

GENETICS AND BIOTECHNOLOGY

Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Completion of Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry with a minimum of C-, Biology B with a minimum of B-, or Biology C with a minimum of A-.

Description: This course covers the basics of genetics with emphasis on the molecular and biochemical approach to genetics. Inheritance patterns, genetic diseases, and microbial genetics will be covered. Biotechnology and ethical issues will be incorporated into the class.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None

Description: Environmental Science includes a wide range of topics which concentrate on the interconnectedness between humans and the environment. Topics include ecosystems, energy resources, pollution, recycling, conservation, invasive species, and other current topics. The goal of the class is to become more environmentally aware. This is accomplished by producing various projects, written reports, and designed graphs.
GENERAL ANATOMY

Grade 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters 1 Credit
Prerequisites: Students should have completed a Chemistry class.
Description: This is an inquiry-based class which requires critical thinking skills and the ability to work in groups. Students will examine the processes, structures, and interactions of the human body systems to learn how they work together to maintain homeostasis (internal balance) and good health. Hands-on projects include designing experiments, investigating the structures and functions of body systems, and using data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary actions, and respiratory operation. Important concepts covered in the course are communication, transport of substances, locomotion, metabolic processes, defense, and protection. This course is theme-based. Writing and reading skills are emphasized along with web-based learning.

INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

Grade 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Invertebrate Zoology is designed for students who have an interest in the diversity of the animal kingdom. The class is a survey of the invertebrate animals. Laboratory work, including dissections, and activities accompany many of the units.

VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

Grade 11, 12
Elective
1 Semester ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Vertebrate Zoology is designed for students who have an interest in the diversity of the animal kingdom. The class is a survey of the vertebrate animals. Laboratory work, including dissections, and activities accompany many of the units.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE ELECTIVES:

ADVANCED PLACEMENT CHEMISTRY

Grade 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters 1 Credit
Prerequisite: Completion or current enrollment in Honors Algebra II Trig.
Description: The AP chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of a college level general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. The course follows the College Board recommendations and topics such as the structure of matter, kinetic theory, chemical equilibrium, chemical kinetics and thermodynamics are covered in depth. Mathematical and laboratory skills are emphasized in accordance with AP requirements. A summer assignment is required. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May at the prevailing fee.

ADVANCED HONORS PHYSICS

Grade 12
Elective
2 Semesters 1 Credit
Prerequisite: Completion or current enrollment in Honors Algebra II Trig.
Description: A year long course in physics and problem solving that should prepare students for a college physics course for science or engineering majors. The class will cover all topics that would be covered in a college class. It will not be calculus based but calculus concepts will be discussed in order to help understand physics. Students must complete a summer assignment in preparation for the school year. Projects are required.

HONORS DIGITAL ELECTRONICS

Grade 12
Elective
2 Semesters 1 Credit
Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II strongly recommended.
Description: A course in applied logic that encompasses the application of electronic circuits and devices. Computer simulation software is used to design and test digital circuitry prior to the actual construction of circuits and devices. Projects are required.
HONORS PHYSICS
Grade 11, 12     Elective     2 Semesters     1 Credit
Prerequisite: Currently or previously enrolled in Honors Algebra II Trig or Honors Pre-Calc.
Description: This is a first year physics course designed for the above average math and science student. This course is taught at a faster pace and much more in depth than regular physics. The same topics as regular physics are covered, as well as several others. Students must complete a summer assignment in preparation for the school year. Projects are required.

HONORS PRINCIPLES OF ENGINEERING
Grade 11, 12     Elective     2 Semesters     1 Credit
Prerequisite: Completion or currently enrolled in Algebra II and Chemistry with a B average.
Description: Principles of Engineering survey course exposes students to major concepts they’ll encounter in a post-secondary engineering course of study. Topics include mechanisms, energy, statics, materials, and kinematics. They develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges, document their work and communicate solutions. The topics covered will be similar to a one semester physics course but covered more in depth.

PHYSICS
Grade 11, 12     Elective     2 Semesters     1 Credit
Prerequisite: Completion or currently enrolled in Algebra II.
Description: This is a general course in Physics, designed for the student who intends to pursue a career in science, mathematics, engineering or medicine. It is divided into three major units: mechanics and classical problems in physics, wave motion (including light and sound), and electricity and magnetism. Problem solving using algebra, geometry and trigonometry, as well as proficiency in laboratory work, are stressed throughout the course. Projects are required.

EARTH SCIENCE I
Grade 11, 12     Elective     1 Semester     ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: Earth Science 1 is a Geology course that studies materials of the earth, sculpting the Earth’s surface and the forces within the earth. Topics include minerals, rocks, erosion, earthquakes, plate tectonics, volcanoes, and mountain building.

EARTH SCIENCE II
Grade 11, 12     Elective     1 Semester     ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This Earth Science course will cover Oceanography, Meteorology, and Astronomy. Topics that will be covered include the solar system, the sun, weather, storms, climate, air pressure, wind, and precipitation.

COMPUTER SCIENCE
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12     Elective     1 Semester     ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This is a single semester course designed as an introduction to the Java programming language and general programming concepts. Topics will include For Loops, While Loops, if/else statements, and user input.
Students can take college courses and earn college credits through AP courses or by taking the two dual enrollment courses in cooperation with Sinclair. By the time a student graduates, they could potentially earn 12 or more college credits in social studies alone.

Alter students have a 100% passage rate on the Social Studies section of the Ohio Graduation test. Our students are not only prepared for standardized tests, but are also prepared to succeed in a complex, multi-cultural world.

Students are provided a number of opportunities to enrich their understanding of social studies including:

- Senior trip to Washington D.C.
- Kettering Youth in Government Day
- Guest speakers and presentations on economics and government
- Model United Nations Conferences at the University of Dayton and Miami University
- Organized trips abroad

CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

- Advanced Placement United States Government & Politics
- Advanced Placement American History
- American Government
- Advanced Placement Psychology
- Economics
- Honors World Studies
- Psychology and Personal Growth
- United States History
- United States Society & Culture
- World Studies
Students are required to take social studies courses in Grades 9, 10, and 11.

**Grade 9:**
- World Studies: 1750 to the Present or Honors World Studies
- Required
- 2 Semesters
- 1 Credit
- Prerequisite: None
- Description: This course will trace the emergence of Modern Europe from 1750 to the present day and present such topics as the Russian Revolution, World War I and II, and modern day western civilization. As students study each historical event, they consider the geographic setting, the cultural perspectives, and the economic implications and the role of government.

**Grade 10:**
- American Government or AP United States Government & Politics
- Required
- 2 Semesters
- ½ Credit
- Prerequisite: None
- Description: American Government is the study of political systems, democratic theory and practice, civil liberties and citizenship. American politics, political parties, and the operation of national, state, and local governments are also included. The course is designed to prepare the student for the intelligent exercise of the rights and duties of citizenship. Because of state requirements, students must receive credit for American Government in order to graduate.

**Grade 11:**
- US History 1877 to the present or AP United States History
- Required
- 2 Semesters
- 1 Credit
- Prerequisite: None
- Description: This course is a study of American History from the Post-Reconstruction period through the 20th century. Students will study those events, both domestic and foreign, that help shape modern America. Students will consider the influence of geographic settings, cultural perspectives, economic systems and forms government.

**Electives:**
- Economics, U.S. Society & Culture, Psychology & Personal Growth, or AP Psychology
- Available

**World Studies: 1750 to the Present**
- NCAA
- Grade 9
- Elective
- 2 Semesters
- 1 Credit
- Prerequisite: Recommendation for Honors English I.
- Description: Honors World Studies is a year-long survey course for freshmen that will focus on the development of various cultures throughout the world and their historical impact. It will also emphasize and discuss significant people, places, and events that have shaped the various cultures of the world. Throughout the year, the course will focus on many social studies related issues including social development, cultural differences, political implications, economics, geography, historical events and their significance, and the various other factors that have affected the development of various cultures throughout the world. Particular emphasis will be given to critical thinking and analysis of important time periods and events and will include the analysis of primary source documents from various periods studied throughout the year. The course is intended to prepare students to enroll in AP courses in later years.

**Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics**
- NCAA
- Grade 10, 11, 12
- Elective
- 2 Semesters
- 1 Credit
- Prerequisite: Students must have earned a 3.0 cumulative GPA in Social Studies and English Courses. Students cannot waiver into AP courses.
- Description: Advanced Placement US Government and Politics is a college-level introductory course for students who wish to experience a more in-depth examination of the American system of government. Special attention is paid to the decision-making process within each of the three branches of the federal government, and the linkages between society, media, interest groups, and the government. Students are expected to hone their writing and critical thinking skills, in preparation for the AP test in May. Students are required to take the AP test in May at the prevailing fee. Self-directed readings are a key component to this course, which moves rapidly to facilitate study of a broader range of topics than are covered in a regular government class. In preparation for this class, students are assigned a summer reading, due on the first day of class.
ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade 11, 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

Prerequisite: Students must have earned a 3.0 cumulative GPA in Social Studies and English. Sophomores may be placed into the course based on availability. Students cannot waiver into AP courses.

Description: Advanced Placement US History is an introductory college-level course for students who are able to experience a more challenging American History offering. The course covers the complete American experience from colonization to present day. Students will study the roots of our democracy, the development and struggles of a young nation, and the challenges faced in assuming our position of world leadership. Participants are encouraged to think critically, to evaluate what they read, and to present well-organized written and verbal arguments. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May at the prevailing fee. Students are required to participate in a summer reading program. Summer reading material will be distributed before the end of the school year.

ELECTIVES:

ECONOMICS

Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Economic philosophies and programs greatly influence our daily lives. Students investigate basic economic theory, principles, institutions, and problems through practical applications. A study of economics will help students understand this always changing global economy. The value of money, the way goods are distributed, interest rates and the Federal Reserve, plant closings and lay-offs, the Stock Market, and wage rates are just a few of the topics covered.

PSYCHOLOGY & PERSONAL GROWTH

Grade 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit

Description: This course provides a fundamental understanding of the basic principles of psychology by examining the various theories of counseling as they apply to human behavior. Students will learn to apply these principles to their own lives in order to help them grow as a person. In addition, the course will cover the basic structures of the human psyche, counseling techniques, dream analysis, psychological disorders and other aspects of human behavior that affect our everyday lives. Designed for those students interested in a career in Psychology or simply growing as a person.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY

Grade 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit

Prerequisite: Students must have a 3.2 GPA or higher to enroll in the class. Students may not take both Psychology courses.

Description: AP Psychology is a comprehensive examination of the field of psychology from a historical, scientific, theoretical and biological perspective. Historically, students will learn about the various perspectives of psychologist throughout history. Scientifically, students will explore significant factors in research and popular studies on human learning, motivation, personality and psychosocial development. From a theoretical perspective, students will examine human behavior from the psychodynamic, behavioral, cognitive and humanistic approach. Including, how these approaches view abnormality. Finally, students will study the human brain and other biological influences on mental processes. By gaining a better understanding of the dynamics of the human mind, students will come to a deeper understanding of themselves, others and how our behavior is shaped by perception and interaction with the world around us. Students are required to take the AP Exam in May at the prevailing fee. In preparation for this class, students are assigned a summer reading, due on the first day of class.

U.S. SOCIETY & CULTURE

Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  1/2 Credit

Prerequisite: None

Description: Junior and Seniors will focus on the social development of the United States during the 20th Century. Students will examine our history during this time period through various social and cultural means, such as film, music, television, and literature. We will focus on many social studies related issues including social development through cultural vehicles like film or television, political implications or activism and protest as exclaimed in music literature, and television, etc. The overall objective of this class is to allow students to view the United States in the 20th century and beyond through a lens outside of what they would get in a traditional history course, and gain a thorough understanding of what it meant to be a person during the various decades and eras that have defined different generations.
THEOLOGY

CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture (Old Testament)
Who is Jesus? (New Testament)
Mission of Jesus (Christology)
Jesus Christ’s Mission Continues in the Church (Ecclesiology) and History of the Catholic Church
Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ
Life in Jesus Christ (Morality)
Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society (Catholic Social Teaching)
Responding to the Call of Jesus Christ (Catholic Lifestyles/Vocations)
Interreligious Ecumenical Issues (Religions of the World)

Electives:
Theology of Ministry
Death and Life

• Seniors create a service project rooted in researching social justice issues and creating/executing a project to address one of those issues.
• Juniors give back to their parishes through service hours as a requirement in their Theology class.
• Each student takes a year of religious studies for each year in attendance at Alter.
• Theology classes promote critical thinking and are energizing.
• Theology classes challenge the students to “own their faith”.
• Theology teachers are involved in bringing the student’s faith to life through activities:
  - Mr. Rich: Key Club
  - Mr. Mahle: Right to Life; Men’s Fellowship; Trips to Stuebenville
  - Mr. Conard: Mission Trips; Kairos; Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior Retreats
  - Ms. Dintaman: Dare to Care; WAM; Bible Study; Mission Trips
• In addition to four year of required Theology there are two electives:
  - Theology of Ministry
  - Death and Life
• Every student receives a Bible and a Catechism of the Catholic Church
• The Theology Department scope and sequence follows the the United States Catholic Conference of Bishop’s Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age.
Each student takes a year of religious studies for each year in attendance at Alter. In light of the United States Catholic Conference of Bishop’s Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age and the Archdiocesan Course of Studies for Secondary Schools, the Theology Department adopted the following course sequence and descriptions.

THEOLOGY 1: SEMESTER ONE: THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST IN SCRIPTURE
Grade 9  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: The purpose of this course is for the student to encounter Jesus, the living Word through a study of the Bible. They will learn how to read the Bible, and will become familiar with the major sections of the Bible. Of particular interest will be the Old Testament where the student will be introduced to Salvation History as the revelation of God to His people and that Jesus is the ultimate revelation to us from God.
Note: The New American Bible is required all four years of study and is provided for the student during their first semester at Alter.

THEOLOGY 1: SEMESTER TWO: WHO IS JESUS
Grade 9  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: The purpose of this course is for the student to investigate their knowledge about, understanding of, and relationship with Jesus. This is a course wherein the student focus is on the nature of Jesus Christ. Through a continuing New Testament study of Jesus (with the focus on the Gospels) the student will recognize Jesus as the ultimate revelation to us from God. In learning about Jesus the students will also learn who he calls them to be.

THEOLOGY 2: SEMESTER ONE: PASCHAL MYSTERY: THE MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST
Grade 10  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theology 1
Description: This course helps the student to grasp the Paschal Mystery. The students begin by reviewing the Genesis story of our original parents, their original state of holiness and justice and their Original Sin to which God responded with a promise. The students will trace this promise through the covenants of the Old Testament and the fulfillment of the covenants in the person of Jesus. The study will culminate in the study of the effects of the Resurrection. This is a Christology course.

THEOLOGY 2: SEMESTER TWO: THE CHURCH: CHRIST’S MISSION CONTINUES IN THE WORLD TODAY
Grade 10  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theology 1 and Theology 2 (1st Semester)
Description: This course introduces the role and importance of the Church as the primary institution that carries on the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. The students will investigate the ways Christ is constantly present in the Church and will study the historical origins of the Church, examining key growth moments of the Church. (Church History)

THEOLOGY 3: SEMESTER ONE: THE SACRAMENTS OF CHRIST
Grade 11  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theology 2
Description: This course strives to help the students recognize that the sacraments are essential for any and all who walk the path of Jesus. Through an investigation of the sacraments: their history, their ritual, and their symbols the students will appreciate how the sacraments draw us closer to God and to one another.

THEOLOGY 3: SEMESTER TWO: OUR LIFE IN CHRIST
Grade 11  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: Theology 2 and Theology 3 (Semester 1)
Description: This course strives to help the students recognize meaning of discipleship. Through the course the students will confront the challenges to living as a disciple of Jesus and develop an understanding of Christian morality.
THEOLOGY 4: SEMESTER ONE: LIVING AS A DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST IN SOCIETY (CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING)
Grade 12  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: The purpose of this course is to introduce the students to the Church’s social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ’s concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church’s social teaching and mission. The student continues the course by studying the vocations of life: how Christ calls us to live. Students learn what it means to live life for the benefit of others and the value in considering a vocation in the service to the Christian community.

THEOLOGY 4: SEMESTER TWO: RESPONDING TO THE CALL OF JESUS CHRIST (CATHOLIC LIFESTYLES AND VOCATIONS) AND ECUMENICAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS ISSUES
Grade 12  Required  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: The purpose of this course is to invite the student to embrace their personal response to the call of Jesus Christ through a study of Catholic lifestyles and vocations. To empower the student to answer their call. Following this the student will embark on a study to help the students understand the manner in which the Catholic Church relates to non-Catholic Christians as well as to other religions of the world. Building on the foundational truth that Jesus Christ established the Catholic Church and entrusted to her the fullness of God’s Revelation, the course is intended to help students to recognize the ways in which important spiritual truths can also be found in non-Catholic Christian churches and ecclesial communities as well as in non-Christian religions. It is also intended to help them to recognize the ways in which other systems of belief and practice differ from the Catholic faith.

The Theology department also offers two electives for the students if they wish to study Theology beyond the required courses. These electives are only offered to upperclassmen.

THEOLOGY OF MINISTRY
Grade 12  Elective  2 Semesters  1 Credit
Prerequisite: Recommendation of Theology Teacher
Description: This is an elective course in which students will investigate ministry within the church. The course will provide students with practical ministry experience at school and in the larger church. Students will take on leadership roles within the Peer Ministry Program and coordinate various ministries for their peers. Students will study the theology of Christian ministry and develop a vision of ministry. They will investigate the many and varied ministries in the church and acquire the skills and knowledge needed to minister to others. They will take leadership roles in ministry work within and outside of the school.

DEATH AND LIFE
Grade 11, 12  Elective  1 Semester  ½ Credit
Prerequisite: None
Description: This course aims to help the student comprehend the issues surrounding death in order to fully embrace their own life. The goals are: to help the student cope with their own dying/death; to help the student help others cope with dying/death; and to help the student lead a fuller richer life. It is designed for the junior or senior who wishes to delve further into their spirituality and the role it plays in their everyday life decisions.
WORLD LANGUAGES

CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS:

- French 1, 2, 3, 4 (Honors)
- French 5 (Honors)
- German 1, 2, 3, 4 (Honors)
- German 5 (Honors)
- Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 (Honors)
- Spanish 5 (Honors)

- The Foreign Language department works to motivate students to learn a world language working toward a level of independence and a desire to continue to learn the foreign language at the next level.
- 98% of students who took the CAPE Assessment received from 1 to 4 semesters of college credit for world language.
- Alter students have traveled to France, Germany and Spain on trips organized by the department.
- Through the French, German and Spanish Language Clubs, students are involved in a variety of activities including the Dayton Art Institute Oktoberfest.
- Students participate in cross-curricular projects with other departments, such as music and cooking.
Prerequisites:

**Level 1**
Reserved for novice students or for those needing intensive remediation of basic skills.
Grade 9 - Satisfactory score on the Alter Placement Test and in language skills
Grade 10, 11, 12 - C average in English and foreign language department chairperson signature

**Level 2**
Grade 9 - Satisfactory score on Alter's Placement Test and in language skills, satisfactory score on the Alter Foreign Language Diagnostic Test and/or and the department chairperson's recommendation
Grade 10, 11, 12 - C average in Level 1 and signature of Level 1 teacher

**Level 3**
C average in Level 2 and signature of Level 2 teacher

**Level 4**
C average in Level 3 and signature of Level 3 teacher

**Level 5**
C average in Level 4 and signature of Level 4 teacher

*Level 4 and 5 classes are weighted.*

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**FRENCH 1**
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
This course introduces the novice student to all aspects of foreign language instruction: cultural, and reading. The student will be well acquainted with French structure and basic conversational skills. Vocabulary building will also be emphasized. The cultural emphasis will be primarily on Paris.

**FRENCH 2**
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
This course is designed to maintain and develop oral/aural competence while developing written and reading skills in French. The study of grammar is continued and there is a progressive development of the writing skills as well as of the cultural awareness of France and other French-speaking countries. Vocabulary building continues to be an important component within this course.

**FRENCH 3**
Grade 10, 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
Increased competence enables the serious language student to refine the basic listening, speaking, reading and writing skills acquired in French 1 and 2.

**FRENCH HONORS 4**
Grade 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
In French 4 and 5 the student is required to use all the skills learned previously. Free discussion in French is expected and encouraged. The French culture and thought are studied through various forms of literature including full length classical literary works. Skill in composition, including the grammatical intricacies of the French language, is further redefined.

**FRENCH HONORS 5**
Grade 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
In French 4 and 5 the student is required to use all the skills learned previously. Free discussion in French is expected and encouraged. The French culture and thought are studied through various forms of literature including full length classical literary works. Skill in composition, including the grammatical intricacies of the French language, is further redefined.

**GERMAN 1**
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
This course introduces novice students to the German language through the four areas of language: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Primary emphasis is on mastering the basics of German grammar, acquiring vocabulary, and beginning communications skills. In addition, students start to learn about the geography, cultural traditions and history of Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

**GERMAN 2**
Grade 9, 10, 11, 12
Elective
2 Semesters
1 Credit
The second year of German is a continuation of German 1. Students participate in a comprehensive program composed of grammar, vocabulary and communicative activities. Emphasis is placed on expanding proficiency in speaking, reading and writing. The second year will continue the students’ exposure to the German culture. A variety of techniques will be used for optimal achievement of language proficiency.
GERMAN 3  
Elective

This course continues to develop a greater proficiency in speaking, reading, writing and listening skills. More detailed grammar will be incorporated into the activities. The serious language student is expected to increase his/her awareness of the Germanic cultures by reading excerpts from German literature, contemporary magazines, newspaper articles and internet sites. Students will expand upon material used in class with authentic forms of assessment including original videotaped narratives.

GERMAN HONORS 4

In German 4 serious students are expected to achieve greater language proficiency in speaking, listening, reading and writing. Acquiring new vocabulary tailored to real-life situations will be expanded and the study of grammar will be more intricate. Students will read literature and continue to fine-tune writing skills. Emphasis is also on studying and presenting cultural, historical and current issues.

GERMAN HONORS 5

German 5 students continue to advance their reading, writing, listening and speaking skills. A review of grammar and vocabulary will be extensive for preparation of further studies at the college level. Students will work independently on specific projects to obtain greater understanding of German poetry, drama, art, literature, film and music. Discussion and presentation of current events, culture and tourism will be expected to increase proficiency in German.

SPANISH 1

This course introduces students to all aspects of foreign language learning: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and Hispanic culture. Learners in this course will become familiar with basic conversational and writing skills, will develop their ability to understand spoken Spanish, and will begin reading short passages. Basic grammatical concepts are stressed. Emphasis is placed on practical use of the language.

SPANISH 2

Spanish 2 continues the development of skills established in Spanish 1. Students will extend their ability to read and write in Spanish, while broadening their capacity to understand and respond in practical conversation scenarios. In addition, students will continue the study of Hispanic culture and customs. Vocabulary and grammatical precision are key elements of instruction.

SPANISH 3

Spanish 3 is a challenging yet accessible course designed to continue the advancement of skills in all four areas of foreign language competence: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. The serious language student is expected to master complex grammar topics, to increase proficiency in speaking and listening tasks, to develop fluency in reading and writing, and to increase his/her awareness of Hispanic cultures.

SPANISH HONORS 4

This upper-level course provides a thorough review of the major components of Spanish grammar, including more complex syntax and structures. Students will sample Hispanic literature they increase fluency while speaking, reading, listening, and writing. As students continue their study of the Spanish-speaking world, they will view authentic short films and listen to audio excerpts of native speakers.

SPANISH HONORS 5

Spanish 5 students employ advanced foreign language skills developed in previous courses to read and respond to some of the Hispanic world’s most well-known authors of poetry, prose, and drama. In addition, classroom discussion is held in Spanish about diverse topics, including history, art, literature, and current events. A comprehensive review demands mastery of Spanish grammar. Spanish 5 is weighted as an honors course.
It’s where you belong!

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