



St. Lawrence Seminary High School

Curriculum Guide

Policies

2022-2023

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Total Credits Required = 24

Among the total 24 credits required are the following:

4.0 credits	English, including writing and composition*
3.0 credits	Social Studies, including state and local governments*
3.0 credits	Science*
3.0 credits	Mathematics*
1.5 credits	Physical Education*
.5 credits	Health Education (taken from 7th to 12th grade)*
2.0 credits	World Language (2.0 credits of the same language)
.5 credit	Humanities (senior year)
.5 credit	Communications (ordinarily during sophomore year)
.5 credit	Fine Arts (ordinarily during sophomore year)
varies	Religion (full year course each year a student attends SLS)
varies	Guidance (either Freshman Guidance for freshmen, or Advanced Guidance for transfer students)

*Indicates a requirement of Wisconsin for graduation

Usually, the required courses are taken at the time indicated below. However, with the consent of the Dean of Studies, they can be taken in a different year. Specific seminary course requirements may be waived.

Freshman: Religion; Physical Education; English; World History; Freshman Guidance; a mathematics course (usually Algebra); a science course (usually General Science). In addition, the student is able to choose an elective from the World Language or Technology Education departments.

Sophomore: Religion; Physical Education; English; a mathematics course (usually Geometry); a science course (usually Biology); a semester of Music Appreciation; a semester of Communications; a semester of American Government; a semester of U.S. History 10. In addition, the student is able to choose an elective from the World Language department.

Junior: Religion; Physical Education; English; U.S. History; a semester of Health (*if needed). In addition, two credits must be taken from the World Language, Science or Mathematics departments.

Senior: Religion; Physical Education; English; a semester of Humanities. In addition, one credit must be taken from the World Language, Science or Mathematics departments.



COLLEGE PREPARATION & DUAL CREDIT

Since St Lawrence Seminary has, as part of the concrete implementation of its purpose, the preparation of adolescents for active ministry in the Catholic Church, its academic curriculum reflects a strong bias toward college preparation.

Certain colleges and universities may not require particular courses (world language and higher-level math) for admission. Even in these cases, however, the student may satisfy part of the college degree requirements by carrying these courses in high school. A student who is contemplating a particular college should also investigate the CLEP (College Level Examination Program) or similar programs in that institution to see if he may be qualified to take tests through which he may earn advanced college placement and/or college credit.

Several upper level courses are offered for dual credit through partnering universities. Any student who meets the strict academic requirements set down by that university may enroll and receive college as well as high school credit for the course. The Dean of Studies of the seminary assists any student who wishes to partake in this dual registration process. Tuition fees are to be dealt with by the university and the parents of the student who chooses this option.

PROVISIONS FOR GRANTING CREDIT

The seminary has elected the Carnegie Unit as its ordinary means for granting credit. According to national norms, a Carnegie Unit is the amount of credit given for the successful completion of a course that meets 40 minutes daily, five days per week, for at least 36 weeks, or the equivalent amount of time within the school year. The equivalent time is 120 clock hours. The seminary may grant credit by means of "credit by examination" in exceptional cases. In this case, the credit is given on a performance basis by means of approved examinations covering the content ordinarily included in a regular school course in the subject. Such credit will be awarded on a Pass/Fail basis.

The seminary does not offer summer school courses for credit. It does accept summer school credits earned in some other accredited high school, provided that these are not courses specifically required for seminary graduation, and that permission of the seminary's Dean of Studies has been obtained in writing before enrolling in any other school for a course that is being transferred into St Lawrence Seminary. This permission is never granted to avoid taking a class at St. Lawrence Seminary.

GRADING AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE

The seminary uses the alphabetical grades "A" to "F", with pluses and minuses, on a 4-point grading system: A = 4 points; B = 3 points; C = 2 points; D = 1 point; F = 0 points. The points are added for each class and the total is divided by the number of credits to arrive at the Grade Point Average (G.P.A.).



A minimum acceptable achievement is a "C" average, or a 2.00 grade point average on the 4-point scale. A student must earn at least a "D-" in order to receive credit for a course.

Several courses are on a Pass/Fail grading system, with pluses and minuses. These classes include Band and Choir. These courses do count for graduation, but they are not included in the grade point average of the student.

A mark of "I" or "Incomplete" is given only in exceptional circumstances approved by the Dean of Studies/Director of School. After returning to school, the student who has received an "I" has a maximum of five days to make up the incomplete work. Incomplete work that is not made up is automatically recorded as a zero in the student's quarter or semester grade average. The circumstances that allow for the mark of "I" include serious illness, which prohibits the student from attending classes for five days or longer, or/and emergency situations that cause him to be away from school for an extended period of time.

Report cards are distributed to the students and their parents each quarter. In addition to the quarterly mark, a semester mark is given which determines the overall grade for the course. In each of the four mid-quarters, an additional assessment is made by the faculty of the students' progress. Students who have not performed to a minimum of a "C-" level and the parents of those students are notified at mid-quarter concerning the lack of progress.

CLASS DAY AND COURSE LOAD REQUIREMENT

The school follows a seven period class day, with two additional activity periods. The class periods are typically forty-five minute periods. Band and Chorus are offered in the activity periods (5th and 9th periods), and do not constitute part of the course load requirement.

All freshmen, sophomore and junior students are expected to carry a full class load equivalent to 7 credits. The only exceptions to this are those students who are advised by the Rector or the Director of School to lighten their academic load because of academic or personal reasons, or difficulties in scheduling requires schedule modifications. Senior students have the option of choosing a study period during one of the regular seven class periods. If they exercise this option, they are limited to one course in the technology department. If they carry a full load, they may elect two such courses.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND COURSE CHANGES

Each student has the ultimate responsibility for his schedule. He will be assisted in this effort by the Dean of Studies. Teacher recommendations and the talents and needs of the student will be considered before final approval of the course schedule is given.

A student who wishes to change an already approved course selection after the "add / drop" period during the first few days of the semester has passed must seek the approval of the teacher(s) whose classes will be affected and the Dean of Studies. The approval is not ordinarily



given because of low grades alone. A written note of approval by the teacher involved must be obtained by the student and given to the Dean of Studies before the change can be finalized.

HONOR ROLL

The Honor Roll is determined at the end of each nine-week grading period. Students qualify for the Rector's List Honor Roll if they have a grade point average of 3.75 to 4.00. They qualify for the Dean's List Honor Roll if they have a grade point average of 3.50 to 3.74. The parents of the students receive notification of this honor. In addition, the names of the students are listed on a special honor bulletin board.

DETERMINATION OF VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

The valedictorian and salutarian of the graduating class shall be determined by the grade point average, carried out to the third decimal place, at the end of seven semesters of high school work. In case of a tie in the grade point average, the highest composite score in the ACT test taken prior to the end of the seventh semester shall break the tie.

In order to qualify for these honors, a student must have completed five or more semesters of his high school work at Saint Lawrence Seminary. The marks of academic classes that are not on a pass/fail grading schedule shall be used to determine the grade point average.

Only those class marks that have been earned while a student at Saint Lawrence Seminary shall be used to determine that average.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The local chapter of the seminary's Honor Society is affiliated with the National Honor Society of Secondary Schools. The Rector annually appoints a Chapter Advisor, who may serve consecutive terms. The Rector has a right to approve all activities and decisions of the chapter, which extends to the selection and dismissal of members.

The Rector also appoints five voting faculty members who along with the non-voting sixth member, the Chapter Advisor, comprise the faculty council. The faculty council meets to select and consider non-selection, dismissal and other actions.

Membership is an honor bestowed upon a student. No student has a right to be selected for membership. Selection for membership is by a faculty council and is based on outstanding scholarship, character, leadership, and service. The selection of each member to the chapter is by a majority vote of the faculty council. Candidates must have been in attendance at the seminary for the equivalent of two semesters.



The local chapter considers only juniors and seniors for membership. The minimum requirement is a cumulative grade point average of 3.30. The faculty council may change the required cumulative grade point average according to the norms of the Society.

While the academic criterion is important and is considered first, membership is not on the basis of grades alone. Three other criteria are used, namely leadership, service, and character. Leadership roles can be exercised in terms of offices the student has held in school and in other organizations, and leadership that exists outside elected positions. Service can be defined in terms of the value of contributions the student has made to school, classmates and community, and the student's attitude toward service. Character encompasses such things as cooperation with school administration, honesty, reliability, truthfulness, courtesy, and respect for others. Students who have been on probation or have a series of discipline occurrences are considered poor membership risks.

The faculty council may conduct a survey of academically eligible students to obtain information regarding service and leadership activities. Such a survey is not an application for membership and does not guarantee selection.

If a student or parent complains about non-selection to the Rector, and if they believe that some kind of technical mistake has been made, they may ask the faculty council to reconvene to review the situation. The National Council does not review the judgment of the faculty council regarding selection of individual members to the local chapter.

The Chapter Advisor or the Rector notifies those students selected. An appropriate induction ceremony is held annually, and members are given membership cards and pins as a proof of their membership.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

The normal criteria for academic probation is a GPA lower than a 2.00, two Ds (of any kind) or one F in a marking period. A student is ordinarily placed on probation at the end of a quarter or semester. Freshmen may receive special attention at any juncture in which their academic progress seems to be faltering. Both the parents and the student are notified in the case of academic probation.

ACADEMIC HONESTY AND CHEATING

Cheating is an extremely serious matter. Students are expected to maintain academic honesty in their studies. Infractions of academic honesty will have consequences as determined by the Dean of Students.



TESTING PROGRAM

Each year, the seminary offers a series of standardized tests. One of the major purposes of the testing program is to provide teachers, parents and students with information to aid student learning. The results of all such tests are given to the students as a useful tool for planning future educational priorities.

Freshmen: PreACT

This is a high school achievement test that is utilized to measure academic development, helps identify career interests and assists students in preparing for the ACT. This test is administered to freshmen in late August upon arrival at SLS to set a benchmark score and is administered again in spring to monitor growth.

Sophomores: PreACT

This is a high school achievement test that is utilized to measure academic development, helps identify career interests and assists students in preparing for the ACT. This test is administered to sophomores in spring to monitor growth.

Juniors: PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) and ACT (American College Test)

The PSAT test measures general verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities and offers scholarship competitions conducted by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation. It is administered in October to a select number of juniors who choose to participate. The ACT is a college admissions test that evaluates a student's understanding of English, math, reading, science and writing and determines college and career readiness. It is administered to all juniors in the spring of the year.

Another college admissions test that is given is the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT 1). While all juniors will take the ACT, students should check with the college(s) they are considering and take the test the college recommends. Most Wisconsin schools require the ACT.

If a student chooses, he may take the ACT or SAT more than once; some testing dates are available throughout the summer or in the fall of a student's senior year. The seminary provides transportation for ACT/SAT within a reasonable distance. Those who have not yet taken the ACT/SAT test or who wish to retake a summer test may do so at the available testing dates. Students wishing to take the ACT/SAT at other test sites must confirm this with the school counselors and Rector.

Some international students may also be required by colleges to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). It measures the ability to understand North American English. International students are able to obtain more information from the school counselors concerning the dates and locations of this test.



2022-2023 Course Offerings

Business Education

235 Personal Finance (.5)
240 Accounting (.5)
250 Business Law (.5)

English

711/12 Freshman English (1.0)
715/16 Freshman English 9+ (1.0)
721/22 Sophomore English (1.0)
725 Communications (.5)
731/732 American Literature (1.0)
741/42 World Literature (1.0)^
745 Modern World Literature (.5)^
746 Intro. to Literary Genres (.5)^
750 Writing (.5)
751 Writing II (.5)
755 Speech (.5)

Fine Arts

120 Music Appreciation (.5)
125 Music Theory (.5)
130 Band (.6)
135 Choir (.6)
140 Art (.5)

Mathematics

611/12 Algebra (1.0)
621/22 Geometry (1.0)
631/32 Advanced Algebra (1.0)
635 Algebra 3 (.5)
641 Pre-Calculus (.5)
643 Probability & Statistics (.5)
645 Trigonometry (.5)
651/52 Calculus (1.0)^
661 Computer Science (.5)

Physical Education

811/12 Phy. Ed. 9 (.4)
821/22 Phy. Ed. 10 (.4)
831/32 Phy. Ed. 11 (.4)
841/42 Phy. Ed. 12 (.4)
835 Health (.5)
815 Freshman Guidance (1.0)

Science

511/12 General Science (1.0)
521/22 Biology I (1.0)
525/26 Biology II (1.0)
531/32 Chemistry (1.0)
535/36 Advanced Chemistry (1.0)
541/42 Physics (1.0)

Social Studies

411/12 World History (1.0)
421 American Government (.5)
422 U.S. History 10 (.5)
431/32 U.S. History 11 (1.0)^
440 Social Problems (.5)
450 Psychology (.5)
455 Economics (.5)

Technology and Engineering

95/96 Wood Fabrication I (1.0)
97/98 Wood Fabrication II & III (.5)
100 Photography (.5)
101 Graphic Design (.5)
102 Small Engine Repair (.5)
110 Engineering and Drafting (.5)

Theology

911/12 Freshman Theology (.6)
921 Jesus, the Christ (.3)
922 Meeting Jesus in Sacraments (.3)
931 Christian Morality (.3)
932 Church History (.3)
941/42 Senior Theology (.6)^

World Languages

301/02 Spanish 1 (1.0)
303/04 Spanish 2 (1.0)
305/06 Spanish 3 (1.0)
307/08 Spanish 4 (1.0)
309/10 Spanish 5 (1.0)
311/12 Spanish 1 for Native Speakers (1.0)
313/14 Spanish 2 for Native Speakers (1.0)
321/22 German 1 (1.0)
323/24 German 2 (1.0)
325/26 German 3 (1.0)
327/28 German 4 (1.0)
341/42 Latin 1 (1.0)
343/44 Latin 2 (1.0)
345/46 Latin Prose (1.0)
347/48 Latin Poetry (1.0)

^Dual Credit Offering

