



# RIGOR COURSES

**Available to be taken for credit for any High School student, even those not enrolled in Mother of Divine Grace School!**

## *What are rigor courses?*

Rigor courses are part of a new interdisciplinary program that gives students the opportunity to gain a solid foundation in philosophy and theology and literature.

Students will meet once a week with a teacher in an Adobe Connect online classroom. Each week there will be a reading assignment, a live discussion, and questions to answer in writing. There will also be papers assigned and a final exam each semester. Some classes also include a weekly recorded lecture. See individual course descriptions below for prices, book lists, and more information.

## *Who can take a rigor course?*

Rigor courses are open to all high school students for credit, including those not enrolled in Mother of Divine Grace School. High school graduates and adults can participate in the classes through an audit-only version of the course.

For high school students not enrolled in MODG, there is an additional \$50 registration fee. There is a reduced course fee for the audit only version.

## *How do I sign up?*

Fill out the registration form [here](#).

You will then be contacted with the rest of the application process.

**Cost: \$530/credit - \$400 audit-only version**

# Rigor Course Descriptions

## Sacred Scripture

*with Rachel Montanaro*

**Open To:** Students in Grades 11-12 (for credit). High school graduates and adults (for auditing).

**Materials Used:** The Bible, Various encyclicals and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Introduction to the Bible by Fr. Laux

**Description:** This is a more advanced Bible course. In this course, students will read the entire Bible. This course begins with some of the key encyclicals on Scripture and uses Father Laux's text Introduction to the Bible as a framework. The focus of this course will be on the Bible as the revelation of God through His Word, which is fully realized in the Person of Jesus Christ. Each week, there will be a reading assignment, an in-class discussion, mandatory discussion board posts, and occasional lectures. **Class meets once a week, 75 minutes duration.**

1 HS Credit.

**Cost:** \$530.00 | **Audit Cost:** \$400.00

**Time Offered:** Class is full for 2018-2019.

## Sacred Doctrine

*with Laura Berquist*

**Open To:** Students in Grade 11-12 (for credit). High school graduates and adults (for auditing).

**Materials Used:** Various encyclicals, selections from St. Thomas Aquinas, and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Some other texts from Ralph McInerney, Scott Hahn.

**Description:** Sacred Doctrine is an enhanced Catholic Doctrine course. Students learn the same material covered in Catholic Doctrine, but they read it from original sources: papal encyclicals and St. Thomas, as well as more modern theologians like Ralph McInerney. Students should expect to read 1-2 encyclicals a week, roughly 30 pages. They are also required to write 350-word summaries a week on ProBoards after each class. This is the most intense rigor course. ***Class meets once a week, 75 minutes duration.***

1 HS Credit.

**Cost:** \$530.00 | **Audit Cost:** \$400.00

**Time Offered:** Tuesday - 11:30 AM PT

# Rigor Course Descriptions

## Intro to Philosophy *with James Berquist*

**Open To:** Students in Grade 11-12 (for credit). High school graduates and adults (for auditing).

**Materials Used:** Selections from Aristotle's Organon, Physics, De Anima, and Ethics, and selections from St. Thomas Aquinas' works

**Description:** This course gives an introduction to the various areas of philosophy, beginning with an introduction to logic, which is prior to philosophy. It also gives an overview of natural philosophy, ethics, and metaphysics. Each week there will be a reading assignment, a recorded lecture, a live discussion, and mandatory discussion board posts. This is a one semester course (first semester) and students are encouraged to take Philosophy of Nature second semester. **Class meets once a week, 90 minutes duration.**

1 HS Credit.

**Cost:** \$530.00 | **Audit Cost:** \$400.00

**Time Offered:** Tuesday - 2:00 PM PT

## Philosophy of Nature *with James Berquist*

**Open To:** Students in Grade 11-12 (for credit). High school graduates and adults (for auditing). Intro to Philosophy course is a necessary prerequisite.

**Materials Used:** Aristotle's Physics

**Description:** This course is based on Aristotle's Physics, which treats of the principles of nature and is a precursor to understanding the study of God in nature. Students will become familiar with key philosophical terms, including the four causes and act and potency, which are foundational to any further philosophical and even theological consideration. Each week there will be a reading assignment, a recorded lecture, a live discussion, and mandatory discussion board posts. This is a *second semester only* course. **Class meets once a week, 90 minutes duration.**

1 HS Credit.

**Cost:** \$530.00 | **Audit Cost:** \$400.00

**Time Offered:** TBD

# Rigor Course Descriptions

## Ethics & Politics

*with Jed Crook*

**Open To:** Students in Grade 11-12 (for credit). High school graduates and adults (for auditing).

**Materials Used:** Aristotle's Ethics, selections from Marx, Locke, and Hobbes (provided), selections of St. Thomas' Summa Theologica (provided), various encyclicals, Federalist and Anti Federalist Papers, the Constitution, Common Sense, Democracy in America, and Economics in One Lesson.

**Description:** This is a two-credit course. First semester earns "Ethics & Politics: Ethics" credit and second semester earns "Ethics & Politics: Adv American Gov & Principles of Economics" credit. The course covers Aristotle's Ethics, a consideration of what it means to be a citizen, a discussion of law through the light of St. Thomas, and culminates with an understanding of the type of government laid out by our Founding Fathers. Economic principles are also discussed in depth. Each week there will be a reading assignment, an in-class discussion, mandatory discussion board posts, and occasional lectures. *Class meets once a week, 90 minutes duration.*

2 HS Credits.

**Cost:** \$1,060.00 | **Audit Cost:** \$800.00

**Time Offered:** Wednesday - 12:30 PM PT

## Literary Analysis

**Open To:** Students in Grade 11-12 (for credit). High school graduates and adults (for auditing).

**Description:** This course covers classic works of literature: Ivanhoe, Emma and Till We Have Faces are the longer selections in the course. The works of Shakespeare covered include: King Lear and A Midsummer's Night's Dream. Tolstoy's Forged Coupon, Kafka's Metamorphoses, and Chaucer's Clerk's Tale are among the works read. Other authors include Flannery O'Connor, Leo Tolstoy, Henry James, Nathaniel Hawthorne, G.K. Chesterton, Oscar Wilde, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. Weekly discussion board posts will be required most weeks. There will be a final exam each semester. *Class meets once a week, 60 minutes duration.*

1 HS Credit.

**Cost:** \$530.00 | **Audit Cost:** \$400.00

**Times Offered:**

Tuesday - 10:15 AM PT

Thursday - 11:30 AM PT

Thursday - 1:00 PM PT