

THEOLOGY

Revised March 2015

RATIONALE

The study of God's Word is basic to the educational program at Metro-East Lutheran High School. It provides the foundation for the learning disciplines and serves as the guide and norm for daily living. Most importantly, God's Word shows us our sinful nature and lost condition and presents God's plan of salvation for mankind.

The course of study leads the student through the Old and New Testaments, identifies and presents a study of the key Christian (Lutheran) doctrines of the Church, exposes the student to the various major religions, denominations and sects, and leads the student to explore God's desire to be the integral part of his/her life. This knowledge and understanding, hopefully, will reflect itself in a life of faith, service and witness.

GOALS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Based upon the above, the goals of the Theology Department are to help the student:

1. Grow in faith through the study of Scripture.
2. Understand his/her sinful condition and the necessity of God's great love for man.
3. Become familiar with God's specific plan of salvation.
4. Learn the use of the Bible and other supportive resources in an effective manner.
5. Know that God has a purpose and plan for his/her life.
6. Address general and specific aspects of relationship with God and neighbor.
7. Be an active member of a Christian community while working in a Christian and secular society.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Theology 9	-	1 credit
Theology 10	-	1 credit
Theology 11 (dual credit possible)	-	1 credit
Religion 12	-	1 credit
*Advanced Topics in Theology (ATT)	-	1 credit

A student must successfully complete one semester of Theology for each semester of attendance.

* indicates an Honors course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

THEOLOGY 9

The student will:

1. Have a greater knowledge of the Bible as God's Word and as a book.
2. Be familiar with the history of God's people, and the teachings about God and salvation.
3. Be able to apply lessons from the Bible to daily life.
4. Be able to use different translations to assist in the interpretation of Bible passages.
5. Be led to a closer personal relationship with God.

THEOLOGY 10

During and on completion of this course the student will:

1. Have opportunity, through study of Scripture, to "grow in grace and knowledge" (2 Peter 3:18) and learn of the unfailing love of Christ.
2. Have evidence to support his/her belief that Jesus of Nazareth is the Messiah that was prophesied in the Old Testament.
3. Be able to apply the teachings of Jesus and the apostles to his/her daily life and to make appropriate critical decisions.
4. Be able to identify major themes contained in the epistles.
5. Be able to explain the evangelistic approaches used by the apostles.

THEOLOGY 11

During and on completion of this course, the student will:

1. Examine the basis for and grow stronger in his/her beliefs in light of Scripture.
2. Practice correct methods of Biblical interpretation.
3. Be able to locate Biblical evidence for major Christian teachings.
4. Affirm his/her beliefs of basic Christian doctrines with sound Biblical evidence.
5. Appreciate the importance of continued in-depth study of the Bible.
6. Evaluate the practices and teachings of other religious groups and cults.
7. Formulate an appropriate response and witness to other religious groups.
8. Appreciate the need for sound principles of interpretation.

RELIGION 12

The student will:

1. Have a better understanding of his/her classmates.
2. Be prepared, based on God's Word, to deal with various issues that arise in daily life.
3. Have a greater understanding about what scripture and the Lutheran Church say

about various issues.

4. Be more willing to listen to others' opinions.
5. Be better prepared to determine right and wrong from a scriptural basis.

ADVANCED TOPICS IN THEOLOGY (Honors)

During and on completion of this course, the student will:

1. Become more familiar with the specific teachings of the Lutheran Confessions, as set forth in the *Book of Concord*.
2. Be equipped to apply sound theological principles to everyday situations, specifically in ministry and counseling opportunities.
3. Understand and apply the doctrine of Vocation to the many and various callings – spiritual and secular – in his/her life.
4. Be able to distinguish the true, Scriptural Theology of the Cross from false theologies of glory.
5. Read and evaluate Christian literary works in light of Scripture and the Confessions, as well as applying them to his/her walk with Christ.
6. Read and evaluate the book of Revelation, identify major themes, and relate those concepts to both everyday living and the life of the world to come.