

CURRICULUM – INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

The primary goal of the program of instruction in the schools of the Diocese of Salt Lake City is to provide learning experiences which most effectively inculcate worthwhile attitudes and impart the knowledge and skills necessary for the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, and physical development of the student.

The Catholic Schools Office provides courses of study/curriculum guides for mandatory use in all diocesan schools.

CURRICULUM

Curriculum Guides

Curriculum guides published by the Catholic Schools Office will serve as the official diocesan curriculum guides for all Catholic schools. All schools are required to follow these guides as a minimum standard.

Diocesan curriculum guides are to provide:

1. An integral and consistent curriculum for K-12.
2. Coordination among the various schools.
3. An outline that shows curriculum content, educational philosophy, and commitment to a solid educational process.
4. A basis for coordinating the curriculum between elementary and secondary schools.
5. A basis for establishing diocesan curriculum committees to supplement, update, and adapt the guides to the needs of the local area.

Multiple Textbooks

The Catholic Schools Office follows the policy of multiple adoptions of textbooks and programs. To guarantee the selection of excellent materials, committees are periodically formed at the local school to review all available materials in the appropriate subject areas and make recommendations for school adoption. Secondary schools establish textbook selection within departments with approval of department chairs, academic deans, and principals in accordance with diocesan curriculum guides.

All textbooks, e-books and software must be on the state approved list, if applicable, as well as meet the standards of the diocesan curriculum guides.

Policy 4000 Continued

Curriculum Review Committee

Curriculum evaluation committees consisting of teachers, principals, and/or other curriculum experts are charged with the responsibility of assisting the superintendent in reviewing, revising, and developing implementation for individual subject areas of the curriculum. Changes to curriculum areas are made according to a set subject rotation as determined by the Superintendent.

Preschool Course of Instruction

The basic program in preschool (3 years) includes: religion, language, mathematics, personal-social development, social studies, media-art, music, science, and sensory-motor development.

The basic program in pre-kindergarten (4 years) includes: religion, communication and language arts, mathematics, self, family and community, science, art, physical education, music and rhythm, and technology.

The underlying instructional strategy in preschool and pre-kindergarten is the use of organized and free-play activities that are intended to provide opportunities for the child to interact, explore, and relate successfully in his/her environment.

Primary School Course of Instruction

The basic program in kindergarten through grade two shall include religion, language arts, mathematics, music, art, and physical education. Concepts of social studies, science, health and safety should be incorporated into the basic program. Use of technology should be integrated into the instructional program. Inclusion of foreign language is recommended but optional.

Intermediate School Course of Instruction

The basic program in grades three through five shall include religion, mathematics, language arts, social studies, science, fine arts, physical education, health and safety, and world language. Use of technology should be integrated into the instructional program.

Middle School Course of Instruction

The basic program in grades six through eight is designed to meet the emotional, social, and intellectual needs of the middle school learner. It shall include religion, mathematics, language arts, social studies, science, fine arts, physical education, health and safety, and world language. Use of technology should be integrated into the instructional program.

The essential elements of middle school philosophy and practice are incorporated into the schools of the diocese. These include the use of Advisor/Advisee, Exploratories/Electives, Teaming, Interdisciplinary Teaching, Thematic Units, and Flexible Scheduling.

High School Course of Instruction

Diocesan high schools shall offer a broad based program of liberal arts studies.

Curriculum offerings and content are reviewed/updated by the principal and responsible departments within that school. Reports are made to the Catholic Schools Office as requested by the superintendent.

Special attention should be given to the coordination of curriculum and articulation of student performance expectations between high schools and elementary/middle schools.

All students are required to have no fewer than 27 credits (units) for graduation from secondary schools.

A general norm shall be:

Religion/Theology	4 Credits
English	4 Credits
Mathematics	3 Credits
Social Studies	4 Credits
Science	3 Credits
World Language	2 Credits
Computer Literacy	0.5 Credit
Fine Arts	1 Credit
Physical Education-Health	2 Credits

Additional credits may be required of students in the Honors Program by local school policy.