

Course Registration FAQs-- Class of 2023

******Please review this information in its entirety before submitting your online course requests (due no later than April 26, 2019)******

What does a typical day look like in the schedule of a freshman?

All students at Saint Ignatius follow a nine-period schedule; each period lasts 45 minutes. Freshmen take six classes one semester seven classes the other semester and have at least 75 minutes of free time each day to eat, study, or socialize; there are no mandatory study halls. See the end of this document for examples of typical freshman schedules.

What are the graduation requirements of a Saint Ignatius student?

All students must complete 50 semesters of coursework in the following areas to graduate:

English	8 semesters
Theology	8 semesters
Math	8 semesters
Social Studies	6 semesters (must include US Govt.)
Foreign Language	6 semesters (must be in the same language)
Lab Science	6 semesters
PE/Health	3 semesters (PE may be waived, see below)
Fine Arts	1 semester
Public Speaking	1 semester
Computer Concepts	1 semester
Electives	2 semesters

Does Saint Ignatius “track” students?

We do not believe in limiting students to “honors” or “regular” tracks. Regardless of what courses you take as a freshman, you will still have the option of taking honors or Advanced Placement courses in the future based on your own interests, initiative, and the recommendations of your teachers.

What are my options for my math placement?

The Saint Ignatius Math Department will take a variety of measures to assess the best course for an incoming student. Most students will start in Algebra I, Honors Algebra I, or Honors Geometry, though students can also place into other courses such as Fundamentals of Algebra, Honors Algebra II or beyond. We will examine admissions scores, 8th grade teacher input, and placement testing (if applicable) in this decision. You are strongly encouraged to review the “Math Testing” link at www.ignatius.edu/welcome2023 for detailed information on the math program and placement.

What are my options for my foreign language requirement?

Saint Ignatius offers three primary foreign languages for the freshman year—French, Latin, and Spanish; all students must enroll in a foreign language. We will try to accommodate the student’s first or second choice; however, we reserve the right to place a student in any of the three languages offered. Special attention must be given to the course request deadline of April 26, 2019; students who submit their choices after this date will be subject to assignment of their language. Interested students are invited to take a placement test to determine proficiency and correct placement (e.g., Level 1; Level 1 Honors; Level 2; Level 2 Honors, etc.).

Mandarin Chinese is also available by application to a limited number of freshmen. Refer to the information posted at the bottom of the course registration form (www.ignatius.edu/course-registration).

What can you tell me about the placement examinations in math and foreign language?

Students who feel they might qualify for advanced coursework in these two disciplines during the freshman year (that is, enrollment beyond Honors Algebra or first-year foreign language courses) are encouraged to sit for a placement examination. These tests are intended to help the families and departments determine the appropriate placement for students in the spirit of challenging—yet not overwhelming—they. Final placement is ultimately at the discretion of the department. Placement testing for foreign language requires pre-registration, while for math it does not; there is no charge for any placement exam. Detailed information regarding placement testing (including dates and registration procedures) is available at www.ignatius.edu/welcome2023.

What are my options for my fine art requirement?

Saint Ignatius offers six different fine arts options to incoming freshmen: semester-long courses in Rhetorical Arts, Visual Arts, Musical Arts, or Theater Arts; and year-long courses in Band or Freshman Chorus. Please refer to the Fine Arts department portion of the Course Catalog. Students requesting Band or Freshman Chorus as their first choice will normally be enrolled in that course; we reserve the right to place those who select a semester-long option into any of the four courses based on availability, although we will do our best to accommodate your first choice. All freshmen will take a fine art course.

What are my options for honors courses in the freshman year?

Honors level courses in math, foreign language, and biology are offered in the freshman year. Placements into these courses are *independent and individual decisions*. As mentioned above, there is no tracking at Saint Ignatius. Advanced Placement Modern World History and Honors English I are combined in the Fr. Streicher Humanities Program; students in this program take both courses. There is no honors history or honors English available for freshmen as stand-alone courses.

The curriculum for all honors courses and the requirements for placement into them, are described in the Course Catalog. See above for placement testing in math and languages. All information about placement into honors courses will be communicated by email so be sure to check your school email account regularly.

What about Physical Education and the Waiver for Physical Education?

Effective fall 2019, Saint Ignatius High School will offer physical education waivers. What this means is that students who participate in two athletic seasons, or who are in the marching band for two full years (This MUST include full participation in Band Camp) will be able to waive this graduation requirement. The state requires two semesters of P.E. Attached, you'll find a question and answer document that will help in understanding the program, and how the state administers it. The biggest thing to note is that state law forbids us from implementing the program retroactively. Many students already have taken one semester of P.E. This does not preclude them from applying for a waiver. However, such students will be best served by scheduling an appointment with their guidance counselor to discuss how to best stay on pace to graduate, while still exploring the curricular options this change might allow. Counselors will register students for the waiver like they would register for a class, and the athletic department

will be responsible for verifying compliance. Please refer to the PE waiver at www.ignatius.edu/course-registration for more information.

Are there any summer courses available to me?

Some students are expected to successfully complete summer coursework in reading, English, math, or a combination of those as a condition of their enrollment. Please refer to your acceptance letter to determine if you are expected to complete any of these summer courses.

Any students interested in taking an advanced Fine Arts course during their freshman year may take an optional, for-credit, fine arts course over the summer. The course registration webpage has information on courses available over the summer along with a checkbox to request enrollment information. Taking a summer fine arts class does not take the place of the fine arts course in freshman year, but will earn a student academic credit and placement into an advanced art course during his freshman year.

For those students not expected to take summer courses, there is a summer option to help get prepared for the transition to high school and to Saint Ignatius, in particular. This is a five day program called Introduction to Saint Ignatius High School. More information on this program is found on the course registration webpage along with a checkbox to request enrollment information. The content of this program is covered in the required summer school courses mentioned above so this is an option designed only for those students not taking the required summer school courses.

What are my next steps?

You will need to submit your course requests no later than **April 26, 2019**. The submission form can be found at www.ignatius.edu/welcome2023. It is critical that you meet the deadline for this task; if the course requests are not received by the date due, those courses will be selected by the scheduling software.

When will I get more information about my course schedule for next year?

Tentative math placement decisions will be emailed to parents in mid-May. Tentative foreign language decisions will be emailed in mid- to late-May.

Official class schedules, with times, are distributed to students during their freshman orientation in August.

I've already submitted my course requests but now would like to make a change. What should I do?

If you've changed your mind or made a mistake in your course request submission, please contact ASAP the school counselor assigned to your last name below.

I still have questions about course offerings for next year; whom should I contact?

The Counseling Department is typically the first point of contact for any schedule-related matter. Feel free to contact one of the following department members based on the first letter of your last name should you have any other questions about course registration. *Please note that this person may or may not end up as your counselor next year; final assignments are made in August.*

Last Name	Contact	Phone (216.651.0222)	E-Mail
A-C	Mr. Brian Holleran	ext. 462	bholleran@ignatius.edu
D-G	Mr. Michael Strauss	ext. 271	mstrauss@ignatius.edu

H-L	Mrs. Beth McDonnell	ext. 447	bmcdonnell@ignatius.edu
M-P	Mrs. Mary Walsh	ext.464	mwalsh@ignatius.edu
Q-T	Mrs. Melissa Lessick	ext. 463	mlessick@ignatius.edu
U-Z	Mrs. Megan Giavonette	ext. 449	mgiavonette@ignatius.edu

Sample Freshman Schedules—Class of 2023

For illustration purposes only—note that period assignments will vary (all periods are 45 minutes long). English, math, history, foreign language, and biology courses can be either standard or honors-level depending upon placement.

Standard Schedule		
1 st semester	Per .	2 nd semester
English	1	English
Math	2	Math
World History	3	World History
Foreign Language	4	Foreign Language
<free period>	5	<free period>
Biology	6	Biology
Biology (10 min. class, 30 min. free)	7	Biology (10 min. class, 30 min. free)
Fine Art elective	8	<free period>
Theology	9	Theology

Standard Schedule (+ Band/Freshmen Chorus) <i>(nb—Phys. Ed. deferred to future years)</i>		
1 st semester	Per .	2 nd semester
English	1	English
Math	2	Math
World History	3	World History
Foreign Language	4	Foreign Language
Theology	5	Theology
Biology	6	Biology
Biology (10 min. class, 30 min. free)	7	Biology (10 min. class, 30 min. free)
<free period>	8	<free period>
Band/Fr. Chorus	9	Band/Fr.Chorus