

MILWAUKEE LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

9700 West Grantosa Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53222 (414) 461-6000
www.MilwaukeeLutheran.org www.WeTeachTruth.org

TRANSITION SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Academic Planning Handbook

The **MLHS Transition Services** program provides educational interventions and services for students who have previously received similar services through Journey's Lutheran School (formerly Lutheran Special School), a parochial resource room, or a public-school Individual Education Plan (IEP)

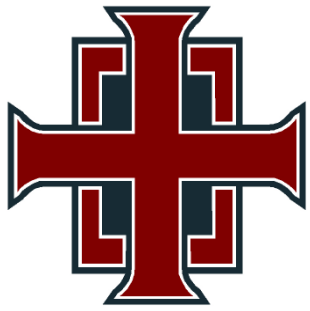
These services may include:

- Supported study hall/tutoring
- Specific study strategy instruction
- Self-contained/alternative course work
- Classroom & testing accommodations or modifications
- Counseling and career investigation

****This pamphlet was created for students participating in the MLHS Transition program to supplement the Milwaukee Lutheran Academic Handbook. ****

Transition Department Staff:

- Mrs. Linda Koebert – Program Chair/Academic Advisor
- Mrs. Katie Meinzen – Resource and Classroom Teacher
- Mr. John Ellenberger –Resource and Classroom Teacher
- Mrs. Tricia Rindahl - Reading Specialist and Classroom Teacher
- Mr. Maynard Saugstad – Resource and classroom teacher
- Mrs. Joan Forke – Teacher



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Milwaukee Lutheran High School's Mission: "Share Jesus; Shape Lives; Develop Leaders"

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

The Transition Department at Milwaukee Lutheran High School is committed to providing Christ-centered, individualized academic and spiritual support to students with mild to moderate disabilities. Our goal is to enable each student to utilize their potential so that they may grow academically, spiritually, and emotionally; successfully transitioning through high school to adulthood as well-adjusted, productive members of their faith community and society as a whole.

Our teachers and staff embrace an inclusive philosophy, which means that every effort is made to include students with disabilities in every aspect of our MLHS curriculum and activities. Operating under this philosophy, we strive to provide a continuum of services through a variety of methods, strategies, and community resources to meet the individual needs of students so that they can grow in their faith and achieve academic success.

DEPARTMENT STANDARDS

Students who participate in Transition Department courses and programs will:

- A. Deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior
- B. Access and utilize reasonable, individualized, appropriate classroom accommodations.
- C. Meet or exceed minimal content standards and requirements for graduation, earning a MLHS diploma.
- D. Develop self-advocacy skills utilizing their unique gifts and academic abilities to craft success in the classroom, the world of work, their interpersonal relationships, and in the community.
- E. Acquire verbal and quantitative skills appropriate to their career and independent living goals.
- F. Explore the history, ethics and beliefs of their community and other cultures.
- G. Understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens.
- H. Use scientific information and skills to understand God's creation and make decisions about themselves and the world in which they live.
- I. Understand how to integrate basic economic principles and financial skills into their current and future lives.
- J. Develop a plan for accessing and acquiring post-secondary job skills, career training and independent living.



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MLHS Transition Program Overview:

The Transition Special Education Services program at Milwaukee Lutheran provides academic support as available for students with a diagnosed disability or impairment that affects his or her ability to function independently within the school environment. The program offers a spectrum of services which includes a modified core curriculum through self-contained classes, resource study hall, reasonable classroom accommodations, and post-secondary planning. Students receive academic support and instruction that promotes self-advocacy, problem-solving, the development of compensatory skills and classroom success.

Students wishing to enroll in the Transition Program must provide current and past assessments indicating evidence of a disability or impairment, and a review of all educational records. A family interview with program staff may also be required. Admission to the program is limited.

Self-contained Classes:

These alternative classes in the core subject areas are designed for students who have demonstrated a need for a modified curriculum. The texts and materials used for these classes are easier to read and are geared toward preparing students for the work world. Classes designated as Transition apply to graduation credits and are appropriate for students intending to enter work or a 2-year post-secondary program after graduation.

Resource Study Hall:

The Study Center provides homework assistance to students during their regularly scheduled study hall period. Textbooks, reference materials, computers, and a support teacher as well as Title one support are available to assist students with their classroom learning. The classroom has access to the building wi-fi and printers.

Regular Classroom Accommodations:

Students with physical or learning disabilities may receive accommodations that allow them a greater chance of success. These are arranged through the academic advisor in conjunction with the regular classroom teacher, support teacher, student and parents. While MLHS does *not* create yearly IEP's, individualized accommodation plans are created to inform teachers of a student's classroom needs.



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Academic and Transition Planning:

A Transition counselor, experienced in guiding persons with disabilities, is available to help students navigate the emotional and academic challenges of high school and prepare for post-secondary opportunities.

Department Registration:

Students with known physical or academic disabilities who plan to attend MLHS should share their needs with the Transition Department or Director of Admissions at the time of application so that interventions can be put into place before registration begins in February. The application process can take several months and includes a placement exam, so it is vital that families begin the process as early as possible (usually October). In order to make appropriate placement and programming decisions that meet the student's needs, academic records and diagnostic testing results are required at the time of application.

Graduation Requirements and Program Planning:

All students participating in the Transition program are expected to work toward their high school diploma. Throughout their high school career, students and parents are encouraged to work closely with their advisor to design a learning program that fits the student's strengths, interests and life goals, keeping in mind the wide range of academic coursework available and the minimum requirements needed to graduate and successfully attain the student's post-secondary goals.

Coursework Options: Transition students at Milwaukee Lutheran have the option to take their core academic courses (math, English, science, and social studies) through the traditional curriculum or through modified Transition courses. Within the traditional curriculum, accommodations that do not alter the course outcomes may be made in order for the student to have successful access to the course. These accommodations do not appear in the student's transcript. Transition courses (generally those that have a 900 course number), however, indicate a modified curriculum and may not be accepted in the admissions process of some post-secondary institutions. All Transition students will participate in regular curriculum courses in Religion, PE, and electives.

It is important to keep the distinction between traditional and transition courses in mind when choosing classes. For some students, it may be wiser to put additional time and effort into a traditional class rather than take a Transition class (even though it may mean taking a lower grade). For others, Transition courses provide the student with the opportunity to grow academically and work toward their high school diploma.

The following tables from our academic handbook inform families of the minimum requirements for graduation and those recommended for admittance to a 4-year university. While considering these requirements, it is important to keep a few things in mind:



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- ❖ Students who complete a course of study that meets the **minimum basic requirements of 50 credits** (which may or may not include alternative classwork through self-contained Transition classes) will be equipped with a diploma and transcript making them likely candidates for post-secondary training at a technical college or through an apprenticeship program. Wisconsin has an excellent technical college system offering training and degrees in many exciting fields.
- ❖ During their junior year, MLHS Transition students will be given the opportunity to work with a counselor from the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation who will help assess the student's needs and can provide support for post-secondary planning that ranges from supported employment training to university assistance.
- ❖ Students who intend to attend a 4-year university immediately after high school graduation are generally required to successfully complete additional high school coursework in core academic areas and the Fine Arts beyond the minimum graduation requirements of the traditional curriculum. Coursework may also need to be demonstrated to be at a determined level of difficulty in order to be considered for a university application (for example, Mathematics requirements may include Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2).
- ❖ Keep in mind that there are multiple paths to a university education. Students may begin their education at a technical college and transfer to a university after successfully completing a few basic courses. Additionally, some Wisconsin universities provide more extensive admission and graduation support for students with disabilities who demonstrate the ability to be successful in college.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Religion	8 Credits
English	8 Credits
Social Studies	6 Credits
Mathematics	6Credits
Science	6 Credits
Phys Education	4 Credits
Financial Literacy	1 Credit
Electives	11Credits

TOTAL = 50 Credits

1 Credit = 1 Semester

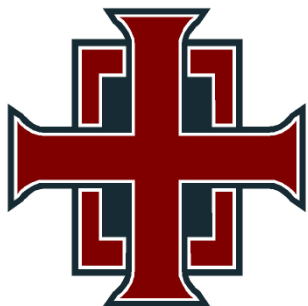
RECOMMENDED FOR COLLEGE

Religion	8 Credits
English	8 Credits
Social Studies	6 Credits
Mathematics	6 Credits
Science	6 Credits
Foreign Language	4 Credits
Phys Ed	4 Credits
Electives	12 Credits

TOTAL = 54 Credits

1 Credit = 1 Semester

Course program planning is a joint task among students, parents, and school personnel. Transition faculty will work closely with students in planning immediate and long-range course programs to best suit high school and post-high school plans. Milwaukee Lutheran does not create Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) for students with disabilities. We do, however, in



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conjunction with students and parents, develop a 504-accommodation plan for our students to determine the accommodations and services that will be used to support each student's academic program.

Listed below are the required courses for each grade level. Students should make careful choices consistent with their academic goals when selecting courses, especially electives. This will avoid unnecessary schedule changes.

Grade 9		Grade 10	
Freshman Religion	2 Credits	Sophomore Religion	2 Credits
English* #	2 Credits	English #	2 Credits
Mathematics* #	2 Credits	Mathematics #	2 Credits
Physical Education I	1 Credit	Physical Education	1 Credit
Lab Science or Biology*	2 Credits	Biology or Science Elective #	2 Credits
World History #	2 Credits	U.S. History I / II #	2 Credits
Electives	1-5 Credits	Electives	1-5 Credits
Grade 11		Grade 12	
Junior Religion	2 Credits	Senior Religion	2 Credits
English #	2 Credits	English #	2 Credits
Mathematics #	2 Credits	Physical Education	1 Credit
Science Elective #	2 Credits	Social Studies #	1-2 Credits
Physical Education	1 Credit	Electives	6-10 Credits
Social Studies #	1-2 Credits		
Electives	3-5Credits		

** These courses are assigned based on the results of the freshman placement test.*

Transition courses, provided on a rotating schedule, are offered in place of these traditional courses to students who have demonstrated a need for a modified curriculum.

CREDIT LOAD

Students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of twelve credits per year (six credits each semester). Fourteen credits per year (seven credits each semester) are considered to be a normal course load. Sixteen credit hours are possible. The principal may grant exemptions to these requirements for upperclassmen with special considerations.

Transition students are given the opportunity to participate in a daily supported study hall (resource study hall) during their unscheduled class periods.

Modified classes available through the Transition Department (900's):

Transition courses in English, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies are offered on a rotating basis. Students who participate in these courses will have demonstrated a need for a modified curriculum for the subject area.



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Academic Support

STRATEGIES FOR SCHOOL SUCCESS (AC 150)

Grade 9 Credits 1

This course is required for all Freshmen in the Transition program. Students will be introduced to the technology used at Milwaukee Lutheran and learn strategies for staying organized, taking notes, completing homework, and preparing for tests.

RESOURCE STUDY HALL (SH900, SH910)

Grades 9-12 No Credit

One semester of Resource Study Hall each semester is recommended for all students in the Transition Program. Students will benefit from individualized tutoring and homework support.

English Classes

BASIC ENGLISH (EN 900)

Next Offered: 2023-2024

Grades 9 10 Credits: 2.0

This course for students in Grades 9 and 10 will reinforce and improve the students' knowledge and use of grammar, vocabulary, and parts of speech. Students will learn how to correctly write simple, complex, and compound sentences. They will also learn to write and revise paragraphs that inform, persuade, or tell a story. Additionally, students will explore business and personal writing.

FUNDAMENTAL WORLD LITERATURE (EN 910)

Next Offered: 2022-2023

Grades 9 10 Credit 2.0

This course will enhance students' understanding of literature through exposure to various genres from around the world. Additionally, word attack and comprehension skills will be enhanced as students study short works of fiction, nonfiction, drama, poetry, persuasive literature and humorous literature.

PRACTICAL ENGLISH (EN 930)

Next Offered: 2022-2023

Grades 11 12 Credit 2.0

This course offers students the opportunity to learn life-skills applications of the English language. Through skill-based lessons, vocabulary, and frequent practice and review, students will be able to make the important connection between basic English skills and their own lives.



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Topics include: shopping, communicating in the workplace, English for independent living, citizenship, health and safety, recreation, and personal expression.

PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNICATION (EN 950)

Next Offered: 2023-2024

Grades 11 12 Credit 2.0

Semester 1 of this course offers thorough instruction in the fundamentals of writing sentences and paragraphs and leads to learning to write for various academic and life purposes. In the second semester, in addition to continuing instruction about writing for different purposes, students will explore formal and informal oral communication skills. Through research, writing, and classroom presentations, students will learn about non-verbal communication; group dynamics and communication; listening skills; and communication in the workplace.

Math Classes

MATH 9, 10 (MA 900)

Grades 9 10 Credit 2.0

This course is an individualized skill development course in basic math calculations. Students will work at an individual pace to master basic mathematical operations. Those that finish the 150 objective Accelerated Math program will be prepared for Pre-Algebra. Students who have struggled in other math courses may use this course to hone up on skills they are lacking in order to gain math competency.

Lifetime Math 11, 12 (MA 920, MA 930)

Grades 11 12 Credit 2.0

This course is an individualized skill development course in basic math calculations and real-life mathematical skills. Students in these classes will continue to develop their math computation and processing skills as well as learn to apply those skills in real life situations.

Science Classes

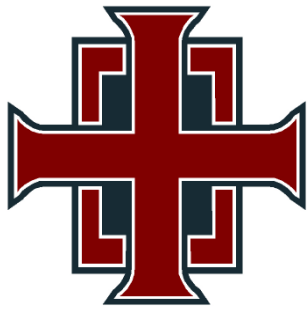
***Transition students are placed in Life and Physical Science (regular course offerings) as freshmen.**

GENERAL SCIENCE (SC 900)

Next Offered: 2022-2023

Grades 10 11 12 Credit 2.0

This course is designed to give a well-rounded understanding of basic physical science principles and explore various fields of science using materials at a reading level that promotes



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success for students who struggle in reading and/or math. A variety of learning strategies are utilized to enhance this science experience.

FUNDAMENTAL BIOLOGY (SC 910)

Next Offered: 2023-2024

Grades 10 11 12 Credit 2.0

This course is designed to give a well-rounded understanding of basic biology principles using material at a reading level that promotes success for students who struggle in reading and/or math. A variety of learning strategies are utilized to enhance this science experience.

Social Studies Classes

INTRODUCTION TO WORLD COMMUNITIES (SS 900)

Next Offered: 2023-2024

Grades 9 10 11 12 Credit 2.0

This course is designed to give a well-rounded understanding of communities in various parts of the world, which may include Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and South America using materials at a reading level that promotes success for students who struggle in reading. A variety of learning strategies are utilized to enhance this experience.

FOUNDATIONS OF U.S. HISTORY 1 & 2 (SS 910 & SS 920)

Next Offered: 2024-2025

Grades 9 10 11 12 Credit 2.0

This course is designed to give a well-rounded understanding of the development of the United States using a textbook that is at a reading level that promotes success for students who struggle in reading. A variety of learning strategies are utilized to enhance this history experience.

BASIC ECONOMICS (SS 930)

Next Offered: 2022-2023

Grades 9 10 11 12 Credit 1.0

This course covers the basic concepts of economics including: production, supply, demand, money, banking systems and the stock market. Materials and activities used in this course are at a reading level that promotes success for students who struggle in reading. A variety of learning strategies are utilized to enhance this experience in economics.



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FOUNDATIONS OF GOVERNMENT (SS 940)

Next Offered: 2022-2023

Grades 9 10 11 12 Credit 1.0

This course deals with the basic ideals of political behavior and the operation of American government. It includes topics such as political parties, the role of the president, citizenship and the decision-making process. The textbook that is used is at a reading level that promotes success for students who struggle in reading. A variety of learning strategies are utilized to enhance this topic.

Program Application and Admissions:

New students interested in applying to the MLHS Transition program should complete the Transition Program application in conjunction with the Milwaukee Lutheran online application found on the admissions page our school website (milwaukeeelutheran.org).

Program application includes the submission of the student's most recent educational evaluation and/or IEP.

Current students needing Transition Services should contact:

Mrs. Linda Koebert: lkoebert@milwaukeeelutheran.org

Phone: 414-296-5833



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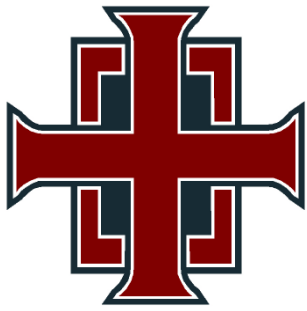
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Core Course Progression Options for Transition Students

English course selection can be constructed in the following manner. 8 semesters/credits are required for graduation.						
FRESHMEN		SOPHOMORE		JUNIOR		SENIOR
Basic English or World Literature	⇒	Basic English or World Literature	⇒	Practical English or Principles of Communication	⇒	Practical English or Principles of Communication
Applied English	⇒	English I	⇒	English II	⇒	English Electives
English I	⇒	English II	⇒	English Electives	⇒	A.P. English <i>or</i> English Electives
Honors English I	⇒	Honors English II	⇒	English Electives	⇒	A.P. English <i>or</i> English Electives

Math course selection can be constructed in the following manner. 6 semesters/credits are required for graduation.						
FRESHMEN		SOPHOMORE		JUNIOR		SENIOR
Math 9	⇒	Math 10, Pre-Algebra, or Algebra	⇒	Algebra, Geometry, or Intermediate math	⇒	Lifetime Math
Pre-Algebra	⇒	Algebra	⇒	Geometry	⇒	Lifetime Math or Adv. Algebra Trig
Algebra	⇒	Geometry	⇒	Intermediate math or Adv. Algebra Trig.	⇒	Lifetime Math, Pre-Calculus, <i>or</i> Prob. and Stats
Honors Algebra	⇒	Honors Geometry	⇒	Honors Adv. Algebra Trig.	⇒	Honors Pre-Calc. <i>or</i> Prob. and Stats
Acc. Geometry	⇒	Honors Adv. Algebra Trig.	⇒	A.P. Calculus AB	⇒	A.P. Calculus BC <i>or</i> Prob. and Stats

Science course selection can be constructed in the following manner. 6 semesters/credits are required for graduation.							
FRESHMEN		SOPHOMORE		JUNIOR		SENIOR	
Physical/Life Science	⇒	Fundamental Biology or General Science	⇒	Fundamental Biology or General Science	⇒	Science Electives	
Physical/Life Science	⇒	Biology	⇒	Earth in Space/The Dynamic Earth, Chemistry, <i>or</i> Physics	⇒	Earth in Space/The Dynamic Earth, Chemistry, <i>or</i> Physics	
Biology	⇒	Chemistry	⇒	Physics <i>or</i> Science Electives	⇒	Science Electives, Honors, <i>or</i> A.P. Physics	



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**Social Studies course selection can be constructed in the following manner.
6 semesters/credits are required for graduation.**

FRESHMEN		SOPHOMORE		JUNIOR		SENIOR	
Fundamental US History, World Cultures, and Government/Economics (rotating)				⇒		Social Studies Electives	
Geography/Civics	⇒	US History I/II	⇒	Social Studies Electives	⇒	Social Studies Electives	

Required freshman year elective: AC 150 Strategies for School Success (1 semester)