

COURSE SELECTION

As you select your courses for the 2011-2012 school year, be sure that you are meeting both Pius XI graduation requirements and entrance requirements for the college of your choice. As a guideline, the following are the minimum required high school courses that you'll need to enter a public university in Wisconsin:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of math, including algebra, geometry, and higher math
- 3 years of natural science
- 3 years of social science

Some colleges have a foreign language requirement. Some require two years of the same foreign language while others look for up to four years.

TESTING FOR JUNIORS

The spring of your junior year and/or the fall of your senior year, you will need to take very important admissions tests. The most commonly accepted tests are the ACT and the SAT tests. Most colleges in the U.S. require that students submit scores from these standardized tests as part of their application packages.

Sign up now to take the ACT here at Pius XI in April or June!

The ACT will be offered three times this spring for students nationwide: February 12th, April 9th and June 11th. Pius XI will be a host site for both the April and June test dates. There are a limited number of seats available, so sign up early to reserve a spot.

Registering for the ACT

For detailed information about the ACT Tests, registering for these tests, how to prepare for the tests, what to take with you on test day, etc., visit: www.act.org and/or see your appointed counselor.

"KNOW HOW 2 GO"

For helpful information related to college preparation for all grade levels, career interest inventories, and free ACT prep, visit: knowhow2gowisconsin.org.

EXPLORE/PLAN/PSAT RESULTS

Freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who took the PSAT, PLAN, or EXPLORE in October have received their results and gone over them during TAC with their counselor. Please look for them as they should have been brought home by now.

ACT PREP FOR JUNIORS

An ACT Prep class will be held at Pius this February for juniors. Sessions will be held at multiple times during each cycle for 7-8 weeks. Students will receive more information in TAC prior to the start of the sessions.

ACT FOR SENIORS

Most colleges in the U.S. require that students submit scores from either the ACT or the SAT as part of their application packages. If you have not yet taken either of these tests and are planning on going to college next year, you must register now. Fee waivers are available in the counseling center for those who qualify. Visit www.act.org to register online for the ACT or pick up a registration packet in room 222.

2011 ACT Test Dates

February 12 - register by January 7

April 9 - register by March 4

COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY

"Weekend Edition"

College Goal Sunday is a national event that provides free information and assistance to families of seniors who are filling out the FAFSA. This event will be held on Saturday, February 19 at Alverno College and Custer High School. On Sunday, February 20 the event will be held at Pulaski High School and Riverside High School.

For more information visit: www.wicollegegoalsunday.org.

COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Be sure to check the Pius XI website monthly for an updated college scholarship list compiled by the counseling center. This scholarship list can also be viewed in TAC.

PAYING FOR COLLEGE

What is the FAFSA?

FAFSA stands for: Free Application for Federal Student Aid. This form is required for all students seeking college financial aid, such as grants and loans. Completing the FAFSA is the first and most important step in qualifying for aid. Submit this form on or after January 1st. Parents should complete their income tax forms in anticipation of the financial aid applications. If they haven't completed their taxes, providing estimated figures is acceptable.

ACT TEST PREP SEMINAR

This spring a one-day ACT test prep seminar will be held at Pius. Cost is \$50 per student and the seminar will be held on a day when Pius does not have school. Please look for more information in future bulletins on how to sign up and when the seminar will be held.

COUNSELING CENTER STAFF

Know who to talk to. We are here to help! Come see us in room 222. Find your TAC below and you will know who your assigned counselor is.

Tim Doherty: Department Chair

119, 206, 207, 301, 320, 322, 406, 407, 413, 416, 426, 507, 520

Brian Anderson

110, 200, 215, 300, 312, 316, 318, 322, 402, 417, 420, 422, 434, 604, 610, 613

Suzanne Lovinus

204, 307, 315, 404, 408, 410, 415, 430, 506, 510, 512, 515, 518, 609

Lisa Youngvorst

74, 101, 201, 306, 314, 326, 400, 415

Sue Linski: Administrative Assistant

We are here to help. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you should need anything at all.

