

REITZ MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL

Announces New Global Awareness Initiative

We live in a world which is inextricably interconnected.... where goods, services, and information constantly move back and forth across national borders, bringing peoples of different histories, religious beliefs and cultures into ever closer contact. According to The World Bank, the economies of China, India, and Japan are expected to represent 50 percent of the world's GDP within 30 years. That means significant growth opportunities for America as well. But our nation will only benefit from this global growth if it has a workforce that is *informed*, *knowledgeable and competent* in dealing with the world outside our borders.

In recognition of these realities, **Reitz Memorial will launch a new curriculum option for the Fall of 2018** to help students develop the knowledge and skills needed to successfully navigate the rigors of a global economy while grounded in the morals and ethics of the teachings of the Catholic Church. The program will **enhance our current "Going Global" courses** in the World Language and Cultures Department by offering an inter-disciplinary set of courses thru all academic departments. For 2018, the curriculum will be further enhanced by a series of "Global Seminars" designed to demonstrate the practical benefits of greater global awareness, given by outside specialists in international business, public policy, and social justice.

"Never tire of working for a more just world, marked by greater solidarity." -Pope Francis, World Youth Day, July 25, 2013.

Our objective is to **provide students with an understanding of world issues** from different perspectives, a sense of their own roles as global citizens, and empathy with problems facing the world community. Through this new initiative, Reitz Memorial is confident that its graduates will be well positioned for personal success -- and better able to contribute to the world in line with Catholic values of respect for life, family, and the common good of all humanity.

"For young Americans, there can be little doubt that global competency is key to 21st century education and their subsequent futures. Although citizens of the world's most developed economy and flourishing democracy, students in U.S. high schools and colleges will be mostly selling to and buying from the world and collaborating internationally when they graduate."
-2014 Report on the State of Global Learning in Indiana Schools (pg. 4), Indiana Department of Education.

The 2018-2019 Course Catalogue will identify courses that will contribute to the above objective. Throughout the coming academic year, we will continue to develop and expand the global component of our curriculum. Further details on the new initiative will be available by January of 2018.