

Grace Christian School

2018-2019

Course Description Catalog



Grace Christian School
12407 Pintail St.
Anchorage, AK 99516
(907) 868-1203 FAX (907) 644-2261

Grace Christian School admits students of any race, sex, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at Grace Christian School. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, national or ethnic origin in administration of our educational policies, scholarship, and financial programs, athletic, and other administered programs.

Grace Christian School reserves the right to admit and retain students on the basis of academic performance, religious commitment of parent and students, philosophical compatibility, and a willingness to cooperate with the Grace administration and abide by the school's policies.

High School Course Overview

Required courses are in **bold** lettering with possible elective choices following.

9th Grade

Old Testament
Literature and Composition
Biology
Algebra 1 or
Geometry
Health (.5 credit)
Alaska History (.5 credit)
Art
Band
Choir
Orchestra
Drama
Percussion Ensemble
Vocal Ensemble (audition)
Creative Writing
Computer Science
Sign Language 1 (odd)
Publications
Spanish 1
Weightlifting
Worship & Leadership

10th Grade

New Testament
World Literature & Composition
World History
Phys 1/Chem 1 or
Chemistry 2
Geometry or
Algebra 2
Art
Band
Orchestra
Choir
Drama
Percussion Ensemble
Vocal Ensemble (audition)
Creative Writing
Computer Science
AP Computer Science Principles
Publications
Sign Language 1(odd) or 2 (even)
Spanish 1 or 2
Teacher's Aide
Weightlifting
Worship & Leadership

11th Grade

Bible: Foundations of the Christian Life/Courtship, Marriage and Parenting
American Literature & Composition
U.S. History
AP English Language & Composition
AP U.S. History (odd years)
AP U.S. Government (even years)
Algebra 2
Pre-calculus with Trig
Chemistry 2
GAMO (Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology, Oceanography)
Physics
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
Art
Band
Orchestra
Choir
Drama
Percussion Ensemble
Vocal Ensemble (audition)
Creative Writing
Computer Science
AP Computer Science Principles
Publications
Sign Language 1(odd) or 2 (even)
Spanish 1-3
Student Internship Program
Teacher's Aide
Weightlifting
Worship & Leadership
Study Hall (no credit)

12th Grade

Biblical Worldview/Comparative Religions
British Literature & Composition
American Government and Economics or Psychology
AP English Literature & Composition
AP U.S. History (odd years)
AP U.S. Government (even years)
Algebra 2
Pre-calculus with Trig
AP Calculus AB
Chemistry 2
GAMO (Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology, Oceanography)
Physics
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
Art
Band
Orchestra
Choir
Drama
Percussion Ensemble
Vocal Ensemble (audition)
Creative Writing
Life
Computer Science
AP Computer Science Principles
Publications
Sign Language 1(odd) or 2 (even)
Spanish 1-3
Student Internship Program
Teacher's Aide
Weightlifting
Worship & Leadership
Study Hall (no credit)

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

2018-2019

BIBLE

Reveling in God's Word to know Him more and to make Him known.

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Grade: 9
Prerequisite: None
Resource: *ESV Bible*

This course lays the foundation for a total view of the Bible. As students study Genesis to Malachi they discover more of the character and nature of God and the unfolding of His sovereign plan for the salvation of mankind. This provides a basis for understanding the fulfillment of God's plan in the New Testament in the person of Jesus Christ.

NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY

Grade: 10
Prerequisite: None
Resource: *ESV Bible*

This is a study of the life of Jesus Christ, the work of the Holy Spirit in the church, and the fulfillment of God's plan throughout history and into the future. The purpose of this course is that students "may have certainty concerning the things [they] have been taught" (Luke 1:4). Students will engage with books of the Bible through inductive study for deeper understanding, and then respond to truth through creative expression, prayer, personal testimony, and opportunities to live out a kingdom-focused life in practical, everyday ways.

FOUNDATIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Grade: 11 (1 semester)
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know*, Wayne Grudem

This is a one-semester course designed to introduce students to the central doctrines of the Christian Faith. The same theological motifs introduced during Old and New Testament surveys are reengaged in a systemic and holistic way, with a view toward forming a comprehensive biblical worldview. With this class, students will receive (1) a theological foundation that will prepare them to adequately defend their faith, formulate a biblical worldview and critique competing worldviews; and (2) numerous opportunities for personal growth as they are challenged to mature in their understanding of Scripture, God, themselves, and the gospel.

COURTSHIP, MARRIAGE AND PARENTING

Grade: 11 (1 semester)
Prerequisite: None
Resource: *ESV Bible*

One of the greatest tragedies of our time, even within our churches, is a collapse of the Biblical understanding of marriage. Marriage is ultimately meant to be a reflection of Christ and the church. We will spend the majority of our time driving that truth home through studying key Bible texts that teach us what marriage is. We will study passages from Genesis 1-2, Ephesians 5, 1 Peter 3, and 1 Corinthians 13 where they teach us the truth about love and marriage. Teaching principles of dating will flow naturally from our discussion of marriage because once you understand what to look for in a marriage, the path towards it becomes much clearer. Students will study the Christian perspective on marriage and the family. Studies include dating, courtship, engagement, marriage and family.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

Grade: 12 (1 semester) **Graduation requirement**
Prerequisite: None
Resource: *ESV Bible*

This course helps students to shape their lives around the teaching of Scripture. Students study a variety of worldviews that they are likely to encounter in college and society in general. Students will learn to think critically about what they believe and develop a specifically Biblical Worldview.

COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS

Grade: 12 (1 semester)

Prerequisite: None

Resources: *Christianity, Cults and Religions* (Rose Publishing); *Christian History Made Easy*, Timothy Jones; *Denominations Comparison* (Rose Publishing); ESV Bible

This course teaches students the basic perspectives of the World's major religious systems. Students will learn the history, fundamental tenants, and modern perspectives of the major world religions. Students will also learn how to respond, as a believer, to those lost in other religious worldviews.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Developing minds and imaginations to comprehend and communicate Christ and His Word.

LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 9

Prerequisite: None

Textbook: *Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell)

This survey of literature will introduce students to a wide variety of prose, drama, and poetry. Grammar will be taught topic by topic with the intent of mastery in student writing. Students will compose papers following many formats. Vocabulary will be taken from the literature readings and from *Vocabulary from the Classical Roots*. Students will read novels and nonfiction selections each quarter. Students will participate in oral projects including declamation and persuasive speeches.

WORLD LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 10

Prerequisite: English 9 or satisfactory transcript and entrance exam results

Textbook: *World Literature* (McDougal Littell)

English 10 is a college preparatory class with a world literature emphasis. Students study most genres of literature and write in a variety of rhetorical modes with an emphasis on analysis. Weekly grammar and vocabulary activities are required. Students develop speaking and listening skills through a range of oral presentation, including declamation, small group and whole class discussion, and speeches.

AMERICAN LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION (subject is specifically required for graduation)

Grade: 11

Prerequisite: English 10 or satisfactory transcript and entrance exam results

Textbook: *American Literature* (McDougal Littell); and Supplemental American Novels

English 11 is a college preparatory class. This course studies the development of American literature from the 15th century to the present. Students write a variety of essays in which they analyze techniques appropriate to writing situations. Students are required to organize and complete a research paper. Grammar and vocabulary is integrated throughout the program to strengthen reading and the writing process. Students participate in the declamatory competition.

BRITISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: English 11 for returning students or satisfactory transcript and entrance exam results

Textbook: *Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell)

This college preparatory class focuses on British Literature, incorporating novels from different eras. Students write a variety of essays in which they analyze literary techniques. They also write a research paper with an annotated bibliography. Students engage in creative writing and practice speaking skills through involvement in speeches (declamatory competition), and debate.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 11

Prerequisites: English 10 with a grade of “A” or teacher recommendation and completion of AP English 11 required summer reading

Textbooks: The Norton Anthology of *American Literature* (W.W. Norton & Co) *American Literature* (McDougal Littell); and Supplemental American Novels, including *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain; *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald

AP English will study a wide range of American Literature with an emphasis on identifying the author’s purpose and style, as well as recognizing rhetorical and argumentative strategies used. Writing in response to careful critical analysis of literature will be emphasized. A number of in-class writes will be done in order to prepare students for the AP Exam in May. The requirements and workload will be similar to college classes, so students should consider their overall academic and activities load before committing to this class. A student with a high score on the AP Exam may receive college credit from most universities/colleges and may be placed into a second semester college course, waiving the introductory English course.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION

Grade: 12

Prerequisites: AP English Language and Composition with a grade of “B” or better or an “A” in English 11 or teacher approval based on an interview and a writing sample; students must also complete required summer reading.

Textbook: *Norton’s Anthology of English Literature*, M. H. Abrams; *Writing About Literature*, Edgar V. Roberts; *Shakespearean tragedy and comedy, selected Romantic era and Victorian novels, and carefully chosen contemporary novels as well as poetry from various eras.*

Students study British literature as well as other English Literature with an emphasis on poetry and imaginative prose. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. (The College Board, May 2016). Students apply the principles and nomenclature of literary criticism to the literature assigned and become intimate with the readings through projects, essays, discussions, and tests. Many of the essays are timed, in-class writes designed to help them prepare for the AP exam in May. Students complete and present an in-depth research project. A student with a high score on the AP exam may receive college credit from many universities/colleges.

CREATIVE WRITING

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: None

Students will read, analyze, critique, write, and rewrite creative nonfiction, fiction, poetry, and short dramas. Journaling is a requirement. Students will publish some of their work and complete a writer’s portfolio as the final project in this elective. This course may be taken more than once.

FINE ARTS

Experiencing God’s creativity by discovering, strengthening, expressing and revealing the creative gifts and talents of His people.

CHOIR

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Willingness/ability to sing

Concert Choir is a performance ensemble that provides students with an opportunity to learn about music through the study of the choral art. Students will study music reading, music theory, a variety of styles of music, and historical context. Through this study, students will develop an understanding of music’s role in Christianity and the Christian walk. As a part of the performance ensemble, participation in ASAA Competitive events as well as evening concert performances throughout the year is mandatory. Traveling performance opportunities are available in this class.

VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Audition with director; some music reading skill; after-school time for rehearsals

Vocal Ensemble is a course designed to provide students with a unique and challenging musical opportunity in the development of advanced part singing. Ensemble members will study music appropriate for small ensemble singing and perform at all scheduled GCS

vocal concerts as well as participate in regional/state festivals. Participation in all scheduled rehearsals and performances will be mandatory. Traveling performance opportunities are available in this class.

BAND

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Demonstrated ability with musical instrument and reading music. Audition and/or private lessons may be required.

Textbook: *Rubank Advanced Method*, H. W. Voxman

Band is a performance ensemble designed to teach music through an instrumental ensemble. Students will prepare traditional concert band music from a variety of styles for performance at public concerts during the year. Attendance at rehearsals and evening performances are vital components of this course and are therefore mandatory. Students are responsible to provide their own instrument and keep it in good working order. This ensemble is comprised of traditional concert band instruments*.

(*Guitars - including bass - are not considered traditional band instruments, and drummers will be expected to play all percussion instruments.)

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisite Interview/Audition

Textbook: *Syncopation for the Modern Drummer*, Ted Reed
Exercises for Ensemble Drill, Raymond Russell

Percussion Ensemble will cover all the primary aspects of the modern percussion ensemble including rudimental drumming, DCI style drum line, orchestral percussion, African, Afro-Cuban, and Brazilian drumming, along with melodic percussion such as the vibraphone and marimba.

ORCHESTRA

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Two years of playing a string instrument, or demonstrated ability and reading music. Audition and/or private lessons may be required.

Textbook: Sheet music and handouts

High School Orchestra is a performance-based class focused primarily on the string family. Grades are composed of in class participation along with attendance at a number of school performances along with the Region II music festival. (see this year's syllabus for more detail on dates)

ART

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Students work with drawing in several mediums: graphite, charcoal, pastels, oil, and chalk. They will also participate in painting with watercolor, acrylic, ink, printmaking, and mixed media. Students will work with additive techniques such as clay, paper, metal, and paper-Mache as well as subtractive techniques such as plaster, wood, and stone. Art gallery visits and response papers will be required to further enhance students' exposure to and understanding of art. Artist studies include those from the Old Masters as well as numerous contemporary artists.

THEATRE

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: none

Textbook: *Introduction to Theatre Arts*, Suzi Zimmerman

Theatre is a two-semester course designed to introduce high school students to elements of a theatre production. Students will learn basic history of the theatre, stagecraft, and acting skills in improvisation, monologues, and scene work. Students by the end of this course should possess a working knowledge of character development using body, voice, and imagination.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Equipping students to complete the Great Commission (see Matt. 28: 19-20) through language acquisition and cultural understanding.

SPANISH 1

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Buen Viaje Spanish 1*(Glencoe/McGraw-Hill)

The Spanish 1 course is an introduction to Spanish that provides a foundation in the four language skill areas of listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Basic grammatical structure, vocabulary, and culture are gradually and systematically taught, reviewed and practiced. Basic grammar such as articles, adjectives, nouns, pronouns and possessive adjectives are covered. Students will also study conjugation of regular and irregular verbs in the present, present progressive and past tenses.

SPANISH 2

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: Spanish 1 with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: *Buen Viaje Spanish 2*(Glencoe/McGraw-Hill)

Spanish II is a continuation of Spanish 1, with an emphasis on the preterit, imperfect, future, conditional, imperfect progressive, present perfect, and imperative tenses. We continue to build on basic grammar structures and learn the proper use of pronouns, the comparative and superlative as well as demonstrative adjectives. Students will also learn to talk about their faith in Christ while sharing their personal testimony. Second semester lessons are conducted in Spanish.

SPANISH 3

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: Spanish 2 with a grade of a C or higher
Textbook: *Buen Viaje Spanish 3* (Glencoe/McGraw-Hill)

Students will gain fluency in Spanish through extensive vocabulary building, advanced grammar study, reading, writing, and listening to native speakers. Students will engage in conversational Spanish, read from Spanish Literature and discuss a variety of topics as well as read and comment on current events in the Spanish speaking world. Students will present a culture project, prepare and share speeches, discuss Latin American issues, and continue to discuss their faith in Christ. Lessons are conducted in Spanish and students are expected to speak in Spanish with one another.

SIGN LANGUAGE 1

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Learning American Sign Language* (Humphries and Padden)

Students will acquire the skills necessary to converse in Sign Language. Emphasis is on grammar, vocabulary, and conversational practice. Participation in skits and presentations is required as well as a book report and speech with visual aids. **Sign Language 1 is offered only in odd yrs.**

SIGN LANGUAGE 2

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: Sign Language I with a grade of C or higher
Textbook: *Signing Naturally* (Smith, Lentz, Mikos)

Students will improve fluency in Sign Language through the study of vocabulary, guided and unguided dialogues, story telling, interpreting, and video viewing with comprehension checks. A five page research paper and a speech with a visual aid on deaf culture or a historical topic is required. **Sign Language 2 is only offered in even years.**

HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Fostering the enjoyment of lifelong physical activity and training the Christian to approach health, fitness and competition biblically.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Students may receive a .25 credit for participation in a Grace high school sport. Students may only receive a maximum of .5 credits from sport participation, meeting the GCS PE requirement.

HEALTH

Grade: 9
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Glencoe Health* (Glencoe, McGraw-Hill)

The purpose of this class is to present the Bible as the foundation for a healthy lifestyle. In a quest for total health, we will cover physical, mental, social, and spiritual health. Studies will include anatomy and physiology, fitness, nutrition, stress, life management, responsibility, maturity, and relationships. Students are graded on tests, projects, participation/attitude, and homework. The issues of stress, life management, care of the body, risk taking, maturity, and relationships are considered.

WEIGHT LIFTING

Grades: 9-12
Prerequisite: None

This course introduces the basics of weight training. Emphasis is placed on developing muscular strength through proper lifting techniques. Upon completion, students should know the skills and techniques of weight lifting such as power lifting, exercises, breathing, spotting and safety procedures in addition to increasing their own personal muscular strength throughout the year. The student will also learn about various areas related to weight lifting such as human anatomy and physiology, nutrition, stretching, fitness and health.

MATHEMATICS

Preparing students to enjoy and appreciate God's design, order and steadfastness through integrating biblical and mathematical principles.

ALGEBRA 1

Grade: 9
Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra 2 with a grade of C or better or administrative review, for new students, a satisfactory score on the high school mathematics entrance exam.
Textbook: *Algebra I* (McDougal-Littell) or *Algebra* by All Things Algebra

This course will not only focus on algebraic equations and problem solving but also on applications and connections to other academic disciplines. It builds on concepts introduced in Pre-Algebra 2. Scientific calculator required. Graphing calculator optional. Suggested graphing calculator: TI-83/4.

GEOMETRY

Grades: 9-10
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 with a grade of C or better or administrative review; Algebra 2 may be taken concurrently with teacher's recommendation.
Textbook: *Geometry* by All Things Algebra

This inductive approach to geometry incorporates the formulas and techniques of coordinate geometry. Each chapter integrates a review and application of algebraic skills and provides applications to real-life situations. Scientific calculator required, graphing calculator **optional**. Suggested graphing calculator: TI-83/4.

ALGEBRA 2

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: Algebra 1 with a grade of C or better or administrative review; Geometry may be taken concurrently with teacher's recommendation.
Textbook: *Algebra 2* (McDougall Littell)

A continuation and extension of Algebra 1. Concepts include linear equations and systems of equations/inequalities, graphing operations with matrices, and their applications. Quadratic, polynomial, logarithmic, exponential, and rational functions are covered. Introductions to conic sections and trigonometry are included. Graphing calculator required. Suggested calculator: TI-83/84

PRE-CALCULUS

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisites: Algebra 2 and Geometry, both with a C or better.
Textbook: *Pre-Calculus with Limits: A Graphing Approach* (Houghton Mifflin)

Precalculus with trigonometry introduces trig functions, their graphs, and trig identities. Analysis of polynomial functions and graph behavior will be emphasized, as will sequences, series, probability, complex numbers and systems of equations. The year concludes with an introduction to calculus. Students should consider their overall academic load and extra-curricular activities before committing to this class. Graphing calculator required. Suggested calculator: TI-83/84

AP CALCULUS AB

Grades: 11-12

Prerequisite: Precalculus with a grade of B or better

Textbook: *Calculus of a Single Variable AP Edition, Larson & Edwards* (Brooks/Cole)

Advanced Placement Calculus AB is a college-level course roughly equivalent to Calculus 1 (first semester college calculus) in college. A student with a high score on the Advanced Placement exam will receive college credit from most universities/colleges and will usually be placed into a second semester college calculus course, Calculus 2. This AP course is devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. It includes concepts and skills of limits, derivatives, definite integrals, and the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus. The course teaches students to approach calculus concepts and problems when they are represented graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally, and to make connections amongst these representations. Students learn how to use technology to help solve problems, experiment, interpret results, and support conclusions. (The College Board 2016).

Students should consider their overall academic load and extra-curricular activities before committing to this class. Suggested daily after school commitment is 45 - 75 minutes, 6 days a week. Graphing calculator is required. Suggested calculator: TI-84 (silver ed, or CE) or TI-89.

PRACTICAL ARTS

Training students in today's life skills and technology so they can honor God with these abilities.

LIFE SKILLS

Grades: 12

Prerequisite: none

Available to seniors only, this course introduces a variety of valuable life skills. Topics covered include finances (tithing, budgeting, taxes, investments, check writing, and balancing), home economics, college and career skills, electrical and plumbing, outdoor skills, First Aid and CPR, and automobile basics. Students will be required to participate in hands-on projects, and field trips, and will learn from a variety of guest speakers. Childcare unit using "Realbabies" (simulated dolls).

PUBLICATIONS

Grades: 9-12

Prerequisites: Teacher approval, with possible interview and recommended teacher references as requested by the teacher. Students should maintain a B average in all classes, be exceptional workers, willing to learn, quick to follow instructions, and glorify Christ in all things.

The creation of the school's yearbook is the primary focus of Publications class. Course content includes writing, photography, ad sales, yearbook sales, design layout, journalism ethics, publishing criteria, and development of computer skills using Photoshop and other related software and hardware.

TEACHER'S AIDE

Grades: 10-12

Prerequisite: None

Students assist teachers in elementary and secondary classrooms, staff offices, or in the library. Students will be assigned various tasks depending on their placement. Each student will be assigned to one teacher for the entire year. Students may carry only one Teacher's Aide course per year and must be self-motivated, responsible, flexible, and mature enough to work through potential conflicts.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: Administrative approval only

Available to Juniors and Seniors only. The Student Internship Program is a cooperative arrangement between the school and internship supervisor. The student will receive vocational training in a profession of their choice. The internship will be supervised by the school coordinator and the internship supervisor. The experience will contribute to the student's education and employability.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Grades: 9-12
Corequisite: Algebra I
Textbook: Project Lead The Way (PLTW)

Introduction to Computer Science (ICS) is a year long PLTW course where students learn fundamental computer science concepts using MIT App Inventor and an introduction to the Python programming language. The course aims to develop computational thinking and build student excitement for computer sciences while enhancing their knowledge of the history of computer sciences and increasing their practical daily computer science skills. Several days in each module are targeted to build career awareness about computing skills in all fields and to improve students' cyber hygiene. Students are required to have access to a computer with connection to the Internet at home where they will install the needed software for this course and have access to finish their homework.

SCIENCE

Marveling at God's amazing revelation of Himself through the diligent study of His creation.

BIOLOGY

Grade: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: Glencoe *Biology* (McGraw Hill)

Biology is a one-year course that introduces the student to the structures and functions of living organisms. It is an exciting journey into the macroscopic and microscopic world including a study of biochemistry, genetics, cell biology, ecology, and current topics affecting our daily lives. Students will be involved in research and laboratory activities that prepare them for future science courses.

PHYSICS 1/CHEMISTRY 1

Grades: 9-11
Prerequisite: Algebra 1
Textbook: *Physical Science* (Glencoe)

Physics 1/Chemistry 1 is a course designed to prepare students for college prep chemistry and physics. In physics, students will learn the basics of Newton's Laws, motion, work, energy, electricity and magnetism through weekly labs, lecture and group work the first semester. Second semester, students will study chemistry and participate in weekly labs. Students will learn about the periodic table, how to balance chemical equations, how to form chemical reactions and bonds. Then students will move on to study acids, bases and salts. Once completed, students will have a thorough understanding of chemistry and will be well prepared for future chemistry and physics courses.

CHEMISTRY 2

Grades: 10-12
Prerequisite: C or better in Geometry & Algebra I.
Textbook: *General Chemistry* (McGraw-Hill Glencoe)

Chemistry is called the "central science" because it provides the background required for all other science and technology courses. It is a college preparatory class that provides extensive problem solving and laboratory experiences. Mental maturity and persistence are required to grasp many of the abstract concepts in chemistry. Students must have good organizational and study skills as well as a firm grasp of Algebra I. It is required that the student has a C or better in Algebra I before taking Chemistry. Algebra scores are a better indicator of success in Chemistry than Biology scores. A scientific calculator such as the TI-84 or TI-86 is required.

PHYSICS

Grades: 11-12
Co-Requisite: Precalculus
Textbook: *Physics, 3rd Edition* (Bob Jones)

Physics is a year long, college preparatory class that will introduce students to the main concepts of classical physics including mechanics, thermodynamics, wave mechanics, optics, electricity, and magnetism. Class discussions, demonstrations, and lab experiments will reinforce physical concepts. All topics explored will include mathematical reasoning and justification in order to enhance student understanding. A graphing calculator such as the TI-84 or TI-86 is required.

GAMO (Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology, Oceanography)

Grades: 11-12

This course will explore different specialized scientific systems within the larger field of science: Geology, Astronomy, Meteorology, and Oceanography. The purpose of this course is to educate students in such a way that they gain a broader scientific understanding of the ways in which these different systems interact with each other and affect our planet.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE

Grades: 10-12
Pre/Corequisite: Algebra II/B or better in Algebra I and Computer Science
Textbook: Project Lead The Way (PLTW)

Computer Science Principles (CSP) is a year long PLTW course that implements the College Board's new AP CS Principles framework. Students work in teams to develop computational thinking and solve problems. The course does not aim to teach mastery of a single programming language but aims instead to develop computational thinking, to generate excitement about the field of computing, and to introduce computational tools that foster creativity. The course also aims to build students' awareness of the tremendous demand for computer specialists and for professionals in all fields who have computational skills. Students practice problem solving with structured activities and progress to open-ended projects and problems that require them to develop planning, documentation, communication, and other professional skills. Problems aim for ground-level entry with no ceiling so that all students can successfully engage the problems. Students with greater motivation, ability, or background knowledge will be challenged to work further. Students are required to have access to a computer with connection to the Internet at home where they will install the needed software for this course and have access to finish their homework.

AP BIOLOGY

Grades: 11-12
Prerequisite: B in Biology, Chemistry, Algebra II, and most recent English.
Textbook: *Biology, 9th Edition* (Addison Wesley Longman, Inc.)

Advanced Placement Biology is a year-long course designed for students that have a strong interest in, or desire to pursue a career in the sciences. The AP Biology course introduces students to topics covered in a freshman biology course at the university level, including, biochemistry, cytology, physiology, ecology, and evolutionary theory. To succeed in AP Biology students must be highly motivated to learn. Reading requirements for the course are rigorous and require a daily commitment. Exams generally cover 3-4 chapters in the text and occur every 2-3 weeks. Laboratory activities are conducted to give the student a representation of a university level biology course. In the spring the AP examination will be offered. A student with a high score on the Advanced Placement exam can receive college credit from most colleges.

AP CHEMISTRY

Grades: 11-12 (College-level course)
Prerequisites: B in Chemistry and Algebra II.
Textbook: *Chemistry, 10th Edition, AP Edition* (Zumdahl)

Advanced Placement Chemistry is an extremely rigorous, year-long course for students very interested in science. It is designed to cover all the material and provide the lab experiences equivalent to a freshman level university class and to prepare students for the AP Chemistry Exam in May. Topics include the Big Five: intra- & inter-molecular bonding; redox & electrochemistry; kinetics; thermodynamics; and equilibrium. This course is recommended only to students that excelled in Chemistry and have the time and dedication to work consistently throughout the year. Students should consider their overall class and activity load before committing

to the class. A student with a high score on the AP Exam can receive college credit from most colleges and universities. A graphing calculator such as the TI-84 or TI-86 is required.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Instilling a love of history by understanding people, places, cultures, and events and by recognizing God's hand in them.

ALASKA HISTORY

Grade: 9-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: <http://www.akhistorycourse.org>

Alaska History is a course that focuses on Alaska's rich history and the many factors that helped make it into the great state it is today. Unit studies will include geography, culture, economy, history, and government of Alaska. Each of the units of study will have current event issues/topics that will be discussed. Upon the conclusion of this class students will have gained knowledge that will help enable them to be productive, God honoring, active community members in our state.

WORLD HISTORY

Grade: 10
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *World History: Patterns of Interaction* (McDougal Littell)

This study of the history of the world, from early river valley civilizations to World War II, with a strong emphasis on Western Civilization, helps students see God's hand moving throughout history to fulfill His plan for the world.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grades: 11
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *The American Vision Modern Times*, (Glencoe, McGraw Hill)

US History is a one year course examining the events, people and places that have shaped the nation and our Christian heritage. We will look at events from the discovery of the North American continent to the present. We will emphasize the forces and events that affected the everyday lives of ordinary people-along with presidential elections, foundations of our government, wars, and the building of industrial empires. A special emphasis will be given to the cause and effect of events because, "History shapes people, and people shape history."

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *McGruder's American Government* (Prentice-Hall)
Economics: Principles in Action (Prentice-Hall)

This course is designed to render an understanding of the foundations of American government. Time is spent on both the beginnings and historical development of the American democratic experience. Special emphasis is given to matters of checks and balance, the three branches of government and their function, special interest groups & lobbying, and the influence of public opinion. Students will address current events in today's society. Students are encouraged to read newspapers, weekly news magazines, listen to news radio, watch news programs, etc. Classroom discussion is expected in this course.

ECONOMICS

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Economics: Principles in Action* (Prentice-Hall)

This course will focus on how economics functions as an integral part of government policy and its role in relation to individual interests associated with our daily lives. Subjects examined in some detail include: capitalism and the market economy, supply and demand, measuring economic performance, sources of capital, budget, and trade deficits, and economic problems facing developing nations.

GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY

Grade: 12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Understanding Psychology* (Glencoe)

This course examines various topics such as the life span, sensation and perception, learning, memory, motivation, emotion, theories of personality, psychological disorders and dealing with stress in our lives. One outcome of General Psychology should be the realization of the complex nature of God's creation in the form of human beings.

AP US HISTORY (odd years)

Grade: 11-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *The American Pageant 15th edition.*

This college level course is an introduction to the approaches, techniques, and sources historians use in drawing meaning from the past in contextualizing the present. It is important to remember that the discipline of history is a way of interpreting data and a way of critical thinking about it. Students will be required to read both secondary and primary resources. They will be encouraged to work on critical reading, writing, and speaking skills. Our objective is to understand not only what happened but also why it happened. History does not occur in a vacuum! Students will learn to identify bias in writing and separate fact from opinion. Students will be encouraged to develop a critical perspective based on logic, careful analysis, reading, and thinking. Although there is little to be gained by rote memorization of historical data (names, dates, documents, events, battles, etc.), a student must know these details as a resource to draw upon factual knowledge IN ORDER to exercise analytical skills intelligently. One must argue their thesis with facts vs. an opinion that is unsubstantiated. The course will emphasize a number of **themes** throughout the year to encourage students to think conceptually about the American past and to focus on historical change over time. These themes include the following topics: American Diversity, American Identity, Culture, Demographic Changes, Economic Transformations, Environment, Globalization, Politics and Citizenship, Reform, Religion, Slavery and Its Legacies in North America, and War and Diplomacy.

AP AMERICAN GOVERNMENT (even years)

Grade: 11-12
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Government in America: People, Politics, and Policy*

The AP U.S. Government and Politics is an in-depth look at the government of the United States that includes a study and evaluation of the political system. The course is designed to help students develop an understanding and appreciation for how the US government works and how it influences American citizens. This course will allow students to understand how their active participation in our political system is essential to its survival. This course will require students to work at an accelerated level, and the opportunity to prepare for the AP U.S. Government and Politics Exam.

JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OVERVIEW

Mandatory courses are in bold with elective choices following. The elective options include: Choir, Band, Publications or Art.

7th Grade
English 7
World History
Life Science
Bible 7

Pre-Algebra I / II

Physical Education/STEM Rotation:

1 Semester PE, 1 Semester STEM 7

Electives: Year Long Band, Choir, Publications or Art

8th Grade

English 8

U.S. History

Earth Science

Bible 8

Pre-Algebra II/Algebra I

Physical Education/STEM Rotation:

1 Semester PE, 1 Semester STEM 8

Elective: Year-long Band, Choir, Publications or Art

JUNIOR HIGH COURSE OFFERINGS

2018-2019

BIBLE

Reveling in God's Word to know Him more and to make Him known.

BIBLE 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None

Textbook: *Character Quest* (Lifeway), ESV Bible

Students study a variety of Old and New Testament characters through lessons in our text and God's Word. Using Biblical examples students learn how to face the challenges they experience in their lives. They also gain a partial understanding of who God is and see the broad scope of His plan that He has revealed to us through His word. Students will also learn of the inerrancy and reliability of God's Word and seek to understand and live the life God has told us He wants us to have.

BIBLE 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Textbook: *Young Peacemaker*

The first semester we will go through the Young Peacemaker curriculum which teaches how to resolve conflict Biblically. The principles include a proper understanding of conflict, the heart issues underlying conflict, meaningful confession, true forgiveness, and respectful communication. The second semester is devoted to helping students strengthen their faith and learn how to defend it. We will study the reliability of Scripture, how to explain apparent contradictions in the Bible, and how to interact with atheists and non-Christians and answer their objections to Christianity. We will also spend a significant amount of time learning about logical fallacies in order to avoid faulty reasoning and to be able to discern it in those who would attempt to persuade us to reject the Bible.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Developing minds and imaginations to comprehend and communicate Christ and His Word.

ENGLISH 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell)
Vocab from Classic Roots A (ABeka)

English 7 places a strong emphasis on the study of literature as well as the writing process. Students read and write for both technical and aesthetic purposes. Grammar, spelling, and vocabulary are integrated throughout the curriculum. Students are required to participate in the ACSI Speech Meet.

ENGLISH 8

Grade: 8
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Language of Literature* (McDougal Littell)

This course is designed to introduce students to major literary elements and critical thinking in each reading selection. There is a strong emphasis on grammar, writing skills, spelling, vocabulary, and literature. Students use the Analytical Grammar Program which covers all the rules of grammar through diagramming. Students are required to organize and complete a research paper. All 8th graders are required to participate in ACSI Speech Meet. Students are using Accelerated Reader Program and further developing their writing skills with the My Access Writing Program. Both of these programs are developing technological skills on the computer.

MATHEMATICS

Preparing students to enjoy and appreciate God's design, order and steadfastness through integrating biblical and mathematical principles.

PRE-ALGEBRA 1

Grade: 7
Prerequisite: Teacher's recommendation, standardized testing, previous math grades, and entrance exam results
Textbook: *Math- Course 2*, (McDougal Littell Middle School)

Students in Pre-Algebra 1 will learn to think and communicate mathematically, gain confidence in their mathematical abilities, think critically while developing their own problem solving methods, and will build upon their knowledge of mathematical concepts and skills. Calculators will be provided by instructor as needed.

PRE-ALGEBRA 2

Grades: 7-8
Prerequisite: Teacher's recommendation, standardized testing, previous math grades, and entrance exam results
Textbook: *Math- Course 3*, (McDougal Littell Middle School)

Students in Pre-Algebra 2 will learn to think and communicate mathematically, gain confidence in their mathematical abilities, think critically while developing their own problem solving methods, and will build upon their knowledge of mathematical concepts and skills. Calculators will be provided by instructor as needed.

ALGEBRA 1

Grades: 8
Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra 2 with a grade of B or better or administrative review
Textbook: *Algebra* (McDougal Littell)

Eighth grade Algebra 1 is a high school level course, but junior high students do not earn high school credit.

This course will not only focus on algebraic equations and problem solving but also on applications and connections to other academic disciplines. It builds on concepts introduced in Pre-Algebra 2. Scientific calculator required, graphing calculator optional. Suggested calculator: TI-83, TI-84, or TI-86.

SCIENCE

Marveling at God's amazing revelation of Himself through the diligent study of His Creation.

LIFE SCIENCE

Grade: 7
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *Life Science* (Bob Jones University)

The focus of the 7th grade science curriculum is Life Science. Students will explore the features and needs of viruses and living things using scientific methods and problem-solving skills. Students relate the function of cells, the processes of cells, and the reproduction of cells to simple and complex organisms. Students will discover patterns of heredity and will investigate DNA relationships. The theory of evolution will be discussed and contrasted with the reality and truth of God's Word. Organisms in various kingdoms and the characteristics used to classify them are presented. Differences in cell structure are also discussed. Students are introduced to the plant kingdom including plant processes and relationships. Students examine animal characteristics and determine how they are used to classify animals into the different phyla. Students are introduced to the fundamentals of ecology. Ecosystems and the recession of ecosystems are explored. Students are given an introduction to the systems of the human body and how they function. An understanding of organs and how systems interact is developed. Also included in this course is a discussion on human growth and development from conception to birth, basic health concepts and healthy lifestyle choices.

EARTH SCIENCE

Grade: 8
Prerequisite: Life Science
Textbook: *Earth Science* (Bob Jones University)

The focus of the 8th grade science curriculum is Earth Science. Students are introduced to the branches of science involved in the study of Earth Science (Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Meteorology, Oceanography, and Astronomy). Through class and lab activities students are introduced to Earth materials. Students apply science to the solving of problems and work with Scientific Methods. They are led through the elements of basic science and introduced to atomic structure. The differences between atoms and molecules are examined. Minerals are defined and mixtures of minerals are identified as rocks. The rock cycle and the three major classifications of rocks are studied. Students study landforms and examine the processes and agents that create these surface features as they learn about weathering and erosion. Students are introduced to the relationships among earthquakes, volcanoes, and plate tectonics, and how the forces within the Earth are tied to these relationships. The theory of evolution is discussed and contrasted with the reality and truth presented in God's Word. Students study the Earth's atmosphere and oceans as well as the characteristics and movement of air and water. Students examine the impact that humans have on the environment and study current events regarding pollution. Students explore the majesty of our created universe while studying the earth, moon system, solar system and galaxies.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Instilling a love of history by understanding people, places, cultures and events and by recognizing God's hand in them.

WORLD STUDIES

Grade: 7
Prerequisite: None
Textbook: *World Studies* (BJU Press)

This course is an overview of the history of the world; from ancient civilizations up to the modern era. Students are exposed to the history, religion, culture, government, and economy of different regions of the world both past and present. We will learn how primary source are important to linking the past to the present. World geography will also be a component of this class.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Grade: 8
Prerequisite: 7th grade World History
Textbook: *Creating America*, (McDougal Littell)

This course starts with the discovery of the Americas, and follows our history through colonial times, the birth of our nation, and to the present age. Primary sources will have an important role in understanding the life of average Americans. We will also focus on historical biographies.

JUNIOR HIGH FINE ART ELECTIVES

Experiencing God's creativity by discovering, strengthening, expressing and revealing the creative gifts and talents of His people.

BAND

Grades: 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Band students will study level-appropriate music to further develop their instrumental skills and prepare them for high school band. Demonstrated ability on a traditional concert band instrument* will be required for participation on approval from the instructor. Students will prepare a wide variety of music for various concert performances. (**Guitars - including bass - are not considered traditional band instruments, and drummers will be expected to play all percussion instruments.*)

CHOIR

Grades: 7-8

Prerequisite: None

Junior High Choir is an exciting introduction to part singing and intermediate vocal technique. All students of changed and unchanged voice are welcome to participate. They will study 2 and 3-part music of a variety of styles for presentation in public concerts. As a part of the ensemble experience, participation in evening concert performances throughout the year is mandatory.

PUBLICATIONS

Grades: 7-8

Prerequisites: Teacher approval, with possible interview and recommended teacher references as requested by the teacher. Students should maintain a B average in all classes, be exceptional workers, willing to learn, quick to follow instructions, and glorify Christ in all things.

The creation of the school's yearbook is the primary focus of Publications class. Course content includes writing, photography, ad sales, yearbook sales, design layout, journalism ethics, publishing criteria, and development of computer skills using Photoshop and other related software and hardware.

INTRODUCTION TO ART

Grades: 7-8

Prerequisite: None

This course develops a foundation in art through exposure to several 2-D and 3-D projects and mediums. These include drawing, color theory, layout design, watercolor, clay, and instruction in the elements and principles of art through practice. Art history is also integrated throughout this course.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/STEM ROTATION

The following courses are rotated every semester. Physical Education classes are divided by gender.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None

In this course students will participate in physical conditioning and testing, ultimate Frisbee, basketball, floor hockey, soccer, diamond sports(kickball, baseball, etc)as well as games that promote activity and teamwork. Students are expected to dress out for class, participate, and take unit tests.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

In this course students participate in physical conditioning and testing, ultimate Frisbee, soccer, badminton, basketball, volleyball, diamond sports(kickball, baseball, etc.), as well as games that promote activity and teamwork. In addition, they will be involved in rope jumping, group games, and leisure games. Students are expected to dress out for class, participate and take unit tests.

STEM 7

Grade: 7

Prerequisite: None

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math is a discovery class using all aspects of each to complete projects and labs. Students will be working in groups to solve thought provoking problems, make discoveries, explore, experiment and make mistakes. Students will use an inquiry based approach to work on various topics such as crimes scene forensics, ecology, magnetism, energy, mass and velocity, and buoyancy. Goals for each student include development of skills to learn and apply new content, integrate previous content, interpret and communicate information effectively, use logical reasoning and work well as a member of a team. The curriculum is designed for in class group work and each student is expected to participate cooperatively, provide input, and think outside the box, while learning in class.

STEM 8

Grade: 8

Prerequisite: None

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math is a discovery class using all aspects of each to complete projects and labs. Students will be working in groups to solve thought provoking problems, make discoveries, explore, experiment and make mistakes. Students will use an inquiry based approach to work on various topics such as thermal dynamics, forensics, electricity, space science, simple machines, architecture, civil engineering, Newton's laws of physics, mechanics, etc. Student goals continue to be the development and application of learning, applying new content in combination with the integration of previously learned content, interpretation and communication of information effectively, the use of logical reasoning and effective teamwork. Students will explore the possibility of concentrating on these topics for a possible career in life while seeing what they are truly capable of.