



HIGH SCHOOL COURSE CATALOG

9th Grade



Mathematics

Algebra 1 (if not taken in 7th or 8th grade)

This course teaches students the concepts of algebraic expressions, operations with rational numbers, solving equations, inequalities, polynomials, exponents, and much more. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Algebra 1*.

Geometry (if not taken in 8th grade)

This course is designed to teach students the concepts of points, lines, planes, angles, deductive reasoning, perimeter, volume, and much more. An introduction to Trigonometry is included. An understanding of basic Algebra is required. The text used is Houghton Mifflin's *Geometry*.

Algebra 2

This course continues the study of Algebra through reinforcing materials covered in Algebra 1 and will introduce more advanced concepts such as complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, logarithms, and trigonometric functions as time allows. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Algebra 2*.

Science

Biology

This course deepens the students' understanding of organisms and how they work. Students begin with a study of the interactions between the atoms and molecules that form the organelles of living things then gradually expand their view to learn how chemical interactions form a living being. Throughout the course, students and the teacher engage in discussion about how to synthesize scientific study with their understanding of the Bible. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Biology*.

English

English 9

Freshman English reviews and develops the basic skills taught in middle school: recognition of the distinguishing characteristics of literary genres, reading comprehension, written and oral expression, vocabulary development, and grammar skills. In addition, students will be exposed to more intensely demanding literature including mythology, dramas, poetry, and novels. Students will focus on elements of analysis such as character, theme, and setting. Students will develop growing proficiency in various types of writing assignments and will have an introduction to public speaking.

History

Modern World History

This course surveys major components of world history from the time of the French Revolution through modern day. It will examine the prevailing worldviews/systems of thought, the prominent individuals, and the momentous events of each particular historical period. Particular focus will be placed upon evaluating the ideas, people, and events of each period from a biblical perspective as well as upon following God's sovereign purposes being worked out through His church during these periods of history. The text used is McDougal Littell's *Modern World History*.

Bible

Introduction to the Bible

Biblical theology is the study of the Bible's unified, diverse, and progressive message of salvation through Jesus Christ. This discipline seeks initially to interpret each book of the Bible on its own terms and then create a synthesized interpretation or theology of the Bible as a whole by tracing the storyline of the Bible. This course is designed to take students through a theological study of the entire Bible. Students will analyze portions of individual books, drawing theologies from each book and synthesizing themes seen across Scripture into one unified theology.

Foreign Language

Spanish 1 (if not taken in 8th grade)

This course is designed to give students an introduction to the structure of the Spanish language and exposure to Hispanic culture. Vocabulary topics are grouped around practical situations and the vocabulary needs associated with those situations. A discussion of Latin American cultural distinctives including contrast and comparison with American culture is added. All four skill areas (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are emphasized. Though functional proficiency is the primary focus, grammar and spelling accuracy is stressed as well.

Spanish 2

Spanish level 2 builds on the grammar and vocabulary foundation laid down in Level 1. Vocabulary topics continue to be centered on practical situations. Additional grammatical structures are presented to broaden the student's proficiency in all four skills areas (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing) are emphasized. In this course, students are also taught the gospel in Spanish.

Physical Education

PE 9

High School Physical Education introduces students to various games and sports. They will be taught rules, strategies, and skills necessary to participate in these sports. Physical Education also provides an arena for further study of the complexity of their bodies and the care necessary to be good stewards of those bodies. As each skill is taught, the emphasis will be placed on glorifying God in thoughts, words, and actions.

General Electives – see pages 13-14

10th Grade



Mathematics

Geometry (if not taken in 8th or 9th grade)

This course is designed to teach students the concepts of points, lines, angles, deductive reasoning, perimeter, volume and much more. An introduction to trigonometry is included. An understanding of basic algebra is required. The text used is Houghton Mifflin's *Geometry*.

Algebra 2 (if not taken in 9th grade)

This course continues the study of algebra through reinforcing materials covered in Algebra I. It will introduce more advanced concepts such as complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, logarithms and trigonometric functions. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Algebra 2*.

Pre-Calculus

In Pre-calculus, students will develop a mastery of underlying mathematical concepts in preparation for secondary and collegiate-level calculus. Students will build a strong foundation in their understanding of polynomial and rational functions, logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Precalculus*.

Science

Chemistry

This course introduces the student to the basic structure of matter, physical and chemical changes of structure, and the factors that affect such changes. In addition, the students will develop dependable laboratory techniques in order to study these properties of matter and to discover, by experimentation, the basic concepts of chemistry. The text used is Merrill's *Chemistry; A Modern Course*.

English

English 10

This foundational English class builds on the ninth-grade curriculum, preparing students for an in-depth look at literature and composition in 11th and 12th grades. The class stresses expository writing skills, conventions of formal standard English usage, themes in literature, basic public speaking skills, vocabulary development, research, and various study skills. Additionally, students will be exposed more intensely to demanding and complex literature focusing on observation, interpretation, and extension of the text. One purpose of this course is to prepare students for the option to take AP English Literature in 11th grade.

History

U.S. Government

America's Founding and Government class is a foundational history course. The Junior and Senior year courses build on the concepts presented in this year's course. This course begins as a history course, focusing on our nation's founding, and then becomes a government course. Students will take an in-depth look at the U.S. Constitution. The Constitution then becomes the lens through which all else is studied: The Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches and then Federal-State relations.

Bible

Hermeneutics

This course is designed to make students more effective in the craft of interpreting the Bible in order to bring the Word of God to bear on the students' lives. To this end students will study the discipline of biblical hermeneutics as well as studying the various genres (i.e., types of literature) contained in the Bible. Each week students will have a lab which will involve discussion about a portion of Scripture which they have studied.

Foreign Language

Spanish 2 (if not taken in 9th grade)

Spanish level 2 builds on the grammar and vocabulary foundation laid down in Level 1. Vocabulary topics continue to be centered on practical situations. Additional grammatical structures are presented to broaden the student's proficiency in all four skills areas (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing). In this course, students are also taught the gospel in Spanish.

See CORE Elective Options

Physical Education

PE 10

High School Physical Education introduces students to various games and sports. Students are taught rules, strategies, and skills necessary to participate in these sports. Physical Education also provides an arena for further study of the complexity of their bodies and the care necessary to be good stewards of those bodies. As each skill is taught, the emphasis will be placed on glorifying God in thoughts, words, and actions.

General Electives – see page 13-14

11th Grade



Mathematics

Algebra 2 (if not taken in 9th or 10th grade)

This course continues the study of Algebra through reinforcing materials covered in Algebra 1. It will introduce more advanced concepts such as complex numbers, quadratic equations and functions, logarithms and trigonometric functions as time allows. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Algebra 2*.

Pre-Calculus (if not taken in 10th grade)

In Pre-calculus, students will develop a mastery of underlying mathematical concepts in preparation for secondary and collegiate-level calculus. Students will build a strong foundation in their understanding of polynomial and rational functions, logarithmic functions, and trigonometric functions. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Precalculus*.

See A.P. Options

Science

Conceptual Physics

This is a conceptual physics course designed to ease the shock of freshman level math-based physics in college. Students are challenged to discard false notions of how the world around them works and replace those notions with the truth of the laws of physics created by God. Topics covered include Newton's laws, vectors, momentum, work and energy, gravity and tides, rotational motion, and the properties of solids, liquids and gasses. The text used is Addison Wesley's *Conceptual Physics*.

See A.P. Options

English

American Literature

American Literature & Composition is designed to survey the American authors who have shaped our literary heritage. Authors are studied in chronological sequence starting at 1607 with the Puritan settlers and ending with modern American prose of the twentieth century. Whole works of each author (with some exceptions of American Renaissance authors) are read and examined through the lens of Scripture. This chronological view enables students to observe the deterioration of values as American authors have gradually distanced their work and lives from God. Students learn literature and authors as well as the historical context in which these writers participated and contributed.

History

U.S. History

11th grade American History surveys major components of American history from our new nation's first administration to the present. This course examines the prevailing worldviews and systems of thought, the prominent individuals, and the momentous events of each historical period. Attention will also be given to some of the significant art, music, and literature of the designated periods of study. Particular focus will be placed upon critically evaluating the content

from a biblical perspective. Finally, this course will look to highlight God's sovereign purposes exhibited through His church throughout our nation's history.

Bible

Systematic Theology

Systematic Theology is a study of doctrines that focuses on answering the question, "What does the entire Bible say with regard to this topic?". This course is designed to take the students through a systematic study of Bible doctrine related to the following topics: Scripture, God, Man, Christ, The Application of Redemption and The Future. The course begins with an investigation of what systematic theology is, why Christians should study it, and how it should be studied. Particular biblical truths have particular implications and a particular impact on a Christian's life, so a major emphasis in the course is the application of the Bible's teachings to the student's lives.

Foreign Language

See CORE Elective Options

General Electives – see page 13-14

12th Grade



Mathematics

Pre-Calculus (if not taken in 10th or 11th grade)

In Pre-calculus, students will develop a mastery of underlying mathematical concepts in preparation for secondary and collegiate-level calculus. Students will build a strong foundation in their understanding of polynomial and rational functions, logarithmic functions and trigonometric functions. The text used is Prentice Hall's *Precalculus*.

See A.P. Options

Science

See A.P. Options

English

Classics of Literature

This course is designed to introduce Seniors to the great classics of Western Civilization. The students will look at the changing techniques of story-telling from Homer through Beckett as well as the worldview represented in these great works. In addition, the students will master writing literary analysis and defending their observations in lively class discussion. Finally, the students will learn how to see “the fingerprints of God’ in all literature, even pagan, pre-Christian, and post-modern existential literature.

See A.P. Options

History

International Affairs

International Affairs (IA) will explore the prominent areas of today’s global landscape. It will look at the current political, military, economic, religious and cultural affairs in key areas of the world. IA will discuss the source, background and current status of situations in the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, Africa, Europe and elsewhere. It will look at the great importance of such hotspots as North Korea, China, Russia, Israel, and more. The course will also discuss how U.S. Foreign Policy relates to these matters. Furthermore, it will help students understand the role that the media and news reporting plays in international affairs. Finally, content will be evaluated from a biblical perspective.

See A.P. Options

Bible

Apologetics

This course primarily teaches students to discern and recognize ideas and systems of thought that stand in opposition to biblical truth while training them to respond according to scriptural principles and commands. Students will be equipped through a study of a variety of approaches to Christian apologetics as well as biblical analysis of non-Christian worldviews. This course is offered with the realization that most of the students will soon be entering a secular academic and/or work environment in the near future

Foreign Language

See Core Elective Options

General Electives – see page 13-14

Elective Courses



CORE Electives – Courses that are in one of the following disciplines; Math, Foreign Language, and History. These courses are academically rigorous and worth one credit each. Their credit value is applied to the 15 subject specific courses needed for an Academic Diploma and the 11 subject specific courses needed for a General Diploma.

Mathematics

Business and Economics

The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to the basic concepts of economics and to build a fundamental understanding of the many facets of business and how they connect and interact. Using the McDougal Littrell curriculum, a variety of topics will be covered, including:

- * Economics and Business Cycles
- * Governments and Economies
- * Companies and Corporations
- * Finance, Investment, and Banking
- * Personal and Business Budgets
- * Supply and Demand, Pricing
- * Business Law, Monopolies and Mergers
- * Economic Indicators
- * Marketing
- * The Stock Market
- * Labor and Labor Unions
- * Retirement and Benefits
- * International Trade
- * Business and Social Problem

Accounting and Finance

This course is an introduction to college level accounting. Though it is not a college level course, it covers many of the same topics covered in introductory college level accounting. Students will learn to prepare financial statements and analyze common transactions of a business as well as the basic rules, regulations, and laws that govern accounting. The text used is McGraw Hill's *Fundamental Accounting Principles*.

Foreign Language

Spanish 3

The Spanish 3 course builds on the grammar and vocabulary foundation laid in Levels 1 and 2. We will continue to work on broadening the students' proficiency in all four skill areas (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing). By the end of the course, students will have studied all of the essential grammatical structures of the Spanish language. The course includes increased opportunities for more extensive spoken and written practice through class conversations, oral reports, compositions, and literature reading. The class also includes discussions of various Latin American cultural/historical topics.

Spanish 4 Honors

The Spanish 4 course gives the student increased confidence in his or her communication skills. Having covered all of the most essential grammar topics in Spanish 3, the student will now focus on:

1. Increasing his or her facility and accuracy in employing all the various verb tenses in spoken and written communication;
2. Broadening the student's vocabulary; and
3. Increasing reading and listening accuracy.

Vocabulary topics continue to be centered on practical situations. Additional grammatical structures are presented to broaden the student's proficiency in all four skill areas (i.e., listening, speaking, reading, and writing). The course also includes increased opportunities for more extensive spoken and written practice through oral reports and projects, short writing tasks, and class discussions. Reading and listening proficiency is increased through cultural and literature readings, listening comprehension exercises (including real-world listening situations) and the viewing of short films. Discussion of various cultural topics is also included on a regular basis. A ten-day immersion trip to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico in January is a required part of the course.

History

Psychology

This course will survey major components of both psychology and sociology. We will examine the prevailing worldviews/systems of thought, the prominent individuals, and the momentous events of each. In the first semester we will study psychology. This elective course is designed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the major issues inherent in the study of psychology as a social science. The course will emphasize the contributions of the foundational psychologists, their theories, and their impact on the field of psychology. The course will also touch on each of the major fields in psychology, including scientific and social aspects. A part of this course focuses on sociology and is designed to help the students develop an awareness of the complexities of human behavior, understand the relationship of the socialization process to one's own self-concept, reinforce the values of our own society, challenge the students to examine social behavior, and understand other cultures and appreciate their contributions to society. We will seek to view and evaluate all that we study throughout the school year through the lens of Scripture.

Criminology

Criminology surveys major components of criminal law. Criminology offers a broad overview of the subject matter, from its study of vocabulary, through the development of US Constitutional law, to its present-day incarnation in the United States. This elective integrates the study of history, politics, sociology, and economics. Particular focus will be placed upon evaluating crime from a biblical perspective. The mission of the Criminology elective is to ensure that the students understand the American criminal justice system and the significant impact it has on society, and to use that information as Christ honoring individuals in a modern society.

Communications 101

In Communications 101 we learn how to better utilize language to convey ideas, emotions, and information in a competent and professional manor. This is a discussion oriented and project-based class. We will prepare speeches, write papers, and give presentations on a variety of topics including: Empathy, Goal Setting, Creative Projects, Culture, Faith and Career Development.

European History

European History surveys major components of history from the time of the Formation of western Europe through present day. This 12th grade course will examine the prevailing worldviews/systems of thought, the prominent individuals, and the momentous events of each particular historical period. Attention will also be given to some of the prominent art, music and literature of the designated periods of study. Particular focus will be placed upon evaluating the ideas, people and events of each period from a biblical perspective as well as upon following God's sovereign purposes being worked out through His church during these periods of history.

GENERAL Electives – Courses are typically in the Fine Arts or Humanities disciplines and are considered less academically rigorous than core electives. They are worth .25 to .1 credit per semester and their credit value is applied to the 1.5 electives required for both the Academic and General Diplomas. These courses vary in length from one semester to a full year.

Art

This course develops the connection amongst art basics, cultural awareness, art history, and techniques. Effort is more important than prior artistic experience. Through the use of elements and principles of design students will create works of art that display their unique style. Skills attained in this course will give students further insight into God's gifts of light, vision, and color.

History – Offered on a rotating basis:

World War II

This course is an in-depth study of what some believe to be the monumental event of the 20th century: World War II. This course explores the causes, key players, battles, and the twists and turns of this epic struggle. The course draws from preeminent WWII historians as well as archival war footage and classic movies. It analyzes the events to draw lessons of leadership, gratitude for our country's freedoms, and personal inspiration from the "Greatest Generation". Finally, the WWII elective does regular biblical evaluations of the events asking God to increase our gratitude for His mercy on our country.

Post-World War II America

After WWII, America was thrust into the role of world leader. Yet at home, much was happening in American culture. We will explore America from the 1950's through the 1980's: the birth of Rock and Roll, Civil Rights, the 1960's counterculture/hippie movement, the Cold War, Vietnam, the Space Program, Watergate, and much more. This course is designed for the serious student of history. 9th and 10th graders must obtain permission from the instructor to be accepted into the course.

Cold War

From cloak and dagger Spy vs Spy confrontations in dark alleys to world superpower nations on the brink of nuclear war, the Cold War elective will study the key moments in the titanic struggle between freedom and communism that defined much of life in the second half of the twentieth century.

Computer – Offered on a rotating basis:

Python Programming

Learn the fundamentals of Python programming with this exciting new classroom-assisted online programming course. Simple, step by step development of skills brings the simplicity of programming and computational thinking is within reach for all students.

Minecraft

Python is one of the most employable programming languages in the job market today. Widely recognized for its application to cloud-based technology. Python is a language you can use inside Minecraft to develop programming skills while enjoying the Minecraft world. This course covers computer science topics as well as Python language skills, such as syntax, commenting and documentation, data types, variables, functions, parameters, event handlers and arrays.

Film/Creative Writing

Explore your creativity in this creative writing class the first semester and enjoy critiquing movies the second semester. This elective can be taken as a whole or take only one half depending on your interest.

Symphonic Band

Symphonic Band focuses on playing various pieces of music, as well as performing in at least two concerts and one special event every school year. Although not required, most students will have experience playing an instrument before joining. Students will encounter music theory specific to each instrument as well as continued work on intonation, blend, articulation, and other varied techniques.

Sinfonietta Strings

Sinfonietta Strings focuses on playing diverse styles of music and pieces of varying levels of difficulty. The goal is to grow musicians who confidently and convincingly portray the composer's intention in the music through their playing. We will perform in two concerts and one special event every school year.

HS Choir

Choir focuses on singing various pieces of music, as well as performing in two concerts and one special event every school year. Basic music reading skills are preferred though not required. This class will continue to hone the ability to read music, and strengthen the more advanced understanding of music concepts, composition, and evaluation of music. Students will encounter and interact with basic music theory including solfege and sight singing along with seeking to strengthen this ability in blending and singing together as a cohesive group.

Journalism

This class will focus on basic journalism skills which include gathering and writing news, getting and writing interviews, writing features, and sports stories as well as effective editorials. In addition, there will be units on layout and design, photography, and advertising. Students will receive hands-on experience in writing for publication in the *GROWL* (the school newspaper), as well as the school Yearbook. This course is ideal for students who wish to pursue leadership positions in school publications, particularly in the school newspaper, The *GROWL*, and Yearbook. In addition, students will study current events, media bias and fake news.

Advanced Placement Courses



Dependent on faculty availability and demand for the course.

Advanced Placement (AP) is a program in the United States created by the College Board which offers college-level curricula and examinations to high school students. American colleges and universities may grant placement and course credit to students who obtain high scores on the examinations.

AP Biology

A continuation of Biology, we explore each topic discussed in Biology to a much deeper level and includes more extensive laboratory experimentation. In addition to the topics discussed in Biology, students will explore the theory of Evolution in a manner that compliments their understanding of scripture and Ecology. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigation as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular process – energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. The text used is *Campbell Biology – AP Edition*.

AP Calculus

This course studies limits, rates of change, the derivative, the integral, and application of these topics. The text used is Prentice Hall's *AP Calculus*.

AP Chemistry

What makes the graphite in a pencil different from a diamond if they are both made out of carbon? How do batteries work and what do they have to do with metal? What does Advil look like, how does it work? These questions and more are explained in AP Chemistry. Standard chemistry focused on the atom and basic chemical equations; in AP Chemistry we look at molecules -- how they are formed and interact with one another. Topics include: molecular structure, organic naming, electrochemistry, solutions, reaction rates, acids & bases, and more.

AP Computer Science Principles

An introductory college-level computing course that introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. Students learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students also explain how computing innovations and computing systems—including the internet—work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

AP English Literature and Composition

This course provides an intensive study of various works of literature and engages students in careful and active reading, critical analysis, and incisive writing. Units are designed around themes and paired texts from various genres and time periods are used to further the students' abilities to compare, discuss, interpret, and write about imaginative literature.

AP History

AP History is a class designed to challenge and stimulate select students whose class performance and test scores indicate a high probability of success. This course surveys major components of American history from Discovery through the Present. This course examines the prevailing worldviews and systems of thought, prominent individuals, and momentous events of each historical period. This course is divided into periods of time and addresses themes throughout American history. These themes include politics art and culture, and religion. A feature of the course will be analyzing primary course documents. Attention will also be given to some of the significant art, music, and literature of the designated periods of study. Particular focus will be placed upon critically evaluating the content from a biblical perspective. Finally, this course will look to highlight God's sovereign purpose being worked out through His church throughout our nation's history.

AP Psychology

In AP Psych, we get to learn how a brain injury can change your personality, why concerts literally sound different live, how false memories are formed, why twelve schools in the past few years had to send students home because of laughter epidemics, how drawing a tree can be an evaluation of mental illness, and SO MUCH MORE! You will learn to examine the biological and cognitive bases for human behavior and apply such knowledge to real life. Numerous activities, demonstrations, and projects will be provided in order to instruct in scientific and empirical approaches in Psychology.

AP Spanish 5

The Spanish 5 course is a college level course focusing on:

1. Reviewing and further developing a student's vocabulary knowledge;
2. Refining and enhancing grammatical accuracy in all types of communication; and
3. Reading and discussing various literature selections written by Spanish-speaking authors.

The course also includes a quarterly project aimed to increase the student's awareness and ability to discuss current events and cultural issues in Latin America in Spanish. This project focuses on important Latin American both current and historical personages and regular readings taken from various Spanish language media sources (online newspapers, magazines, etc.).

AP Statistics & Probability

AP Statistics is a year-long introductory course to statistics designed for students who have successfully completed Algebra II. The purpose of this AP course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will explore and analyze data using graphical and numerical techniques. Students will also use probability and statistical inferences to develop an appropriate model for data collected. AP Statistics can be taken alone or in conjunction with another math course.

AP Studio Art

Drawing/Painting or 2-Dimensional Design

The goal of this course is to produce a body of artwork, a portfolio that is worthy of college level credit. The class will address the grammar (skill building) and logic (composition and further development) of drawing and/or design, as well as introduce the rhetoric (storytelling and personal voice) pertinent to each discipline. Additionally, students will engage in study of art history and criticism, art career investigation, and developing a Christian worldview of the arts.