

# Middle School Courses 2009/2010

(All courses are subject to availability and scheduling.)

## Grade 6

Core Courses (6 or 7 periods)	Length of Course	Elective Courses (2 periods)	Length of Course
Bible 6	Year	Intermediate Band/Advanced Band	Year/Year
English 6/English Enriched	Year/Year	Intermediate Chorus/ Adv. Chorus	Year/Year
Mathematics 6/ Math 6 Enriched	Year Year	Intro. to Dance/ Dance Technique	Year/Year
Integrated & Earth Science 6/ Integ. & Earth Science 6 Enr.	Year	Drama	Semester
	Year	Visual Art	Semester
World History 6/ World Hist. 6 Enriched	Year	Logical Thinking	Semester
	Year		
Physical Ed. 6	Semester	Introduction to Latin	Semester
Computer 6	Semester	Team Sports	Semester

## Grade 7

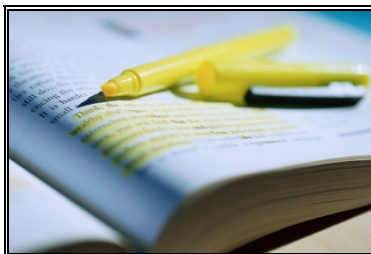
Core Courses (6 or 7 periods)	Length of Course	Elective Courses (2 periods)	Length of Course
Bible 7	Year	Intermediate Band/Advanced Band	Year/Year
English 7/English 7 Honors	Year/Year	Intermediate Chorus/ Adv. Chorus	Year/Year
Math 7/Math 7 Honors	Year/Year	Intro. to Dance/ Dance Technique	Year/Year
Integrated & Life Sci. 7/ Integ. & Life Sci. 7 Honors	Year	Experiencing Art	Semester
	Year	Technology Exploration	Semester
Geography 7/ Geography 7 Honors	Year	Introduction to Programming	Semester
	Year	Logical Reasoning	Semester
Physical Ed. 7	Semester	Drama I	Semester
Computer 7	Semester	Team Sports	Semester

## Grade 8

Core Courses (6 or 7 periods)	Length of Course	Elective Courses (2 periods)	Length of Course
Bible 8	Year	Intermediate Band/Advanced Band	Year/Year
English 8/ English 8 Honors	Year	Intermediate Chorus/ Adv. Chorus	Year/Year
	Year	Intro. to Dance/ Dance Technique	Year/Year
Algebra I/Algebra I Honors /Geometry	Year	Spanish 1 Honors	Year
	Year	Technology Exploration II	Semester
Integrated & Phys. Sci. 8/ Integ. & Phys. Sci. 8 Honors	Year	Media 8: TV/Video, Digital Art	Semester
	Year	Formal Logic	Semester
U.S. History 8/ U.S. Hist. 8 Honors	Year	Career Exploration	Semester
	Year	Emphasizing Art	Semester
Physical Ed. 8	Semester	Introduction to Yearbook	1 <sup>st</sup> semester
Computer 8	Semester	Drama II	Semester
		Team Sports	Semester

# Sixth Grade Courses

## Sixth Grade Courses



Course Name	Length of Course	Elective Courses	Length of Course
Bible 6	Year	Intermediate Band/Advanced Band	Year/Year
English 6/ English Enriched	Year Year	Intermediate Chorus/Adv. Chorus	Year/Year
Math. 6/Math Enriched	Year/Year	Intro. to Dance/Dance Technique	Year/Year
Integ. & Earth Science 6/ Integ. & Earth Sci. Enr.	Year Year	Drama	Semester
		Visual Arts	Semester
World History 6/ World Hist. Enriched	Year Year	Logical Thinking	Semester
Physical Ed. 6	Semester	Introduction to Latin	Semester
Computer 6	Semester	Team Sports	Semester

## **Required Courses**

### **Bible 6**

The sixth grade biblical studies will begin with the importance and understanding of the Word of God, who is God, and who was with God in the beginning. (John 1:1) The topical studies featuring courage, doubt and fear, hope and faith, temptation, holiness and purity, our words and the power of the tongue, will be some of the primary aspects of class this year. Scriptures will be studied deductively where the Word is taught as the absolute truth, the moral compass of our lives, guiding us and teaching us as we live. The stories throughout the Bible will unlock the hearts and minds, as the Holy Spirit speaks to each child in His unique and special way as the Word goes forth. Isaiah 55:11 says God's Word will not come back to us void.

### **English 6**

The sixth grade Language Arts curriculum stresses the fundamentals of grammar, composition, literature, vocabulary, and spelling. The students learn that language is a gift from God, a tool representing thought. A thorough, systematic presentation of grammar, composition, and mechanics guides students through new concepts and reviews them throughout the year. The comprehensive vocabulary program is comprised of a vocabulary text as well as literature-driven vocabulary. The literature component of the English program concentrates on building comprehension skills, drawing conclusions, predicting outcomes and understanding literary terms that will be further explored throughout their secondary education.

### **English 6 Enriched**

This 6th grade course incorporates a holistic approach utilizing other academic disciplines, focusing on analytical and evaluative thinking skills. Assessments and assignments will have additional required writing focusing more rigorously on content, organization, and style.

*Prerequisites: "A-" in Language Arts, teacher recommendation*

### **Mathematics 6**

Students will develop skills in recognizing number patterns, statistics and graphs, decimal operations, unit conversions, mastery of operations, integer operations involving negative and positive numbers, solving equations, recognizing and solving ratios and proportions, probability, measurement, angles and polygons, and measuring and calculations of perimeters areas and volumes; a clear introduction to percent, and graphs.

**Mathematics 6 Enriched**

Students will develop skills using the tools of algebra; *order of operations; solving equations*, mastery over operations with negative numbers, decimals and fractions; rational numbers, recognizing and solving ratios, proportions, and equations and inequalities (to include two step problems), volumes, statistics and probability, operations with polynomials and an introduction to quadratic expressions and nonlinear functions.

*Prerequisites: "B" in math and teacher recommendation*

**Integrated Science 6 and Earth Science**

Students will develop critical thinking skills and proper experimental technique and design needed for upper level science. Analysis, cooperative learning and lab experiences following NSTA standards for teaching science are utilized to explore God's amazing creation. The year emphasizes life science with a unit on ecology, cell processes and taxonomy. Topics in earth and physical science will deepen the students understanding, building on 6th grade science and preparing them for 8th grade.

**Integrated Science 6 and Earth Science Enriched**

Students will develop critical thinking skills in science, along with proper experimental technique needed for upper level science. Analysis, cooperative learning and lab experiences following NSTA standards for teaching science are utilized to explore God's amazing creation. Topics included Earth Science: weather, soil, volcanoes, the water cycle; Life science: cell structure and genetics, and physical science including the basics of mechanics and atomic structure.

*Prerequisites: "B" in science and teacher recommendation*

**World History 6**

In World History, students will develop a deeper knowledge of God, as they are encouraged to grow in their faith, and will gain historic and geographic knowledge that will enable them to build on their study of the world. Students will engage in activities that include lessons relative to early civilizations of the countries of the world. Students will learn map and globe skills, interpret information, and use processes to reconstruct events. Students will compare ancient civilizations and cultures, locate geographic features, explain their relationships within the ecosystem, and describe ways that historical events have influenced national and global settings.

**World History 6 Enriched**

In World History Enriched, students will have additional research and more depth of outside reading and essay writing. They will develop a deeper

knowledge of God in human history, will be encouraged to grow in their faith, and will gain historic and geographic knowledge that will enable them to build on their study of the world. Students will engage in activities that include lessons relative to early civilizations of the countries of the world. Students will learn map and globe skills, interpret information, and use processes to reconstruct events. Students will compare ancient civilizations and cultures, locate geographic features, and describe ways that historical events have influenced national and global settings.

*Prerequisites: "A" in history and teacher recommendation*

### **Physical Education 6            1 semester**

This course will teach students to honor and glorify God with their bodies by attempting to achieve their physical potential through different skills and principles. Students will be involved in learning basic physical fitness concepts, practice game movements that include consistent skill repetition, and apply knowledge to make positive sound decisions for healthy and effective living.

### **Computer-6th            1 semester**

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade Computer class students will gain a basic knowledge of the functions and capabilities of fundamental software applications. Students will begin to develop professional level skills in word processing, presentation, and spreadsheet software while exploring the implications of computer technology in society.

## **Elective Courses**

### **Intermediate Band**

A training ensemble emphasizing the discipline and acquisition of instrumental and rehearsal skills; understanding of musical elements; and the art of balance, blend, intonation, breath energy, and characteristic tone. Literature and materials will consist of published and/or adapted works from both sacred and secular sources so that the process of performance preparation and presentation serves to glorify God and disciple His people.

*Prerequisites: Grade 5 or 6; No prior experience is necessary; students must acquire their own instrument. Exceptions include percussion, large woodwind or brass and availability of school inventory.*

### **Advanced Band**

A vital and active school performing ensemble emphasizing the discipline and development of instrumental skills, understanding of musical elements,

and the art of balance, blend, intonation, breath energy, and characteristic tone. Literature and materials will consist of published works from both sacred and secular sources so that the process of performance preparation and presentation serves to glorify God and disciple His people. Opportunities for outside performances/outreach will include concerts, evaluation festivals, All-County and All-State, etc.

*Prerequisites: Grades 6-8; At least one year's experience; audition (includes 5 or more major scales from memory; chromatic scale; solo, ensemble, and/or etude/exercise that demonstrate advanced musical proficiency; sight reading). Note: Students must have their own instrument. Exceptions include percussion, large woodwind or brass and availability of school inventory.*

### **Chorus – Intermediate & Advanced**

This course is designed to introduce students to choral skills through the performance of age-appropriate music of all styles and periods, keeping in mind the developing and changing voice and stressing the essentials of the choral art. Students will be familiarized with fundamentals of singing in a choral setting, sight-singing skills as well as music notation. Concert and festival participation is required. Conference participation in ACSI and FVA, as well as festival participation for solo and/or ensembles is enthusiastically encouraged.

*Prerequisite: qualification for Advanced level will be by audition or department approval*

### **Introduction to Dance**

This course is an entry level class introducing students to the fundamentals of dance technique. Students will explore a variety of dance genres and will gain a basic knowledge of dance skills, terminology, and history. This class is open to both male and female students. Students will wear P.E. uniforms for the class. Ballet shoes are required for female students only.

### **Dance Technique**

This course will allow students to continue to build upon previously learned concepts of dance technique. The prerequisite for this class is one year of middle school dance or entry by audition. Students will study dance terminology, history, and basic choreographic concepts. While the students will occasionally explore different dance genres, the main emphasis of the class will be developing dance technique skills in ballet, jazz, and modern dance. A specific uniform is required for this class consisting of modest dance clothes and ballet shoes. Please contact the CCA dance department for a detailed handout outlining the dance uniform requirements.

**Drama 1 semester**

Explore the basic building blocks of theatre arts. The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the basic concepts and skills in the elements of theatre arts while applying biblical principles. Course content will include acting and characterization, movement and vocal production, pantomime and improvisation, basic theatre terminology, artistic discipline and audience etiquette.

**Visual Arts 1 semester**

Students will be exploring multi-mediums, art skills, and concepts, and will be drawing, molding, and painting. Students will learn key concepts, definitions and their application. Goal for sixth grade: concentration on becoming familiar and aware of who they are in Christ as an Artist.

**Logical Thinking 1 semester**

This course offers motivated students an opportunity for improving thinking and study skills. Students will experience creative opportunities to develop in the following:

- Time Management
- Organizing
- Note Taking
- Reading Comprehension
- Test Prep Techniques

**Introduction to Latin 1 semester**

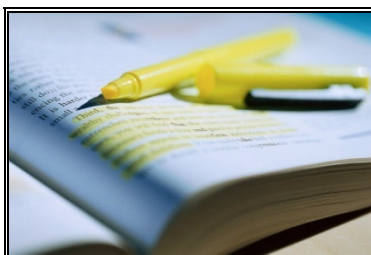
This Middle School Latin course will introduce the students to Medical and Legal Latin terms, and introduce the *Cambridge Latin Course Unit 1*. This interesting course integrates a continuous storyline with a development of grammar and a wealth of information on cultural topics.

**Team Sports 1 semester**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to acquire basic knowledge of team sports play, develop skills in specified team sports, and maintain or improve health-related fitness.

# Seventh Grade Courses

## Seventh Grade Courses



Course Name	Length of Course	Elective Courses	Length of Course
Bible 7	Year	Intermediate Band/Advanced Band	Year/Year
English 7/English Honors	Year/Year	Intermediate Chorus/Adv. Chorus	Year/Year
Mathematics 7/Math Honors	Year/Year	Intro. to Dance/Dance Technique	Year/Year
Integ. & Life Science 7/ Integ. & Life Science Hon.	Year Year	Experiencing Art	Semester
		Technology Exploration	Semester
Geography 7/ Geography Honors	Year Year	Introduction to Programming	Semester
		Logical Reasoning	Semester
Physical Ed.7	Semester	Drama I	Semester

## **Required Courses**

### **Bible 7**

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade biblical studies curriculum provides instruction in the study of the Gospels with an emphasis on the Life of Christ. Students are guided on a tour that leads them to appreciate the nature of the Christian Gospel as it is presented through the four evangelists. Through a careful study of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John students will learn the significance of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as infallible and reliable reference points for life and eternity. A focus will be placed on the attributes of Christ throughout His life and the challenges He leaves for the believer. The course will also focus on how the Life of Christ helps the CCA student understand basic Worldview questions about their own purpose and meaning on this earth.

### **English 7**

The 7th grade Language Arts course is designed to incorporate all aspects of communication: reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing, vocabulary, and literature. Writing workshop leads students through the writing process, incorporating the "6+1" Traits of writing with an emphasis on word choice and organization. Students will publish a variety of pieces, focusing on personal narrative and descriptive writing. Using various literary genres, students will identify plot, characterization, purpose, and theme, drawing inferences and personal connections. Applying critical thinking skills, literacy strategies, and technology in an integrated program, students become proficient communicators.

### **English 7 Honors**

The 7th grade Honors Language Arts course incorporates a holistic approach utilizing other academic disciplines, focusing on analytical and evaluative thinking skills. Writing will reflect the ability to cite sources and defend positions.

*Prerequisites: "A-" in English Enriched, teacher recommendation*

### **Math 7**

This mathematics class will be one of the foundation stones on which high school mathematics will be laid. It will be, therefore, advantageous for students to leave this class having mastery over basic facts of arithmetic, basic unit conversions, all operations involving fractions and decimals, together with a good understanding of exponents. In addition, order of operations, evaluation of expressions, place value, signed numbers, and square roots will be some of the other topics covered.

### **Math 7 Honors**

Students will develop skills using the tools of algebra, order of operations, solving equations, recognizing and using factors and fractions, rational numbers, mastery in simplifying ratios and solving proportions, percents, solving equations and inequalities, functions; types of graphs, and graphing; rational numbers; an introduction to types of triangles, calculation of perimeters, areas, and volumes; statistics to include Box and Whisker Plots, probability and odds, and polynomials and nonlinear functions; mastery over specified formulas.

*Prerequisites: "A-" in 6<sup>th</sup> grade Math Enriched and teacher recommendation*

### **Integrated Science 7 with Life Science**

Students will develop critical thinking skills and proper experimental skills and design needed for upper level science. Analysis, cooperative learning and lab experiences following NSTA standards for teaching science are utilized to explore God's amazing creation. The year emphasizes life science with a unit on ecology, cell processes and taxonomy. Topics in earth and physical science will deepen the students understanding, building on 6<sup>th</sup> grade science and preparing them for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Integrated Science 7 with Life Science Honors**

Honors Science 7 will cover the above topics in greater depth in an extended curriculum designed to challenge the honor student. The level of analysis required and the pace of instruction will be increased.

*Requirements: "B+" in Science Enriched, teacher recommendation.*

### **World Geography 7**

Students will formulate a Biblical perspective of World Geography. The students will apply basic map skills analyzing the spatial organization of people, places and environments on Earth's surface. Continents and oceans along with key countries, cities and waterways and land forms will be committed to memory. Students will develop the skills necessary to examine and analyze our world's physical, human and environmental systems. There will be an emphasis on critical analysis of political ideals, religions and cultures, evaluating their impact. Students will be challenged to view Christianity from a global perspective identifying with the missions movement "*Until the whole world hears*". Current Events will be used to incorporate critical thinking of contemporary issues in light of Biblical Truth.

### **World Geography 7 Honors**

In World Geography Honors, students will have additional research and more depth of outside reading and essay writing. Students will formulate a Biblical perspective of World Geography. The students will apply basic map

skills analyzing the spatial organization of people, places and environments on Earth's surface. Students will develop the skills necessary to examine, understand and analyze our World's physical, human and environmental systems. There will be an emphasis on critical analysis of our world's many political ideals, religions and cultures evaluating their impact. Students will be challenged to view Christianity from a global perspective identifying with the missions movement "*Until the whole world hears*". Current events will be used to evaluate contemporary issues in light of biblical truth. Students will apply their geographical knowledge to political, religious and environmental issues as well as develop practical uses for geography today.  
*Prerequisites: "B+" History Enriched and teacher recommendation*

### **Physical Education 7            1 semester**

This course will enable students to honor and glorify God with their bodies through further development of their physical potential. Students will be involved in modified game play leading to a greater knowledge of the sport's skill content. Students will be given the opportunity to apply positive actions and decisions to start making healthy decisions on their own in order to achieve healthy and effective lives.

### **Computer 7            1 semester**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to develop knowledge and skills in computer applications. The course will lay a foundation in the principles, concepts, and processes of computer applications in specific the use of Word processing and Spreadsheets in real world situations.

## **Elective Courses**

### **Intermediate Band**

A vital and active school performing ensemble emphasizing the discipline and acquisition of instrumental skills, understanding of musical elements, and the art of balance, blend, intonation, breath energy, and characteristic tone. Literature and materials will consist of published works from both sacred and secular sources so that the process of performance preparation and presentation serves to glorify God and disciple His people. Opportunities for outside performances/outreach will include concerts, evaluation festivals, All-County and All-State.

*Prerequisite: Completion of Beginning Band curriculum, audition, or permission of instructor; instrument.*

### **Advanced Band**

A vital and active school performing ensemble emphasizing the discipline and development of instrumental skills, understanding of musical elements, and the art of balance, blend, intonation, breath energy, and characteristic

tone. Literature and materials will consist of published works from both sacred and secular sources so that the process of performance preparation and presentation serves to glorify God and disciple His people. Opportunities for outside performances/outreach will include concerts, evaluation festivals, All-County and All-State, etc.

*Prerequisites: Grades 6-8; At least one year's experience; audition (includes 5 or more major scales from memory; chromatic scale; solo, ensemble, and/or etude/exercise that demonstrate advanced musical proficiency; sight reading).*

*Note: Students must have their own instrument. Exceptions include percussion, large woodwind or brass and availability of school inventory.*

### **Chorus – Intermediate & Advanced**

This course is designed to introduce students to choral skills through the performance of age-appropriate music of all styles and periods, keeping in mind the developing and changing voice and stressing the essentials of the choral art. Students will be familiarized with fundamentals of singing in a choral setting, sight-singing skills as well as music notation. Concert and festival participation is required. Conference participation in ACSI and FVA, as well as festival participation for solo and/or ensembles is enthusiastically encouraged.

*Prerequisite: qualification for Advanced level will be by audition or department approval*

### **Introduction to Dance**

This course is an entry level class introducing students to the fundamentals of dance technique. Students will explore a variety of dance genres and will gain a basic knowledge of dance skills, terminology, and history. This class is open to both male and female students. Students will wear P.E. uniforms for the class. Ballet shoes are required for female students only.

### **Dance Technique**

This course will allow students to continue to build upon previously learned concepts of dance technique. The prerequisite for this class is one year of middle school dance or entry by audition. Students will study dance terminology, history, and basic choreographic concepts. While the students will occasionally explore different dance genres, the main emphasis of the class will be developing dance technique skills in ballet, jazz, and modern dance. A specific uniform is required for this class.

### **Experiencing Art      1 semester**

Students will build upon the 6th grade basic course and will be required to have already taken "Exploring Art". Students will be learning and practicing art techniques using different mediums, and will be required to work at a

faster pace and to have an aesthetic quality goal. There will be a requirement to learn and know vocabulary, and assessments will be given at this grade level.

### **Technology Exploration 1 semester**

The purpose of this course is to expose students to areas of technology beyond basic computer applications. Students will explore Flash Animation, Web Design, and Bridge Engineering.

### **Introduction to Programming 1 semester**

The purpose of this course is to lay the foundation for students who have an interest in the area of technology that will eventually lead to advance classes at the high school level. The study of computer programming is a foundation to all areas of computer science. A sound understanding of programming concepts will reinforce and improve logic and problem-solving skills for any student. Students will create their own interactive stories, animations, games, music, and art and share them on the web using a variety of programming tools. *Prerequisite: Department approval*

### **Logical Reasoning 1 semester**

Students will learn to develop proficiency in the following areas that will provide them with an advantage in their studies throughout high school.

Problem Solving  
 Mind Mapping  
 Organizing work, data, and notes  
 Note Taking  
 Reading Comp  
 Memory Techniques  
 Test Prep Techniques

### **Drama I**

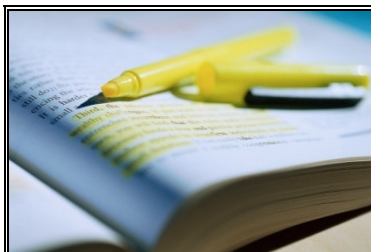
Continue to build on the basics of theatre arts. This entry level course enables students to develop fundamental knowledge and skills in the elements of theatre arts while applying biblical principles. Course content will include acting and characterization, movement and vocal production, pantomime and improvisation, theatre terminology, dramatic literature, technical theatre, playwriting, artistic discipline, audience etiquette and roles and careers in theatre arts. This course may require students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day.

### **Team Sports**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to acquire basic knowledge of team sports play, develop skills in specified team sports, and maintain or improve health-related fitness.

# Eighth Grade Courses

## Eighth Grade Courses



<b>Course Name (6 or 7 periods)</b>	<b>Length of Course</b>	<b>Elective Courses (2 periods)</b>	<b>Length of Course</b>
Bible 8	Year	Intermediate Band/Advanced Band	Year/Year
English 8/English Honors	Year	Intermediate Chorus/ Adv. Chorus	Year/Year
Pre Algebra/Algebra 1 Hon.	Year/Year	Intro. to Dance/ Dance Technique	Year/Year
Integ. & Physical Science 8/ Integ. & Phys. Science Hon.	Year	Spanish 1 Honors	Year
	Year	Technology Exploration II	Semester
U.S. History 8/ U.S. History Honors	Year	Media 8: TV/Video/Digital Art	Semester
	Year	Formal Logic	Semester
Physical Ed. 8	Semester	Career Exploration	Semester
		Emphasizing Art	Semester
Computer 8	Semester	Introduction to Yearbook	1 <sup>st</sup> Semester
		Drama 2	Semester
		Team Sports	Semester

## **Required Courses**

### **Bible 8**

The eight grade biblical studies curriculum provides instruction in the study of early church history, the New Testament epistles, and eschatology. Beginning with a study of the basic elements of the life, death, and resurrection of Christ as reported from the distinctive perspectives of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The course consists of an overview of the birth and expansion of the Christian Church in its earliest forms. This reflection on early Church history provides for discussion on the disciples' successes and failures.

Students are encouraged to debate, discuss and represent some contemporary tensions between Christianity and culture. They are also assisted in identifying positive ways to keep their Christian viewpoint by reviewing early Christian creeds and statements of faith. In short, this course establishes the central truths of the Christian faith and provides several historical examples of how Christians overcome life's obstacles daily by the power of the Cross.

### **English 8**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Language Arts course is designed to incorporate all aspects of communication: reading, writing, speaking, viewing, vocabulary, and literature. Writing workshop leads students through the writing process, incorporating "6+1" Traits of writing with an emphasis on sentence fluency and voice. Students will publish a variety of pieces, focusing on expository and persuasive writing. Using various literary genres, students will examine and analyze tone, purpose, theme, drawing inferences and personal connections. Applying critical thinking skills, literacy strategies and technology in an integrated program, students will become effective communicators.

### **English 8 Honors**

The 8<sup>th</sup> grade Honors course incorporates a holistic integrated approach utilizing other academic disciplines, focusing on analytical and evaluative thinking skills. Writing will focus more rigorously on content, organization, and style.

*Prerequisites: "A-" average in Language Arts Honors, and teacher recommendation*

### **Pre-Algebra**

Students will develop skills using the tools of algebra, integer operations, solving equations, recognizing and using factors and fractions, rational numbers, recognizing and solving ratios, proportions, and percents, solving

equations and inequalities, functions and graphing, real numbers and right triangles, two-dimensional figures, three dimensional figures, statistics and probability, and polynomials and nonlinear functions.

### **Algebra I Honors** (High School Credit)

This course is the foundational math course for high school students. Students successfully completing this course will be prepared for entry into Geometry and Algebra II. Topics include: problem solving with the language of Algebra, simplifying and evaluating expressions, mastery over order of operations, solving equations and inequalities, factoring, rational expressions, polynomials, powers, statistics, solving simultaneous equations and word problems. Students must pass the midterm and final exam in order to receive high school credit.

*Prerequisite: "C" in Math Honors*

### **Integrated Science/Physical Science 8**

Students will develop critical thinking skills and proper laboratory technique needed for upper level science through analysis and lab experiences following NSTA standards for teaching science. This class is designed to prepare students to progress into high school science. Topics explored include chemical and physical properties, changes, and the energy and power of the Creator interwoven in each element. We also investigate chemical bonding, force, motion, kinetic and potential energy. Life science and Earth science topics will build on 7<sup>th</sup> grade and prepare for 9th grade biology.

### **Integrated Science/Physical Science 8 Honors** (High school credit)

Physical science honors introduces concepts of the physical world, with an emphasis on chemistry and physics. This course prepares students to progress into high school honors science, with more of an emphasis on independent learning. We explore chemical and physical properties, changes, and the energy and power of the Creator, interwoven in each element. We also investigate bonding, balancing equations, and the intricacy and the interwoven dependency of elements in God's creation. In the end we explore force, motion, kinetic and potential energy. We study these topics with labs, discussion, and logic, to learn more about the loving God of creation.

*Prerequisites: "A-" average in Science Honors, teacher recommendation*

### **United States History 8**

Students will survey American History from the Protestant Reformation to 1900. The Protestant Reformation gives birth to the Puritan and Pilgrim who founded our country as a covenant with God and to be a city on a hill. This vision that began with our Founding Fathers is woven throughout the

political, economic intellectual, spiritual and social growth that make America truly unique. Students will trace these developments throughout American History from the Colonial period through the War for Independence, the Great Awakenings, the Civil War and Reconstruction. There will be a special emphasis placed on the study of the Constitution and its impact on present day events through regular discussions on current events. As students study the significant people, places and events in American History they will discover the theme that "God governs in the affairs of man." As they discover the hand of Providence in HIS story, they will gain insight into present day current events in light of historical truths.

### **United States History 8 Honors**

This is a journey through the Founding of America to 1900. Students will trace and analyze the development of our country as it was envisioned through the Reformation, forged in a war for independence and anchored as one nation under God in the formulating of the Constitution. there will be a special emphasis on the study of the Constitution and its impact on the present day. Students will be able to describe and critically evaluate the growth of our country through the periods of Manifest Destiny, Civil War, Reconstruction, Gilded Age, and Industrialism. Students will analyze current events through the lens of historical context. The presidents and their terms of service, and excerpts from the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and Lincoln's Gettysburg Address will be memorized. Significant research, outside reading, and essay writing will be required. *Prerequisites: "B+" in World Geography Honors, teacher recommendation.*

### **Physical Education 8                    1 Semester**

This course will enable students to honor and glorify God with their bodies by allowing them to push themselves to reaching their maximum physical potential. Students will be involved in more specific game playing using official rules in small groups or teams. Students will have the opportunity to be more accountable for their healthy eating and living life styles.

### **Computer - 8th                    1 Semester**

This course will focus on computer literacy, Internet skills, and the effective application of *Microsoft Office* software. During this semester class students will face the challenge of planning, developing, and establishing a business or organization, of their choice, with one million "virtual" dollars. Students recognize the gifts and talents God has given them and how to use them in the business world for His glory. Activities will include everything from developing a logo and slogan to evaluating payroll and designing the company office. In the process, students will learn advanced features of Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. Additionally, students will be required to achieve a typing goal of 40 AWPM by the end of the semester.

## **Elective Courses**

### **Intermediate Band**

A vital and active school performing ensemble emphasizing the discipline and acquisition of instrumental skills, understanding of musical elements, and the art of balance, blend, intonation, breath energy, and characteristic tone. Literature and materials will consist of published works from both sacred and secular sources so that the process of performance preparation and presentation serves to glorify God and disciple His people. Opportunities for outside performances/outreach will include concerts, evaluation festivals, All-County and All-State.

*Prerequisite: Completion of Beginning Band curriculum, audition, or permission of instructor; instrument.*

### **Advanced Band**

A vital and active school performing ensemble emphasizing the discipline and development of instrumental skills, understanding of musical elements, and the art of balance, blend, intonation, breath energy, and characteristic tone. Literature and materials will consist of published works from both sacred and secular sources so that the process of performance preparation and presentation serves to glorify God and disciple His people. Opportunities for outside performances/outreach will include concerts, evaluation festivals, All-County and All-State, etc.

*Prerequisites: Grades 6-8; At least one year's experience; audition (includes 5 or more major scales from memory; chromatic scale; solo, ensemble, and/or etude/exercise that demonstrate advanced musical proficiency; sight reading). Note: Students must have their own instrument. Exceptions include percussion, large woodwind or brass.*

### **Chorus – Intermediate & Advanced**

This course is designed to introduce students to choral skills through the performance of age-appropriate music of all styles and periods, keeping in mind the developing and changing voice and stressing the essentials of the choral art. Students will be familiarized with fundamentals of singing in a choral setting, sight-singing skills as well as music notation. Concert and festival participation is required. Participation in ACSI and FVA, and festival participation for solo and/or ensembles is enthusiastically encouraged.

*Prerequisite: qualification for Advanced level will be by audition*

### **Introduction to Dance**

This course is an entry level class introducing students to the fundamentals of dance technique. Students will explore a variety of dance genres and will gain a basic knowledge of dance skills, terminology, and history. This class

is open to both male and female students. Students will wear P.E. uniforms for the class. Ballet shoes are required for female students only.

### **Dance Technique**

This course will allow students to continue to build upon previously learned concepts of dance technique. The prerequisite for this class is one year of middle school dance or entry by audition. Students will study dance terminology, history, and basic choreographic concepts. While the students will occasionally explore different dance genres, the main emphasis of the class will be developing dance technique skills in ballet, jazz, and modern dance. A specific uniform is required for this class consisting of modest dance clothes and ballet shoes.

### **Spanish I Honors** (High school credit)

Fundamentals of listening, speaking, reading, grammar, vocabulary, writing, and Hispanic culture are learned. Classroom practice and exercises supplemented by multimedia designed to develop aural, oral, and written communicative competence, literacy, and cultural sensitivity. This course will be an enjoyable but accelerated introduction to the language. Bilingual students may gain approval to advance directly to Spanish II Honors when in high school. *Prerequisites: "B+" in English and dept. recommendation*

### **Technology Exploration II**            **1 semester**

In this course students will explore three additional areas of technology: CAD (Computer-Aided Design), Programming, and Networking/Hardware. Students will gain hands on experience while designing with CAD, following Alice into the animated world of programming, and delving into the wired world on Networking/Hardware.

### **Media Wheel 8**            **1 semester**

Students will be given an introduction to TV/film and radio production. They will learn basic skills and techniques through writing, recording, and editing short projects. This class is a good foundation (though not a prerequisite) for high school TV and radio classes. Digital art will be explored.

### **Formal Logic**            **1 semester**

Students will gain experience and skill with higher order thinking in areas listed below. This will prepare them for greater success with advanced curriculum in high school.

Reasoning Skills

Logic Problems & Critical Thinking

Problem Solving Skills

Constructing an Argument

Speed Reading & Comprehension

**Career Exploration 8            1 semester**

This course will enable students evaluate future career goals. Activities enable students to increase awareness of their gifts through career inventories and assessments, and develop the skills needed to successfully plan for postsecondary education and the workplace.

**Emphasizing Art            1 semester**

This course is designed for the students who has a serious interest in art and also plans on continuing taking art on through high school. It builds on the concepts taught in the previous years and emphasizes the application of the elements of art and design: line, shape, form, color, value, texture and space. Students have the opportunity to express themselves through art forms in ways, which glorify God, and to acknowledge Him as the ultimate Artist and Creator. A variety of techniques and mediums are explored while applying these elements of design in the creation of two and three-dimensional compositions. Some art history and art appreciation will be presented during these studies. There will also be concept assessment both practical and written.

**Introduction to Yearbook            1<sup>st</sup> semester**

This course will introduce students to the opportunities and challenges of assisting in the creation of an actual yearbook. Publishing software, photography, layout, and other skills will be explored and materials assembled that can then be used in a final publication. This course can also serve as a helpful orientation for students who may eventually seek to join the high school yearbook staff.

**Drama 2            1 semester**

Expand your basic knowledge and skills of theatre arts. The purpose of this course is to enable students to increase fundamental knowledge and skills in the elements of theatre arts, with an emphasis on performance, while applying biblical principles. Course content includes acting and characterization, movement and vocal production, pantomime and improvisation, theatre terminology, dramatic literature, historical, cultural, and societal perspectives, technical theatre, playwriting, role of the director, artistic discipline, audience etiquette, and roles and careers in theatre arts. This course may require students to participate in extra rehearsals and performances beyond the school day.

**Team Sports            1 semester**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to acquire basic knowledge of team sports play, develop skills in specified team sports, and maintain or improve health-related fitness.