



## **COURSE DESCRIPTION CATALOG**

**Middle School (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

**High School (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades)**

**(2016 – 2017 School Year)**



## MIDDLE SCHOOL COURSES

**Bible 6** – a strong Bible program that expects students to not only acquire skills and knowledge but also grow in faith and demonstrate that faith by their behavior. In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, the emphasis is on the New Testament with application of Scripture. God’s Plan of Salvation is a common theme within each lesson. Biblical success, a Christian worldview, forgiveness, choices, and growing in faith are just a few of the topics discussed throughout the year.

**Bible 7** – “Christian Living” looks at the development of the believer’s life in Christ. We will examine the necessary basics of the Christian life – birth, growth, breath, communication, and behavior. A key aspect of this course will be ensuring that students understand these basics and have made them a part of his or her life.

**Bible 8** – an incredible Bible program that takes students on a “journey” through the entire Bible from beginning to end. Students will grow in confidence, as they realize they are studying the Bible all the way through. Learning repeated principles through Scripture prepares students for Christian thinking, and promotes growth in faith. Students will learn how to: Apply Biblical principles to everyday life, understand Scripture and its primary themes, know where to locate key events and characters in the Bible, and lay foundations for future studies.

**English 6** – consists of five areas: grammar, spelling, writing, reading, and vocabulary. Each area is Biblically based. Reading selections include literature that reflects Christian truths paired relevant vocabulary words taken from the story. Spelling lessons teach students to apply spelling skills to aid in accurate written communication. Students learn parts of speech, punctuation, types of sentences, and writing skills in grammar. Students learn the five stages of writing: planning, drafting, revising, proofreading, and

publishing as they complete a variety of writing assignments including a research report.

**English 7** – provides students with a clear understanding of Basic English grammar for increasing proficiency in the use of English. Students will sharpen the tools of language use, writing and grammar skills. Students will grow as they expand their vocabulary and learn to use words in context. Biblical truth is incorporated with a variety of genres in literature, range of cultures, and develops critical thinking skills, with a focus on non-fictional and historical fiction. In literature, students interpret and evaluate authors, works, themes, and terms in light of Scripture. Writing is focused on persuasive, informative, and argumentative essays. Grade level spelling and vocabulary skills are built upon.

**English 8** – presents clear instruction in writing and grammar, including an overview of the writing process and many focused writing activities with a focus on narrative, informative, and argumentative writing. Writing & Grammar 8 reviews the eight parts of speech, five basic sentence patterns, usage, and mechanics, and discusses grammar elements such as participles. This course emphasizes literature with a focus in non-fiction. Students interpret and evaluate authors, works, themes, and terms in light of Scripture.

**Health 7** – a one semester course that helps the student learn about their physical, mental, spiritual, and social health. Topics such as cultural influences, nutrition, physical fitness, and cultivating good relationships help students understand the changes they are experiencing and give them an opportunity to share their struggles in a supportive environment.

**History 6** – provides a survey of ancient civilizations from Mesopotamia to the end of the Middle Ages. Major topics of study include Ancient Egypt, God’s covenant with Israel, the history of Asia

and Africa, Ancient Greece and Rome, Mesoamerica, the Middle Ages, and the Crusades.

**History 7** – a journey through time and across the globe.

Beginning with the growth of towns and continuing through the Twentieth Century, these lessons provide a historical, geographical, cultural, and thematic study of the world and its people. Major areas of study include the Renaissance, the Protestant Reformation, the Age of Exploration, Absolutism, slavery, the Cold War, and the history of the Middle East.

**History 8** – a survey of American History from the country’s settlement to the present. Major areas of study include the colonists’ struggle for independence, sectional divisions, the Civil War, and the Global Wars.

**Math 6** – an opportunity for students to expand their knowledge and skills of numbers, computation, estimation, measurement, geometry, statistics, probability, and patterns. The Math 6 program strives to develop students’ mathematical abilities, including learning to value mathematics, becoming confident in their ability, becoming a mathematical problem solver, learning to communicate mathematically, and learning to reason mathematically.

**Math 7** – a focus on developing understanding of and applying proportional relationships; developing understanding of operations with rational numbers and working with expressions and linear equations; solving problems involving scale drawings and informal geometric constructions, and working with two and three dimensional shapes to solve problems involving area, surface area, and volume.

**Pre-Algebra** – integrates traditional units, giving student’s time to learn and practice skills throughout the year, master content,

and develop higher-order thinking. Skills and concepts are built through critical thinking, helping students become better and more confident problem solvers. This course reinforces arithmetic skills, developing the pre-algebra concepts of variable recognition, signed numbers, formulas, and single variable equations. Students will be introduced to algebraic symbolism, simplifying expressions, solutions to elementary equations, and the graphic representations associated with variables.

**Science 6** – presents the study of Science through a Christian worldview. Students in Science 6 discuss earth science, life science and physical science through the use of activity pages and hands-on lab experiments. Science 6 teaches the process involved in a scientific method, shows the integration of science into the student’s everyday life, and provides a strong foundation for further science instruction.

**Science 7** – a study of the basic concepts of life science. Learning about cells, discovering how traits are inherited, and observing a wide variety of organisms through the seven living kingdoms are just a few lessons that help students see God’s world through a Christian worldview.

**Science 8** – a focus on earth science. The science program centers on the acknowledgment that the world in which we live belongs to God, who created and upholds it. Areas of study include geology, environment, water, meteorology, and astronomy.

## MS ELECTIVES

**Art** – a fundamental exploration of art’s history and God’s purposes for creativity. Students will develop drawing skills, watercolor and acrylic painting techniques.

**Creative Writing** – a one semester course that allows the student to engage in nonfiction and fiction writings. Throughout this course, students will be exposed to personal narratives, biographies, persuasive letters, expository writing, fictional writings, and poetry. Students will learn the writing and revision process and will develop the skills to create a final piece of written work.

**Choir** – An elective open to all middle school students and one way to learn why and how to sing. Auditions are not required for membership, but students must meet with the director to determine voice range and the part they will sing.

This choir may at times perform with the High School choir, but will act independently as much as possible. The 2015-16 school year is the first time this has been an independent group.

Middle School Choir has one main performance first semester, the Christmas concert. Other opportunities throughout the semester for performance include special chapels and patriotic assemblies.

Second semester has more and varied opportunities for Middle School Choir. There are also chapels and assemblies. One highlight of this semester is the combined singing the National Anthem for Homecoming.

Challenges addressed in this choir involve learning how to read music and the rapidly changing voices of these young adolescents.

**Creative Writing** – a one semester course that allows the student to engage in nonfiction and fiction writings. Throughout this course, students will be exposed to personal narratives, biographies, persuasive letters, expository writing, fictional writings, and poetry. Students will learn the writing and revision process and will develop the skills to create a final piece of written work.

**Computer** – a one semester class to study the basic functions in Microsoft Office products. In the first quarter, they will learn the basics of MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, and Paint. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, they will use all skills learned in all programs to create a company, with 3 products they have invented.

**Drama** – teaches students the basic principles of communicating ideas through acting. Students will learn about facial expression, gestures, dramatic inflections, movement, timing, props, and blocking. They will be given several opportunities to practice their craft in dramatic productions.

**Keyboarding 6** – a one semester class where students are taught the key location of all letters, numbers, punctuation, symbols and 6 special keys – tab, left shift, right shift, enter, backspace, and caps lock. The goal will be that they acquire skills necessary to use Microsoft Word basic commands for page setup, font formatting, and clipart manipulation.

**Physical Education** – a variety of activities. Students will be taught skills, basic knowledge, drills and play at a Middle School level. Students are evaluated through participation, quizzes and tests.

**Spanish I (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)** – an introductory course that will lay the foundation and serve as a building block for levels II and III. Students will learn vocabulary, grammar concepts, and develop basic reading skills in Spanish. Cultural awareness is also an important component that will broaden their appreciation toward the Latino culture. Upon completion of Spanish one, students will have the ability to use basic communication skills in Spanish. (Counts as a HS credit)

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

**Bible 9** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) a study of the book of Proverbs. The year-long study leads students through thirty-five lessons, teaching them many invaluable principles and encouraging them to walk in those “bright ways of God.” These lessons approach the study of Proverbs topically in two major divisions: wisdom defined and wisdom applied to daily living. Students also memorize portions of Scripture from Proverbs to assist in their learning.

**Bible 10** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) a biblical study of the life of Christ, through the book of John. Students will study the historical facts of this book, but will also be made aware of the visible and personal Jesus, the Christ of God. Encouraging our students to make a response toward Christ is the main emphasis of Bible 10. A goal of this course is to achieve the following objectives: to see His brilliance, to know His compassion, to weep over His death, and to rejoice in His resurrection. Weekly scripture memorization is an important aspect of the class.

**Bible 11** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) a course introducing the study of apologetics, or defense of biblical faith. The course focuses on understanding the biblical basis for life and faith, and how to counteract the arguments of the prevailing culture that advocates non-biblical points of view. Major focus is given to Darwinism, historical accuracy of the Bible and the deity of Christ.

**Bible 12** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) surveys several worldviews from around the world and contrasts them to Christianity. This class is designed to help the students think critically about their faith and the faith of others and to help the students accurately and personally understand the reality and beauty of the Christian religion and worldview.

## **English 9** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none)

Fundamentals of Literature, Writing and Grammar: students learn the basic fundamentals of literature, such as character, theme, setting, and so on. These fundamentals are studied by critically reading a broad selection of short stories, poems, and excerpts from classical and contemporary novels and plays. In the grammar portion of the class, the students learn the basic building block of grammar and how to use these rules to enhance their writing skills. Also in this class, the students learn a variety of vocabulary, write multiple different styles of essays and papers, and read an entire novel as a class.

## **English 10** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none)

Elements of Literature and Writing: students learn the more complex literary tools that authors use in their writing, and they also learn how to appreciate the many different genres of Literature, reading stories, essays, and poetry from around the world. In the grammar portion of the class, the students will take their mastery of the English language to the next level, which will immensely help prepare them for writing at a college level. Also in this class, they will grow their vocabulary and also develop writing skills by writing a variety of different papers and essays.

## **English 11** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none)

American Literature: provides the students a wide selection of widely esteemed American Literature, providing the historical and cultural context for the selections. Also, the students will read some of America's greatest novels, and develop their writing skills through a variety of writing projects.

## **English 12** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) English

Literature: This class traces the English literary tradition starting from first beginnings in *Beowulf* all the way to modern times with *The Screwtape Letters*. This class provides a great overview of English

literature, providing the historical and cultural context of the literature. This class will also prepare students for the writing, reading, and vocabulary levels they will be expected to be in for college.

**Geography** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) the study of cultural geography which includes a survey of the earth and its resources, the use of those resources, and the geographic and cultural features of people from all over the world with a strong biblical philosophy. The course includes the study of all the world's regions, discussing each area by physical geography, climate, economics, culture, history and government. At the completion of the course, students will be expected to locate all fifty states on a map and name all fifty capitals.

**World History** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) the study of history from early civilizations to the present through a Christian worldview. The first semester covers such topics as: early civilizations, the Greeks and the Romans, the Byzantine and Islamic Empires, and medieval Europe. The second semester will cover the following topics: Renaissance, Reformation, Exploration, Industrial Revolution and World War I and World War II.

**U.S. History** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) This college preparatory course provides students with a survey of American History from the country's settlement to the present. Major areas of study include the colonists' struggle for independence, sectional divisions, the Civil War, and the Global Wars.

**Honors U.S. History** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: teachers discretion) This college preparatory course provides students with a survey of American History from the country's settlement to the present. Major areas of study include

the colonists' struggle for independence, sectional divisions, the Civil War, and the Global Wars. This will be a dual credit course taught at a faster pace than US History and more in-depth. **(DUAL CREDIT)**

**Economics** – (Length 1 sem./1 credits; prerequisite: none) a course designed to equip students with a working knowledge of basic economics with biblical principles woven through each subject area. Topics include: Economic models, micro and macroeconomics, the Law of Supply and Demand, economic systems, different forms of business ownership, money and the financial market. Toward the end of the course, students will participate in a “Real Life” project that will require them to learn the following: how to do a simple tax form, balance a checkbook, create a budget, rent an apartment, acquire insurance, etc.

**Government** – (Length 1 sem./1 credits; prerequisite: none) Students in this semester course of government will participate in an in-depth study of the United States government and the Constitution with a strong biblical perspective. General objectives of this class are the following: why government is necessary and the Christian's relationship to government, early historical foundations, identifying the major forms of government, significance of the Constitution, organization of the political party system, and the structure and power of the three branches of government. Current event discussions are also an important aspect of the class.

**Algebra I** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) a course that introduces students to the basic principles of algebra. It is geared to give students an opportunity to learn and practice processes and concepts that they will use throughout their math career. Content includes understanding properties of real numbers, exploring behavior of functions, using technology, and writing expressions to represent real-world models.

## **Geometry** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Algebra I)

introduces and teaches logical thinking skills that will help students not only in their math abilities but also in their everyday life. It has a prerequisite of Algebra 1. Content includes right angle and trigonometric functions, explaining work clearly, using logical reasoning in writing proofs, and developing formulas such as area and volume.

## **Algebra II** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Algebra I)

introduces students to a wide range of mathematical concepts that are used in our world. The prerequisite for Algebra 2 is Algebra 1. Although geometry is not a prerequisite, it is recommended. Content includes developing the algebra of functions, understanding exponential and logarithmic functions, understanding rate of change in both linear and exponential functions, working with statistics, and learning the concept of infinite sum and the limit of partial sums.

## **Pre-Calculus** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Algebra II)

the goal is to give the students opportunities to fine-tune what they have previously learned and extend their conceptual understanding in preparation for calculus. It also introduces calculus concepts to the students. The prerequisites are Algebra 2 and Geometry. Content includes extensive trigonometry, polar functions and graphs, complex numbers, matrices, and introduces limits and differentials.

## **Psychology** – (Length 1 sem./1 credits; prerequisite: none) a

one semester course covering the basic principles in understanding human behavior through a biblical perspective. Topics included are: history of psychology, psychological methods, biology and behavior, how we perceive, learn, remember, communicate, feel and relate to others.

## **Sociology** – (Length 1 sem./1 credits; prerequisite: none) a one

semester course that studies the structure and processes of human social behavior. Topics include: socialization, culture, groups, deviance, social institutions, sociological perspectives, and social change. The class also examines significant social issues through a Christian worldview including marriage and family, gender roles, social status, and race relations.

### **H.S. Health** – (Length 1 sem./1 credits; prerequisite: none)

designed to develop a knowledge of health/science pertaining to the human body. It also fosters a development of a healthy lifestyle in each area of life including spiritual health. Health should allow a student to develop a deeper love for God and a deeper understanding of health-related issues.

### **Anatomy/Physiology** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits;

prerequisite: Biology and ICP) a year-long course designed for students to grasp the fundamental concepts of human anatomy and the inner workings of the body. Students will become immersed in anatomical terminology, names of major body areas, and brief overviews of functions that must be performed to maintain life. Each of the 11 body systems is discussed from simple to increasingly complex levels. (Laboratory course).

### **Biology** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) the study

of life. It is designed as a year-long survey course covering all major areas. Topics such as the atom, matter, the cell and cellular processes, genetics, Creation and Evolution, and the classification of organisms, and the major kingdoms will lead students to develop a deeper understanding of Biology and lay a foundation for higher level courses. (Laboratory course).

### **Chemistry** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Algebra 1) a

year-long survey course touching on all major areas and innovative developments. Students will be encouraged to develop critical

thinking skills so that they learn to think like scientists. Chemistry studies the makeup of matter, the design of atoms, the periodic table, molecular bonds, formulas, reactions, solutions, acid, bases, and several specialized branches. (Laboratory course).

**AP Chemistry** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Chemistry, Algebra 1) a course designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. This course is structured around the six big ideas articulated in the AP Chemistry curriculum framework provided by the College Board. A special emphasis will be placed on the seven science practices, which capture important aspects of the work that scientists engage in, with learning objects that combine content with inquiry and reasoning skills. AP Chemistry is open to all students that have completed a year of general Chemistry who wish to take part in a rigorous and academically challenging course. (Laboratory Course)

**Earth Science** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) a course designed to lay a foundation in Earth and space science. Topics covered include: foundations of the Earth (history, land features, plate tectonics), Earth's rocky materials (minerals, ores, fossils, soil), Earth's waters (seas, lakes, oceans, rivers), Earth's atmosphere (storms, weather, climate), and space (stars, planets, moons, galaxies). Earth Science provides the student with tools to begin a lifelong journey exploring God's good earth. (Laboratory course)

**Integrated Chemistry/Physics** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) lays a year-long foundation in Physics and Chemistry that will allow students to pursue higher level courses. Topics such as matter, kinematics, dynamics, energy, work, elements, and chemical reactions are covered. Students will learn scientific modeling and workability in Physics and Chemistry that develops an inquiring and rational cause-and-effect mindset that

applies to nearly all areas of life. (Laboratory course).

**Physics** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Algebra 2, ICP recommended) a year-long course designed to stimulate curiosity about the physical world. Topics include measuring, classical Newtonian mechanics, motion, work, energy, thermodynamics, matter, electricity, magnetism, light, and optics. Physics lays a foundation that will allow students to enroll in higher level courses after graduation. (Laboratory course)

## HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVES

**Forensics** – (Length 1 sem./1 credits; prerequisite: Biology, either ICP or Chemistry) a semester-long course designed to reveal the science used in forensic science techniques. Topics covered include: crime scene investigation, trace evidence, fingerprints, blood and blood spatter examination, DNA, entomology, drugs, glass, handwriting, tool marks and impressions, firearms and ballistics, and cause of death mechanisms. Forensics allows students to refine their techniques in collecting, analyzing, and evaluating evidence. (Laboratory course)

**Art I** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) introduces students to the Elements of Art, Principles of Design, the Power of Visual Communication and the need to *"Do whatever you do for the glory of God"* (1 Corinthians 10:31). Application of these principles help students develop drawing skills, watercolor and acrylic paintings techniques. (Laboratory course)

**Art II** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Art I) a progressing course to increase drawing and painting skills. Student's gain greater understanding of principles learn in Art 1. Problem solving techniques are explored that also helps students be more heavenly-

focused in life. Oil painting is introduced in this course. (Laboratory course).

**Art III** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Art II) advanced art courses for students whose drawings and paintings will be displayed in public exhibitions to promote student's work and inspire their viewers. These student also serve as a production team to design background sets for plays. An art portfolio is built to increase college and career opportunities. (Laboratory course)

**Art IV** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Art III) advanced art courses for students whose drawings and paintings will be displayed in public exhibitions to promote student's work and inspire their viewers. These student also serve as a production team to design background sets for plays. An art portfolio is built to increase college and career opportunities. (Laboratory course)

**Bible Elective** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) gateway course that introduces students to the concept of making a positive difference in the world by developing in character, scholarship, and leadership. This course helps students gain an understanding of the Christian way of life and learning that enables virtue, servant leadership, and citizenship in God's kingdom within the context of the concept of life calling and the discovery of one's God-given design as a basis for this calling. This discovery is based on foundational values revealed in the Christian faith. These values form a Christian worldview that students will continue to develop throughout their entire educational experience. This emerging sense of calling can then be used to guide the student in taking actions of personal mission that can lead to greater success in their educational experience, and at the same time helps students make a positive impact in their world around them. **(DUAL CREDIT)**

**Choir** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) one of the ways to earn fine arts credit for graduation. Auditions are not required for membership, but students must meet with the director to determine voice range and the part they will sing. There will be one main performance first semester, the Christmas concert, which blends both sacred and secular numbers. Other areas of study may include tone production, proper breathing, reading music, and other topics related to music and performance.

**Honors Language Composition** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Recommendation of instructor and a B or higher in English 11.) This dual-credit course covers one semester of college-level writing and one semester of college-level literature. In the composition section, emphasis is placed on the various forms of expository writing such as process, description, narration, comparison, analysis, persuasion, and argumentation. A research paper is required. In the literature section students will develop basic strategies for critically reading and interpreting poetry, fiction, and drama; be introduced to the premises and motives of literary analysis and critical methods associated with various literary concerns through class discussion and focused writing assignments.

**Spanish I** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: none) an introductory course that will lay the foundation and serve as a building block for levels II and III. Students will learn vocabulary, grammar concepts, and develop basic reading skills in Spanish. Cultural awareness is also an important component that will broaden their appreciation toward the Latino culture. Upon completion of Spanish one, students will have the ability to use basic communication skills in Spanish.

**Spanish II** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Spanish I) a continuation of Spanish I. Students will continue to learn more grammar and practical vocabulary necessary for everyday

communication. Reading, writing, and listening are important components in this course. At the end of Level II, students will have an increased proficiency and will have a better understanding of the Hispanic Culture. (Pre-requisite Spanish I)

### **Spanish III** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits; prerequisite: Spanish II)

Upon successfully completing levels I and II, students will continue to build upon what they have learned. They will learn sophisticated phrases, vocabulary, and will read some Spanish literature. They will be expected to broaden their vocabulary structure and expressions. Grammar concepts are intensified (e. i. present, past, future tense and subjunctive mood). Students will be encouraged and will be expected to communicate more in Spanish. This class is often a requirement for an Honors Diploma. (Pre-requisite Spanish I&II)

### **Physical Education I** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits;

prerequisite: none) a variety of Activities. Students will be taught skills, basic knowledge, drills and play at a High School level. Students are evaluated through participation, quizzes and tests.

### **Physical Education II** – (Length 1 yr./2 credits;

prerequisite: none) students will engage in fitness, cardio activities, nutrition, and other life-healthy activities. Students are evaluated through participation and projects.

### **Teacher's Aide** – (Length 1 sem./1 credit; prerequisite:

teacher recommendation) a one year course in which students will assist teachers with classroom duties.

**Year Book** - This class produces the 120+ page school yearbook. Students work online to design, edit, and produce pages for the yearbook. Grades 8 through 12 may participate. Students will use elements of graphic, page, and publication design to develop intriguing, professional-quality pages; apply basic photography and

photography editing skills to shoot and edit photos for inclusion in the book; and write in journalistic fashion, contributing features, captions, and other content. Students will collaborate as part of a group to plan projects, deadlines, and themes, working in a web-based environment.