



Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy

Lower School Upper Elementary - Christian Studies

Scope and Sequence

Vision:

At the heart of our Christian faith is the belief that the triune God is a personal God who reveals Himself to humanity through Scripture, His nature, His redemptive purpose in history, and His love for all creation. Central to this faith is the crucified and risen Jesus Christ and our knowledge and belief that the son of God became human so that we could be forgiven and restored to God. It is our conviction that in understanding the incarnate God we come to know our own nature and purpose, for we are created in God’s image. Given these core convictions, the Christian Studies curriculum studies Scripture to hear God’s truth, encourages a love of learning and the exercise of reason, gains wisdom from the historic voices and traditions of the Church, and seeks to understand our own human experience within this world. The Socratic nature of our classes make them a practical laboratory for discussing and developing their faith in a safe environment. The goals of this curriculum are therefore to (i) allow students to articulate a distinctly Christian worldview, (ii) develop the student holistically, and (iii) encourage students to pursue excellence in order to engage God’s world.

| <u><i>Content Standards</i></u> | <u><i>Core Competencies</i></u> |
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| <p><i>Students explore the following broad content themes and topics:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ God’s purpose in restoring humanity and creation into right relationship and humanity’s participation in building the Kingdom of God. ❖ The role and value of Scripture, reason, tradition, and experience in theologically forming a Christian worldview. ❖ The triune God: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. ❖ The unique Nature of Christ as fully divine and fully human ❖ The nature of humanity as made in the image of God yet fallen. ❖ God’s redemptive work through Christ for salvation. ❖ The importance of spiritual formation through classic spiritual disciplines including prayer, meditation, fasting, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, service, confession, worship, guidance and celebration. ❖ The relevance of Church history and historical theology in the formation of faith and appreciation for the diversity of God’s Kingdom. | <p><i>Students work to master the following overarching skills:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Think theologically and critically ❖ Interpretation of Scripture ❖ Application of Scripture ❖ Develop Christian worldview ❖ Reflection on Self & God’s World ❖ Spiritual Formation |



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Grade 4 Topics: Students study the attributes of God. Students learn the divisions and structure of the Bible, and how to study the Bible using reference tools. Through the gospels, students study the birth of Jesus. Students explore the life of Christ through the lens of His miracles and His “I Am” statements. Students learn the plan of salvation through studying Jesus’ death and resurrection. Students learn an overview of the New Testament books and their themes. Students learn what it means to pray as an opportunity to communicate with God and have a relationship with Him. 4th graders also participate in weekly Scripture memorization and application.



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Grades 5 and 6 Follow a Two-Year Rotation

Year 1 Topics: Old Testament Themes and History; Major periods of Old Testament history (creation, fall, beginning of nations, God's chosen family, exodus, conquest and judges, monarchy, divided monarchy, exile, return, and intertestamental period). As they explore these stories of how God works in the ancient world and how He prepares a nation from which the Savior will come, students will continually search for how God shows Himself to His people, what He reveals about Himself, and their own place in His story. Additionally, major Old Testament themes, such as covenant, sacrifice, promise, prophecy, and worship, will be traced throughout this chronological study of the Old Testament.

Year 2 Topics: The Gospels: Students build a deeper understanding that throughout Jesus' life and ministry, He claims and proves He is God; He is both divine and human. Beginning with an overview of each gospel (author, audience, purpose), students explore stories of Jesus' life (birth through resurrection) going beyond simply rephrasing Biblical material but, rather, seeking insights on spiritual, historical and "simplified" theological issues presented in the gospels and the Bible as a whole. Students search for how God shows Himself to His people: what He reveals about Himself, and their individual place in His story. Students trace major New Testament themes such as sacrifice, promise, prophecy, and worship throughout this chronological study of the life of Christ.