

## Class Eight English Course Description

**Teacher** Mr. Matthew Fuller, 214-302-2854, mfuller@pcstx.org

**Tutorials** Monday mornings at 7:30 a.m.

### Texts

Crane, Stephen. *The Red Badge of Courage*. 1895. New York: Bantam Books, 2004. Print.

Dickens, Charles. *A Tale of Two Cities*. 1859. New York: Dover Publications, 1999. Print.

Dumas, Alexandre. *The Count of Monte Cristo*. 1844. trans. Lowell Bair. New York: Bantam Books, 1981. Print.

Lee, Harper. *To Kill a Mockingbird*. 1960. New York: Grand Central Publishing, 1982. Print.

Shakespeare, William. *The Merchant of Venice*. 1600. New York: Washington Square Press, 1992. Print.

Twain, Mark. *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. 1885. New York: Dover Publications, 1994. Print.

*Sadlier-Oxford Vocabulary Workshop, Level D*

### Final Grade

Trimesters One, Two, and Three: 80%

Final Exam: 20%

### Areas to be Evaluated

Writing and Tests – 60%

- **Major essays:** Class Eight students will write four major essays, culminating in a final exam paper which interacts with multiple novels. Specific grammar and vocabulary requirements will be given as the year progresses. Students will spend between two and four weeks drafting and revising these essays before turning in final drafts. These essays will be typed and should be formatted according to MLA guidelines. The length required will be increased throughout the year. Specific instruction will also include:
  - Stylized introductions and conclusions
  - Rhythm of sentences
  - Transitions (expanding single words to phrases and clauses)
  - Outlining
  - Thesis statements
  - Maintaining argument throughout paper
  - Quote integration

Late essays will receive a ten-point deduction for each day after the due date.

- **In-class essays:** In addition to the longer, more time-intensive papers, students will also periodically write in-class essays on which they may spend one to three class periods. These will be handwritten and will be graded according to the amount of time spent on them.
- **Literature tests** will be given approximately two-thirds of the way through some of the novels. They will assess students' knowledge of characters, important passages, and plot. They will serve as a review in preparation for the writing upon concluding the novel.
- **Vocabulary and grammar tests** will be given upon the completion of every three vocabulary units. They will be comprehensive but will focus on the most recent material.

#### Quizzes – 30%

- **Vocabulary quizzes** will be administered at the end of each unit and will assess the students' knowledge of spelling, pronunciation, part of speech, synonyms and antonyms, and meaning. Sentence diagramming will be included on most of these quizzes.
- **Grammar quizzes** will be given periodically to assess students' understanding of current grammatical concepts.
- **Reading quizzes** will be unannounced and will check for students' completion and comprehension of the previous night's assignment. At times, these may be counted as daily grades.

#### Daily – 10%

- Between one and three daily grades will be taken each week. These may include homework completion, in-class participation, short writing assignments, and journal entries. Journals will be checked periodically for completion, neatness, and thought. Assignments not completed by the due date will receive a maximum grade of fifty.

### Major Assignments

#### Trimester One

- Essays
  - *The Chosen*
  - *A Tale of Two Cities*
- Tests
  - *A Tale of Two Cities*
  - Vocabulary/Grammar #1
  - Vocabulary/Grammar #2

#### Trimester Two

- In-Class Writing
  - *The Count of Monte Cristo*
  - *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
- Tests
  - *The Count of Monte Cristo*
  - Vocabulary/Grammar #3
  - Vocabulary/Grammar #4

#### Trimester Three

- Essays
  - *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
  - *The Merchant of Venice*
- Tests
  - Vocabulary/Grammar #5

### Online Resources

Vocabulary: [www.vocabularyworkshop.com](http://www.vocabularyworkshop.com)

Audio Books: [www.librivox.org](http://www.librivox.org)

MLA: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Note: This outline is intended as a “guide,” not a “lord,” and as the instructor deems appropriate, changes may be made to assignments; students will be advised of these changes in a timely manner.

## Class Eight Algebra

### Course Description

**Teacher** Mr. Tim Ricchuiti, 214-302-2846, tricchuiti@pcstx.org

**Tutorials** Thursday mornings at 7:30 a.m.

#### Mathematics Philosophy Statement

“Mathematics is the language with which God wrote the universe.” – Galileo Galilei. Mathematics witnesses to God’s immanence in the orderly finitude of the material universe and to His transcendence beyond that universe into infinity. Mathematics orients students’ minds to God’s mind, cultivating in them appreciation, knowledge, and skillful mastery and application of math facts, computation, real-life relevance, and development of logical thinking. Mathematics also cultivates discipline in students, enabling them to participate in the scientific and technological stewardship of this world for the service of God and man.

#### Textbook

*Algebra I*, Glencoe/McGraw-Hill, 2007 (tx.algebra1.com)

#### Course Content

##### *Trimester I*

- Expressions and Equations
- Algebraic Properties and Axioms
- Solving Linear Equations
- Functions and Patterns
- Analyzing Linear Equations

##### *Trimester II*

- Solving Systems of Linear Equations
- Solving Linear Inequalities
- Operations with Polynomials
- Factoring

##### *Trimester III*

- Quadratic and Exponential Functions
- Radical Expressions and Triangles
- Radical Expressions and Equations
- Statistics and Probability

#### Materials

- Textbook
- Two-Inch Binder
- Composition Notebook (Graph Paper)
- Calculator (TI-Nspire CX)

## **Evaluation**

- Homework – 12% (Daily)
- Quizzes – 24% (1–3 per week)
- Tests – 64% (1 per chapter)

## **Final Grade:**

- Average of the three semesters – 80%
- Final Exam – 20%

## **Homework Policy**

Homework is an essential part of each algebra lesson and must be done on a daily basis if maximum learning is to take place. Homework allows students to practice concepts learned in class. It is important to be in class every day. The interactive discussions and presentations are difficult if not impossible to repeat on an individual basis. If possible, please schedule appointments before or after school. Homework assignments will be posted on the board so students may complete assignments before returning to class. Errors on homework may be corrected.

## **Correction Policy**

Students will have the opportunity to correct any assignments, including tests and quizzes, and receive back up to 50% credit for their work. Students may only turn in corrected work for any chapter until the day after the chapter's test. After that, no corrections will receive credit, except at the instructor's discretion.

## **Pre-AP Designation**

All students who complete the Algebra I course will receive a high school credit and be eligible to begin Geometry as freshmen, eventually leading to AP Calculus as seniors. While it is our expectation that all students will apply themselves to this task, we recognize that some students may desire an additional challenge. Students will have the ability to receive a Pre-AP designation on their transcripts, dependent on their completion of three requirements throughout the year:

- The student must maintain at least a 90% average for all three trimesters.
- The student must score at least 85% on the final exam.
- The student must complete three projects due toward the end of each trimester.

The three projects will roughly align with our course curriculum. Details on each project will be provided prior to its due date.

## **Additional Activities**

MATHCOUNTS  
AMC Mathematics Competition  
Math Elective  
PSIA Math and Number Sense

## Class Eight Latin Course Description

**Teacher** Mr. Vince McGee, 214-302-2831, vmcgee@pcstx.org

**Tutorials** Wednesday mornings at 7:30 a.m.

**Text** *Cambridge Latin Course Unit 2* 5th Edition

### Final Grade

Trimesters One, Two, and Three: 80%

Final Exam: 20%

### Areas to be Evaluated

Tests – 50%

- Tests are always over vocabulary, grammar and culture presented in each chapter. It is to be understood that tests are somewhat cumulative by nature, since language learning builds upon what was learned in previous chapters.

Quizzes/ Minor Projects – 25%

- There will be one quiz per chapter on vocabulary.
- There will be one quiz per chapter on grammar.
- Quizzes always come before the chapter test.
- All quizzes are announced in advance.
- Minor projects consist of special activities concerning a cultural topic or topics presented in the chapter. Not every chapter will have a project.

Daily – 25%

- Daily grades include work done in class and work done at home. There is usually one daily grade each for each class day excluding test days or review days.
- Frequently work is started in class and is to be finished at home.
- Daily work should take no longer than 10-15 minutes to complete. If no daily work is assigned, then it is recommended that the student study vocabulary to prepare for quizzes and tests

### Online Resources

*Cambridge Latin Online:* <https://elevate.cambridge.org/elevate/Login.aspx#b>

Access to the online resource will be set up in class by the teacher. After the initial set up, the student may access the online resource at home on any device.

### National Latin Exam

All students will take the National Latin Exam at the end of February. This exam will evaluate student knowledge of Latin, mythology, Roman history, and Roman culture.

## Class Eight History

### Course Description

**Teachers** Mr. John Tyler White , 214-302-2834, jwhite@pcstx.org  
Mr. Tag Green, 214-302-2855, tgreen@pcstx.org

**Tutorials** Friday mornings at 7:30 a.m.

#### Texts/Materials

- *Call to Freedom* by Stuckey, Sterling, and Linda Salvucci
- *Revolutionary Characters* by Gordon S. Wood
- *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave* by Frederick Douglass
- 1.5 inch 3-ring binder; set of 5 dividers

#### Course Overview

The study of history is a relevant and necessary part of a classical and well-rounded education because of the immense value of learning from others' experiences. There are several reasons why we study history: first, to understand the present condition of the world through knowing its history; second, to expose students to the history of other intellectual arenas; third, to provide a framework for organizing material; fourth, to learn moral examples through the lives of the men and women studied; and fifth, to be conscious of the story of God's sovereignty in the affairs of men and nations.

In Class Eight history, students will study the exploration, efforts, battles, governmental structure, and historical figures that contributed to the History of the United States, beginning with Colonial America and continuing until the Cold War. Students will evaluate and analyze the history of our nation in order to create a framework to understand how our country came to be where it is today.

#### Primary Skill Objectives

Students will be able to:

- Develop and maintain an organizational system for assignments, notes, and supplies
- Take organized and meaningful notes
- Identify and understand cause and effect in history
- Recognize and retain the main idea of a reading assignment by outlining
- Reason both inductively and deductively through written responses to the text
- Manage time more effectively
- Conduct, collect, and present research with a greater emphasis on analysis
- Write a thoughtful and logical response to open-ended questions

#### Strategies for Success

In order to succeed the student must:

- Actively read the entire reading assignment (Students should attend class prepared for discussions and quizzes over reading material.)
- Refine typing skills (Any typed papers must be typed by the students.)
- Maintain an organized binder
- Take thorough notes in class
- Study sufficiently for every quiz and test (You know you have studied sufficiently when you can teach the material to someone else.)
- Review class notes daily to allow the information to be processed
- Think critically about the material (Look for cause/effect, themes, context, and patterns that render the facts significant.)
- Turn in all homework and assignments by the designated due date
- Participate in class discussions and never hesitate to ask questions

## Course Outline

### Trimester One

- The Revolutionary War; The Constitution; New Nation
  - Lecture Notes
  - Tests/Quizzes
  - Primary Source Evaluation
  - Analytical Short Essays
  - Map Skills
- Textbooks: *Call to Freedom; Revolutionary Characters*

### Trimester Two

- Westward Expansion; Slavery; Civil War
  - Lecture Notes
  - Tests/Quizzes
  - Primary Source Evaluation
  - Analytical Short Essays
  - Map Skills
- Civil War Research Paper
  - 2-3 page paper on a Civil War figure
  - Will be instructed in research skills such as source evaluation, note-taking, citing sources, and avoiding plagiarism
- Textbooks: *Call to Freedom; Narrative of Frederick Douglass*

### Trimester Three

- Reconstruction; Progressivism; Great Depression; World War II
  - Lecture Notes
  - Tests/Quizzes
  - Primary Source Evaluation
  - Analytical Short Essays
- Washington, D.C. Trip (April 1-7, 2017)
- Textbook: *Call to Freedom*

## Assessment

- Daily Work – 10%
- Quizzes/Short Essays – 30%
- Tests/Projects/Presentations/Research Paper – 60%

Note: Daily grade consists of class preparedness (supplies and lecture notes) and homework completion.

Late Policy: Homework received one day late will receive a maximum score of 70. Homework received two days late or later will receive a 0.

Essays: Essays are due on the date listed on the assignment sheet. An essay submitted one day late will receive a maximum of 90%, two days late – 80%, three days late – 70%, four days late 60%, five days or more late – 50%.

Projects: Late projects will receive a ten-point deduction for each day after the due date. Final Grade: Trimesters One, Two, and Three grades are averaged together to compose 90% of the final grade, and the final exam is 10% of the final grade.

## Absences

- Personal Days: To obtain pre-approval, parents should e-mail [attendance@pcstx.org](mailto:attendance@pcstx.org) at least three days in advance of the absence. A plan to turn in missed work must be in place before the absence. (Parent/Student Handbook, p. 11)
- Excused Absences: Students will be required to take a missed test the day of return unless prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. All homework or essays assigned prior to students' absence are due the day of return unless arrangements have been made with the instructor.

## Class Eight Physical Science

### Course Description

**Teacher** Miss Sarah Thomas, 214-302-2823, sthomas@pcstx.org  
Mrs. Faiza William, 214-302-2875, fwilliam@pcstc.org

**Tutorials** Tuesday mornings, 7:30 a.m.

**Text** Egolf, R. Terrance, and Donald Congdon. *Physical Science*. Fifth ed. BJU, 2014. Print.

#### General Overview

Every student at Providence Christian School is required to complete a course in physical science in Class Eight. Why has the study of physical science been deemed a necessary part of the Providence education? There are four basic reasons. First and foremost, since all of creation was intended to reveal and thus glorify God, it follows that education, which studies this creation, was also meant to reveal and glorify the Lord. Since the creation is itself a revelation of God, then the study of it will reveal God. When a student studies scientific concepts, God reveals himself. Science reveals God's unchanging faithfulness and orderliness by teaching students to understand the language of the creation. Second, scientific literacy is a must for the future Christian leader of a society that is becoming increasingly technologically oriented. Third, science forms a foundation for further study in the math, science, and engineering disciplines. Fourth, the problem-solving and critical thinking skills developed in the process of studying science are transferable to other scenarios. Therefore, the student will be a better decision maker and more confident in the logic stage of classical education.

#### Course Objectives

Six goals of the general science program drive the design of physical science in Class Eight. These goals are for the student to (1) better appreciate God's creation, unchanging faithfulness and orderliness through the study of science, (2) use the scientific method to formulate hypotheses and form conclusions, (3) apply critical thinking to the basic concepts and principles of the discipline, (4) communicate scientific concepts with the appropriate scientific language and models, (5) demonstrate proper laboratory techniques using appropriate instruments and skills, and (6) improve independent study skills and strategies. Derived from these broad goals, the specific course objectives are for students to:

- Demonstrate comprehension of the fundamental principles of earth science which are to:
  - Master the steps and the application of the scientific method.
  - Use the five senses for observation.
  - Master the metric and English systems of measure.
  - Learn to think and speak scientifically.
  - Learn the definitions and main concepts of chemistry.
  - Become comfortable with using the Periodic Table of the Elements.
  - Understand properties and states of matter, atomic theory, and physical and chemical changes.
  - Understand covalent, ionic, and metallic bonds.
  - Learn the definitions and main concepts of physics.
  - Understand the basic principles of dynamics.
  - Understand work, energy, and simple machines.
  - Understand the basic principles of fluid mechanics.
  - Understand the basic principles of thermodynamics.
  - Understand the basic principles of magnetism and electricity.
  - Understand the basic principles of sound and light.

### **Strategies for Success**

- **Be engaged and participate during class.** Be attentive and stay on task.
- **Read through the class notes at home on a regular basis.** Repetition of concepts is key to learning the material well.
- **Ask questions.** Many of the concepts learned in physical science build upon each other, so it is important to understand each topic as it is taught before moving on to the next topic.
- **Complete work with excellence and within the allotted time frame.** Failure to complete homework well and in a timely manner becomes a problem for a student attempting to understand new material that builds upon old.

### **Grading**

The course grade will be determined based on a 40% test grade average, 25% lab grade average, and 25% quiz grade average, and 10% homework average.

### **Materials and Supplies**

Textbooks will be provided. Students will need to bring their Physical Science binder, a pencil, and a blue or black pen, and a red pen to class daily. Students may be asked to bring special materials unique to the study of physical science in order to conduct exploration and experimentation in class. Students will be notified in advance of any such materials or supplies.

## **Class Eight Art Course Description**

**Teacher** Miss Julia Begert, 214-302-2819, jbegert@pcstx.org

### **Art Philosophy Statement**

Art requires both aesthetic appreciation and creative expression. As Christians, we acknowledge God as the Ultimate Artist. The universe is His canvas, including our minds and souls. Created *en imago dei*, we thus possess an innate capacity to create in all spheres of human endeavor including art. Such creativity witnesses to the impress of deity upon our souls, mirroring His image in us and radiating His mind through us as we create. As a classical and Christian school, we explore great works of art by past masters filtered through a Christian worldview. Such exploration enables us to experience the intellectual and emotional power of artistic genius, while cultivating in ourselves our own creative potential and the aesthetic discernment to critique art with the mind, eye, and ear of God. On a practical level, we study artistic methods to understand how to manipulate various media and create certain artistic styles. Such study not only improves our fine motor skills and refines our aesthetic sensibilities; it also quickens our understanding of God's awesome creative power.

### **Trimester One**

Artist, Audubon: continuation of the practice of colors and values with colored pencils

### **Trimester Two**

Artists, James Whistler and John Singer Sargent: baby portrait drawing

Artist, Pablo Picasso: analytical and synthetic cubism; creating values with neutral colors

History of skyscrapers and principles of perspective: one-point and two-point perspective (exterior)

### **Trimester Three**

Artist, Winslow Homer: seascapes and landscapes: practice the methods of watercolor painting and the principles of the landscapes

### **Evaluation**

Participation and behavior – 35%

Completion of projects and following directions – 55%

Class worksheets, quizzes, sketches and assignments – 10%

Due dates will be given at the beginning of each project. No projects will receive a complete grade after the due date. Students are responsible for making up their work when absent.

## **Class Eight Music Course Description**

**Teacher** Mr. John Hendricks 214-302-2902, johnhendricks@pestx.org

**Tutorials** Friday mornings, 7:30 a.m.

### **Music Philosophy Statement**

Providence Christian School of Texas teaches music to every student. God's word exhorts us to celebratory praise, reverential worship, and skillful expression of our faith through singing and playing. God's grace equips all of us with skills necessary to worship Him through music, and Providence's music program purposes to refine these skills in all its students. This process begins with teaching children to listen and hear discriminately in order to understand musical ideas, to sing correctly and accurately, and to have a working understanding of music notation. Providence also teaches students the traditional and classical music of our heritage. This includes folk songs of Western culture, art music composed in the 17th-20th centuries, and historical hymnody of our Christian heritage. Ultimately, our music curriculum challenges students to appreciate excellence in music, even if this means that students must reject the prevalent music of their culture. An understanding and love for the classic, traditional values of music teaches our students to know and discern what is good, true, and beautiful.

### **Course Content**

In Class Eight Music, students will apply the listening skills they have developed over the past seven years to in-depth studies of several major classical works. Students will spend several weeks exploring extended works, learning how to interact with and understand music on a large scale. Music analysis, historical and cultural context, and questions of interpretation will be explored this year.

Class Eight students will also learn, prepare and perform choral music.  
Students will develop leadership skills by leading their classmates in the singing of hymns.  
Students will learn age appropriate vocal technique.  
Students will expand their music literacy through sight reading using traditional solfege.

### **Areas to Be Evaluated**

Participation and Attitude  
Understanding of course content  
Sight Reading

### **Grading**

Participation:	50%
Projects:	20%
Listening:	20%
Sight Reading:	10%

**Additional Activities**

Performance at Grandparents' Day, Friday, November 22, 2019

Performance at the Middle School Concert, Thursday, March 5, 2020

**Teacher Resources**

*The Book of Tunes for Beginning Sight Reading* John M. Feierabend

*300 Years of Interaction in Western Music, Arts, History, and Culture* Carol B. Reynolds, Ph.D.

Selected works of standard music literature available on the Naxos Music Library

Selected octavos from traditional choral literature

Selected hymns

## Class Eight Logic Course Description

**Teacher** Mr. Tim Ricchuiti 214-302-2846, tricchuiti@pcstx.org

**Tutorials** Thursday mornings, 7:30 a.m.

### Class Eight Logic Philosophy Statement

Students in Class Eight Logic will continue their work from Class Seven in building and evaluating syllogisms. Through the two class texts, students will master logical terms and definitions, the mood and form of syllogisms, how those syllogisms appear in every day English, and the formal and informal fallacies that might accompany them. The purpose of teaching logic at this stage of development for the student is to reinforce their conceptions of objective truth and to give them the tools necessary to detect and dismantle attacks against it.

### Textbook

- *Introductory Logic: The Fundamentals of Thinking Well*, Canon Press, 2014
- *The Fallacy Detective*, Workbook Edition, 2015

### Course Content

#### Trimester I

- *Introductory Logic*, Unit 4
- Translating Arguments
- Immediate Inference, Inclusive and Exclusive Statements, Enthymemes, and Hypothetical Syllogisms

#### Trimester II

- *Introductory Logic*, Unit 5
- Informal Fallacies
- *Fallacy Detective*, Units 1–3
- The Fallacies of Avoiding the Question
- The Fallacies of Making Assumptions

#### Trimester III

- *Fallacy Detective*, Units 4–6
- Statistical Fallacies
- Propaganda

### Materials

- *Introductory Logic* Workbook
- *Fallacy Detective* Test
- Binder

### Evaluation

- Homework – 30%
- Quizzes – 30%
- Tests and Projects – 40%

### Final Grade

- Average of the three semesters – 100%

**Homework Policy**

Homework is an essential part of developing logical facility and must be completed on a weekly basis if maximum learning is to take place. Homework allows students to practice concepts learned in class. Because classes occur only on Fridays, it is important to be in class each week. The interactive discussions and presentations are difficult if not impossible to repeat on an individual basis. If possible, please schedule appointments before or after school. Homework assignments will be posted on the board so students may complete assignments before returning to class. Errors on homework may be corrected.

**Correction Policy**

Students will have the opportunity to correct any assignments, including test and quizzes, and receive back up to 50% credit for their work. Students may only turn in corrected work within two weeks of its original due date. After that, no corrections will receive credit, except at the instructor's discretion.

**Additional Activities:**

- Advanced Topics in Mathematics Elective
- Chess Elective