



**PCAAplus Virtual Academy
Upper School
Course Descriptions
2019-2020**

Bible

**denotes NCAA Eligible courses*

Apologetics I

Tenth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Semester one is designed to provide the students with a basic understanding of the defense of the faith. They will explore a brief history of apologetics and the practice of apologetics in the early church. Following the theme of historical apologetics, each module will connect the principles and practice of apologetics today to the practice of the early church. These lessons are intended to help the students grasp the consistent practice of apologetics since the first disciples began going into all the world to preach the gospel. Semester two picks up with additional topics relevant to the Christian faith and faulty beliefs from which Christianity must be defended. This second course emphasizes the value of the historical life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through Him, the students will find truth as we ask the big questions of life. Such topics as evangelism, Creationism, the existence of evil all come into focus as the students focus on Jesus.

Basic Bible Doctrine

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Basic Bible Doctrine is an upper-level high school course that covers several of the basic doctrines in Scripture, including the doctrines of Scripture, God, man, and sin. These teachings are dealt with in a systematic way that shows the unity and consistency of biblical truth. It covers the basic doctrines of Christ, Salvation, Holy Spirit, and Last Things. Care is taken to ensure that the doctrines presented are firmly established on the inerrant Word of God.

Biblical Truth and Worldview

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit 0.5

Biblical Truth and Worldview directs students to comprehend core Christian truths with immediate application to personal life, countering current cultural ideas. Scriptural bases for thinking Christianly prompts the student to construct a biblical worldview based on doctrinal truths which address real issues in the real world. Because this course is designed to engage pagan thought processes, it is imperative students be able to rent, download, or borrow movies (i.e., Signs, The Matrix, Mission to Mars, etc.) and music.

Life Shaping Decisions

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Life-Shaping Decisions is a one-semester course that aims at helping high school students think about life after high school from God's perspective. In today's world, that is a difficult task. Most people are consumed with living life from a perspective adopted from the world around them. This course challenges young adults with the biblical concept of career stewardship. It also gives them the resources to begin building their own career plan wisely and faithfully.

New Testament Survey

Ninth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

New Testament Survey will show students the connection of the New Testament to the Old Testament and the importance of these sacred Scriptures to the western world today by highlighting how Christianity has used the eternal truth of the New Testament to influence and impact the mindsets of people that are responsible for shaping the social, political, ethical, and cultural ideas over the past several centuries. Students will discover the historical accuracy of the life of Christ and the Early Church. An overview of each book of the New Testament will be included in this course.

Old Testament Survey

Ninth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Old Testament Survey will show students the importance of these sacred Scriptures to the western world today by highlighting how Christianity has used the eternal truth of the Old Testament to influence and impact the mindsets of those who are responsible for shaping the social, political, ethical, and cultural ideas over the past several centuries. Students will discover the historical and cultural context of the Old Testament. Students will identify themes and understand the Scriptural emphasis behind some of the great artistic masterpieces created by renowned western artists.

Understanding the Times I and II

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit 1.0

Understanding the Times (I and II) is a one or two semester course for the 12th grader (or adult) that brings a host of Christian worldview and apologetic experts to you. This class helps you clearly understand the tenets of the Christian worldview and how it compares with the tenets of other leading worldviews of our day: Islam, Secular Humanism, Marxism, New Age, and Postmodernism. It is a challenging, demanding, and rich course. Some of the issues covered include: abortion, apologetics, the arts, biotechnology, critical thinking, cults, euthanasia, leadership, radical environmentalism, radical feminism, the problem of evil, religious pluralism, scriptural reliability and more.

English

English I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

In English I, students learn to construct meaning from a variety of literary texts while understanding characteristics of major literary genres (poetry, drama, short story, novel). Students also use writing strategies to address a range of audiences and types of information being communicated by responding critically to literature selections via formal analysis incorporating electronic media, such as the internet. Effectively applying study skills and research skills are also an important emphasis in English I.

English II*

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English I

Students in English II read a wide range of texts where they learn to evaluate the plot and characters of well-known writers, learn to identify themes, create dialogue and appeal to emotions. English II also focuses on understanding literary devices and how they work in stories to portray the authors' meaning. Students work through the writing process to create their own stories, applying the skills they have learned through the study of others' works. Vocabulary and study skills are also emphasized in this English course.

English III*

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English I and II

In English III, the writing and insights of authors throughout our history are collected, helping students to gain an appreciation of American literature and the ways it reflects the times in which it was written. Students discover how people thought, lived and wrote about their experiences. They also observe, investigate and report on stories of today. The goal is for students to be thorough, accurate and compelling in their writing.

English IV*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English I, II and III

English IV is a senior level course that engages students in their own learning. Students research their interests and set goals for their future while evaluating colleges of their choice and completing a research based senior project. Students also work through various texts analyzing works for the author's purpose through literary devices, plot and character analysis. There are strong writing and research components in this course as well as a vocabulary focus.

AP® English Language and Composition*

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit 1.0

Prerequisite: English I and II

An AP® course in English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines and rhetorical contexts and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations and subjects as well as the way generic conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing.

AP® English Literature and Composition*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit 1.0

Prerequisite: English I, II and III

This course is an in-depth and comprehensive study of writing and literature. Students learn to use the modes of discourse and recognize the assumptions underlying various rhetorical strategies. Students also acquire an

understanding of the resources of the language and of the writer's craft. They develop critical standards for the appreciation of any literary work and increase their sensitivity to literature as shared experience.

Creative Writing*

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

For hundreds of years, literature has been one of the most important human art forms. It allows us to give voice to our emotions, create imaginary worlds, express ideas, escape the confines of material reality and worship our Creative God. Through creative writing, we come to understand ourselves and our world a little bit better while expressing profound truths we experience in God's world. This course provides students with a solid grounding in the writing process, from finding inspiration to building a basic story to using complicated literary techniques and creating strange hybrid forms of poetic prose and prose poetry. By the end of this course, students learn how to discover their creative thoughts and turn those ideas into fully realized pieces of creative writing for God's glory.

Foreign Language

Chinese I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

This is a virtual course offered through the PCAplus program and includes an extra fee. This is a beginning level course that introduces the student to a variety of areas of Mandarin Chinese (Simplified). In this course, the student learns listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material (Introduction to Chinese, Greetings, Calendar, Weather, and Time), students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Culture is sprinkled throughout the course in an attempt to help the learner focus on the Chinese speaking world and their culture, people, geographical locations and histories.

Chinese II*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Chinese I

This is a virtual course offered through the PCAplus program and includes an extra fee. This course is a continuation of a beginning level course that introduces the student to a variety of areas of language learning. In this course, the student learns listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material (daily routine, animals, hobbies, the body, and descriptions), students learn to express themselves using an ever-increasing vocabulary, present tense verbs, articles and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Culture is sprinkled throughout the course in an attempt to help the learner focus on the Chinese speaking world and their culture, people, geographical locations and histories.

German I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

This is a beginning level course that introduces the student to a variety of areas of language learning. In this course, the student learns listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Students further practice and develop their language skills through the use and exploration of biblical lessons. Throughout the five units of material (Greetings, the Date, Weather, Time and Colors), students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs, articles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind.

German II*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: German I

This is an intermediate level course that will introduce the student to a variety of areas of language learning. In this course, the student will continue to learn listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Students will further practice and develop their language skills through the use and exploration of biblical lessons. Throughout the five units of material (Daily Routine, Animals, Pastimes, Body, Description), students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, past-tense verbs, demonstrative articles, and adjectives. Grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind.

French I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

The goal of this course is to continue to give students basic listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills through activities based on proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material students learn to talk about themselves and other, describe their surroundings and use numbers for dates and time. Many irregular verbs are introduced in the present tense. Simple grammatical structures are practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Some complexity to grammar is begun to be introduced in this course. Culture is presented throughout the course to help students understand the context of the language and to better understand the perspectives of the French-speaking world. The course is aligned to the national Foreign Language standards and provides a way to focus on the five important aspects of foreign language instruction: communication, culture, connections, comparisons and community.

French II*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: French I

Throughout the course, students talk about their daily activities using a wide range of vocabulary and reflexive verbs, use two verbs together, talk about what they like to do in their free time, review use direct and indirect object pronouns, learn to talk about activities in the past, learn to talk about preparing for a trip and taking a trip, learn to talk about their homes and things they do in the different areas of their homes, learn to talk about buying things in French, learn additional vocabulary that helps them converse in the French speaking world, and learn a variety of grammatical structures that helps them transfer knowledge to other areas they desire to talk about in French

French III* (Honors)

Tenth-Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: French I and II

Students further deepen their understanding of French by focusing on the three modes of communication: interpretive, interpersonal, and presentational. Each unit consists of a variety of activities which teach the students how to understand more difficult written and spoken passages, to communicate with others through informal speaking and writing interactions, and to express their thoughts and opinions in both formal and informal spoken and written contexts. Students should expect to be actively engaged in their own language learning, use correct vocabulary terms and phrases naturally, incorporate a wide range of grammar concepts consistently and correctly while speaking and writing, participate in conversations covering a wide range of topics, respond appropriately to conversational prompts, analyze and compare cultural practices, products, and perspectives of various French-speaking countries, read and analyze important pieces of literature, and take frequent assessments where their language progression can be monitored. The course is conducted almost entirely in French.

Latin I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to give you a foundation in the nature of languages through the study of the Latin language and the Roman culture with an emphasis on Latin grammar and vocabulary. The students develop an understanding of the social and political history of the Romans during the first century A.D. through a study of the Olympic gods and the everyday life of the Roman man-on-the-street.

Latin II*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Latin I

The Latin II course continues the study of the Latin language. Students study about some of the men who made Rome great, the Roman government and how Rome grew to rule most of the known world. The Trojan War is also studied through Latin texts.

Latin III* (Honors)

Tenth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Latin I and II

Through the literature of some of the brightest minds of the Classical World, students learn more about the culture and history of the Romans. Students get a firsthand account of the eruption of Vesuvius through the letters of Pliny the Younger. Works by great orator Cicero and the poets Martial, Catullus and Ovid as well as Roman authors, Publius, Vergil and Naso are studied as well giving the student a rich knowledge of the Roman culture.

Spanish I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

In this course, students learn to ask for directions, order food in a restaurant and talk about the weather, all without being embarrassed by their accent. New words and phrases are introduced with text, pictures and an audio clip that demonstrates proper pronunciation. Students learn to read, write, and speak while learning basic Spanish grammar that improves their communication.

Spanish II*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Spanish I

In this course, students broaden their Spanish vocabulary and their knowledge of grammar. They meet people from many different countries and cultures. While waiting for the plane ride home, students also meet some Spanish speaking people from different parts of the United States. The purpose of this course is to strengthen Spanish listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills as a tool for sharing the love of Jesus Christ with the world. Students also experience the beauty and expressiveness of a language that is shared by different people and cultures.

Spanish III* (Honors)

Tenth-Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Spanish I and II

This third year of Spanish is a continuation of the first two years. The student continues to sharpen listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through activities that are based on pedagogically proven methods of foreign language instruction. Throughout the five units of material, students learn to express themselves using an ever increasing vocabulary, present-tense verbs, past-tense verbs, future and conditional tenses, articles and adjectives. New grammar is introduced and practiced in innovative and interesting ways with a variety of learning styles in mind. Culture is sprinkled throughout the course in an attempt to help the learner focus on the Spanish speaking world and their culture, people, geographical locations and histories.

History

World History*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand their connections to the development of civilizations by examining the past in order to prepare for their future as participating members of a global community. Students use knowledge pertaining to history, geography, economics, political processes, religion, ethics, diverse cultures and humanities to solve problems in academic, civic, social and employment settings.

Global Studies*

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

The purpose of the Global Studies course is to give students the knowledge and skills to understand the different people in the world in which we live. Students learn about and participate in the global decisions being made that affect specific cultures and countries and also have long term effects on the world. Students gain a global perspective while celebrating the diversity of our world.

U.S. History*

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: English I

In this course, students investigate the literature and history of the United States from the era of slavery to the present. The course is a survey of American history and literature in which students investigate each era in American history as defined by scholars in the field. The course aims to provide students with the opportunity to gain broad knowledge of the American nation by focusing on political, cultural and economic factors that have influenced the course of events over the past 500 years in North America. This course also seeks to offer students the opportunity to acquire investigative skills necessary to evaluate a wide range of circumstances, synthesize effective solutions to problems and evaluate outcomes.

U.S. Government*

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Responsible citizenship means more than just paying taxes. It means understanding the principles and practices of government. It also means defining your beliefs as to what good government is. As students progress through the class they gain a greater understanding of the history of the country's beginnings and knowledge of how government functions at the local, state and national levels. The purpose of this course is to help students become informed and active citizens.

AP® U.S. Government and Politics*

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: American History

AP® U.S. Government and Politics is a college level course designed to give the student an analytical perspective of government and politics in America. Course content begins with foundations of United States Government, progresses into an analysis of political beliefs, why Americans behave as they do and the impact of the media. This course includes an intensive focus on the four government institutions followed by a study of civil rights and civil liberties in America, their evolution through judicial interpretation and the evolving role of the 14th amendment on Americans' civil rights and liberties. The course culminates with a breakdown of how public policy is created and the linkages between the political process, political parties, interest groups and elections. The course requires familiarity with the various institutions, group's beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. Students gain knowledge through a variety of theoretical perspectives and explanations.

Economics*

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

The purpose of this course is to help students become more informed consumers, producers, investors and taxpayers. This economics course covers the areas of supply and demand, different business structures, credit and budgeting. Students get a compressive look at how our economic system works and how their economic choices affect their future.

AP® Macroeconomics*

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

AP® Macroeconomics is a college level course designed to instruct students on the national income, employment, interest rates, exchange rates and prices. In other words, macroeconomics is the study of our national and global economy. The purpose of this course is to determine how to better allocate our nation's scarce resources and use them more efficiently. The course requires students to create solutions for tough economic situations by using previous knowledge and critical thinking skills.

AP® Microeconomics*

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

AP® Microeconomics is a challenging course designed to give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the function of individual decision-makers, both consumers and producers, within larger economic systems. It places primary emphasis on the nature and function of product markets. It also examines factor markets and the role of government promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Emphasis is placed on critical and evaluative thinking skills.

AP® U.S. History*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: World History

The study of history provides us with an opportunity to see God's hand in our story. AP United States History guides students through exploration, investigation and evaluation of the story of the United States. They will discover that history isn't a mere collection of information about the past. It's a dynamic story of how the present world came to be, shifting and reshaping as new details and evidence are revealed. It is an opportunity to evaluate the beliefs and philosophies of those who have shaped history against the truth and guidelines of God's Word. It is also an instrument to explore decisions and the outcomes of those decisions as we apply those lessons to our time. The course is designed to mirror a college-level survey course in U.S. history and uses a college-level text. While the textbook used has politically liberal leanings, peer and instructor discussions focus on alternative interpretations of history as well as the development of skills to evaluate history from a biblical perspective.

AP® World History*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: World History

AP® World History covers the history of the world from 600 C.E. to the present with an introduction unit on the period before (covering around 8000 B.C.E to 600 C.E.). The course emphasizes "patterns of change" and the connections between the various world cultures throughout the time period being studied. Students gain an understanding of the global experiences of humanity and are able to apply that knowledge to their growth and development as "world citizens."

Social Problems I*

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Societies, governments, and individuals enjoy a very complex relationship among each other, often with no shortage of problems. Building on the foundation of God's word and an understanding of the impact of human sinfulness, students focus on the causes and response to these problems. Each unit is focused on a particular area of concern as students discover not only how these social problems affect them personally and the world around them, but how they can make a difference globally while standing on God's Word and declaring His truths.

Social Problems II*

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

There are plenty of problems in the world that isolate, divide, and destroy. We were created for community; we are called to be loving, redemptive, and edifying. How can we do that for God's glory? The Social Problems 2 course continues to examine timely social issues affecting individuals and societies around the globe. Students learn about the overall structure of the social problem as well as how it impacts their lives and their communities. Each unit focuses on a particular social problem, including racial discrimination, drug abuse, the loss of community, and urban sprawl, and discusses possible solutions at both individual and structural levels. Scripture is used to bring an eternal perspective to each. For each issue, students examine the connections in the global arena involving societies, governments and the individual and how to confront them with the mind of Christ.

Mathematics

Algebra I*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Algebra I is the foundation for more advanced math classes in high school. This course helps students continue to develop their problem solving skills while emphasizing data analysis, graphing, factoring and working with functions and writing expressions and equations. Students are taught by way of varied learning styles using applications, hands-on activities, group interactions, discoveries and, of course, technology.

Algebra II*

Ninth-Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Starting with a review of basic algebra, students move through polynomials, quadratic equations, exponential and logarithmic relations and arrive at probability and statistics. Algebra II is an advanced course using hands-on activities, applications, group interactions and the latest technology. An integration of faith and mathematical study is embedded throughout the course with the purpose of helping students grow stronger in their Christian faith. Students are challenged to see how mathematic principles reflect God's qualities, are useful in developing Biblical character and form the structure of God's creation.

Geometry*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course teaches students to develop geometric relationships and deductive strategies that can be used to solve real-world and mathematical problems. A connection between geometry and architecture is established through active participation and observation of the presence of geometry in architecture, in both the modern and ancient world.

Liberal Arts Math

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I, II and Geometry

Mathematics is the tool necessary for full enjoyment of God's Creation. Liberal Arts Mathematics enables students to strengthen algebraic and geometric concepts and skills necessary for further study of mathematics. They learn to be better stewards of God's Creation while using equations, geometric relationships, and statistical probabilities. This class gives students a grand tour of problems and puzzles that show how things work and how mathematics provides valuable tools for everyday living.

Consumer Math

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Students will learn how to use basic math skills to make wise financial decisions throughout life: controlling their personal spending, establishing checking and savings accounts, using credit responsibly, and making wise investments. They will begin with a basic review of number skills and then move on to a variety of math skills needed when dealing with jobs, salaries, taxes, insurance, transportation costs, budgets, checking and savings accounts, credit, and housing expenses. Along the way, students will learn what Scripture teaches about math, work, and stewardship, and they will learn how to apply principles of biblical stewardship to a variety of real-life situations. To assess their knowledge, each module includes a pretest, a journal, a set of quizzes, an exam, and a real-life project. Students will also enjoy the course challenges at the end of each semester, which focus on the ethics of the lottery and the differences between buying a home and renting an apartment.

Pre-Calculus*

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I, II and Geometry

The core components of this Pre-Calculus course include the study of functions and the development of skills necessary for future success in calculus. In addition, a detailed examination of trigonometry and elements of analytical geometry are incorporated in the curriculum. Students also acquire the confidence to think like a mathematician, finding logic and order in a complex world.

AP® Calculus AB*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I and II, Geometry and Pre-Calculus

Calculus AB is primarily concerned with developing students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed geometrically, numerically, analytically and verbally. The connections among these representations also are important.

AP® Statistics*

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I and II and Geometry

AP Statistics allows students to explore the broad conceptual themes of statistics while recognizing the amazing benefits of the mathematical order of God's creation. Students explore data as biblical stewards. They put this knowledge into practice as they plan and conduct a statistical study. They also practice anticipating patterns and making statistical inferences while learning how this information can help us serve God and others rather than

ourselves. This course seeks to prepare students for the AP exam while also introducing students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data.

Science

Anatomy and Physiology*

Tenth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry

The body is an instrument. As students explore the organization of the human body and how it works, they become even more aware of God's amazing design and purpose for their physical bodies. Students acquire knowledge necessary to understand what the body is doing and how it can cope with many different situations. Students study body systems in order to understand how their structure, location, and function allow for interaction with other parts of the body. They also consider how the body can be used in their worship of God, promoting spiritual growth and serving as an analogy for spiritual truths.

Biology*

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The Biology course is designed to provide exploratory and laboratory experiences with real-life applications in the biological sciences and to enable students to marvel in God's creation and defend the doctrine of creation through the Bible and scientific evidence. Students study a variety of topics including: organization and organism relationships, greenhouse effect, cell theory, genetics and heredity, DNA, viruses versus bacteria and animal characteristics.

Chemistry*

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Throughout this Chemistry course students learn about the properties of atoms, elements and molecules. They observe how these properties join together to make water, air and gasoline. The purpose of this course is to reveal the basic ways in which chemistry works, and how scientists are using chemistry to make our lives better. Students apply knowledge, nature of science and scientific habits to solve problems, demonstrate understanding and explain connections.

Earth/Space Science*

Ninth-Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Earth and Space Science is a laboratory course focusing on the study of space, geologic structures and forces, the waters on our planet and the atmospheric forces that shape our world as it is sustained by God. Through experimentation and investigation, students explore the earth cycles including the geosphere, hydrosphere, cryosphere, atmosphere and the carbon cycle. Students also learn about scientific inquiry, geologic time, space exploration, the solar system and the universe. In Earth and Space Science, students use web 2.0 tools, interactive experiences, higher-order thinking, collaborative projects, and real-world application through labs and a variety of assessments as they discover how to rejoice in the wonders of God and bring glory to Him. Upon completion of the

course, students have a clear understanding of the dynamic forces at work in the world around them, becoming better caretakers of our planet, Earth.

Marine Science*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry and Physics

The purpose of the course is to provide an overview of the marine environment. The content includes the nature of science, the origins of the oceans, the chemical and physical structure of the marine environment, ecology of the various sea zones, marine communities and the interrelationship between man and the ocean. Students conduct research, perform experiments, gather and analyze data and discover man's interrelationship with the marine environment. An emphasis is placed on understanding God as the Creator and how to better fulfill His charge to care for and rule over the earth.

Physical Science*

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

This course is designed as an interactive, biblically integrated course focusing on basic physics and chemistry. Topics include forces and motion, energy waves, electricity and magnetism, classifications of matter, and chemical bonding and reactions. Attention is also devoted to the integration of science and theology, a critique of scientific naturalism, and theological reflection on a smorgasbord of scientific topics—including environmentalism, biotechnology, chemical formulas, and Newton's laws of motion. Accordingly, this course is designed to serve as a foundation for the study of the physical sciences. The utilization of scientific inquiry, interactive experiences, higher-order thinking, collaborative projects, case studies, and real-world application through labs and a variety of other assessments all aid the student in demonstrating a firm understanding of the physical and chemical properties of God's good creation.

Physics*

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Algebra I and II

The purpose of this course is to provide opportunities to study the concepts, theories and laws governing the interaction of matter, energy and forces and their applications to the real world through exploratory investigations and activities. The course also reveals many truths about Jesus Christ, our Creator and Sustainer.

AP® Biology*

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: Biology I, Chemistry I and Algebra I

The AP® Biology course is designed to give students a college level biology experience. Paramount to this experience is addressing content within the three basic subject areas: molecules and cells, heredity and evolution and organisms and populations. Included in this experience are a variety of laboratory experiences, including the 12 AP® Biology labs. Through completion of course activities, students acquire a framework for understanding science as a process, recognizing unifying themes and applying the knowledge they gain to critical thought about environmental and social issues.

Forensic Science I*

Ninth-Twelfth Grade
One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Fingerprints. Blood spatter. DNA analysis. The world of law enforcement is increasingly making use of the techniques and knowledge from the sciences to better understand the crimes that are committed and to catch those individuals responsible for the crimes. Forensic science applies scientific knowledge to the criminal justice system. This course focuses on some of the techniques and practices used by forensic scientists during a crime scene investigation (CSI). Starting with how clues and data are recorded and preserved, the student follows evidence trails until the CSI goes to trial, examining how various elements of the crime scene are analyzed and processed.

Forensic Science II*

Ninth-Twelfth Grade
One Semester Course
Prerequisite: Forensics I

Credit: 0.5

Although the crime scene represents the first step in solving crimes through forensic science, the crime laboratory plays a critical role in the analysis of evidence. This course focuses on the analysis of evidence and testing that takes place within this setting. We examine some of the basic scientific principles and knowledge that guides forensic laboratory processes, such as those testing DNA, toxicology, and material analysis. Techniques such as microscopy, chromatography, odontology, entomology, mineralogy, and spectroscopy are examined.

UPPER SCHOOL ELECTIVES

ACT Prep

Ninth-Eleventh Grade
One Semester Course

Credit 0.5

Based on your performance on the Diagnostic test, our system creates a personalized study schedule for you. As you learn, our system continues to adapt and adjust your schedule on your behalf. Every Lesson, Quiz and Test you need to do is accessible every time you login from this week-by-week schedule. Multimedia flash lessons allow you to learn in the way best suited to your needs and preferences. Watch narrated video lessons or read text-based lessons at your own pace. Want to walk through that math problem again? Just slide the progress bar back and listen to it again! Our program uses full length tests from the Official ACT Guide so you get the most realistic practice possible. In addition, we offer dozens of practice quizzes to reinforce what you've learned. Your personalized schedule automatically tells you when to do quizzes and on which weeks you should attempt a full length practice test.

AP® Computer Science

Eleventh-Twelfth Grade
Two Semester Course
Prerequisite: Algebra I and II

Credit: 1.0

AP® Computer Science A is a college-level computer course covering the applications of computing within the context of programming methodology, algorithms and data structures. This is a one-year course culminating in students taking the College Board Computer Science A examination in May. Java is the computer language that is used which is a free download for either a Macintosh or a Windows platform.

AP® Art History

Tenth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0
Prerequisite: World History

This course provides students with college level instruction in the history of art. Students examine major forms of artistic expression from the past and present and from a variety of cultures. Students learn to look at these works of art critically, with intelligence and sensitivity, and to articulate what they see or experience in light of a Christian worldview. Students are able to identify the presence or absence of biblical truth reflected in art and architecture through the centuries.

Critical Thinking and Study Skills

Ninth-Twelfth Grade
One Semester Course Credit: 0.5
Prerequisite: Algebra I

Grab your duffel bag or backpack and prepare for a trip through test tips and strategies necessary to learn and achieve for the glory of God. This course is designed to strengthen the student's test-taking skills. It enhances his/her performance in all content areas and prepare them for national standardized tests (like the SAT and ACT). Students practices problem solving, critical thinking strategies, the structure of standardized exams, and verbal competence and mathematics reasoning. As the trip progresses, students acquire new and essential learning strategies.

Digital Information Technology

Ninth-Twelfth Grade
Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Digital Information Technology is either a one or two semester course. Dive into an exciting course that will provide you with the foundational skills needed for exciting careers like game development, military defense, web design, and software engineering! See how changing technology can help you fulfill your role as a keeper of Creation. In this course you will explore Microsoft Office online applications, web design, emerging technologies, operating systems, project management, communication methods, Information Technology careers, and much more while recognizing the value of these to the practice of biblical stewardship. Learn about your strengths and how they relate to different career paths. See how computer technology can help you serve others and as you grow in your ability to manage the amazing resources God has surrounded you with for His glory.

Digital Photography

Ninth-Twelfth Grade
One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

In Digital Photography, students learn the basics of photographic composition and lighting, the basics of using a digital camera and the basics of preparing a digital darkroom. Students also learn basic color theory and the fundamentals of image processing. This course is designed for the student who has no background in photography.

Foundations of Programing

Ninth-Twelfth Grade
Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

In Foundations of Programming (FoP), students consider the role of Jesus Christ, the Master Programmer, in original Creation as they seek to play their role in a world that requires more and more programs on a regular basis. Students learn skills required to be competitive in today's high tech workforce. FoP teaches the fundamentals of programming using the computer language Python. The course provides students with the concepts, techniques, and processes associated with computer programming and software development. Students also explore the many programming career opportunities available in this high-demand field. This course gives students the opportunity to design and create.

Game Design

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

This course introduces students to the basic skills necessary for game design. They study the various games in the industry and analyze their approach in terms design and development. The student explores the processes and art of making game elements like story, levels, sound, user interfaces and levels. This analysis includes an orientation to the gaming market and innovative techniques' impact on it. Finally, the student merges all these elements into a functional prototype showing their understanding of the game design process. This course requires a PC and there is an additional expense for a program needed for the course.

Health

Ninth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

In this Health course, students use a biblical worldview to develop the skills for healthy, effective and godly living. Through the study of real life issues, the goal is for the student to form healthy attitudes and behaviors that promote personal development, health and well-being.

Leadership Skills Development I and II

Ninth-Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course

Credit: 1.0

Leadership (I and II) is either a one or two semester course. What does it take to be a leader? God has created each of us with the ability to influence and lead others in a way that glorifies God while taking responsibility for our own choices and goals. In this course, students acquire the skills necessary to succeed in high school, college and life while influencing others as well. Students learn to take action by pressing their Turbo Button, manage their time by staying in the Lasting Zone, chart their goals by identifying a North Star and many other proven leadership techniques developed by Mawi Learning, a leadership training organization that has worked with more than one million students. Segment One focuses on personal goal-setting and the skills necessary to lead your life in a disciplined way. Segment Two contains a service project focusing on external leadership skills and the power you have to change your world for God's glory. Whether students are struggling or already at the top of their game, Leadership Skills Development gives them new confidence to live a life of godly influence.

Mobile App Programming

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Mobile App Programming teaches foundational computer science methodology, concepts and programming. While students are taught to use the latest mobile development software and technologies, they consider how mobile computing can be used for good and the expansion of God's kingdom. From the first lesson students practice what they are learning to develop and produce functional Android applications that they can share with classmates, family and friends. Lessons are a mix of dynamic activity, video guidance, lecture and tutorials. The lessons are designed to engage both the novice and expert student in the field of mobile application development. Note: The course was developed based on the Nexus 7 Android tablet. It is strongly recommended that students have access to this tablet in order for tutorials, video, and screenshots to align.

Music Appreciation

Ninth-Eleventh Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Music is part of everyday lives and reflects the spirit of our human condition. To know and understand music, we distinguish and identify cultures on local and global levels. This course provides students with an aesthetic and historical perspective of music, covering a variety of styles and developments from the Middle Ages through the Twentieth First Century. Students acquire basic knowledge and listening skills, making future music experiences more informed and satisfying.

Personal and Family Finance

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

How do our personal financial habits affect our financial future? How can we make smart decisions with our money in the areas of saving, spending and investing? How can we honor God with our finances? This course introduces students to basic financial habits such as setting financial goals, budgeting and creating financial plans. Students learn more about topics such as taxation, financial institutions, credit, giving and money management. The course also addresses how occupations and educational choices can influence personal financial planning, and how individuals can protect themselves from identity theft. Students explore how to honor God with their money as they seek to be wise stewards of the resources He blesses them with.

Personal Fitness (P.E.)

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Everyone wants to be fit to live life to the fullest. Personal Fitness seeks to teach students the connection between their physical fitness and their ability to fully glorify God with their bodies leading to fitness in both their physical and eternal lives. Students are required to participate in weekly cardiovascular, flexibility and strength and endurance activities. Using the theme of the city, this high school level course encourages students to be present and able to serve and enjoy God's creation. Students who are unable to participate in such physical exercises are unable to complete the requirements of this course.

PSAT Prep

Ninth-Eleventh Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: Algebra I

Students who are preparing for college should consider a PSAT prep course. Not only do many colleges require an SAT score for admission, but many scholarship programs and the top 1% of PSAT scores automatically qualify the student as a semifinalist for the National Merit Scholarship Program. This course is designed to help a student prepare for the PSAT exam and subsequent SAT exam in an interesting and interactive way. Students will follow their personalized learning path that adapts in real-time, based on their performance in every lesson area. The course content is engaging and supportive with a variety of searchable video lessons, thousands of practice questions with step-by-step explanations, skill assessments, and reviews, and full-length practice tests with personalized score reports. As the student progresses, they will have opportunities to explore learning from a biblical perspective. This course offers the most current, interactive, and organized opportunity for any student to practice and prepare for the PSAT.

Psychology

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Understanding the thoughts, emotions and behaviors of self and others is critical to developing and maintaining interpersonal relationships. The wisest understanding of ourselves and others comes from looking through the lens of Scripture. In this course, students study the field of psychology from a biblical perspective as they learn theories of historically significant psychologists who laid the foundation for scientific research and a clearer understanding of the human mind. This course explores how psychological perspectives influence personality and play a role in human development across the lifespan. Students examine how behaviors are developed, memories are stored and language is acquired. Students also learn about the symptoms and classifications of psychological disorders, along with the various forms of treatments available. After completing this course, students are equipped with problem solving strategies and learn strategies to cope with stress. Practical, everyday application of the content is a focus of this course as students learn to evaluate psychological theory and practice in light of God's Word.

SAT Prep

Ninth-Eleventh Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

This course is designed to strengthen the student's test-taking skills so as to enhance his/her scores on the Scholastic Assessment Test. Students practice thinking strategies, become thoroughly familiar with the structure of standardized exams and build verbal competence and mathematics reasoning.

Introduction to Social Media

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Have a Facebook account? What about Twitter? Whether you've already dipped your toes in the waters of social media or are still standing on the shore wondering what to make of it all, learning how to interact on various social media platforms is crucial in order to survive and thrive in this age of digital communication. We can take comfort in the fact that God wants us to be successful in the use of these communication tools as we seek to use them for His glory. In this course, students receive a broad overview of different social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+ and more. Students discover best practices for using social media personally, academically and even professionally. Students also explore some principles from God's Word relating to our use of these platforms.

Theater, Cinema and Film Production

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course

Credit: 0.5

Lights! Camera! Action! This course introduces students to the basics of film and theater productions and give them a front row seat to observe how a person's worldview is revealed and even shaped through these art forms. Students learn about the basics of lighting, sound, wardrobe, and camerawork for both film and theater settings. As they explore these technical elements, they make comparisons to the philosophical and spiritual principles that compose a person's view of reality. The course also explores the history of film and theater and the influence they have on society while considering the value of these arts for the promotion and exploration of truth. Students also analyze and critique three influential American films from both an artistic and biblical perspective.