

# **Academic Planning Guide 2021-2022**



**LIBERTY  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

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## GUIDANCE COUNSELING

As students progress through the middle and upper school programs, they will make some important decisions. Students choose the rigor of their core courses, the electives and activities that enrich their academic and social lives, the degree plan to follow, and the tests to take for college entrance. Guidance counselors are trained to help students set their academic and career goals, build their academic record, and navigate through the college process.

## STUDENT SCHEDULES

Students are required to submit individual course requests prior to each academic year. Guidance counselors are available to help students review course offerings and make appropriate selections. Parents and students are encouraged to discuss scheduling options prior to submitting course requests and asked to carefully consider all course elections. Administration bases its decisions for teachers and number of classes offered from the initial course requests made in the spring of the previous school year. Liberty Christian School makes every effort possible to meet the scheduling requests of each student. Occasional administrative and staffing changes may result in the replacement of some course selections and a change in teacher assignment or class time.

## HONORS and ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) PROGRAMS

An **Honors** course is one in which the curriculum is enriched and accelerated in keeping with College Board standards. An **AP** course is a college-level course that follows the College Board Advanced Placement curriculum. The student's knowledge of the curriculum is tested by the AP Exam. **Any student enrolled in an AP class is required to register for and take the course's AP Exam.** Exam registration and fee payment will occur before November 1 for full year and first semester only courses, and before March 1 for second semester only courses. Details and a payment link will be emailed to students and parents prior to the appropriate registration deadline. Colleges and universities have the option of accepting AP results for college credit or placement in advanced standing. Completion of Honors and AP courses with passing grades results in additional points for calculating GPA (refer to "GPA Calculation" on Page 5). If a student fails a semester, no additional points will be calculated into the GPA. Liberty recommends that parents and students refer to the document, "[AP Classes: To Take or Not to Take](#)" to determine if a student should enroll in an Honors or AP course. **It is a requirement to take the test if a student is enrolled in an AP course. If a student does not take the test, the AP designation will be removed from the transcript, and no additional points will be added into the GPA.** For more detailed information on specific AP courses, visit [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org).

### Eligibility for 6th-12th Grades

The following criteria apply for admission to all AP and Honors courses:

- A minimum of 85 percent in an Honors course or 90 percent in a regular course is required and must have been maintained in the subject for the entire previous year. German Honors and Mandarin Honors must obtain a minimum overall average of 80 percent. Computer Science courses are exempt from prior grade requirements.
- The student must be committed to considerably more work per course per night than the standard homework requirement.
- Students must not have incurred excessive absences, tardy notices, or recurring zeroes in the most recent school year.
- Guidance counselors recommend that 6th–9th grade students enroll in **no more than two** Honors courses per year.
- Students must agree to remain in their scheduled Honors and AP courses **through the first semester**.
- **Students should obtain a minimum average of 75 percent at the end of the first semester to continue enrollment in an Honors or AP course.**

**Note:** Transfer students must receive approval from the Academic Committee to enroll in Honors and AP courses.

## Departmental Requirements

Some departments have additional qualification requirements for students enrolling in Honors and AP courses. Many Honors and AP students must complete summer reading assignments and/or projects prior to the beginning of school. Please refer to the “Resources” page of each school level under “Academics” on the Liberty website for more information.

## LIBERTY LEARNING CENTER

The Liberty Learning Center (LLC) is our program for grades 6–12 that provides students having diagnosed learning differences with accommodations in their classes and extended time on tests and quizzes in the LLC Lab. The lab is designed to help students learn to organize their school responsibilities with effective time management skills, to problem solve with confidence, to self-advocate for their learning and growth with their teachers, and to provide one-on-one conferencing to discuss performance and strategies for success in their classes. The LLC staff will provide students with skill support for test taking, studying, and organizing, and be the dedicated liaison between the classroom teacher and the student when appropriate. There is an additional fee to be enrolled in the LLC program.

**Note:** When submitting your course request, select the LLC Lab to receive the above services.

## SUMMER SCHOOL INFORMATION

Liberty Christian School offers summer school courses through Liberty Christian Online for students who need to recover credits. Liberty partners with Sevenstar, an online curriculum provider, that offers biblically integrated courses meeting Liberty’s college-preparatory graduation requirements. Although coursework is completed independently, instruction is facilitated by a remote teacher, and student progress is monitored by Liberty staff members. **Completion of online coursework is required for students who have not earned a passing grade for any semester of a required Liberty course. Students must earn a semester grade of 70 percent or above in the online course to receive semester credit, although Sevenstar considers 60–69 percent a passing grade of “D.”** Semester grades earned for credit recovery through the online summer school will appear on the student’s transcript and be included in GPA calculation. The online course grade will not replace the failing grade on the transcript or in the GPA. Courses taken for reasons other than credit recovery will not be counted in the GPA. Please visit the Guidance Counseling Office for more details about summer school, the online curriculum, and the associated fees.

**Note:** Summer school is limited to the courses offered through Liberty Christian, and **only those courses will appear on the Liberty transcript for credit.** Seniors who fail a required course will receive their diplomas upon completion of the equivalent summer school course.

# Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Ranking

## GPA CALCULATION

The student's GPA calculates on both 4-point and 100-point scales and includes the following required 9th–12th grade courses taken at Liberty Christian School: Bible; English; Social Studies; Science; Math (beginning with Algebra I taken in 7th or 8th grade); World Languages; Speech; Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Communication (TEC); Business and Professional Communications (BPC); Technology or STEM courses required for graduation; and all Honors/AP courses. Spanish I and Business and Professional Communications courses taken in 8th grade prior to the 2017–2018 school year will continue to be counted in GPA calculations. On a student transcript, semester grades are unweighted, but the GPA is weighted as follows: For the 100-point grading scale, 5 points are awarded for Honors courses and 10 points for AP courses; For the 4-point grading scale, .5 points is awarded for Honors courses and 1 point for AP courses. Weighted points are added to the GPA calculation each semester.

**Note:** Only grades earned at Liberty Christian School on eligible courses will be included in the GPA calculations and transcribed onto transcripts. Transfer grades are not included in GPA or rank calculations. For students who transfer during the first semester of 9th grade, 8th grade courses are transcribed onto transcripts but are not included in GPA calculations.

### The 4.0 Grading Scale

Grade	Grade Scale
90-100	4
87-89	3.75
84-86	3.5
82-83	3.25
80-81	3
77-79	2.75
74-76	2.5
72-73	2.25
70-71	2
0-69	0

## CLASS RANKING CALCULATION

Liberty Christian School is a non-ranking school. However, Liberty ranks the top 10 percent of students for the purpose of automatic admissions to Texas public colleges and universities. **Class rank calculates using the 100-point weighted GPA.** Class rank is calculated at the end of every semester only for students in grades 10–12.

**Note:** Transfer students will be eligible for ranking after four consecutive semesters at Liberty Christian School.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The chart below provides the number of credits needed for each subject area depending on the type of diploma a student plans to pursue.

Subject Area	College Prep	College Prep with Honors
	(27 Credits)	(28 Credits)
	See Page 7	See Page 7
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Social Studies	4	4
Science	4	4
Bible	4	4
World Languages	2	3
Physical Education	1	1
Electives	2	2
Career and Technology (CTE)	0.5	0.5
Speech	0.5	0.5
Fine Arts	1	1
Six Honors courses	N/A	Yes

**Mathematics:** Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry must be completed to meet three of the four math requirements. Students are required to take a different math class every year in grades 9–12.

**Science:** Science credits must include Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. The fourth science option may be chosen from the courses provided.

**World Languages:** World Language requirements must be met with credits from the same language in grades 8–12.

**Physical Education:** Physical Education requirements may be met through Athletics, Cheer, Dance Team, Band or Encore (beginning with the 2017-2018 school year). Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the Office Aide course is no longer accepted as a Physical Education credit.

**Electives:** After the required course credits are satisfied, a student may choose from other subject areas to satisfy elective credit (s). Refer to the following pages to find the courses that may be used for elective credit: Career and Technology Education, Fine Arts, and World Languages. Electives can include one credit of Athletics or Cheer.

**Career and Technology Education (CTE):** Beginning with the class of 2024, the CTE credit requirement is met through a course offering in the CTE Department. See the CTE section for course offerings. For the classes of 2020-2023, the technology requirement is met through the Technology, Entrepreneurship, and Communications (TEC) course, or the former Business and Professional Communications (BPC) or Business Computer Information Systems courses offered prior to the 2017-2018 school year. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the technology requirement can also be met through the AP Computer Science Principles course.

**Speech:** Credit is met through the current Speech course or the former Business and Professional Communications (BPC) or Business Computer Information Systems courses offered prior to the 2017-2018 school year. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, Broadcast Journalism and Production, Encore and TV Reporting and Production may be approved for the Speech credit through the Guidance Counseling Department.

**Honors/AP Courses:** To graduate College Prep with Honors, students must pass six yearlong Honors/AP courses for upper school credit during grades 8–12. Beginning with the entering class of 2021, at least two of the six courses must equal two yearlong AP courses.

## College Planning

This section provides basic, general guidelines for students planning to attend a post-secondary institution.

**Note:** Each college and university has very specific requirements for admission. Students should check with their guidance counselor, college catalog, or the institution's admissions office for specific admissions requirements and recommendations.

### DEGREE PLANS

#### College Preparatory Degree Plan

The College Prep Degree Plan accommodates students who desire to complete coursework that will facilitate entrance into a four-year college or university.

**Note:** Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II must be completed to meet three of the four math requirements. Biology, Chemistry, and Physics must be completed to meet three of the four science requirements. For a complete list of requirements, please refer to the chart on Page 6.

#### College Preparatory with Honors Degree Plan

The College Preparatory with Honors Degree Plan accommodates students demonstrating levels of aptitude and performance equivalent to college-level work and who are applying to highly selective colleges and universities. To graduate College Prep with Honors, students must pass **six yearlong Honors/AP courses** for upper school credit during grades 8–12. Beginning with the entering class of 2021, at least two of the six courses must equal **two yearlong AP courses**. Also, **three** World Language credits from the **same language** are required. Beginning with the Class of 2022, World Language requirements must be met with credits **from the same language** in grades 9–12.

**Note:** Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II must be completed to meet three of the four math requirements. Biology, Chemistry, and Physics must be completed to meet three of the four science requirements. For a complete list of requirements, please refer to the chart on Page 6.

A student must not have failed more than a total of two semesters in courses counting toward graduation requirements to qualify for a College Prep with Honors diploma.

#### Dual Enrollment Courses

The curriculum for Dual Enrollment courses is provided in an online environment by the college or university and delivered by Liberty teachers. Liberty partners with several local and national institutions to offer Dual Enrollment courses. Students are placed into a teacher's class at Liberty in addition to their assigned college instructor for the course. The curriculum from each course is reviewed and taught from a Christian worldview by Liberty teachers. Upper School students can register for these courses and receive college credit upon successful completion. Courses will count as an elective credit on a student's Liberty transcript. Grades will not be included into GPA calculation but will show on a student's transcript.

## SENDING TRANSCRIPTS TO POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

Students submitting an official transcript to a college or university, the NCAA, or a scholarship foundation should request a transcript from the Guidance Counseling Office through the transcript request page on the school website.

Every effort is made to complete requests as quickly as possible. However, please allow up to one week for processing requests. Liberty submits transcripts electronically when applicable. Otherwise, a paper transcript is sent through the U.S. Postal Service. Additionally, **transcripts submitted by Liberty Christian School do not include PSAT, SAT, or ACT scores. Colleges must receive test scores directly from the testing institution. Students must contact College Board (SAT) and/or ACT to request submission of their scores to specific colleges.**

**Note:** For more information about sending test scores, visit [www.collegboard.org](http://www.collegboard.org) and [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org).

# Upper School Course Catalog

## Course Descriptions for Grades 9-12

### NEW AND UPDATED UPPER SCHOOL OFFERINGS

The following courses have been added to the updated to the Upper School Catalog for 2021-2022:



**America's Vietnam War** – See Page 37. (Not offered 2021-2022)



**Biblical Life Discipleship Class** – See Page 12. (Not offered 2021-2022)



**Bravo** – See Page 22.



**Dance Technique** – See Page 22. (Not offered 2021-2022)



**Discipleship** – See Page 12.



**Environmental Sustainability** – See Page 34.



**World War II** – See Page 41.



**Broadcast Journalism and Production** – See Page 14.



**TV Reporting and Production** – See Page 16. (Not offered 2021-2022)



**Creative Writing/Purposeful Reading** – See Page 20.



**German III Honors** – See Page 42.



**Medical Interventions** – See Page 35. (Not offered 2021-2022)

## **BIBLE**

In keeping with Liberty's Christian emphasis, students in grades 9–12 are required to be enrolled in their grade-level Bible class each semester.

### **The Life of Christ**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

The Life of Christ course focuses on the cornerstone of Christianity – Jesus Christ. It is designed to engender a deeper understanding of the person and purpose of Christ, the redemptive plan of God for mankind through Him, and to see how the narrative unfolds in Scripture by reviewing the events surrounding Jesus' life. The course provides an in-depth look at the character of Christ and the practical application of His teachings.

### **Christian Discipleship**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Christian Discipleship focuses on the foundation of Christianity. As followers of God, Christians must be "strengthened with might by His Spirit" (Ephesians 3:16). This course focuses on inward development, not just outward conformity. It shows from Scripture how righteousness is the result of the Lord changing His people, making their actions the result of inward purity and strong character.

### **Systematic Theology (Not offered 2021-2022)**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Systematic Theology focuses on the purpose and character of the triune God. It presents truth as revealed in Scripture concerning the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and applies it to the students' personal relationship with both man and the world. The class is both a spiritual and intellectual task for the ultimate purpose of being known by God (Matthew 7:21–23 and Galatians 4:9) and for formulating a worldview of Christ-centered living.

## Christian Humanities

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 11/12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Christian Humanities focuses on the application of biblical Christianity. Students will examine what it means to have an identity in Christ and to possess a biblical worldview. Accordingly, students will study a myriad of topics – abortion to Zoroastrianism, politics to world religions, and philosophy to homosexuality – to develop the ability to articulate and defend their beliefs. Every worldview, from Christianity to atheism, will be challenged intellectually to cast off myths and establish biblical truth. Please know that the accomplishment of these objectives often requires in-class discussions about real-world topics, guided prudently by the instructor for the benefit of the students and to assist parents in insulating but not isolating students from the world.



## Discipleship

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This elective course is designed to challenge students in the true meaning of discipleship – the long and narrow road to become more like Christ – offering the opportunity for students to deepen their walk with the Lord. Students will study scripture the whole year and engage with the teachings/writings of prominent Christians throughout history. The first semester will emphasize an accurate handling of God’s Word, engage the culture, and practice spiritual disciplines. In the second semester, students will experience the challenge and cost of discipleship by being disciplined, disciplining younger students, and encouraging one another in their faith. Students will be challenged to stretch spiritually and take active steps to grow in their faith and commitment to the Lord.



## Biblical Life Discipleship Class (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 9–12 Girls*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This elective course will be a place for upper school girls to be disciplined and to grow in their walk with Jesus on a more intimate level. They will be taught how to discover what the Bible says about everyday life issues that teenage girls face today. They will be equipped with practical tools to combat life’s struggles to help them succeed in overcoming temptations. The heart behind this class is to help create an environment for upper school girls to grow and deepen their relationship with Jesus.

## **CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION (CTE)**

Today's world of advanced technology and competitive lifestyles requires that schools expand opportunities for students to prepare them for college and the world of work. Career and Technology Education (CTE) empowers individuals to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society. Career and Technology Education courses are designed to provide students with the opportunity to make informed occupational choices, determine educational needs and options, develop employability traits, and acquire marketable skills.

### **AP Computer Science Principles**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE credit)*

AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. AP Computer Science Principles also gives students the opportunity to use current technologies to create computational artifacts for both self-expression and problem solving. Together, these aspects of the course make up a rigorous and rich curriculum that aims to broaden participation in computer science. This class will prepare students for the end-of-year AP Exam, as well as for course assessments that explore the implications of computing innovations by creating a computer application. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Computer Science Principles Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

### **A/V Fundamentals**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE credit)*

This introductory level media and broadcast course, formerly Digital Media Production, will feed into either creative filmmaking or a broadcast and production course. In this course, students will learn the fundamentals of operating a camera, lighting and audio equipment, and more, all the while practicing proper digital safety etiquette.

Updated

## **Broadcast Journalism and Production**

*Prerequisite: A/V Fundamentals*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE or Speech credit)*

In this audition-only course, students will be chosen for roles on Liberty's broadcast news show, LCTV. Students can specialize in anchor, reporter, producer, camera operator, graphics operator, social media officer, and public relations officer roles, among others. Students will work together to produce a daily broadcast of LCTV to be shown on YouTube and to the student body. In this course, students will have the opportunity to work with current major news network talent, visit television news stations, and interview professional athletes and those in political office. Students will gain experience and exposure that will prepare them for television news at the next level - whether that be internship, college, or career.

## **Creative Filmmaking**

*Prerequisite: A/V Fundamentals (Broadcast Journalism/Digital Media Production 2019–2020 and previous)*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE credit)*

Creative Filmmaking, formerly Digital Media Production Advanced, will enhance Level I skills by introducing more in-depth and specialized experiences in videography, editing, lighting, and computer programs/software. Projects for this class will focus on creating a portfolio and digital "brand" for student work including short film, commercial/promo, digital marketing, and event broadcasting. Students will also be involved in live productions and will be required to attend events throughout the school year.

## **Game Development and Design I (Not offered 2021-2022)**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two Semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE credit)*

Students will learn basic and intermediate game programming, including graphics, sound, input, artificial intelligence, and more. Curriculum will be project based, working individually and in groups. Students will create their own games for multiple platforms. Students will learn core elements of digital game design, including design processes, game logic, balancing and testing methods, and distribution methods. The course will trace the game development cycle multiple times from initial idea to completion, both in individual and group settings.

## **Game Development and Design II (Not offered 2021-2022)**

*Prerequisite: Game Development and Design I*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE credit)*

Building on the development of 2D games in Game Development and Design I, students will develop games in 3D, create advanced artificial intelligence (AI), and produce multiplayer games for a variety of Apple platforms (including iPhone and iPad). The focus on 3D games will allow students to build games in new genres, simulating highly advanced and realistic physics and bringing to life the class's creative game ideas. The class will focus heavily on collaborative projects using industry standard tools, including several large-scale class projects with the entire class working together to build a game.

## **Intro to Business and Personal Finance**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: One semester*

*Credit: .5 (CTE credit)*

This course includes a broad series of lessons and activities to provide students with basic financial tools and business acumen that will enable them to build the lives they envision. The course will cover economics and private enterprise, marketing and sales, financial responsibilities, planning for the future, budgeting, investing, and careers.

## **Intro to Electronic Circuits (Not offered 2021-2022)**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: One semester*

*Credit: .5 (CTE credit)*

Students will gain hands-on experience with basic electronic circuits and programming techniques using Arduino controller boards. Students will design and build a variety of projects, such as LED counters and clocks, remote-controlled robots, and games. The course will cover basic electronic design theory using components, such as resistors, capacitors, transistors, logic controllers, motors, IR transmitters/receivers, and more. In addition to the hands-on experience with the electronic components, students will learn basic programming in C++ to create programs for the Arduino controller.

## PSAT Prep Team

*Prerequisites: Sophomores will be invited to attend this class based on their 10<sup>th</sup> grade PSAT index score. Students must have completed Algebra II by the end of 10<sup>th</sup> grade.*

*Grade: 11*

*Length: Fall semester only*

*Credit: .5*

PSAT Prep Team is an intensive course that prepares students for the PSAT test, which is administered in October of their junior year. This course is by invitation only. The invitation is based on students' previous PSAT index score on the PSAT taken in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. This rigorous course is designed to improve both verbal and quantitative test scores. An integral component of this course is mandatory attendance at a summer seminar and several Saturday sessions preceding the October PSAT administration. After the PSAT, students will prepare for the SAT and ACT tests for the remainder of the semester.

## SAT/ACT Prep Class

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 11*

*Length: Fall semester only*

*Credit: None*

This 11<sup>th</sup> grade preparatory class is designed to teach students test-taking strategies, provide practice in standardized testing skills, and help develop essay preparation and organization to maximize scoring on the PSAT, SAT, and ACT Exams. Students will be required to purchase ACT and SAT workbooks. One month of test prep will be provided; the rest of the semester will be a study hall.

## Speech

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Fall or Spring semester*

*Credit: .5 (Speech credit)*

Speech, like any other skill, improves with preparation and practice. This class helps develop students' speaking skills in a variety of forums. These forums include interpersonal and group communication, persuasive speaking, informative speaking, and extemporaneous speaking.



## TV Reporting and Production (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisite: A/V Fundamentals (Broadcast Journalism/Digital Media Production 2019–2020 and previous)*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (CTE or Speech credit)*

In this course, students will learn how to operate a bi-weekly news show. They will cycle through roles in front of the camera and behind the camera, including anchor, reporter, camera operator, floor producer, control room producer, graphics operator, switchboard operator, and more. Students in this course will obtain all of the skills and confidence necessary to successfully run a news show. In the second semester, students will have the opportunity to specialize in on-camera or off-camera roles, honing their skills and preparing for the next level.

## **Wired**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9-12*

*Length: Fall or Spring semester*

*Credit: .5 (CTE credit)*

This course is essential for everyone living in the “wired generation.” The course will cover practical, real-life skills needed in today’s digital age, such as how to use social media effectively through creating compelling content, building followers, monetizing different social media platforms, and using modern tools for kingdom purposes. Topics will also include subjects such as using the internet for effective research and determining authoritative and reliable sources. Additionally, the course will cover skills using technology in life such as budgeting, managing bank accounts, using credit cards, paying bills online, and more. Students will also take an in-depth look at the internet, such as internet security/privacy, the data that drives the modern world, and even the underlying structure of the internet, such as how it works, why it matters, and how it impacts their lives.

## **ENGLISH**

The English Department utilizes a Christian-based curriculum to instill in students a love and appreciation for quality literature, while increasing their love for and knowledge of the Lord. Various aspects of literature, including solid grammatical instruction and an emphasis on vocabulary, all unite to form the components of this discipline. The program promotes effective and creative communication, while developing critical and abstract thinking skills. Students examine the values and beliefs in literature that provide opportunities to analyze and evaluate moral ethics, incorporating godly principles as lofty goals to embrace in life. The primary goal of the English Department is to equip students with sophisticated language skills, enabling them to be successful on any university campus and be effective, confident, and well-read Christian citizens.

## **English I**

*Prerequisite: English 8*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course teaches the fundamentals of literature and language skills through reading, writing, and oral communication. There is a strong emphasis on reading comprehension, including exercises with short stories, plays, and novels. Vocabulary and grammar units are utilized to improve writing in areas of structure and content, as well as numerous essays to develop writing techniques. One research paper in the APA format is required for this class. The novel for summer reading is also a vital part of the course.

## **English I Honors**

*Prerequisite: English 8*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This accelerated course teaches the fundamentals of English I and increases the ability to independently express ideas through writing and oral discussion. Students demonstrate reading comprehension via novels, plays, and short stories. Students improve writing skills through paragraph development and grammar exercises. One research paper using the APA format and other numerous essays are incorporated into the writing activities. One novel for summer reading is a vital part of the course. See Page 3 for more information about Honors/AP requirements.

## **English II**

*Prerequisite: English I*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This survey course of world literature incorporates the classic writings of the Greek and Roman period and extends into the Modern era. In addition to analyzing literature, the course also covers vocabulary and various aspects of grammar. Two research papers are required in the APA and Chicago formats for this class. To achieve optimal success, students are expected to read daily. These reading assignments may be novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or author biographies. Summer reading is also an essential component of the course.

## **English II Honors**

*Prerequisite: English I*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course focuses on an accelerated survey of world literature with a major emphasis on reading and writing skills and increased vocabulary. Various novels are studied in addition to plays by famous playwrights such as Sophocles and Shakespeare. Grammatical skills and proficient writing techniques are also incorporated along with research papers utilizing the Chicago and APA formats. To achieve optimal success, students are expected to read daily. These reading assignments may be novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or author biographies. Two novels for summer reading are a vital part of the course. See Page 3 for more information about Honors/AP requirements.

## **English III**

*Prerequisite: English II*

*Grade: 11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course focuses on representative authors of American literature from the early 1600s to the present. These works reflect the growth and changes that occurred during this time period and provide a sense of the cultural and historical differences present in American literature. The course reinforces grammar, spelling, and vocabulary skills. The course also focuses on composition in a variety of forums including, but not limited to, poetry, essays, oral presentations, and research papers in the APA and MLA formats. Summer reading is a vital part of the course.

## **AP English Language and Composition**

*Prerequisite: English II*

*Grade: 11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This college-level course is designed to enable students to develop skills in language and composition equivalent to the freshman-level class in most universities. The course prepares students to successfully master the AP Exam in English Language and Composition and to enter upper-level college courses with a firm foundation in all aspects of language and mechanics. The class centers on American literature, fiction and nonfiction, and how the works relate to the author's time period as well as present day. The course also focuses on composition in a variety of forums including, but not limited to, poetry, essays, oral presentations, and research papers in the APA and MLA formats. To achieve optimal success, students are expected to read daily. These reading assignments may be novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or author biographies. Summer reading novels are an important part of the course as well. Students taking this course are required to take the AP English Language and Composition Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## English IV

*Prerequisite: English III*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

British literature is the curriculum foundation of this senior-level course. Sophisticated and effective writing techniques are emphasized throughout this yearlong class, and the two major writing formats of Chicago and MLA are utilized. Increasing the students' vocabulary contributes to the focus of the curriculum. Critical reading skills are a major focus in this class including novels, plays, short stories, and poetry that are read and analyzed throughout the year; therefore, students are expected to read the assigned materials daily. The course is designed to equip students with the skills necessary to be successful at the collegiate level of education, while drawing students closer to the Lord with a Christ-centered emphasis. Summer reading is an essential component of this class, helping students prepare for the self-discipline needed to excel at the collegiate level.

## AP English Literature and Composition

*Prerequisite: English III*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This college-level course is designed to develop skills in literature and composition beyond those customarily acquired in a senior-level class. The course prepares students to successfully master the English Literature and Composition AP Exam and to enter upper-level college courses with a firm foundation in all aspects of language and mechanics. The class focuses on British literature, with an emphasis on advanced, mechanically sound writing techniques and sophisticated critical thinking and analytical skills. In this class, critical reading skills are a major focus through novels, plays, short stories, and poetry, which are read and analyzed throughout the year; therefore, students are expected to read the assigned materials daily. The first semester involves an emphasis on expository and argumentative writing, while the second semester focuses on a variety of literature including prose and poetry. Summer reading is an essential component of the course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.



## Creative Writing/Purposeful Reading

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 9–12*

*Length: One semester*

*Credit: 0.5 (Elective credit)*

This class will have two main components: creative writing and reading. Students will fill a notebook with journaling, written sketches/notes, poetry, and short stories. An emphasis will be placed on getting output and reworking for improvement. Additionally, students will read contemporary and older works by authors who depict many different cultural perspectives. Most of the reading and writing will be completed in class.



## FINE ARTS

The goal of the Fine Arts Department is to encourage the creativity, talents, ideas, skills, and imagination of each student who is interested in the visual and performing arts. Each teacher guides students to explore their God-given talents in positive ways through self-expression and creativity. The Fine Arts Department strives to live out the words of Ephesians 2:10, “For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

### Art I

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course emphasizes basic elements of art (line, shape/form, value, space, and color) within the disciplines of drawing, painting, printmaking, pottery, and sculpture. A wide variety of media is explored including graphite, pastels, colored pencils, watercolor, acrylic, paper mache, clay, and mixed media. This course is designed to enhance students’ creative and technical abilities in art. Daily assignments and longer projects are assigned to enhance students’ proficiency of self-expression. Students will be introduced to art history through projects and presentations.

### Art Photography

*Prerequisite: Art I*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course focuses on students’ technical development with photography while honing their aesthetic sensibilities. Students improve their skills with digital cameras and become familiar with aperture, shutter speed, depth of field, and other technical aspects of photography. Much of class time is spent developing and modifying images in Adobe Photoshop.

### Band

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or Physical Education credit)*

The upper school Band comprises the Pep Band and Marching Band in the fall, and the Concert Band and Jazz Band in the spring. The Pep Band and Marching Band, along with the Drum Line, focus on various styles of music (for example, pop, rock, and jazz) for performances at pep rallies and football games. The Concert and Jazz Bands perform at school concerts, competitions, and community concerts. The goal of this class is to provide students with a Christ-centered music education that includes music theory, improvisation, and the reading of sacred and secular literature. Students have the opportunity to participate in district and state competitions, community concerts, seasonal and holiday concerts, Artist’s Garden, and Fine Arts Department musical productions.

### Bravo

*Prerequisite: Audition/Application*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (Fine Arts credit)*

This intermediate/introductory theatre course is designed for students who wish to continue studying acting as a part of a theatrical troupe. Students will perform, direct and put on school-wide productions. This course will require less after-school commitment and is aimed at students who want to continue theatre but may not have the after-school time to commit. Students will also explore stagecraft and technical theatre, as well as directing and producing. Students must be willing to participate in one show each semester. Throughout the preparation of each show, students will explore acting styles, acting methods, and review theatre technique, vocabulary, and history.

## **Chorale**

*Prerequisite: Voice placement*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Chorale is a mixed choir of different levels of singers. This group sings serious repertoire as well as pop and Broadway styles of music. Students will learn to read music, sing with proper vocal technique, and perform in various venues. Chorale participates in TAPPS Regional and State Competitions. This exciting group will be challenged to reach their full potential!

## **Dance Team**

*Prerequisite: Audition*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or Physical Education credit)*

The Dance Team is made up of young women dedicated to dancing as they cheer for sports teams. Dance Team increases school spirit and performs at various halftime events. A dancer is dedicated to early morning practices, after-school sporting events, competitions, clinics, and community performances, as well as performing in Artist's Garden. The time commitment consists of daily practices, frequent weekend practices, and other after-school requirements. Above all, a dancer has a personal, growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Dance Team members are selected in the spring. Character, grades, conduct, recommendations, and talent are all considered.

## **Dance Technique (Not offered 2021-2022)**



*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or Physical Education credit)*

This course is an overview of dance, movement, and movement vocabulary. There will be an emphasis on body movement, spatial awareness, alignment, musicality, motor skills and body conditioning. Techniques covered include ballet, jazz, hip hop, and musical theatre. Students will also explore diverse types of dance that come from different cultures around the world. This course will give students a creative and physical outlet, while learning about assorted styles that are derived from different countries.

## **Drawing and Painting I**

*Prerequisite: Art I*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This intermediate course is designed to enhance students' abilities with two-dimensional art. Students will progress through advanced drawing concepts with a number of different media. They will then utilize their drawing skills within painting, printmaking, and mixed-media assignments. Each student will strive to create original artwork at a competition level.

## **Drawing and Painting II, III, and IV**

*Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting I, II, or III, respectively*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will further explore drawing and painting mediums. An emphasis will be placed on competition-level works and personal expression.

## **Encore**

*Prerequisite: Spotlight, Showstoppers, or the All-School Musical plus audition*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (Fine Arts, Physical Education, or Speech credit)*

This advanced theatre course is designed for students who wish to continue studying acting as part of a theatrical troupe. Students will perform, direct, and compete in various scenes, plays, and school-wide productions. Students will also explore stagecraft and technical theatre, as well as directing and producing. Students must be willing to participate in productions, competitions, and many other projects. Throughout the preparation of each project, students will explore acting styles, acting methods, and various areas of theatre. This class requires outside rehearsals (after school and on weekends), performances, and travelling. This group requires an audition.

## **Graphic Design/Digital Art**

*Prerequisite: Art I*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will use Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, and other programs to create graphic design images, digital sketches, and paintings. Technical aspects of digital brushes, painting tools, and layering images will be explored. Elements of art and principles of design will be stressed as students learn to navigate within computer programs to create original artwork.

## **Sculpture and Ceramics I**

*Prerequisite: Art I*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This intermediate course is designed to enhance students' abilities with three-dimensional art. Functional pieces, relief sculpture, and sculpture will be explored with a variety of media. While wheel-throwing and hand-building with clay, students will create work that is structurally sound and visually elegant. Clay principles and firing techniques will be explored in-depth. Additionally, students will explore other areas of 3D art using a variety of materials such as cardboard, wire, papier-mâché, and wood. Each student will be encouraged to create original competition-level artwork.

## **Sculpture and Ceramics II, III, and IV**

*Prerequisite: Sculpture and Ceramics I, II, or III, respectively*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will further explore other sculpture and ceramic ideas. An emphasis will be placed on competition-level works and personal techniques.

## **AP Studio Art 2D Design**

*Prerequisites: Drawing and Painting I, Art Photography, Graphic Design, or Digital Art, and instructor approval*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course is designed to help students create and develop a portfolio of artwork. Students create artwork for the sustained investigation and selected works sections of their portfolio. While creating their portfolio, students develop competition-level artwork. This course will result in the student completing a 2D design portfolio using the guidelines set by the AP College Board. Students taking this course are required to submit a portfolio of completed work in lieu of a written AP Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **AP Studio Art 3D Design**

*Prerequisites: Sculpture and Ceramics I, and instructor approval*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will explore three-dimensional forms with a variety of materials, such as clay, wood, plaster, papier-mâché, found objects, and fabric. These raw materials will be used in creating expressive sculptural designs that incorporate form and space, and relate the three-dimensional form to its environment. Students will produce several projects of high quality, college-level artwork. These projects will begin with exploring the elements and principles of design, and will involve each student developing an individual line of inquiry, experimentation, and risk-taking. Summer work is highly recommended. This course will result in the student completing a 3D design portfolio using the guidelines set by the AP College Board. Students taking this course are required to submit a portfolio of completed work in lieu of a written AP Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **AP Studio Art Drawing**

*Prerequisites: Drawing and Painting I, and instructor approval*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

In this course, students will address a very broad interpretation of drawing issues and media. Line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, and the illusion of depth and mark-making are drawing topics that can be addressed through a variety of means, which could include painting, printmaking, mixed media, etc. This course will result in the student completing a drawing portfolio using the guidelines set by the AP College Board. Students taking this course are required to submit a portfolio of completed work in lieu of a written AP Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **Worship Culture**

*Prerequisites: Audition and interview, plus one year of band or choir*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course introduces students to leading the body of Christ in worship through the art of music. Students will worship together and learn more about playing instruments, singing, harmonizing, and writing songs. Students will also participate in the Christmas Concert and a TAPPS competition.

## **Yearbook**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This class introduces students to journalism, graphic design, photography, and many real-life career skills like project management and teamwork to create an historical keepsake for the student body that will be enjoyed for many years to come. Students who have taken the class before will be expected to delve deeper into each of these areas, provide leadership, and have a higher level of productivity. The class requires time management, "a positive, can-do attitude," and self-motivation - and promises to provide a lot of fun too. The class will use Jostens Yearbook Avenue software and Canon Rebel T7i and 70D cameras.

## MATHEMATICS

The Mathematics Department bases its vision of mathematical proficiency on the school's role as a college preparatory school. The department strives to promote mathematical literacy and equip students with the mathematical skills needed to succeed at the university level, meet the challenge of tomorrow's technology, and compete in the workforce.

### Algebra I

*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course is the first of a two-year study of algebra. Algebra I emphasizes rules, symbols, and laws of arithmetic within the algebraic structure. Students will develop a deep understanding of how to solve, graph, and find patterns of linear and quadratic functions. Students will obtain analytical and critical thinking skills that will be the basis for future math classes.

### Accelerated Algebra II/Pre-Calculus Honors (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisite: Algebra I, Geometry, and Prerequisite Skills (\*See note below)*

*Grades: 10 –11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

In this accelerated class, students will build fluency with the graphical and algebraic representation of functions and their inverses, transformations of functions, analytic geometry (conic sections), and trigonometry. Students are expected to divide polynomials with remainders by restructuring rational expressions. Students will see structure in expressions and use this structure to rewrite expressions in grouping with advanced factoring, summing a series, rewriting of rational expressions, and examining the end behavior of corresponding rational functions, as well as understanding translating between recursive definitions and closed forms involving sequences and series with numerous applications. Students are expected to learn to choose and use appropriate mathematics and statistics to analyze empirical situations, grow in their understanding, and improve decisions. Graphing calculators are required. Students who successfully complete this course will be qualified to take AP Calculus AB the following year.

**Prerequisite Skills:** Students are expected to have a high level of conceptual understanding and procedural fluency in the prerequisite courses, as well as proficiency with the mathematical practice standards. Students are expected to have a strong foundation in Algebra I and the ability to learn mathematical concepts at an accelerated pace. *\*Interview, placement testing, and teacher recommendations are part of the selection process for this course. Curriculum for this course will cover all of the topics of Algebra II and Pre-Calculus in one year. Students will be given practice problems to complete over the summer that will be tested during the first week of the new school year.*

### Algebra II

*Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry*

*Grades: 10 –11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Algebra II begins by developing a deeper understanding of the linear and quadratic functions learned in Algebra I. The remainder of the year is spent introducing and making connections between rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions including conics.

## **Algebra II Honors**

*Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry*

*Grades: 10 –11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Algebra II begins by developing a deeper understanding of the linear and quadratic functions learned in Algebra I. The remainder of the year is spent introducing and making connections between rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions including conics. Honors courses will take the same concepts to a deeper level, and students will be expected to combine concepts in more rigorous problem-solving experiences and use their knowledge of concepts in new situations. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **Calculus**

*Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course covers all essential topics for a first-semester college calculus course. Topics include the study of limits, derivatives and their applications, and integrals and their applications. This course includes a review unit of pre-calculus at the beginning of the year.

## **AP Calculus AB**

*Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course includes the topics of an entry-level college calculus course: limits, concavity, functions, derivatives and their applications, Riemann sums, integrals and their applications, Euler's method, l'Hopital's rule, and slope fields. This course is valuable for any student planning to pursue college studies in the sciences, mathematics, or business. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Calculus AB Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **AP Calculus BC (Not offered 2021-2022)**

*Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB or a grade of 90 or above in Pre-Calculus Honors and teacher recommendation*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

While AB Calculus covers the first semester of college-level calculus, BC Calculus covers an entire year of college-level calculus. BC Calculus will cover the AB Calculus topics of Limits, Derivatives, Applications of Derivatives, Integrals, Transcendental Functions, Differential Equations, and Applications of Integrals during the first semester. The second semester will cover Advanced Integration Techniques, Convergence and Divergence of Series, Parametric Equations, and Polar Coordinates. Expect this course to be fast paced and include a number of hands-on projects throughout the year. Students will be expected to be organized, diligent with their practice, and engage in group discussions in class. Students will be given practice problems to complete over the summer that will be tested during the first week of the new school year. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Calculus BC Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **College Algebra**

*Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus (Pre-Calculus Honors students are not eligible)*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This fundamental course includes solutions of equations and inequalities, systems of equations, algebraic functions, polynomial functions, rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, matrices, and conic sections. Additional topics such as sequences, series, and probability are included.

## **Foundations of College Algebra**

*Prerequisite: Algebra II or Advisor Approval*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will extend their mathematical understanding beyond the Algebra II level through further study of functions, inverses, transformations, and compositions. Applications using data, regression models, sequences and series, probability, and matrices will also be studied. This course is designed to be a bridge for students between Algebra II and college level math.

## **Geometry**

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

*Grades: 9–10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course begins with logical reasoning and proof, utilizing both throughout the course. This course investigates properties of 2- and 3-dimensional figures. Some of the main ideas include proportions, congruence, transformations, coordinate geometry, special right triangles, and trigonometry. Algebra will be integrated throughout the course to serve as a bridge from Algebra I to Algebra II.

## **Geometry Honors**

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

*Grades: 9–10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course begins with logical reasoning and proof, utilizing both throughout the course. This course investigates properties of 2- and 3-dimensional figures. Some of the main ideas include proportions, congruence, transformations, coordinate geometry, special right triangles, and trigonometry. Algebra will be integrated throughout the course to serve as a bridge from Algebra I to Algebra II. Honors courses will take the same concepts to a deeper level, and students will be expected to combine concepts in more rigorous problem-solving experiences and use their knowledge of concepts in new situations. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **Pre-Calculus**

*Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra II*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

The scope of the course includes trigonometry, identities, functions, graphing, conic sections, and matrices. This course is recommended for students interested in pursuing university studies in the sciences, mathematics, or business.

## **Pre-Calculus Honors**

*Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra II*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

The scope of the course includes trigonometry, identities, functions, graphing, sequences, series, conic sections, matrices, and an introduction to calculus. This course is recommended for students interested in pursuing university studies in the sciences, mathematics, or business. Honors courses will take the same concepts to a deeper level, and students will be expected to combine concepts in more rigorous problem-solving experiences and use their knowledge of concepts in new situations. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **AP Statistics**

*Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course will introduce students to major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students will be exposed to data exploration, samples and experimentation, anticipation of patterns, and statistical inference. This course regularly utilizes hands-on activities for data collection to investigate statistical concepts. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Statistics Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Enhancing the education of students through physical activity is an important step to attaining positive health and mental fitness. Striving for excellence and creating strenuous exercises help prepare students for the challenges and obstacles ahead and give them the confidence to meet adversity with success. 1 Timothy 4:9 says, "For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come."

### Athletics

*Prerequisite: Completed medical physical*

*Grades: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Athletics is held during 8<sup>th</sup> period. This course is designed for students who wish to participate in at least one of the sports in the athletic program. Sports available for boys include football, basketball, baseball, soccer, wrestling, swimming, tennis, golf, track and field, and cross country. Sports available for girls include volleyball, basketball, softball, soccer, swimming, tennis, golf, track and field, and cross country. (Cheerleading is also included for girls, it is listed as a separate course.) Students enrolled in athletics are required to stay in athletics all year. Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for specific Physical Education Department Guidelines.

### Cheerleading – Varsity Game Day and Competition Team

*Prerequisites for Varsity Game Day: Try out – no tumble requirement but must be able to perform certain stunts*

*Prerequisites for Competition Team: Try out – various tumble and stunt requirements*

*Grades: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

The Varsity Cheerleading Squad comprises young women dedicated to cheering for varsity sports teams and increasing school spirit. Commitments include attending tumble classes, afternoon practices, and occasional weekend practices. Varsity cheerleaders are also responsible for organizing locker decorations, participating in pep rallies, and managing youth camps and fundraisers. Above all, a cheerleader has a personal growing relationship with Jesus Christ. The competition squad will also participate in three competitions a year: Regionals, State, and Nationals, which is held in Orlando, Fla. Cheer tryouts are held each year in the spring.

### Personal Fitness (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course is designed for students who wish to fulfill their athletic credit for the requirements to graduate. These students will be required to change into athletic clothing and will be issued a locker and lock. Students in Personal Fitness cannot participate in a sport through the athletic program.

## SCIENCE

The mission of the Science Department is to educate and challenge students to think creatively, logically, and analytically and to stimulate interest in the sciences that provide a solid foundation for the next level of education. Students examine God's creation and learn from teachers who provide a safe environment, offer hands-on experiences, and emphasize a working understanding between science and theology that leads toward practical growth in the students' relationship with God.

### Anatomy and Physiology

*Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This fast-paced course is designed to prepare students for continued studies in the medical and health professions. Using a college text, students will study all major body systems. Weekly labs will involve dissections and physiological activities.

### Biology

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Biology is the study of the many different aspects of living organisms. Topics of study include, but are not limited to, molecular and cellular biology, genetics, genetic engineering, evolution and creation, invertebrate and vertebrate anatomy and physiology, plants, microorganisms, ecology, and taxonomy. Emphasis is placed on comprehension and application of biological principles. Lab exercises are conducted every other week.

### Biology Honors

*Prerequisite: Algebra I or concurrent*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course is for those students desiring a more comprehensive and detailed study of the topics listed under the Biology course. This course also prepares students for the Biology AP course. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **AP Biology (Not offered 2021-2022)**

*Prerequisites: Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors or instructor approval*

*Grades: 11-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a freshman college biology course. The following topics are examined in detail: biochemistry, cellular processes, energy, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, heredity, modern genetics, creation and evolution, zoology and botany, and ecology. Lab exercises are included with each topic. A summer review assignment will be required. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Biology Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **Chemistry**

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Chemistry is an introductory study of the composition of and changes in matter. Topics include, but are not limited to, atomic theory, stoichiometry, thermodynamics, molecular structure, solutions, quantum theory, acids and bases, and introductory organic chemistry. Emphasis is placed on problem solving, application, and laboratory technique, as well as deriving and testing established chemical laws. Lab exercises are conducted every other week.

## **Chemistry Honors**

*Prerequisite: Algebra I*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Chemistry Honors will follow the College Board model to prepare students for AP Chemistry in the future. The class will focus on a deep understanding of matter and energy, and students will be expected to explain their observations using their reasoning skills. Students will begin the course by observing and measuring properties of everyday materials and progress throughout the course to explore deeper and more detailed perspectives of the nature of matter. Chemistry Honors will motivate students to be active participants in applying critical thinking and mathematical skills as they engage in context-driven mathematics, data analysis, modeling, and productive collaborating with peers. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## AP Chemistry

*Prerequisites: Chemistry Honors and Algebra II or instructor approval*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP Chemistry is designed by the College Board to be the equivalent of a second semester college chemistry course. The course includes an expanded study of the topics covered in first-year chemistry as well as several advanced topics, such as molecular orbital theory, chemical equilibria, kinetics, electrochemistry, thermodynamics, and spectroscopy. Emphasis is on a deeper understanding of the major ideas of chemistry through qualitative and quantitative analysis of concepts and data. On average, a lab will be held once a week. A summer review assignment is a vital part of the course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Chemistry Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## Engineering Essentials

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 9–10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will understand the various disciplines within the engineering field and how they apply to today's world and future career opportunities. Students will apply systems thinking and consider various aspects of engineering design including material selection, human-centered design, manufacturability, and sustainability, as they create mechanical solutions to problems. Students will approach and solve problems in different ways including process solutions, mechanical solutions, electronic solutions, and infrastructure solutions, with a final project in urban development. They will use a variety of industry tools such as the geographical information system, computer-aided design, and electrical circuit simulation. Students will also develop an engineering mindset and a proficiency in key STEM-related career competencies including technical communication, collaboration, computational thinking, systems thinking, project management, and ethical reasoning.



## Environmental Sustainability

*Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will investigate and design solutions in response to real-world challenges related to clean and abundant drinking water, food supply, and renewable energy. Applying their knowledge through hands-on activities and simulations, students will research and design potential solutions to these true-to-life challenges.

## Forensic Science

*Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Forensic Science is an interdisciplinary science derived from all areas of science including psychology, law, and sociology. This laboratory course is designed to introduce students to some of the basic fields of study that play roles in forensic science. Students study the history of forensic science and major forensic disciplines such as fingerprinting, entomology, anthropology, DNA analysis, serology, trace evidence, and pathology. The course further develops the students' communication and critical thinking skills through the use of scientific method and evidence interpretation.



## Medical Interventions (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry*

*Grade: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Students will follow the life of a fictitious family as they investigate how to prevent, diagnose, and treat disease. Students will explore how to detect and fight infection; screen and evaluate the code in human DNA; evaluate cancer treatment options; and prevail when the organs of the body begin to fail. Through real-world cases, students will study a range of interventions related to immunology, surgery, genetics, pharmacology, medical devices, and diagnostics. This course is designed for students interested in possible careers in a medical field.

## Physics

*Prerequisites: Algebra II and Chemistry*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Physics covers the basics of mechanics, light, sound, magnetism, and electricity, yet does not rely as heavily on the mathematical equations as does AP Physics I. Lab work is included in the course. Hands-on learning and projects are incorporated as students learn how things work and discover the creativity and order present in the world God created.

## AP Physics I

*Prerequisites: Algebra II Honors, Biology, and Chemistry*

*Corequisite: Pre-Calculus or higher math*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as the following: Newtonian mechanics; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory simple circuits. The course includes inquiry-based learning that helps students develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Physics I Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **AP Physics C: Mechanics**

*Prerequisites: AP Physics I and instructor approval*

*Corequisites: Calculus or AP Calculus*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP Physics C: Mechanics is equivalent to a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in physical science, engineering, architecture, or mathematics. Students will gain a working knowledge of calculus by applying this mathematical tool in real-world applications of physics. This course provides instruction in the following six content areas of mechanics: kinematics; Newton's laws of motion; work, energy and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; circular motion and rotation; and oscillations and gravitation. Upon completion of this course, students should have a strong conceptual understanding of physics and well-developed skills for critical thinking and problem solving. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Physics C: Mechanics Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## SOCIAL STUDIES

The Social Studies Department is dedicated to helping students become well-informed, intelligent citizens who see a culturally diverse world through the lens of Christianity. Courses offered are designed to help students develop reasoning and critical thinking skills, to understand God's plan as it is revealed in history, and to respect the United States and the value of democracy. Coursework required in upper school is built in four stages: how mankind uses the earth that was created for him, the history of man from Adam to the present, the history of the United States, and the government and economic system as it exists today. More advanced coursework is offered for students who wish to further their studies in this field in preparation for college and beyond.



### America's Vietnam War (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 11-12*

*Length: Spring semester*

*Credit: .5*

This course will take a detailed look at America's involvement in Vietnam in context of the Cold War and its impact on the homefront in America with ambiguities of support and protest. There will be note-taking on the ample enrichments that are textual, documentary DVD, and theatrical clips from films. Students will take time to share their thoughts and insights. Personal history as both an intelligence operative Vietnamese linguist with U.S.A.F. and N.S.A. will be shared from a living primary source. The class will limit the reading aloud through targeted excerpts to facilitate understanding and learning. Military and social history abounds in this elective course.

### AP Human Geography

*Prerequisites: **Students in 9<sup>th</sup> grade** must have maintained a minimum average of 90 percent in the previous year's history course or 85 percent in the previous year's history Honors course **and** a minimum average of 90 percent in the previous year's English course or 85 percent in the previous year's English Honors course. **Students in 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades** must have maintained a minimum average of 90 percent in the previous year's history course or a minimum average of 85 percent in the previous year's history Honors/AP course.*

*Grades: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP Human Geography is an advanced, college-level course that will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Human Geography Exam. It will introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the earth's surface. Students will learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research. A summer assignment is required as part of this course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Human Geography Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **Macroeconomics**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Fall or Spring semester*

*Credit: .5*

Macroeconomics is an intermediate level course that aims to give students a thorough understanding of economics as it applies to the economy as a whole. Lessons include analysis of national income and its components, price determination, economic performance measures, inflation and unemployment, money and banking, stabilization policies, and the United States and world trade. The course examines economic aspects of fiscal and monetary policy making from a Christian perspective. The course culminates with a group project.

## **AP Macroeconomics**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Fall or Spring semester*

*Credit: .5*

AP Macroeconomics is an advanced, college-level course that prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Macroeconomics Exam. This course is intended to give students a thorough understanding of economics as it applies to the economy as a whole. Lessons include analysis of national income and its components, price determination, economic performance measures, inflation and unemployment, money and banking, stabilization policies, and the United States and world trade. The course examines economic aspects of fiscal and monetary policy making from a Christian perspective. The course culminates with a group project. AP format testing is administered throughout the semester to prepare students to earn college credit through the AP Exam in Macroeconomics. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Macroeconomics Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **AP Microeconomics**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 11-12*

*Length: Spring semester only*

*Credit: .5 (Elective credit only)*

This course will give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within an economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Microeconomics Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **United States Government**

*Prerequisite: U.S. History*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Fall or Spring semester*

*Credit: .5*

This course includes the detailed study of the foundations of the U.S. government, the Constitution, the three branches of government, and the political party system. The objective of this course is to prepare students for their role as active and knowledgeable participants in the democratic process. Because the U.S. has been blessed with economic, political, and religious freedom, Christians have the responsibility of protecting and preserving these freedoms. A thorough knowledge of how the U.S. government works is vital to fulfilling this responsibility.

## **AP United States Government and Politics**

*Prerequisite: U.S. History*

*Grade: 12*

*Length: Fall or Spring semester*

*Credit: .5*

AP United States Government and Politics is an advanced, college-level course that will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics Exam. This course follows the curriculum requirements for the “AP United States Government and Politics Course Description” published by the College Board, along with Liberty Christian School guidelines for a United States government survey course. This course gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. It includes the study of American government institutions, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups, mass media, public policy, and civil rights and liberties. It is a challenging course requiring extensive reading, critical analysis, and a knowledge of national and international events. Developing a Christian worldview that will enable students to be citizens who are knowledgeable, informed, and involved is the ultimate goal for the AP U.S. Government course. Summer reading is required. Students taking this course are required to take the AP United States Government and Politics Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **United States History**

*Prerequisite: World History*

*Grade: 11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course includes the study of people, events, and issues from the Reconstruction Period after the Civil War to the present. This survey includes the growth and development of the distinct and unique American culture as the U.S. grew into a world power. The chronicle of successes and failures of previous generations will serve as a guide for students in their own generational setting. This course also focuses on the religious topics of the Great Awakenings and the missionary and evangelistic expressions in U.S. history. Students will apply a biblical stance, aligned with God’s will, to United States history and their own lives.

## **AP United States History**

*Prerequisite: World History*

*Grade: 11*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP United States History is an advanced, college-level course that prepares students to take the Advanced Placement United States History Exam. As an accelerated course, the class takes a more targeted, detailed, and comprehensive survey of topics in United States history. Beginning with a brief review of United States history through the Civil War, it then focuses on the Reconstruction Era to the present. This course provides specific training in the document-based essay format on the AP History Exam, while stressing primary sources and students' analytical abilities. Mastery of the material in this course serves as a firm foundation for upper-level college courses. Summer reading is a vital part of the course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP United States History Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

## **World Geography**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 9*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

World Geography is the study of all the countries of the world. Major geographical features, people groups, religions, and current events for each country will be covered. Map studies involving not only the nations of the world but also the geographical, historical, and political situations that caused present boundaries will also be emphasized.

## **World History**

*Prerequisite: World Geography*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course is a survey of history from creation to modern day, demonstrating that God is constant throughout history. Students will develop higher-level thinking skills to analyze historical and geographical contexts, and to think critically about the way forces and events in history have influenced the modern world. There will be one book read each semester to supplement the textbook and one major project each semester.

## AP World History

*Prerequisite: World Geography, Human Geography Honors or AP Human Geography*

*Grade: 10*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

AP World History: Modern is an advanced, college-level course that prepares students for taking the World History: Modern Advanced Placement Exam. Though the majority of class time will focus on 1200 AD to the present, this course has a chronological framework beginning with the foundations of history and continuing to the present. Truly global in nature, the course includes studies of major political, social, economic, and artistic movements found in societies in Asia, Europe, Africa, and North and South America. Extensive reading and composition prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Placement Exam. A summer assignment is required as part of this course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP World History: Modern Exam. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.



## World War II

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 11–12*

*Length: Fall semester*

*Credit: .5*

This course will look at World War II and some of its precursors in the victory over Japan (V-J Day). The course will look in depth at the strategy, motivations, and policies that guided leaders of the Axis and Allies in this great cataclysmic conflict. There will be note-taking on the ample enrichments that are textual, documentary DVD, and theatrical clips from films. Students will take time to discuss and share their thoughts, sometimes about the unthinkable. Reading aloud through targeted excerpts to facilitate understanding and learning will be included. If students are inclined to military history, this elective course is for them.

## WORLD LANGUAGES

The vision and mission of Liberty Christian School's World Languages program is to empower students to develop an appreciation for God's people around the world and the ability to share His love in another language. The program provides students the opportunity to develop the highest level of proficiency through a sequential, spiraling World Languages curriculum based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) proficiency standards.

### German I

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 8-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

German I is a fun, interactive course designed to introduce students to the German language and culture. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and basic writing. The primary goal is to give students the ability to carry on a simple conversation in German, including asking and answering questions. Students will also learn how to say a basic prayer in German, share basic information, and learn German songs as a way to acquire the language. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

### German II Honors

*Prerequisite: German I*

*Grade: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

German II Honors continues the study of the German language and culture. Through the study of relevant, theme-based units, this class continues to refine the four elements of language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In this course, students will expand their conversational vocabulary. They will listen to and study traditional and contemporary German music, watch video clips and short movies, and read short novels in German. Students will also learn to write and recite their own prayers in German. This class will be conducted primarily in German, and students are expected to increase their oral and written proficiency. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).



### German III Honors

*Prerequisite: German II*

*Grade: 9-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course continues to focus on the study of the German language, with emphasis on oral communication skills, written communication skills, and the German culture. It is conducted primarily in German. The course utilizes comprehensible input materials, integrated audio and visual aids, as well as outside sources for enhancement and effectiveness. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## **Mandarin I**

*Prerequisite: Approval from guidance counselor*

*Grades: 8–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Throughout this course, students will develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, with an emphasis on oral communication. Students will learn to say a basic prayer in Chinese, share basic information, and learn Chinese songs as a way to acquire the Chinese language. Each unit in the course covers a specific theme that includes new vocabulary and language notes, with a guided practice in communicative context. Students are encouraged to take this course, as it could have a huge impact on their future. "Tomorrow's leaders must be able to compete, work and thrive in a globalized world with diverse, multilingual consumers and economies in which China and the U.S. will continue to be major players" (U.S. News – October 25, 2016).

## **Mandarin II Honors**

*Prerequisite: Mandarin I*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course is a continuation of the study of the Chinese language and Chinese-speaking cultures. Through the study of relevant, theme-based units, students will participate in guided conversations and presentations as they progress through the proficiency levels. Students will also be able to express their views about common daily-life topics, develop their own prayers in Chinese, and understand the biblical significance of some Chinese characters. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## **Mandarin III Honors**

*Prerequisite: Mandarin II*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

This course continues to focus on the study of the Chinese languages and Chinese-speaking cultures. The themes will be focused on daily-life topics, as students are expected to develop their listening and speaking proficiency. Cultural connections and biblical truths are interwoven throughout the course. This class will be conducted primarily in Chinese. This course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## Spanish I

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 8–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Spanish I is a fun, interactive course designed to introduce students to the Spanish language and culture. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and basic writing. The primary goal is to give students the ability to carry on a simple conversation in Spanish, including asking and answering questions. Students will also learn how to say a basic prayer in Spanish, share basic information about Latino songs and singers, and read and discuss simple novels in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## Spanish II

*Prerequisite: Spanish I*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Spanish II is a continuation of the study of the Spanish language and culture. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and basic writing. The primary goal is to expand students' ability to carry on a conversation in Spanish, including asking and answering questions. Students will also learn how to expand a basic prayer in Spanish, share information about Latino songs and singers, and read and discuss simple novels in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## Spanish II Honors

*Prerequisite: Spanish I*

*Grades: 9–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Spanish II Honors continues the study of Spanish language and culture. Through the study of relevant, real-world, theme-based units, the aim of this class is to continue the refinement of four elements of language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In this course, students will expand their conversational vocabulary. They will listen to and study traditional and pop Latino music, watch commercials, and read short novels in Spanish. Students will also learn to write and recite their own prayers in Spanish. More advanced grammar concepts will be emphasized in each unit of study. This class will be conducted primarily in Spanish, and students are expected to increase in their oral and written proficiency at a faster pace than the regular Spanish II class. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## Spanish III

*Prerequisite: Spanish II*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Spanish III includes the review and expansion of significant vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students will listen to and study traditional and pop Latino music, watch commercials, and read two intermediate level novels in Spanish. More advanced grammar concepts will be emphasized in each unit of study. This class will be conducted primarily in Spanish, and students are expected to increase in their oral and written proficiency because of the rigor of this upper level class. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## Spanish III Honors

*Prerequisite: Spanish II*

*Grades: 10–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

Spanish III Honors builds on skills acquired in Spanish II Honors. Students will develop more advanced skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, with an emphasis on the ability to communicate in the past, present, and future tenses. The content of this course will be accelerated and expanded to include more vocabulary and grammar than regular Spanish III. Students will study the culture, history, geography, and literature of Spanish-speaking countries. The class will be conducted in Spanish, and students are expected to respond in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## Spanish IV Honors

*Prerequisite: Spanish III*

*Grades: 11–12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

The majority of this course is taught in Spanish, as students explore the cultures of Spanish-speaking people in a way that connects meaningfully to their lives. Units focus on health issues, food and culture, mission field work, novels, and Spanish film. The focus is on interpersonal and listening skills for communication, although students will continue to develop writing and reading skills as well. Students wishing to take the Spanish AP Exam at the end of the course will be provided with AP resources to study independently. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

## **AP Spanish Language and Culture**

*Prerequisites: Spanish IV Honors*

*Grades: 11-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1*

The AP Spanish course requires a higher degree of proficiency in speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Students will receive proper preparation to take the College Board Exam in May. Grammar is reviewed through reading and discussing literary works. Students will develop language skills and insight that applies to various real-world scenarios and disciplines. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam. See Page 3 for more information about AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# Middle School Course Catalog

## Course Descriptions for Grades 6-8

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### New and Updated Middle School Offerings

The following courses have been added or updated to the Middle School Catalog for 2021-2022:



**Dance Technique** – See Page 54/57.



**Middle School Cheer and Dance** – See Page 54/57.



**Broadcast Video and Production** – See Page 49.



**Broadcast Journalism** – See Page 49. (Not offered 2021-2022)



**Digital Life Skills and Leadership** – See Page 49.



**Spotlight** – See Page 54.

## **BIBLE**

In keeping with Liberty's Christian emphasis, students in grades 6–8 are required to be enrolled in a Bible class each semester.

### **Bible 6**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

Through stories of the creation and the fall, students will come to understand why Christ came – to redeem and restore them to their Heavenly Father. Students will travel from Genesis to Revelation, gaining personal insight about their Savior redeeming them for all eternity.

### **Bible 7**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 7*

This course will enable students to understand the background, history, content, and application of the New Testament, as well as grasp the aspects of God's character and power through the life and ministry of Jesus Christ.

### **Bible 8**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 8*

In this course, students will navigate through the Old Testament, exploring how the entire text interweaves Jesus and the gospel. Students will examine the overarching narrative – and characters in the narrative – that display God's redemptive story of humankind from the beginning of creation to the prophecies of the coming Messiah.

## CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY (CTE)

Today's world of advanced technology and competitive lifestyles requires that schools expand opportunities for students to prepare them for college and the world of work. Career and Technology Education (CTE) empowers students to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society. Career and Technology Education courses are designed to provide students with the opportunity to make informed occupational choices, determine educational needs and options, develop employability traits, and acquire marketable skills.



### Broadcast Video and Production

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 6-8*

Formerly Broadcast Video, Production, and Journalism, students in this course will learn the fundamentals of producing a news show, writing scripts, editing videos, operating cameras and production equipment, and more. Students will have the opportunity to cycle through newsroom roles, such as anchor, reporter, producer, camera operator, switchboard operator, audio technician, editor, etc. Students will produce a monthly news show to be broadcast on YouTube and in the middle School.



### Broadcast Journalism (Not offered 2021-2022)

*Prerequisite: Broadcast Video and Production*

*Grades: 7-8*

This level-two middle school course is for students who have already taken Broadcast Video and Production. They will hone their skills in their choice of on-camera talent (anchors and reporters) or production team (producers, camera operators, switchboard operators, etc.). Students will produce a weekly news show to be broadcast on YouTube and in the middle school. Students in this course can apply for an internship with an upper school LCTV mentor, collaborating with them on stories for LCTV and opportunities to sharpen their skills and gain experience.



### Digital Life Skills and Leadership

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

Digital Life Skills and Leadership is a required course for all sixth grade students. This course will guide students to form the habits and mindsets required by a successful leader, while learning the digital and organizational skills required to support a successful learning career and launch into life. Students will be introduced to a variety of technology skills including animation, programming, video production, web design, and logo creation. Students will also learn the importance of digital citizenship and servant leadership as they practice skills such as goal setting, effective communication, time management, and collaborative strategies.

**STEM 6***Prerequisite: None**Grade: 6*

**Design and Modeling:** Students will discover the design process and develop an understanding of the influence of creativity and innovation in their lives. They will then be challenged and empowered to use and apply what they have learned throughout the unit to design a therapeutic toy for a child who has cerebral palsy.

**Automation and Robotics:** Students will learn about the history and impact of automation and robotics as they explore mechanical systems, energy transfer, machine automation, and computer control systems. Using the VEX Robotics® platform, students will apply what they know to design and program traffic lights, robotic arms, and more.

**STEM 7***Prerequisite: None**Grade: 7*

**Magic of Electrons:** In this unit, students will examine the behavior and parts of atoms, as well as the impact of electricity on the world around them. They will learn skills in basic circuitry design and use what they know to propose designs such as a burglar alarm for an art museum.

**Energy and the Environment:** Students will be challenged to think big and toward the future as they explore sustainable solutions to the world's energy needs and investigate the impact of energy on daily life. They will use what they have learned to design and model alternative energy sources, as well as evaluate options for reducing energy consumption.

**STEM 8***Prerequisite: None**Grade: 8*

**Green Architecture:** In this unit, students will learn how to apply green concepts to the fields of architecture and construction. They will explore dimensioning, measuring, and architectural sustainability, and apply what they have learned to design affordable housing units using Autodesk's® 3D architectural design software.

**Medical Detectives:** Students will play the role of real-life medical detectives as they collect and analyze medical data to diagnose disease. They will solve medical mysteries through hands-on projects and labs, measure and interpret vital signs, examine nervous system structure and function, investigate disease outbreaks, and explore how a breakdown within the human body can lead to dysfunction.

## **ENGLISH**

### **English 6**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

This course is designed to challenge students to comprehend, analyze, appreciate, and enjoy a variety of texts, as well as develop critical thinking skills through creative expression. In an interactive writing workshop, students will learn the following types of writing: narrative, informative, and argument. Heavy emphasis will be placed on developing students' critical thinking skills and communicating their findings. Students will be introduced to various forms of literature and writing genres. Summer reading is required.

### **English 6 Honors**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

This course is designed to challenge students to comprehend, analyze, appreciate, and enjoy a variety of texts, as well as develop critical thinking skills through creative written expression. In an interactive writing workshop, students will learn the following types of writing: narrative, informative, and argument. Heavy emphasis will be placed on developing students' critical thinking skills and communicating their findings. Students will be introduced to various forms of literature and writing genres. The English Honors course focuses on more complex text choices and an in-depth study of those works. Students will also learn more about literary analysis and rhetorical analysis. Summer reading is required. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### **English 7**

*Prerequisite: English 6*

*Grade: 7*

Through a reading and writing workshop, this course focuses on students' development of deeper thinking skills. Students are challenged to analyze, evaluate, and create, all the while interacting with various genres of literature and writing. Critical thinking, perceptive reading, honest discussion, oral presentations, and powerful writing are the foundations of this course, based on the taxonomy of Socratic reasoning. Summer reading is required.

### **English 7 Honors**

*Prerequisite: English 6*

*Grade: 7*

Through a reading and writing workshop, this course focuses on students' development of deeper thinking skills. Students are challenged to analyze, evaluate, and create, all the while interacting with various genres of literature and writing. Critical thinking, perceptive reading, honest discussion, oral presentations, and powerful writing are the foundations of this course, based on the taxonomy of Socratic reasoning. The English Honors course focuses on more complex text choices. Summer reading is required. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **English 8**

*Prerequisite: English 7*

*Grade: 8*

This course focuses on cultivating and honing writing skills by mastering the fundamentals of vocabulary, grammar, and critical reading abilities. Students will increase their ability to express ideas clearly through written and oral presentation, and will learn to critically analyze various literary texts, as well as gain an overall understanding of language components and their functions. Through a workshop model, students will deepen their ability to independently write, analyze, and evaluate texts. Students will continue to develop critical thinking skills through their reading of various texts including novels, short stories, poetry, podcasts, and nonfiction texts. Summer reading is required.

## **English 8 Honors**

*Prerequisite: English 7*

*Grade: 8*

This course will focus on cultivating and honing writing skills by mastering the fundamentals of vocabulary, grammar, and critical reading abilities. Students will increase their ability to express ideas clearly through written and oral presentation, and will learn to critically analyze various literary texts, as well as gain an overall understanding of language components and their functions. Through a workshop model, students will deepen their ability to independently write, analyze, and evaluate texts. Students will continue to develop critical thinking skills through their reading of various texts including novels, short stories, poetry, podcasts, and nonfiction texts. The English Honors course focuses on more complex text choices and a more independent in-depth study of those works. Summer reading is required. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **FINE ARTS ELECTIVES**

### **Art for Middle School**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 6-7*

This course is an introduction to mixed media. Basic drawing skills are emphasized as students begin to “see” and interpret two-dimensional forms. Beginning painting skills are also introduced, including acrylic and watercolor. Students will execute projects in the classroom using a variety of media, such as watercolor pencil, scratch art, colored pencil, oil pastel, and clay. This class may also be modified to challenge students to reach their desired level of expertise.

### **Art I**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 8*

*Credit: 1 (Fine Arts credit for upper school included on the student's transcript)*

Art I is a prerequisite for all upper school Art courses. This course emphasizes basic elements of art (line, shape/form, value, space, and color) within the disciplines of drawing, painting, printmaking, pottery, and sculpture. A wide variety of media is explored including graphite, pastels, colored pencils, watercolor, acrylic, paper mache, clay, and mixed media. This course is designed to enhance students' creative and technical abilities in art. Daily assignments and longer projects are assigned to enhance students' proficiency of self-expression. Students will be introduced to art history through projects and presentations.

### **Band**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 6-8*

The fundamentals necessary to perform well on a musical instrument are emphasized, such as tone production, technique, tonguing styles, balance of the ensemble, dynamics, starting and releasing together, counting rhythms, and developing steady time. As these fundamentals are developed, concentration is given to performing more music in different styles with varied time signatures. Students work to develop more range on their instruments and play at faster tempos. The goal of this program is to provide each student with a Christ-centered music education based upon sound music theory and study. Students work individually, in small ensembles, and as a large group to prepare for performances and area competitions.

### **Concert Choir**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 6-8*

Concert Choir is open to anyone in middle school who likes to sing. Students will explore a broad range of music from classical to pop. This course is an introduction to vocal music and production, sight-singing, and music theory. There will be a fall concert, a Christmas concert, a spring showcase, and the potential to sing at other venues, such as the National Anthem at sporting events. No prior choral experience is necessary, just a great attitude and a willingness to work hard.



## Dance Technique

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6-8*

Offered to boys and girls, this course is an overview of dance, movement, and movement vocabulary. There will be an emphasis on body movement, spatial awareness, alignment, musicality, motor skills and conditioning. We will cover techniques, included but not limited to, ballet, jazz, hip hop, and musical theatre. Students will explore the diverse types of dance that come from different cultures around the world. This course will give students a creative and physical outlet, all the while learning about assorted styles that are derived from different countries.



## Middle School Cheer and Dance

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6-8*

This girl only course is a noncompetitive class to promote school spirit in middle school. It is also a prep class for all those who are interested in being a part of the upper school cheer or dance programs. Each girl will learn specific techniques for both cheer and dance. Being a part of this course does not guarantee the student a position on the upper school program but only prepares them for their tryouts. In addition to class, each girl will be able to participate in some middle school home football and basketball games.

## Showstoppers

*Prerequisite: Audition required*

*Grades: 6-8*

Showstoppers is made up of actors and singers who desire to develop their skills vocally and theatrically. Acceptance into the class is based on an audition with teachers. This class is designed to teach, perform, and observe higher levels of singing, theatre, and musical art. Fundamentals in singing and musical theatre acting will be reviewed and expounded. The goal of this class is to acclimate students to a mixed age cast/choir and encourage them to take on leadership responsibilities that will prepare them for upper school choir, theatre, and more. Because Showstoppers is a performance course, students will display their skills, talents, and gifts in a fall concert and a Broadway musical in the spring.



## Spotlight

*Prerequisite: Audition required*

*Grades: 6-8*

This theatre course is for students in grades 6-8 who have discovered their passion for theatre and desire to hone their skills in preparation for Encore and Bravo at the upper school level. Members of the class are required to perform in an annual fall/winter play and compete in area contests, including the Private School Interscholastic Association (PSIA) One Act Play competition. Class time is spent rehearsing for performances and studying various acting styles and theatre techniques. Mandatory outside rehearsals the weeks before a performance will be required.

## **MATHEMATICS**

### **Mathematics**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

In this course, students will learn traditional mathematics, including computation and estimation of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percent, as well as the practical application of these skills. Geometric concepts and formulas are also taught, as are algebraic equations and an introduction to integers. This class lays a solid foundation for students entering into Pre-Algebra in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **Mathematics Honors**

*Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation*

*Grade: 6*

In this course, students learn traditional mathematics. The Honors course is designed for students who excel in all areas of math. Skills covered in this course are the computation and estimation of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percent, as well as the practical application of these skills. Geometric concepts and formulas are also taught, as are algebraic equations and an introduction to integers. This class lays a solid foundation for students taking Pre-Algebra in 7<sup>th</sup> grade. When compared to the standard 6<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics course, the Honors course moves at a faster pace, covers many topics in greater depth, and includes some additional topics. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### **Pre-Algebra**

*Prerequisite: Mathematics*

*Grades: 7-8*

This course is designed to help ease the transition from mathematics to algebra. The class includes a strong review, the building of mathematical skills, the use of variables, algebraic expressions (decimals, integers, and rational numbers), geometry, and techniques for solving various equations. The next course in sequence is Algebra I.

### **Pre-Algebra Honors**

*Prerequisite: Mathematics and Teacher Recommendation*

*Grades: 7-8*

This course is designed to help ease the transition from mathematics to algebra for students who excel in math. The class includes a strong review, the building of mathematical skills, the use of variables, algebraic expressions (decimals, integers, and rational numbers), geometry, and techniques for solving various equations. When compared to the standard Pre-Algebra course, the Honors course moves at a faster pace, covers many topics in greater depth, and includes some additional topics. The next course in sequence is Algebra I Honors. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **Algebra I**

*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra*

*Grade: 8*

*Credit: 1 (Math credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)*

This course is the first of a two-year study of algebra designed primarily for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. Algebra I emphasizes rules, symbols, and the laws of arithmetic as applied to algebraic structure. Students obtain analytical and critical thinking skills that will be the basis for future math classes.

## **Algebra I Honors**

*Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra and Teacher Recommendation*

*Grade: 8*

*Credit: 1 (Math credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)*

Algebra I is the first year of a two-year study of algebra. The Honors course is designed for students who excel in math. This course emphasizes rules, symbols, and the laws of arithmetic as applied to algebraic structure. In Algebra I, students obtain analytical and critical thinking skills that will be the basis for future math classes, with an emphasis on problem solving. When compared to the standard Algebra I course, the Honors course moves at a faster pace, covers many topics in greater depth, and includes some additional topics. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

### Athletics

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 6–8*

Students who enroll in athletics are doing so with the intent of competing for a roster spot on one of the middle school athletic teams. Sports available for boys include football, basketball, track and field, wrestling, swimming, soccer, tennis, and cross country. Sports available for girls include volleyball, swimming, soccer, tennis, basketball, track and field, and cross country. Students enrolled in athletics are required to stay in athletics all year. If a 6<sup>th</sup> grade team does not make, students may explore options in Liberty Youth Athletics (LYA).



### Dance Technique

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6-8*

Offered to boys and girls, this course is an overview of dance, movement, and movement vocabulary. There will be an emphasis on body movement, spatial awareness, alignment, musicality, motor skills and conditioning. We will cover techniques, included but not limited to, ballet, jazz, hip hop, and musical theatre. Students will explore the diverse types of dance that come from different cultures around the world. This course will give students a creative and physical outlet, all the while learning about assorted styles that are derived from different countries.



### Middle School Cheer and Dance

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6–8*

This course is a noncompetitive class to promote school spirit in middle school. It is also a prep class for all those who are interested in being a part of the upper school cheer or dance programs. Each girl will learn specific techniques for both cheer and dance. Being a part of this course does not guarantee the student a position on the upper school program but only prepares them for their tryouts. In addition to class, each girl will be able to participate in some middle school home football and basketball games.

## SCIENCE

### Science

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

Science for 6<sup>th</sup> grade is a hands-on applied physical science course that includes lecture and lab. The course encourages both critical and analytical thinking. Physical science is a study of inanimate natural objects including astronomy, chemistry, physics, and earth science, with an emphasis on using the scientific method. Students will acquire an understanding of the earth's formation and the constructive and deconstructive forces that act upon it, like volcanoes, while realizing that all things were put in motion as stated in Genesis 1:1.

### Science Honors

*Prerequisite: None*

*Additional prerequisites: See Page 3 for more information about Honors/AP requirements.*

*Grade: 6*

Science Honors for 6<sup>th</sup> grade is a rigorous hands-on applied physical science course that encourages critical and analytical thinking. Throughout the year, students will collect and analyze data through structured labs and by using and creating models. Honors labs will be more student-led, with pre-labs and post-labs required. Physical science is a study of inanimate natural objects including astronomy, chemistry, physics, and earth science, with an emphasis on using the scientific method. Students will acquire an understanding of the earth's formation and the constructive and deconstructive forces that act upon it, like volcanoes, while realizing that all things were put in motion as stated in Genesis 1:1. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is mandatory, including all fairs to which the student may advance. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### Life Science

*Prerequisite: Science*

*Grade: 7*

Life Science covers the observations, predictions, and conclusions about the living world God created. The content of this course will include topics such as cytology (the study of cells) and genetics, creation, evolution, biology, and taxonomy, with an emphasis on the scientific method. These topics will be studied through a variety of methods including labs, hands-on problem-solving activities, technology, and class discussion. The primary objectives of Life Science are for students to gain a deeper understanding of God's character and power through all He has created. A focus will be placed on increasing students' confidence in independent learning while making practical decisions in their everyday lives. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is encouraged but optional.

## **Life Science Honors**

*Prerequisite: Science and a clear understanding of the scientific method*

*Grade: 7*

Life Science Honors covers the observations, predictions, and conclusions about the living things God created at an accelerated rate. The content of this course includes topics such as cytology (the study of cells) and genetics, creation, evolution, biology, and taxonomy. There will be an emphasis on the scientific method by making a claim based on scientific research, experimentation, and reasoning based on scientific principles. These topics will be studied through a variety of methods including labs, hands-on problem-solving activities, technology, and class discussion. The primary objectives of Life Science are for students to gain a deeper understanding of God's character and power through all He has created, and further develop reasoning, critical thinking, and independent learning skills, while making practical decisions in their everyday lives. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is mandatory, including all fairs to which the student may advance. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **Science of Physical Creation**

*Prerequisite: Life Science*

*Grade: 8*

This course investigates God's physical design of the world through inquiry-based learning in a lab setting. Interaction in physical science is based on the principle that all students can reason like a scientist by thinking and developing ideas through the collection of evidence. The basis of this course involves observing, thinking, discussing, investigating, and practicing. The content focuses on the method of claim, evidence, and reason; the conservation of matter and chemistry, and the interactions of energy and forces that are present in our everyday life. In guided inquiry activities (lab), students perform experiments and construct many physical science concepts based on evidence they collect during experimentation. The students will be required to keep an up to date lab notebook, which will be their primary study guide for all assessments. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is encouraged but optional.

## **Science of Physical Creation Honors**

*Prerequisite: Life Science and a thorough understanding of the scientific method*

*Grade: 8*

This course moves at an accelerated pace and involves more discussion, peer reviews, and presentations. There will be more critical and analytical thinking involved with questioning and reflecting on key ideas. This course investigates God's physical design of the world through inquiry-based learning in a lab setting. Interaction in physical science is based on the principle that all students can reason like a scientist by thinking and developing ideas through the collection of evidence. The basis of this course involves observing, thinking, discussing, investigating, and practicing. The content focuses on the method of claim, evidence, and reasoning; the conservation of matter and chemistry; and the interactions of energy and forces that are present in everyday life. In guided inquiry lab activities, students perform experiments and construct many physical science concepts based on evidence they collect during experimentation. Students will be required to keep an up-to-date lab notebook that will be their primary study guide for all assessments. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is mandatory, including all fairs to which the student may advance. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **SOCIAL STUDIES**

### **Ancient Civilizations, Languages, and Cultures**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

This class is an introduction to ancient civilizations and their cultures, histories, and languages. One objective of this course is to provide a solid foundation for the understanding of Western Civilization and the origins of Christianity. Throughout the entire year, an emphasis will be placed on the Greek and Latin languages, which provide the roots of more than 80 percent of the words used in literate English. The course begins with the origin of the world and its cultures as they developed from the time of Creation through the modern age.

### **Ancient Civilizations, Languages, and Cultures Honors**

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grade: 6*

This class is an accelerated survey of ancient civilizations and their cultures, histories, and languages. One objective of this course is to provide a solid foundation for the understanding of Western Civilization and the origins of Christianity. Throughout the entire year, an emphasis will be placed on the Greek and Latin languages, which provide the roots of more than 80 percent of the words used in literate English. The course begins with the origin of the world and its cultures as they developed from the time of Creation through the modern age. This course requires additional reading, writing, analysis, translation, and study beyond a basic understanding. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### **Contemporary World History, Geography, and Cultures**

*Prerequisite: Ancient Civilizations, Languages, and Cultures*

*Grade: 7*

This class is a survey of the people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Students will learn to interpret maps while exploring cultures and histories of the countries of the world. Students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religion. Students will investigate and understand how belief in God and the Bible are fundamental to loving people and impacting the world for Christ. Class time will include mini-lessons, Socratic seminars, group collaboration and discussions, video excerpts, reading assignments, projects, and hands-on activities.

### **Contemporary World History, Geography, and Cultures Honors**

*Prerequisite: Ancient Civilizations, Languages, and Cultures*

*Grade: 7*

This class is an accelerated survey of the people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Students will learn to interpret maps while exploring cultures and histories of the countries of the world. Students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religion. Students will investigate and understand how belief in God and the Bible are fundamental to loving people and impacting the world for Christ. An emphasis will be placed on critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving as it relates to world events and cultures. Class time will include mini-lessons, Socratic seminars, group collaboration and discussions, video excerpts, reading assignments, projects, and hands-on activities. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **United States History**

*Prerequisite: Contemporary History, Geography, and Cultures*

*Grade: 8*

This course is a comprehensive study of the foundation of America and the struggle to build the nation. The class begins with a focus on the motivations of the Age of Exploration and ends with the Civil War. Students will develop an appreciation for the first Americans and the price they paid to establish the United States today. Influential characters who played important roles in the pivotal events that shaped American history will be examined. The text highlights the Christian background of America's forefathers who were responsible for shaping the democratic government that still exists today. The course will include a brief study of European and North American geography.

## **United States History Honors**

*Prerequisite: Contemporary History, Geography, and Cultures*

*Grade: 8*

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the establishment of the United States. Students will develop an appreciation of America's history as they study the cultural, economic, political, social, and religious development of the United States from its beginning through the Civil War. This course is accelerated and requires supplemental reading along with a large, in-depth project through the National History Day foundation. This course prepares students for AP classes and other academically challenging courses in upper school. See Page 3 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## WORLD LANGUAGES

The vision and mission of Liberty Christian School's World Languages program is to empower students to develop an appreciation for God's people around the world and the ability to share His love in another language. The program provides students the opportunity to develop the highest level of proficiency through a sequential, spiraling World Languages curriculum based on the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language (ACTFL) proficiency standards.

### German I

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 8-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (World Language credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)*

German I is a fun, interactive course designed to introduce students to the German language and culture. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and basic writing. The primary goal is to give students the ability to carry on a simple conversation in German, including asking and answering questions. Students will also learn how to say a basic prayer in German, share basic information, and learn German songs as a way to acquire the language. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

**Note:** Students must maintain an 80 average for the first quarter in German I and obtain an overall average of 80 percent to advance to German II Honors.

### Mandarin I

*Prerequisite: Approval from guidance counselor*

*Grades: 8-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (World Language credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)*

Throughout this course, students will develop their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, with an emphasis on oral communication. Students will learn to say a basic prayer in Chinese, share basic information, and learn Chinese songs as a fun way to acquire the Chinese language. Each unit in the course covers a specific theme that includes new vocabulary and language notes, with a guided practice in communicative context. Students are encouraged to take this course, as it could have a huge impact on their future. "Tomorrow's leaders must be able to compete, work, and thrive in a globalized world with diverse, multilingual consumers and economies in which China and the U.S. will continue to be major players" (U.S. News – Oct. 25, 2016).

**Note:** Students must maintain an 80 average for the first quarter in Mandarin I and obtain an overall average of 80 percent to advance to Mandarin II Honors.

## Spanish I

*Prerequisite: None*

*Grades: 8-12*

*Length: Two semesters*

*Credit: 1 (World Language credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)*

Spanish I is a fun, interactive course designed to introduce students to the Spanish language and culture. Emphasis will be on the acquisition of four skills: listening, speaking, reading, and basic writing. The primary goal is to give students the ability to carry on a simple conversation in Spanish, including asking and answering questions. Students will also learn how to say a basic prayer in Spanish, share basic information about Latino songs and singers, and read and discuss simple novels in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).



### **Liberty Christian School**

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