

PRESTONWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

CURRICULUM GUIDE

NORTH CAMPUS



PRESTONWOOD



Christian Academy

• ESTABLISHED 1997 •

Graduation Requirements

Course	College Preparatory	Distinguished*
English	4	4
Mathematics	4	4
Lab Science	4	4
History	4	4
World Language	2	3
Bible	4	4
Life Calling	0.5	0.5
Speech	0.5	0.5
Technology	1	1
Fine Arts	1	1
Physical Education	1	1

*4 Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement Course Offerings

Art History	Computer Science*
Biology*	Studio Art: 2-D*
Calculus AB	Studio Art: 3-D*
BC Calculus*	Studio Art: Drawing
Statistics	United States History
Chemistry*	United States Gov and Politics
Physics 1	Microeconomics*
English Language and Comp	Macroeconomics*
English Literature and Comp	*online courses offered through PCA Online

Honors Course/ Dual Credit Offerings*

English I-IV	Spanish II-V*	Ceramics; Sculpture**
World History I-II	Chemistry	Drawing; Painting
US History	Physics	Future Problem Solvers
Economics	Anatomy & Physiology	Computer Science II**
Algebra I-II	Theatre III-IV	Into. To Philosophy*
Geometry	Pre-Calculus*	

**Projected courses to be offered for the 24-25 Academic Year

PRESTONWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
NORTH CAMPUS EXPERIENCE

CODE OF HONOR: Drawn from the school's motto, Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam, (all things to the glory of God) the Code of Honor is a standard of excellence by which all members of the school community conduct themselves to cultivate an environment of self-governance and integrity.

SENIOR CAPSTONE: Graduation from PCA requires every student to produce an interdisciplinary body of work – a “Capstone.” As a faculty, adviser-led, research project, the Capstone demonstrates the student's scholarship, biblical worldview, critical and creative thinking, and communication skills.

LIONS SCHOLAR PROGRAM: Lions Scholar Program (LSP) intentionally equips students to enter the most prestigious universities of America. LSP students focus on the great books and significant literature considered classical studies. Students are required to complete research and participate in Socratic debate including an in-depth research paper presented publicly.

STEM HONORS PROGRAM: The PCA Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math program is an interdisciplinary sequence of AP level courses, jury reviewed project based innovation, science fair participation, and summer studies. Students are required to complete two research design courses.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE: The Student Leadership Institute (Sli) is designed it assist young people in the development of their leadership philosophy and skills during a year-long multifaceted program. Sli meets weekly to research and discuss current issues. The program focuses on individual and institutional commitments to become selfless and other-centered.

MINIMESTER: Ministering through missions is a priority and integral part of the culture, curriculum and character of Prestonwood Christian Academy. By facilitating local and global mission opportunities during Minimester, the week before Spring Break, students are able to serve and learn in a variety of geographic and topical areas.

DIVERSITY: Based on God's creation of Diversity, we focus on His “G.R.A.C.E.”: Gender, race, age & ability (academic and physical), culture and economic status.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW INSTITUTE: Biblical Worldview Institute is a dynamic two-day training seminar covering important categories such as Christian Ethics, Heritage Mindset/Discernment, Creation vs. Evolution, Current Cultural Trends, Doctrine and more for the students and faculty.

ACCREDITATIONS

- Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)
- AdvancedED®
- National Assoc of College Admission Counselors (NACAC)
- Texas Assoc of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS)
- Texas Assoc of College Admission Counseling (TACAC)
- North American Coalition for Christian Admissions Professionals (NACCAP)
- The College Board
- Council on Educational Standards & Accountability (CESA)
- National Association of Christian Schools (NACS)

PRESTONWOOD CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

VISION STATEMENT

To advance a Christian school of excellence through Kingdom education so that the generations to come will know the truth of God's Word and not forget His works, nor be taken captive by the vain philosophies of their day.

MISSION STATEMENT

In pursuit of excellence in education the mission of Prestonwood Christian Academy is: To assist Christian parents by helping equip students to embrace biblical truth, strive for academic excellence and model Christ-like leadership to influence their homes, churches and communities for Christ.



Bible and Theology

Two semesters (1 credit) of Bible for each year a student is attending PCA is required for graduation. Students must be enrolled in a Bible class each year at PCA.

Historical Theology

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

This Ninth grade Bible course traces the fundamental beliefs of the Christian faith and how they have been expressed and influenced by their historical settings up to contemporary evangelical beliefs. The course will trace the doctrines of the Trinity, Christology, Authority, Ecclesiology, and Eschatology through four major time periods during the history of Christianity: The Early Church, the Medieval Church, the Modern Church, and the Contemporary Church.

Logic and Worldviews

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

During the fall semester of this Tenth Grade Bible course, the students use the principles of logic to distinguish true statements from false statements. The students learn the rules of logic and apply them in evaluating beliefs. This prepares the student to evaluate the various worldviews that are studied the following semester. During the spring semester, the students trace the major worldviews of theism, deism, naturalism, nihilism, existentialism, pantheism and postmodernism from a historical dynamic. The students learn the basic questions that define a worldview and evaluate the worldviews according to these important questions. The standard of God's truth is emphasized.

Apologetics

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The Eleventh Grade Bible course systematically examines a rational defense of the basic elements of the Christian faith, including the existence of God, reliability of the Bible, the claims of Christ and the historicity of the resurrection. The course is designed to explain how to present a reasoned defense of the Gospel: the student is exposed to the various attacks that have typically been leveled at the Bible and Christianity, whether religious, historical, or scientific. An overview of world religions and cults is included. Rebuttals to the challenges and the evangelistic opportunities they present are demonstrated.

Introduction to Ethics

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

The Introduction to Ethics spring semester course examines ethical philosophy and theory as well as case studies of contemporary ethical issues. Students are taught the major theories of ethics including divine command theory, utilitarianism, egoism, relativism and virtue theory. A brief historical survey of ethical thought is covered. After establishing a firm foundation for ethical thinking and a process for ethical decision-making, the students analyze various moral issues. The case studies include abortion, reproductive technologies, genetic therapy, cloning, euthanasia, capital punishment, war and legislating morality.

Introduction to Philosophy (with Dual Credit Option)

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Dual Credit: There is a fee for taking this course, paid to John Brown University. Students pay JBU \$315.00 per semester for course fees. See Dual Credit Appendix for details.

The Introduction to Philosophy fall semester class guides students toward maturity of intellect and Christian faith by teaching them to use careful analysis and logical reasoning to think responsibly and creatively about their worldview in light of the Christian faith, the history of philosophy and the best of contemporary philosophy. They explore the major areas of philosophical inquiry with reference to both historical and contemporary thought. The goals are to develop critical thinking, to cultivate awareness of worldviews and in particular of a Christian worldview, to develop a positive Christian appreciation of the life of the mind, and to explore the relationship of philosophy to other disciplines and to the Christian faith.

Hermeneutics

Ninth - Twelfth Grade Elective (Offered during the 2024-25 school year)

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Though many students have participated in Bible classes such as Old Testament, New Testament, and Logic, still many do not fully understand how to properly read the Bible. Many are unsure of where to start and are unable to understand the true meaning of Scripture. This course will survey and emphasize various interpretive methods of Bible study, which include but are not limited to: understanding literary genres, grasping authorial intent, and exegeting the text in light of the immediate and global contexts of Scripture. The ultimate goal of hermeneutics is to help each believer better understand and enjoy the Word of God. A daily habit of Scripture reading and Bible study will be formed and each student will become an expert interpreter of God's word by the end of the semester.

English

Eight semesters (4 credits) of English required for graduation. Students must be enrolled in an English class each year at PCA.

English I

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

This Ninth Grade course is designed to lay the foundation for all other literature courses. Students read from different literary genres—primarily the short story, novel, poem and drama—covering a variety of time periods from classical to contemporary. Major works include The Essential Iliad, The Essential Odyssey, Animal Farm, Lord of the Flies, and Macbeth. Students also learn foundational skills in writing (including MLA format), grammar, and vocabulary.

Honors English I

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in English 8*
- *PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

This Ninth Grade course is designed to lay the foundation for all other literature courses. Students read from different literary genres—primarily the short story, novel, poem and drama—covering a variety of time periods from classical to contemporary. Major works include The Essential Iliad, The Essential Odyssey, Animal Farm, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Lord of the Flies, and Macbeth. Students also learn foundational skills in writing (including MLA format), art of discussion, grammar and vocabulary. Students in Honors are taught to analyze and write about literary elements and techniques used by authors, read more works than college prep English, and are prepared for upper level Honors and AP courses by learning the required terminology and practicing timed writings.

English II

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

This Tenth Grade course is designed to survey great works of literature and heroes of the Western world. Students read examples of tragedy, comedy, epic, and lyric. Major works include Antigone, Julius Caesar, The Divine Comedy: Vol. One Inferno, Night, Beowulf, Frankenstein, The Importance of Being Earnest as well as short stories. Students write often and employ various types and modes of writing, including narrative, descriptive, persuasive, and expository. Students also continue honing their grammar and vocabulary skills.

Honors English II

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in English I or 85 percent or higher in Honors English I*
- *PreACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

The Tenth Grade Honors course is designed to survey great works of literature and heroes of the Western world. Students read examples of tragedy, comedy, epic, and lyric, evaluating them through the lens of Aristotle's Poetics.

Major works include *Antigone*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Divine Comedy: Vol. One Inferno*, *Night*, *Beowulf*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Frankenstein*, as well as short stories. In Honors the emphasis is on close reading, which entails a student noticing details, images, diction, aspects of point of view, tone and syntax. Furthermore, poetry and rhetorical analysis are taught, and students have several opportunities to demonstrate their skill through class presentations. Timed writing and reflective critical essays are completed quarterly. The student enrolled in this course should have the desire to work, read, write, and think at an accelerated pace.

English III

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit 1.0

This Eleventh Grade course surveys American prose, poetry, and drama from the American settlement to modern times. Major works include *The Crucible*, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, *The Great Gatsby*, *The House on Mango Street*, and *Fahrenheit 451*. The literature selections enable the students to examine several aspects of the American experience, including freedom and independence, judgment, dream vs. reality, and racial/cultural issues. Students learn to analyze works through the use of literary devices such as tone, diction, mood, and style. Students write often and focus on literary analysis, poetry analysis, narrative, descriptive, expository, persuasive, and argumentation. The eleventh-grade course prepares students for college-level work by sharpening their vocabulary, critical thinking, and written analysis.

Honors English III

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in English II or 85 percent in Honors English II*
- *PreACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

This Eleventh Grade course is designed to challenge Juniors to apply a wide range of strategies as they grow in their understanding of American prose, poetry and drama from the American settlement to modern times. The student enrolled in this course should have the desire to work at an accelerated pace. Major works include *The Crucible*, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, *The Great Gatsby*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Fahrenheit 451*, *The House on Mango Street*, and *The Scarlet Letter* as well as short stories by American authors. The literature and non-fiction readings enable students to examine several aspects of the American experience, including freedom and independence, judgment, dream vs. reality, and racial/cultural issues. Students focus on the elements of style in writing and the use of persuasion and rhetoric. Students are also required to write a major research paper, and projects are assigned that require outside preparation.

AP® English III

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Honors English II*
- *PreACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

To understand the American culture, its politics, and ethos, students read pamphlets, speeches, essays, biographies, sermons and fiction that transcribe the metamorphosis of America. Therefore, the majority of the readings, both fiction and nonfiction, are American. However, students read some non-fictional European prose to deepen awareness of rhetoric and the function of language. Through close reading and frequent writing, both mimetic and original, the students understand the purpose and strategy behind language, how to employ language to express their opinion and beliefs, and how to argue for truth. Due to the fact that this is a college-level course, performance expectations are high. The curriculum is very demanding, and students must have performed well in Honors English II to be admitted to the course. It is expected that students take the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Exam in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

English IV

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The Twelfth Grade course presents a survey course of prose, poetry and drama from an array of eras and cultures. Major works include Hamlet, All My Sons, Fences, Medea, Death of a Salesman, The Metamorphosis, Things Fall Apart, Oedipus Rex, The Importance of Being Earnest. Students write in response to selections, review grammar, and solidify vocabulary. Students should have the foundational skills necessary to do research and are responsible for researching and writing the literary Capstone during the course of the year. The major focus of this course is to prepare students for college coursework by helping them understand literature in the framework of a Christian worldview.

Honors English IV

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in English III or 85 percent or higher in AP[®] or Honors English III*
- *ACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or SAT/PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

The Honors English IV course presents a survey of prose, poetry, and drama from an array of eras and cultures. Major works include Hamlet, All My Sons, Fences, Medea, Death of a Salesman, The Metamorphosis, Things Fall Apart, Oedipus Rex, The Importance of Being Earnest, along with a varied selection of short stories and poems. Students write in response to selections, review grammar, and solidify vocabulary. Students should have the foundational skills necessary to do research and are responsible for researching and writing the literary Capstone during the course of the year. Using the selected works, students analyze the human experience through a biblical lens. Class is predominantly conducted through class discussions in which all students are expected to actively participate and contribute. Tests, papers, and quizzes chiefly consist of responding to essay prompts aimed at soliciting literary analysis supported by clear and well-presented textual evidence.

AP® English IV

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite:

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Honors English III or 85 percent or higher in AP English III*
- *ACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or SAT/PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

The AP® English Literature and Composition course challenges students to read and analyze literature from a variety of genres, eras, and cultures. Major works include Jane Eyre, Mystery and Manners, Hamlet, All My Sons, Fences, Medea, Death of a Salesman, The Metamorphosis, Things Fall Apart, Oedipus Rex, The Misanthrope, and The Remains of the Day along with a varied selection of short stories and poems. Students write in response to selections, review grammar, and solidify vocabulary. Students should have the foundational skills necessary to do research and are responsible for researching and writing the literary Capstone during the course of the year. Using the selected works, students analyze the human experience through a biblical lens. Class is predominantly conducted through class discussions in which all students are expected to actively participate and contribute. The focus in surveying prose, poetry and drama is to help students deepen their understanding of the tools and methods writers use to communicate meaning and to equip students to evaluate the effects of these tools and methods through writing. By evaluating a myriad of texts, students learn to analyze rhetorical devices and literary elements that contribute to the reading experience. Writing accounts for 55% of a student's score on the English Literature and Composition AP® Exam, and because this class has the potential of replacing up to two semesters of college English, the class is taught as an introductory college English course, requiring excellent reading, researching, and writing skills. The student should exhibit the ability to think critically and logically, to write with ease and clarity, to work at an accelerated, and challenging pace. It is expected that students take the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Exam in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

History

Eight semesters (4 credits) of History required for graduation. Students must be enrolled in a History class each year at PCA.

World History I

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The World History I course examines from a Christian perspective western man's development and future direction. Emphasis is placed on the key moments in history from Creation to 1400 AD that have helped shape our present culture and the history of ideas that brought these moments to pass.

Honors World History I

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in 8th grade American History*

- *PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

The Honors World History I course examines man's development from Creation through the Renaissance. A Christian perspective is taken as students analyze key historical events that helped shape the unique aspects of Western Civilization. Emphasis is given to the study of the concepts of Western Civilization through critical evaluation of primary and secondary sources.

World History II

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The World History II course examines from a Christian perspective western man's development and future direction. Emphasis is placed on the key moments in history from 1400 AD through the early 21st century that have helped shape our present culture and the history of ideas that brought these moments to pass. This course sheds light on the major characteristics of our age and proposes solutions to the problems we face today.

Honors World History II

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in World History I or 85 percent or higher in Honors World History I*
- *PreACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

The Honors World History II course examines from a Christian perspective western man's development and future direction. Emphasis is placed on the key moments in history from 1400 AD through the early 21st century that have helped shape our present culture and the history of ideas that brought these moments to pass. More emphasis is given to studying these ideas, and more source documents are analyzed and discussed than in the regular World History II course.

US History

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The United States History course focuses on the history of our country from the beginnings to the early 21st century. Students study the major events, people, and culture in the development of our nation. This course is designed to encourage thinking about our Christian heritage and foster a respect for our American leaders and influential persons. Students are also encouraged to analyze choices leaders have made and the effects of those choices.

Honors US History

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Students must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in World History II class or 85 percent or higher in a Honors World History II*

- PreACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher
- *Department recommendation*

The Honors United States History course focuses on the history of our country from the beginnings to the early 21st century. Students study the major events, people, and culture in the development of our nation. This course is designed to encourage higher-level critical thinking about our Christian heritage and foster a respect for our American leaders and influential persons. The Honors course requires analysis of historical documents and places a greater emphasis on interpretation of historical themes and issues. Historical research is also required.

AP® US History

Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course

Prerequisite: *Students must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Honors World History II*
- *PreACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

This course is designed to equip students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. Students learn to assess historical materials – their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and their importance – and to weigh the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. Included and emphasized in this study are the biblical roots of representative government as it was conceived by the founding fathers. It is expected that students take the Advanced Placement United States History Exam in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

Economics

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Economics is a fall course and connects concepts in Government with economic policies and procedures. In Economics, the focus is on the basic principles concerning production, consumption and distribution of goods and services in the United States. Students analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price and study the role of financial institutions in a free enterprise system. Personal finance and stewardship are addressed in practical real-life situations utilizing the Ron Blue Institute and insight from a certified Kingdom Financial Advisor. The impact of a variety of factors including the federal government, economic ideas from important philosophers, historic documents, and technological innovations on the national economy and economic policy is an integral part of the course.

Government

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

The United States Government course is offered in the spring and designed to give students an in-depth understanding of the structure and function of the U.S. Government. Throughout the course, students examine and evaluate institutions of government, those who influence these institutions, the public policies made by these

institutions, and the influences of the electorate on policies. In addition, students are able to connect concepts in Government with economic policies and procedures.

Honors Economics

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: *Students must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in US History or 85 percent or higher in Honors/AP US History*
- *ACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or SAT/PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

In Honors Economics, the focus is on the basic principles concerning production, consumption and distribution of goods and services in the United States. Students analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price and study the role of financial institutions in a free enterprise system. Personal finance and stewardship are addressed in practical real-life situations utilizing the Ron Blue Institute and insight from a certified Kingdom Financial Advisor. The impact of a variety of factors including the federal government, economic ideas from important philosophers, historic documents, and technological innovations on the national economy and economic policy is an integral part of the course.

AP® US Government and Politics

Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Student is responsible for purchasing the AP Government textbooks for this course.

Prerequisite: *Students must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 85 percent or higher in Honors/AP US History*
- *ACT Reading and English 80 percent or higher or SAT/PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

United States Government and Politics is a semester-long Advanced Placement course designed to give the students a profound knowledge of the structure and function of U.S. Government and Politics. Throughout the course, the students examine and evaluate our institutions of government, those who influence these institutions, the public policies made by these institutions and the influences of the electorate on policies. Students see that political phenomena rarely resemble the trite reductions projected by the media but rather are complex matrices of power composed of diverse pressures and competing interests. It is expected that students take the Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics Exam in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

History of the Holocaust

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade Elective (Tenth Grade with teacher approval)

One Semester Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: *World History I and II*

The history of the Holocaust represents one of the most effective, and most extensively documented, subjects for examination of basic moral issues. A structured inquiry into Holocaust history yields critical lessons for an investigation of human behavior. A study of the Holocaust also provides the opportunity to examine what it means to be a responsible, Christian citizen. Through a study of the Holocaust, students can come to realize that:

- Democratic institutions and values are not automatically sustained but need to be appreciated, nurtured and protected;
- Silence and indifference to the suffering of others, or to the infringement of rights in any society, can, however unintentionally, serve to perpetuate the problem;
- What occurs when believers and a nation choose to surrender “to Caesar that which is God’s”—the fact that rights come from Him not from the government
- The Holocaust was not an accident in history; it occurred because individuals, organizations, and governments made choices that not only legalized discrimination but also allowed prejudice, hatred and ultimately mass murder to occur.

Mathematics

Eight semesters (4 credits) of Math required for graduation. Students must be enrolled in a math class each year at PCA. *All new PCA students are required to purchase the TI84 calculator.*

Algebra I

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Pre-Algebra*

The Algebra I course is designed to provide the foundation for more advanced courses in mathematics and to develop problem-solving skills. Emphasis is placed on solving equations, relations, functions, slopes, inequalities, polynomials, factoring, roots, rational expressions and quadratics.

Honors Algebra I

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Pre-Algebra, Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Pre-Algebra*
- *PSAT Math 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

Honors Algebra I is a course within the Honors program that prepares students for AP Calculus concepts at the Algebra I level. This course moves at a faster pace and has a higher level of difficulty. In addition to the Algebra I curriculum, this class covers quadratics and rational expressions in much greater depth. Critical thinking skills are emphasized to develop competence in problem solving.

Geometry

Ninth and Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Algebra I*

The Geometry course is taken between Algebra I and Algebra II. Skills mastered in earlier courses are applied to the study of points, lines and planes. Students use logic and algebraic skills to solve problems involving geometric concepts. Definitions, postulates, and theorems are used in the construction of proofs. The course also covers polygons, parallels, similarity, proportions, triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, constructions, areas, surface area, volumes, fractals, and tessellations.

Honors Geometry

Ninth and Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite for current 8th graders:

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in regular Algebra I or 85 percent or higher in Honors Algebra I*
- *PSAT Math 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

Prerequisite for current 9th graders:

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Algebra I or 85 percent or higher in Honors Algebra I*
- *PSAT or PreACT: 85 percentile or higher on 9th grade PSAT or PreACT*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

Honors Geometry is a course that prepares students for AP Calculus concepts at the Geometry level. This course works at a faster pace and integrates higher-level algebra and geometry skills. In addition to the topics covered in Geometry, the students also have a much deeper exposure to formal proofs and study right triangle trigonometry and the law of sine and cosine. Critical thinking skills are emphasized to develop competence in problem solving.

Algebra II

Tenth and Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Algebra I, Geometry*

The Algebra II course is designed to continue the study of the structure of Algebra and provide the foundation for application of these skills in other scientific and mathematical fields of study. A high emphasis is placed on functions, graphical analysis and problem solving. The main topics that are discussed are solving skills, absolute value equations and inequalities, polynomials, factoring, quadratics, complex numbers, systems, rational expressions, conics, and exponential and logarithmic functions. Critical thinking skills are introduced to develop competence in problem solving.

Honors Algebra II

Tenth and Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Algebra I and Geometry*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements depending on current grade level

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Geometry or 85 percent or higher in Honors Geometry*
- *Tenth Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 85 percentile or higher on 9th grade test*

- *Eleventh Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 80 percentile or higher on 10th grade test*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

Honors Algebra II is a course that prepares students for AP Calculus concepts at the Algebra II level. This course moves at a faster pace and covers problems with a higher level of difficulty. In addition to the topics covered in Algebra II, this class emphasizes critical thinking skills to develop mastery of problem solving.

Intermediate Algebra

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

This course may not be taken after Pre-Calculus or PAP Algebra II

Prerequisite: *Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II*

- *Grade of 70-75 in Algebra II*

The Intermediate Algebra course is for Seniors who need to improve their Algebra skills in preparation for a basic college math requirement. This class consists of the core Algebra II topics including, but not limited to, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, systems of equations and inequalities, conics and radicals.

Honors Pre-Calculus (with Dual Credit option)

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements depending on current grade level

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Algebra II or 85 percent or higher in Honors Algebra II*
- *Eleventh Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 80 percentile or higher on 10th grade test*
- *Twelfth Grade: ACT, SAT or PSAT Math 85 percentile or higher on 11th grade test*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

Dual Credit: *Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks and software for this course. There is a fee for taking this course, paid to Texas Women's University (TWU): Students pay TWU \$219.00 per semester plus a one-time \$50.00 application fee.*

- *Same PCA prerequisite requirements as Honors Pre-Calculus*
- *Cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above*
- *Required College Entrance Exam Scores, Student must meet one of the following:*
 - o *ACT or PLAN Math score of 19 and a Composite score of 23*
 - o *SAT Math score of 530 or PSAT Math score of 510*
 - o *TSIA2 score of 950 for Math*

Dual Credit: *There is a fee for taking this course, paid to Texas Women's University (TWU): Students pay TWU \$219.00 per semester plus a one-time \$50.00 application fee. Additional fees for textbook and reading material may apply. See Dual Credit Appendix for details.*

The Honors Pre-Calculus course is designed for the college-bound student or as a prerequisite for Calculus. This class takes an integrated approach to trigonometry and analytic geometry and emphasizes functions and graphing,

as well as exponential and logarithmic functions. Various topics essential to AP-Calculus are included. This course is intended for students planning on taking AP Calculus AB or BC.

Honors Calculus

Twelfth Grade (Offered only for the year 23-24)

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course.

Prerequisite: *Honors Pre-Calculus*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements depending on current grade level

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Honors Calculus*
- *Twelfth Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 85 percentile or higher on 11th Grade test*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

This Calculus course is designed to begin the study of Calculus with an emphasis placed on limits, differentiation and integration skills, and their applications. During the course of the year, those students complete projects to develop their understanding of how to apply Calculus concepts effectively.

AP[®] Calculus AB

Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course.

Prerequisite: *Honors Pre-Calculus*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements depending on current grade level

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Honors Calculus*
- *Twelfth Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 85 percentile or higher on 11th grade test*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

The AP[®] Calculus AB course is designed to begin the study of Calculus and follows the outline for AP[®] credit through the College Board for AB Calculus. Emphasis is placed on limits, differentiation and integration skills, and their applications.

Statistics

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Algebra II*

The Statistics course is designed to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data as in a typical college statistics course. This course covers topics such as: frequency distributions, graphical representation, measures of central tendency and dispersion, the normal curve, and hypothesis testing confidence intervals.

AP[®] Statistics

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course.

Prerequisite: *Honors Algebra II*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements depending on current grade level

- *Grade of 85 percent or higher in Honors Algebra II*
- *Eleventh Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 80 percentile or higher on 10th grade test*
- *Twelfth Grade: PreACT or PSAT Math 85 percentile or higher on 11th grade test*
- *Department recommendation/ Mathematics Department Assessment*

The AP® Statistics course follows the outline for AP® credit through the College Board for AP Statistics. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes: exploring data: describing patterns and departures from patterns, sampling and experimentation: planning and conducting a study, anticipating patterns: exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation, statistical inference: estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses.

Science

Eight semesters (4 credits) of Science required for graduation.

Biology

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

In Biology, students conduct laboratory investigations, use scientific methods during investigations and make informed decisions using critical-thinking and scientific problem solving. Students study a variety of topics that include structures and functions of cells, taxonomy, metabolism and energy transfers in living organisms, living systems, homeostasis, ecosystems and plants and their environment. Hands-on labs include dissections of animal hearts, brains and fetal pigs to enhance the study of the various body systems.

Honors Biology

Ninth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements:*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in the 8th grade science class*
- *PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher*
- *Department recommendation*

Honors Biology is an in-depth survey course that includes the chemistry of life, the structure of plant and animal cells, life-sustaining energy processes, exploration of human anatomy and physiology, the basis of inheritance in all living things and ecology. Critical thinking skills and application of concepts are emphasized. Students learn a variety of laboratory techniques and formal lab reports are introduced.

Chemistry

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Biology, Algebra I*

Chemistry is the study of matter and the changes that it undergoes. In this introductory course, students examine a broad range of principles in chemistry and receive experience in a laboratory setting. Topics include dimensional analysis, atomic theory, periodic table, compounds, molar concept, equations/reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, gas laws, solutions, acids/bases and an introduction to nuclear chemistry.

Honors Chemistry

Tenth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Biology, Algebra I*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Biology or 85 percent or higher in /Honors Biology*
- *PreACT Reading and Math or PSAT EBRW and Math: 85 percent and higher on 9th grade test*
- *Department recommendation*

Broadly defined, chemistry is the study of matter and the changes that it undergoes. In this Honors level introductory course, students examine a broad range of principles in chemistry, receive experience in a laboratory setting and are challenged to think analytically and critically. Since this is a Honors course, students are expected to dig deeper, investigate more clearly and research more thoroughly. Students learn a variety of laboratory techniques and formal lab reports are introduced. *Strong math skills recommended.*

Physics

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Biology, Chemistry*

Physics is an introductory course that explores a broad range of principles including introductory kinematics, Newtonian mechanics, projectile motion, conservation of momentum and energy, fluid and wave properties, electromagnetism, and a brief introduction to nuclear physics. Students receive experience in a laboratory setting and are challenged to think analytically, creatively, and critically. Emphasis is placed on how the creation reflects the intelligent and ordered nature of its Creator.

Honors Physics

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Biology, Chemistry*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements

- *Grade of 85 percent or higher in chemistry or 80 percent or higher in Honors chemistry*
- *Eleventh Grade: PreACT Reading and Math or PSAT EBRW and Math: 85 percent and higher on 10th grade test*
- *Department recommendation*

Honors Physics is an introductory course that explores a broad range of principles including introductory kinematics, Newtonian mechanics, projectile motion, conservation of momentum and energy, fluid and wave properties, electromagnetism, and a brief introduction to nuclear physics. Students receive experience in a laboratory setting and

are challenged to think analytically, creatively, and critically. In this honors-level class, an emphasis is placed on developing math skills to solve real-world problems. Students also investigate how the creation reflects the intelligent and ordered nature of its Creator.

Anatomy and Physiology

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade Elective

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Biology, Chemistry*

Anatomy and Physiology is a laboratory intensive Senior-level course exploring the topics of homeostasis, histology and the anatomy of the human body systems with concurrent study of the physiology of those systems. Each system is studied utilizing technology, anatomical models and preserved specimens. Case studies of current medical issues are reviewed in order to enhance learning of the systems. A series of short-term dissections on a variety of specimens will be required.

Honors Anatomy and Physiology

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade Elective

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Biology, Chemistry*

Students must meet the following requirements:

- *Grade of 80 percent or higher in any level of Biology and Chemistry*
- *Department recommendation*

Honors Anatomy and Physiology is recommended for students who have a strong interest in human physiology and are planning to pursue a career in the life sciences or health related professions who will benefit from this accelerated, in-depth study of the human body. Students explore the structural and functional relationships of the organ systems and how they dynamically work together to sustain life. In addition, how the human body responds to pathophysiological imbalances and ultimately maintains homeostasis is studied. Participation in a long-term in-depth cat dissection is required for completion of this course.

AP[®] Physics 1

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course

Prerequisites: *Biology, Chemistry, at least one Honors level science course, concurrently in Honors Pre-Calculus or higher*

Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in Chemistry or 85 percent or higher in Honors Chemistry*
- *Eleventh Grade: PreACT Reading and Math or PSAT EBRW and Math: 85 percent or higher on 10th grade test*
- *Twelfth Grade: PSAT: 85 percent or higher on 11th grade PSAT*
- *Department recommendation*

AP Physics 1 is an introductory physics course that is equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics and is designed to prepare students for a first-year calculus-based physics course at the university level

(whether taken as an Advanced Placement class or on a college campus). Terminology and concepts covered are consistent with the AP Physics C (calculus-based) course offered to Seniors. Due to the mathematical nature of physics, students in AP Physics 1 must have a strong background in math and must have received credit for or be enrolled concurrently in Honors Pre-Calculus. Topics of study include Newtonian mechanics (including rotational dynamics and angular momentum); work, energy, and power; and mechanical waves and sound. Students are challenged to think creatively and critically with an emphasis on the practical and experimental aspects of science as well as examination of how the creation reflects the intelligent and ordered nature of its Creator. It is expected that students take the Advanced Placement Physics 1 Exam in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

World Languages

Four semesters (2 credits) of the same language required for graduation, six semesters (3 credits) of the same language required for a Distinguished Achievement Diploma.

Spanish I

Ninth – Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The Spanish I course develops the four language skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students learn the present tense of both regular and irregular verbs. Vocabulary is also emphasized to give the student a basis for communicating. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish II

Ninth – Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Spanish I*

The Spanish II course continues the development of the four language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students learn preterit and imperfect tenses along with increasing their vocabulary. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

Honors Spanish II (with Dual Credit option)

Ninth –Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Spanish I*

Student must meet the following requirements:

- *Grade of 90 percent or above in Spanish I*
- *Department recommendation*

Dual Credit: *There is a fee for taking this course, paid to John Brown University. Students pay JBU \$315.00 per semester for course fees. See Dual Credit Appendix for details.*

The Honors Spanish II course proceeds at a faster pace than Spanish II. The course continues Spanish I with the development of the four language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Students learn preterit and imperfect tenses and indicative and subjunctive modes along with increasing their vocabulary. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

Spanish III

Tenth - Eleventh Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Spanish I & II*

In the Spanish III course, the emphasis shifts towards reading, speaking and writing while providing a summary and review of Spanish grammar and usage. In reading, the goals are to enlarge vocabulary and increase appreciation of the written language. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

Honors Spanish IV

Eleventh - Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit 1.0

Pre-requisites: Spanish III

Student must meet the following requirements:

- *Grade of 80 percent or above in Honors Spanish III*
- *Department recommendation*

This is an Honors class that continues the development of the four basic skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening. Vocabulary and grammar continue to be emphasized. Reading skills are reinforced by selected readings of short stories, poems, newspapers, periodicals and text materials. Writing is controlled for accurate language usage. The class is conducted in Spanish. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

UPPER SCHOOL ELECTIVES

Communication Arts

One semester (0.5 credit) of ***Speech and Communications*** required for graduation.

Speech and Communications

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5 Speech credit

In this one-semester course, students learn and practice the principles of speech writing and public speaking as tools of communication. Students become proficient in the ability to thoroughly research, outline and effectively deliver a speech. They study the communication model and understand the importance of all types of communication.

Additionally, they practice vocal technique and breathing in an effort to gain confidence in the area of public speaking. The various kinds of speeches covered are impromptu, informative, persuasive, small group, and demonstration.

Debate and Communications

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5 Speech credit

In this one-semester course, students learn to think critically and respond to a resolution based on a current social issue. They apply these skills in the debate of timely issues from a biblical worldview through composition, analytical reading and oral communication. Students learn to access, evaluate, organize, and use information from a variety of sources, critically assess the value of various arguments, refute false arguments and construct an effective and cogent argument. Students participate in informal moderated classroom debate and public speaking opportunities.

Film and Broadcasting I

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5 Technology credit

In Film and Broadcasting I, students learn the techniques and equipment necessary to create an immersive and engaging broadcast production. Students utilize digital video equipment to practice these techniques hands-on at events such as Upper School Chapel, All School Worship and Varsity Football games. Students also learn the introductory concepts of digital production workflow and editing for public media consumption. During the course of this class students are expected to participate outside of class time in the production of school assemblies and sporting events. *Students in this course have a requirement of filming outside of the class day. Requirements include: varsity football games, chapel, All School Worship, and participation in PCA Film Festival along with any other opportunities that arise.*

Film and Broadcasting II

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5 Technology credit

Prerequisites: *Film and Broadcast I*

In Film and Broadcasting II, students focus on the production process through writing, planning and creating original, short-form content for release in locations such as PCA online mediums and the PCA Film Festival. Work in this course may include fictional narrative or documentary works as approved by the instructor. This class requires students to shoot video for their projects outside of class time as needed. During the course of this class students are expected to participate outside of class time in the production of school assemblies and sporting events. *Students in this course have a requirement of filming outside of the class day. Requirements include Varsity Football games, Chapel, All School Worship, and participation in PCA Film Festival along with any other opportunities that arise. This class requires teacher approval.*

Yearbook

Tenth - Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Honors credit is earned for Editor, Managing Editor, Design Editor, and Photo Editor

0.5 Credit Technology and 0.5 Credit Fine Arts per year

Prerequisite:

- Successful completion of .5 Technology credit
- Application ([linked here](#))
- Department recommendation

Yearbook is an Upper School course that oversees publication of the school yearbook, *The Compass*. Students are taught basic journalism skills and then research, gather facts and photograph PCA events to chronicle the year for the student body. They use the desktop publishing software Adobe InDesign, the most widely used software for graphic design and publishing, to design and publish the book. Application required. *Students in this course have a requirement of attending PCA events outside of the class day.*

Fine Arts

Two semesters (1 credit) of Fine Arts electives required for graduation.

Art I

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Art I is an introductory level, two-dimensional and three-dimensional design course with an introduction into three-dimensional design for the Upper School student. The curriculum focus is on creativity. Emphasis is placed on developing compositions using the elements/ principles of design and critiquing major projects. Color theory is studied as well. Ceramics, sculpture, drawing, printmaking and painting using a variety of media is explored. Homework is required and a semester exam is given at the end of each semester. Participation in art contests is encouraged and available. Biblical integration is included throughout the curriculum.

Art II: Ceramics

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Art I*

This course is an introduction to ceramic design and methods including hand building techniques and introduction of a potter's wheel. Exploration of clays, glazing, and firing techniques, including stoneware are included. Art history, research and biblical integration are part of the course. Homework and sketchbook assignments are required.

Art II: Drawing

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Art I*

This course is designed for the art student who has a desire to develop strong drawing skills. Drawing techniques are explored and the students have an opportunity to experience many different mediums. Some homework and an art history research project are required.

Art II: Sculpture

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Art I*

This is the study of three-dimensional art for the advanced art student and the introduction to sculpture techniques including basic methods of modeling, construction and carving. Exploration of various media including stone, wood, metal, plaster paper and found objects. Students are taught how to critique their own work as well as classmates. Art history and biblical integration are a part of the course. Homework assignments and a research paper are required. A semester exam is given at the end of the semester. Participation in art contests is available and encouraged.

Art III: Honors Drawing

Tenth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Art II: Drawing*

This semester course is designed for the serious art student who has shown a desire to develop further technical skills in drawing. Focus is continued on the elements and principles of design with heavy emphasis on creating unique, complex compositions and building personal content to the work. Various media are integrated. Art history and biblical truths are integrated into the curriculum. The creative process is further developed through in-depth process journaling. Homework is expected throughout.

Art IV: Honors Drawing

Tenth- Twelfth Grade

One Semester Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: *Art III: Honors Drawing*

A semester course that explores and places emphasis on imagination, technique, development of a personal drawing style that should result in a portfolio of creative and personal drawings. Students use various drawing mediums and techniques to develop a concentration of work. The creative process and concept is fully explored and applied. Participation in art competitions and festivals are encouraged. Biblical truths and art history are integrated into the curriculum. Lab is required as well as outside work.

AP® Art: Drawing

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course

Prerequisites: two semesters of Art II, two semesters of Art III. This must include two semesters of 2-D art courses or portfolio review/college classes and recommendation of the Department Head.

The AP® Art: Drawing course is designed for the purpose of advancing serious art students to produce a solid portfolio that shows mastery in concept, composition, and the execution of 2-D drawing. Students should expect the course to be rigorous in nature. The course focuses on a body of studio work that is submitted to the College Board for grading. This is done through the submission of twenty-four slides and five actual works from each of three aspects of sustained study: breadth, concentration and quality. The 2-D drawing portfolio may include traditional or experimental approaches to 2-D drawing. The portfolio may be rendered in any of the following media: drawing,

painting, printmaking, mixed media, collage, photography or digital media. As a department, we believe that art is a process that stresses thinking, creativity, skill development and critical analysis. Students learn to take inventive and informed risks. In order to be prepared for the program the artist should take two years of 2-D art (drawing, printmaking, painting), as well as the one-year foundational art class. This also allows them to use successful work from previous years in their portfolio. Summer work is required prior to entry into the course. It is expected that students submit the Advanced Placement Art: Drawing Portfolio in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

Choir

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

The Choir course is designed to emphasize vocal performance at a developmentally appropriate level in a choral setting. Students sing a varied repertoire as they develop their vocal skills. Students are expected to match pitch in order to fully participate in all class activities. Students also learn advanced music theory concepts through rhythm exercises, theory lessons, and written assignments and tests. All Choir students are involved in at least four major performances throughout the year, including participation in choral music festivals at the regional and state levels. In addition to group performances, students are given the opportunity to audition for the private school All-State Choir plus several other solo and ensemble festival events during the year.

Honors Choir

Tenth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of one year of high school choir or approval from Choir Director.*

Students enrolled in Choir for Honors Credit are required to participate in and fulfill all the requirements of Choir class. In addition, students must learn more advanced theory material including the theory of scales and keys. Students are required to learn All-State audition repertoire and participate in the audition process. Students who are selected for All-Region or All-State Choir must participate in the ensemble in January of spring semester. Honors Choir students must perform All-State Audition repertoire for the teacher and fellow classmates in the fall semester. Students must attend another PCA School Concert as well as an approved professional vocal performance (solo artist or vocal ensemble) and submit a detailed written critique of each. Students receive Honors credit for this course.

Honors PCA Singers

Tenth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Successful completion of one year of high school choir or approval from Choir Director. Admittance to PCA Singers is by audition.*

PCA Singers is a course designed for students interested in advanced vocal performance and musical leadership opportunities. Students enrolled in PCA Singers are required to participate in and fulfill all the requirements of Choir class. PCA Singers perform with the choir and as a separate ensemble. Students must learn the TPSMEA All-State audition repertoire and participate in the audition process. Students who are selected to All-Region or All-State Choir must participate in the ensemble in January of the spring semester. Students prepare and perform a major solo each quarter. Students must learn more advanced theory material including the theory of scales and keys. Students are

required to meet outside of regular class time to prepare for All-School Worship services as a soloist or as a member of the Praise Team. Students are also required to prepare the National Anthem and perform at PCA athletic events as needed, attend another PCA School Concert as well as an approved professional vocal performance (solo artist or vocal ensemble) and submit a detailed written critique of each. Participation in PCA's annual spring musical is strongly encouraged. Students receive Honors credit for this course.

Advanced Band

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: NONE

The Advanced Band class is offered to PCA students beginning in the Ninth Grade. This class concentrates on performance activities that are divided into four sections during the school year. Advanced Band members are required to possess a strong desire to contribute to the excellence of this program. Students in this class must attend all performances and trips during the year. A detailed schedule of performance activities is provided during the first week of the school year. In addition to group performances, students in the Advanced Band are given the opportunity to audition for the private school All-State band and other solo and ensemble festival events during the year. Students enrolled in this class must be available to participate in the TPSMEA concert and additional events that may be decided by the band director during the spring semester.

Theatre Arts I

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

The Theatre I course is an introductory course for Upper School students. It covers the basic foundations of theatre: improvisation, comedy, tragedy, theatre history, musical theatre, classical theatre, monologues and scene work. Students also gain experience in writing scripts and basic directing.

Theatre Arts II

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: *Theatre Arts I*

In the Theatre II course, the students build upon the basic writing and performing skills developed in Theatre I. In addition, students learn about theatre production. The class performs and produces a children's theatre production.

Honors Theatre Arts III

Tenth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Theatre Arts II* and permission of the instructor

A student enrolled in Theatre Arts III for Honors Credit is required to complete the following additional requirements. Students must learn about dramatic history and theory, plays and playwrights and design elements and develop an in-class presentation in relation to each. Students must learn how to audition and present their work correctly for the

various theatrical venues such as college auditions, state competitions and main stage productions including: comedies, dramas and musical theatre as well as playwriting and design presentations. The student must prepare an audition or presentation for a regional, state or national competition. Students are required to attend and submit a detailed written critique of an approved professional theatrical performance. Membership and active participation in the International Thespian Society and meet all the requirements of our school troupe before entering the Honors Theatre program. It is expected that students are involved in at least one PCA theatre production a year in some capacity (onstage or behind the scenes).

Honors Theatre Arts IV: Production

Tenth - Twelfth Grade *Audition Only*

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Honors Theatre Arts III and Audition*

The Honors Theatre IV is designed for the advanced student interested in a more hands-on production experience. The students rehearse, produce and perform a full-length play. Each student accepted into the class performs an onstage role and works in a production area as well. All rehearsals are during class time except for the dress/technical rehearsals and the performances. Auditions are held in the spring prior to the school year in which the course takes place.

Theatre Practicum

Eleventh - Twelfth Grade

Pass/Fail

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Permission from the instructor*

The Theatre Practicum course is designed for the student looking for practical application in the theatre arts. The student is required to work in some capacity on a PCA Theatre production. This can include things like set and costume design, hair and make-up design, theatre marketing, stage management, set construction and choreography among others. ITS Officers may also enroll in this course for their work on the annual ITS Revue Show.

Physical Education

Two semesters (1.0 credit) of PE required for graduation. Participation in a season of a sport counts toward PE credit.

PE or Conditioning

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Pass/Fail

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

The purpose of the conditioning period is to develop all aspects of strength and explosiveness combined with sport specific movements and skill development for the athlete as well as healthy lifestyle training for the non-athlete. Time is spent developing athletic ability, increasing athletic performance and developing the habits to live a healthy

lifestyle. Components of conditioning include weight room safety, proper lifting techniques, flexibility, core training, proper running mechanics, speed training, agility training and plyometrics.

Technology

Two semesters (1.0 credit) of technology electives required for graduation.

Design Principles for Publishing

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

The Design Principles for Publishing course equips students with foundational design principles. Topics include graphic design, color theory, branding and identity, publishing with various applications and presentations, photoshop and InDesign. This class is designed to prepare students interested in taking Upper School Newspaper or Yearbook courses. Adobe InDesign is also widely used in college classes and in the corporate world for marketing, graphic design, corporate communication, public relations, and art. Students with a desire to major in a field of study in which InDesign is required have a distinct advantage.

Photoshop I

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

The Photoshop I course introduces a student to the basic Photoshop tools. The student learns the skills behind the application, showing understanding on how to apply smart design principles to multimedia products such as graphics, animation, websites, etc. This course provides the student with a sense of adventure and an interest in designing a fun avenue to learn and expand their creativity.

Computer Science I

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

This course is intended as an introduction to computer science and computer programming. Using object-oriented programming, this class focuses on building computer programs to solve problems through the use of various important aspects of computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, the development and use of fundamental data structures, the study of standard algorithms and typical applications, and the use of logic and formal methods. Students write, run, and debug computer programs and recognize the social and ethical implications of computer use.

Honors Computer Science II

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisite: *Computer Science I*

This course is intended to continue developing student's understanding of computer science and computer programming. Using object-oriented programming, this class focuses on advanced data structures, analysis of algorithms, and real-world computer science applications used to solve real-world problems. Students write, run, and debug computer programs and recognize the social and ethical implications of computer use with a focus on preparing students for advanced placement computer science.

AP® Computer Science Principles

Tenth - Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Computer Science I or Honors Computer Science II*

This course is based directly off the College Board AP Computer Science Principles Framework and utilizes a blended classroom approach. The content is a mix of web-based and physical activities. Students write and run code in a browser, create websites and digital artifacts. Each unit of the course is broken into lessons consisting of video tutorials, short quizzes, example programs to explore, written programming exercises, free response exercises, collaborative creation projects and research projects to prepare students for the AP® Computer Science Principles test.

AP® Computer Science A

Tenth - Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Computer Science I or Honors Computer Science II*

This course is based directly off the College Board AP Computer Science A Framework and utilizes a blended classroom approach. The content is fully web-based, with students writing and running code in a web browser. Each unit of the course is broken into lessons consisting of video tutorials, short quizzes, example programs to explore, adding up to over 100 hours of hands-on programming practice in total. Several units have free response questions that have students consider real-world applications of programming to prepare students for the AP® Computer Science test. It is expected that students submit the Advanced Placement Computer Science A Exam in the spring to possibly qualify for college credit.

Non-Departmental Electives

One semester (0.5 credit) of Life Calling required for graduation.

Honors Future Problem-Solving during Activity Period

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester: One day a week during Activity Period Honors Credit: 0.25

Prerequisite: *Student must meet 2 of 3 requirements*

- *Grade of 90 percent or higher in English courses*
- *Residual ACT Reading, English or PSAT EBRW 80 percent or higher for 9th -12th graders*
- *Teacher recommendation*

Future Problem Solving is an international academic competitive program where gifted and high-achieving students compete in teams of three or four to solve a problem on a given topic based in the future. Throughout the course, students learn how to think, not what to think, as they utilize the FPS thinking skills process to identify and solve the charge in a future scene on each of the assigned topics of study throughout the year. The topics are interdisciplinary but reading and language arts skills dominate the content of the program. The program develops research, creative thinking, oral and written communication, and critical and analytical thinking skills, in addition to increasing the student's awareness of and interest in the future. Teams qualifying for the Texas State Competition will travel for competition in the middle of April, usually the third weekend.

Those who have taken an FPS elective course in Upper School or participated in Middle School automatically qualify to continue in the FPS program through Twelfth Grade. Students new to PCA must meet the course prerequisites in order to participate. Upper School FPS classes meet once a week during a designated Upper School activity period. Students are graded on their individual performance, not what they do collectively as a team. Students receive 0.25 Honors-level credit per semester for participating. Teams qualifying for the state competition will complete the second semester course hours.

Learning Lab

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Non-graded Course

This academic support program requires separate enrollment and can be selected as an elective to receive small group assistance or can include receiving services such as case management and progress monitoring, test taking in the lab and classroom accommodations. When students attend Learning Lab as an elective, during monitored sessions they may complete assignments and may have extended time for tests. They may also use this time to consult with instructors (if available) as to progress on upcoming assignments, tests or projects as well as grade status. Students must meet PCA's Learning Lab requirements.

Life Calling

Tenth Grade Spring or Eleventh Grade Fall

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

This course focuses on students developing an understanding of the concept of life calling and the discovery of one's God-given design as a basis for this calling. Students are led to understand how work/vocation and individual leadership is best understood from this life calling perspective. Students will evaluate their foundational values, unique design and personal mission through an array of assessments, guest speakers, and assimilation exercises.

Lion's Scholar Program

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester: One day a week during Activity Period Honors Credit: 0.25

Prerequisites: *Teacher Approval based on academic achievement, application to the course*

The Lion's Scholar Program is designed to provide an intensive training in the Christian worldview as it connects with the various disciplines such as philosophy, literature, science, mathematics, politics, law, art, theater, and the humanities. This program can essentially be summed up by the phrase "scholastic discipleship," Discipling students

in the areas of academics in order to better influence those disciplines from a Christian perspective is the heart of the program. The Upper School LSP program focuses on great books and significant literature. The LSP classes do not have written exams or textbooks written by people talking about what other people said. In the Lions Scholar Program, the students dig directly into the classic works of Western literature and Christianity. They learn by reading thoroughly and deeply in preparation for class and through discussion over the texts with other outstanding students.

Office Aide

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

Non-graded Course

One Semester/Two Semester No Credit

Office aides are assigned to a supervising teacher or staff person to assist them with daily activities. Tasks are at the discretion of each individual supervisor but may include filing, paperwork, using the copier or fax machine, running errands, etc. No credit is given.

PCA Internship

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade

Pass/Fail

One Semester/Two Semester Credit: 0.5/1.0

Prerequisite: *Application required, approval of the Guidance Office*

Internships are based on availability with the Prestonwood Baptist Church staff, PCA staff or teachers. There are several categories of internships available: Business, Communication, Education, Fine Arts, Ministry, Technology Systems and Information, Marketing, Development, Admissions and Video Technology. Students are responsible for finding their own internship once approved. The PCA Guidance Office has applications available and approves students.

Study Hall

Ninth - Twelfth Grade

Non-graded Course

One Semester Course No Credit

Students may have one study hall per semester. Juniors are allowed two, one per day. Students are required to be in attendance in their assigned room during study hall. This time should be used to study, prepare for class and do homework. No credit is given.

Appendix: Dual Credit Information

Below is information governing Dual Credit courses through John Brown University and Texas Woman's University in connection with Prestonwood Christian Academy North.

John Brown University

There is a fee for taking this course, paid to John Brown University. Students pay JBU \$315.00 per semester for course fees.

Courses offered through Prestonwood Christian Academy North:

- Intro to Philosophy
 - o The Dual Credit Introduction to Philosophy course is the same course as the Introduction to Philosophy course, but a student has the opportunity to receive college credit from John Brown University for RPH 2103, Introduction to Philosophy, during the fall semester. The student receives a grade on the PCA report card that is weighted based on the PCA handbook: 60% tests, 25% quizzes, 15% daily work. This grade is reported on the PCA report card and transcript as well as calculated into the student's PCA GPA as well as used for the dual credit grade for JBU.
- Honors Spanish II

The Honors Spanish II course proceeds at a faster pace than Spanish II. In addition, students in this course have the opportunity to earn college credit from John Brown University for LS1123 Elementary Spanish II. The basic skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing the Spanish language are enhanced by a special emphasis on verbal and aural comprehension, grammatical structures and vocabulary. In addition to the actual study of the language, a secondary goal is to further enrich the student's knowledge of the culture, history and geography of the Spanish-speaking world.

Texas Woman's University

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks and software for this course. There is a fee for taking this course, paid to Texas Woman's University (TWU): Students pay TWU \$219.00 per semester plus a one-time \$50.00 application fee.

- Cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above
- Required College Entrance Exam Scores, Student must meet one of the following:
 - o ACT or PLAN Math score of 19 and a Composite score of 23
 - o SAT Math score of 530 or PSAT Math score of 510
 - o TSIA2 score of 950 for Math

Courses offered through Prestonwood Christian Academy:

- Honors Pre-Calculus
 - o The Dual Credit Honors Pre-Calculus course is the same course as the Honors Pre-Calculus course, but a student has the opportunity to receive college credit from TWU for Elementary Analysis I - Math 1303 (fall semester) and Elementary Analysis II - Math 1313 (Spring semester). The student receives a grade for Honors Precalculus on the PCA report card that is weighted based on the PCA handbook: 60% tests, 25% quizzes, 15% daily work. This grade is reported on the PCA report card and transcript as well as calculated into the student's PCA GPA. In addition, the student receives a separate grade for the dual credit course at TWU. As common with the college environment, the TWU dual credit course grades are based on tests only. The teacher has the discretion to curve the course, as needed, based on quizzes or homework grades. The test grades from the PCA Pre-AP Precalculus class are documented and recorded within the PCA grade book for the dual credit course and are visible to the students via myPCA. The grade for the dual credit course each semester is not calculated into the students PCA GPA or reported on the PCA report card or transcript. At the end of the semester the assigned faculty member reports the grade to TWU for their official transcript.

UPPER SCHOOL VIRTUAL COURSES

*These courses are offered through PCAplus **and there is an additional fee.** These courses are electives and do not count toward the required graduation requirements except for Virtual Marine Science which may count as the 4th required science.*

History

Virtual AP® Macroeconomics

Twelfth Grade Elective

One Semester Virtual Course Credit: 0.5

This course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual AP® Microeconomics

Twelfth Grade Elective

One Semester Virtual Course Credit: 0.5

This course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Mathematics

Virtual Personal & Family Finance

Eleventh -Twelfth Grade Elective

One Semester Virtual Course Credit: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II*

This course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual Liberal Arts Math

Eleventh -Twelfth Grade Elective

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Algebra I and Geometry*

This course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

This course enables students to strengthen algebraic and geometric concepts and skills necessary for further study of mathematics.

Science

Virtual Marine Science

Eleventh -Twelfth Grade Elective

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Biology, Chemistry and Physics*

This course counts as a science credit toward graduation and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

World Languages

Virtual Chinese I

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

This course counts as an elective credit only not as the foreign language credit for graduation and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual Chinese II

Tenth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *Chinese I*

This course counts as an elective credit only not as the foreign language credit for graduation and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual Latin I

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

This course counts as an elective credit only not as the foreign language credit for graduation and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual Latin II

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Latin I*

This course counts as an elective credit only not as the foreign language credit for graduation and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual Latin III

Tenth – Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisite: *Latin I & II*

This course counts as an elective credit only not as the foreign language credit for graduation and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

Through the literature of some of the brightest minds of the Classical World, students learn more about the culture and history of the Romans. Students get a firsthand account of the eruption of Vesuvius through the letters of Pliny

the Younger. Works by the great orator, Cicero and the poets Martial, Catullus and Ovid as well as Roman authors, Publius, Vergilus and Naso are studied giving the student a rich knowledge of Roman culture.

Fine Arts

Virtual AP Art History

Eleventh and Twelfth Grade Elective

Two Semester Virtual Course Credit: 1.0

Prerequisites: *World History*

This course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Physical Education

Virtual Personal Fitness (PE)

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

Pass/Fail

One Semester Course Credit: 0.5

Course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

In this Personal Fitness course, students are required to participate in weekly cardiovascular, flexibility and strength and endurance activities. Spiritual application to the physical exercises is made, along with relationships to biblical character qualities to be developed. Students who are unable to participate in such physical exercises are unable to complete the requirements of this course.

Technology

Virtual Digital Information Technology

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

Two Semester Course Credit: 0.5 or 1.0

Course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

Digital Information Technology is either a one or two semester course. This course provides students with the foundational skills needed for exciting careers like game development, military defense, web design, and software engineering. In this course, students explore Microsoft Office online applications, web design, emerging technologies,

operating systems, project management, communication methods, Information Technology careers, and much more while recognizing the value of these to the practice of biblical stewardship.

Virtual Game Design

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Virtual Course Credits: 0.5

Student is responsible for purchasing/downloading software for this course, this course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

Tap into your creative and technical skills as you learn about the many aspects involved with designing video games. With this course, students learn about different video game software and hardware; various gaming platforms; the technical skills necessary to design games; troubleshooting and internet safety techniques; the history of gaming; a biblical principles for game design; and even have the opportunity to create your very own plan for a 2D video game! With the knowledge and skills students gain in this course, they can take a hobby and turn it into a potential career.

Virtual Introduction to Social Media

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Virtual Course Credits: 0.5

Course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

Learning how to interact on various social media platforms is crucial in order to survive and thrive in this age of digital communication. In this course, students learn the ins and outs of social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, and more. Students also discover other types of social media they may not have been aware of and how to use them for their benefit—personally, academically, and eventually professionally as well. If students think social media platforms are just a place to keep track of friends and share personal photos, this course shows them how to use these resources in much more powerful ways.

Non-Departmental Electives

Virtual ACT Prep

Ninth-Eleventh Grade

One Semester Virtual Course Credits: 0.5

Prerequisites: *Algebra I*

This course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

Practice, lots of practice, is the key to doing well on the ACT. This ACT Prep course allows the student to prepare for the upcoming ACT exam in an interactive and interesting way. Students follow their personalized learning path that adapts in real-time, based on their performance in every lesson area. The course content is engaging and supportive with a variety of searchable video lessons, thousands of practice questions with step-by-step explanations, skill assessments and reviews, and full-length practice tests with personalized score reports. As the student progresses, they have opportunities to explore learning from a biblical perspective, discuss the content, share study tips, and ask questions of their classmates and teacher in the bi-weekly discussion forums. This course offers the most current, interactive, and organized opportunity for any student to practice and prepare for the ACT.

Virtual Leadership Skill Development I

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Virtual Course

Credits: 0.5

Course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

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

Virtual Leadership Skill Development II

Ninth-Twelfth Grade

One Semester Virtual Course

Credits: 0.5

Course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

This course is a continuation of Virtual Leadership Development I.

Virtual Critical Thinking and Study Skills

Ninth – Eleventh Grade

One Semester Virtual Course

Credit: 0.5

Course counts as an elective credit only; the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

This course prepares students to succeed on reading, math and writing assessments. Through reading, writing, and math activities, students develop their critical thinking skills and test-taking strategies. The objectives of this course go beyond mere test preparation. In addition to becoming familiar with the common test formats, question-types, and rubrics, students develop the critical thinking skills they need to succeed in the 21st century. Students use a variety of learning methods in this course including scoring rubrics; self-assessments, practice tests and learning log entries. While most of the course is based upon independent practice, students have opportunities to interact with their classmates through synchronous chats and discussion board activities.

Virtual Psychology

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Virtual Course

Credit: 0.5

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course, this course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

Understanding the thoughts, emotions and behaviors of self and others is critical to developing and maintaining interpersonal relationships. The wisest understanding of others and us comes from looking through the lens of Scripture. In this course, students will study the field of psychology from a biblical perspective as they learn theories

of historically significant psychologists who laid the foundation for scientific research and a clearer understanding of the human mind. This course explores how psychological perspectives influence personality and play a role in human development across the lifespan. Students examine how behaviors are developed, memories are stored and language is acquired. Students also learn about the symptoms and classifications of psychological disorders, along with the various forms of treatments available. After completing this course, students are equipped with problem solving strategies and even learn strategies to cope with stress. Practical, everyday application of the content is a focus of this course as students learn to evaluate psychological theory and practice in light of God's Word.

Virtual SAT Prep

Ninth – Twelfth Grade

One Semester Virtual Course Credit: 0.5

Student is responsible for purchasing textbooks for this course, this course counts as an elective credit only and the grade in the course is not calculated into the student's GPA.

This course is designed to help a student prepare for that important SAT exam in an interesting and interactive way. Students follow their personalized learning path that adapts in real-time, based on their performance in every lesson area. The course content is engaging and supportive with a variety of searchable video lessons, thousands of practice questions with step-by-step explanations, skill assessments and reviews, and full-length practice tests with personalized score reports. As the student progresses, they have opportunities to explore learning from a biblical perspective, discuss the content, share study tips, and ask questions of their classmates and teacher in the bi-weekly discussion forums. This course offers the most current, interactive, and organized opportunity for any student to practice and prepare for the SAT.