# Academic Planning Guide 2024-2025 Liberty Christian School



Updated 1/24/25

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# Introduction

# Academic Advising

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

# **Student Schedules**

Students are required to submit individual course requests prior to each academic year. Academic advisors are available to help students review course offerings and make appropriate selections. Parents and students are encouraged to discuss scheduling options prior to submitting course requests and asked to carefully consider all course elections. Administration bases its decisions for teachers and number of classes offered from the initial course requests made in the spring of the previous school year. Liberty Christian School makes every effort possible to meet the scheduling requests of each student. Occasional administrative and staffing changes may result in the replacement of some course selections and a change in teacher assignment or class time. At the beginning of each semester, there is a two week schedule change request period. At the end of the schedule change request period students are required to stay in their course for the entire semester. Extenuating circumstances are reviewed by the Academic Committee.

# **Advanced Placement**

An **AP** course is a college-level course that follows the College Board Advanced Placement curriculum. The student's knowledge of the curriculum is assessed by the AP Exam administered in May. **Any student enrolled in an AP class is required to register for, pay for, and take the course's AP Exam**. Exam registration and fee payment will occur before November 1 for full year and first semester only courses, and before March 1 for second semester only courses. Details and a payment link will be emailed to students and parents prior to the appropriate registration deadline. Colleges and universities have the option of accepting AP results for college credit or placement in advanced standing.

Completion of AP courses with passing grades results in additional points for calculating GPA (refer to "GPA Calculation" on Page 7). If a student fails a semester, no additional points will be calculated into the GPA. Liberty recommends that parents and students refer to the document, "<u>AP Classes: To Take or Not to Take</u>" to determine if it's in the student's best interest to enroll in an AP course. If a student does not take the AP test, no additional points will be added into the GPA and the student's test omission will be noted on the transcript. For more detailed information on specific AP courses, visit the College Board website.

# **Dual Credit**

A **Dual Credit** (DC) course is one in which the student is enrolled at Liberty and concurrently enrolled with a Liberty approved college or university. Courses must be approved by the student's Academic Advisor. All online DC courses are *one semester* courses. Students will be required to meet college entrance requirements and remain in the course for the entire semester. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon successful completion of course requirements, and payment of any outstanding college tuition and fees. Liberty Core DC courses will earn the same GPA weighting as an AP course (see GPA calculation on page 7). Credit transfer of DC courses is at the discretion of the incoming college. Students should refer to the college's transfer credit requirements and consult with the college's academic advisor for transferability. See your Academic Advisor, Appendix I and the Liberty and TCC Crosswalk for more information.

TCC offers a limited number of DC online courses to high school students during the summer. There is a limited number of course sections that fill up quickly. It is recommended that Liberty students take only one online dual credit course each summer term.

All students taking college-level courses must satisfy Texas Success Initiative (TSI) Assessment requirements, unless they qualify for a TSI exemption, exception or waiver. Students who have taken the SAT or ACT may have an exemption. Prior to enrolling in an online course, students are required to complete the Online Readiness Assessment.

Liberty partners with several local and national partners to offer Dual Credit courses. When applicable, classes that have large enough enrollment numbers are placed into a teacher's class at Liberty in addition to their assigned college instructor for the course. If a student takes a DC class that does not have enough students to make one section, that student will have a study hall scheduled to complete their coursework. If a class is offered from a secular university, the student must complete the Biblical Worldview Reflection Project by the end of the course. Upper school students can register for these courses and receive college credit upon successful completion. Grades will be included in a student's GPA if they are taking the college course as a core class for Liberty credit as well. If it is not a class in Liberty core curriculum, it will be counted as an elective course and not be included into GPA calculation but will show on a student's transcript.

#### SEE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE IDEAL DC STUDENT here

## **Dual Enrollment**

Similar to dual credit, by participating in a **Dual Enrollment** (DE) course, a student is working in college-level curriculum while in high school. However, dual enrollment means that there is a separate college course grade earned and a separate high school course grade earned. The University of Texas at Austin OnRamps courses are an example of this course type. Each dual enrollment course in the guide will have the corresponding High School credit equivalent. Students will register for dual enrollment courses with UT Austin at the beginning of the school year after selecting the dual enrollment course for Liberty Christian School.

In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon successful completion of course requirements, and payment of any outstanding college tuition and fees. Liberty Core DE courses will earn the same GPA weighting as an AP course (see GPA calculation on page 7). OnRamps full year courses will earn the same weighting as an AP course at the end of the school year only if the students elects to take the college credit. Credit transfer of DE and OnRamps courses is at the discretion of the incoming college. Students should refer to the college's transfer credit requirements and consult with the college's academic advisor for transferability.

# Honors

An **Honors** course is one in which the curriculum is enriched and accelerated. For the 100-point grading scale, 5 points are awarded for Honors courses and for the 4-point grading scale, .5 points are awarded each semester. If a student fails a semester, no additional points will be calculated into the GPA.

# Eligibility for 6th-12th Grades

The following criteria apply for admission to all Honors, AP, Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses:

- A minimum of 85 percent in an Honors course or 90 percent in a regular course is required and must have been maintained in the subject for the entire previous year. German Honors and Mandarin Honors must obtain a minimum overall average of 80 percent. Computer Science courses are exempt from prior grade requirements.
  - In addition to teacher recommendation, an Honors or AP student candidate in grades 6-10 must have a MAP percentile score of 70 or above (in the respective subject area) to be considered for course placement. Students may request reconsideration of this course placement decision with the subject-specific teacher. The final decision for course placement is at the discretion of the school administration.
- For Honors, AP, Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses, the student must be committed to considerably more work per course per night than the standard homework requirement.
- Academic Advisors recommend that 6th–8th grade students enroll in **no more than two** Honors courses per year.
- Students must not have incurred excessive absences, tardy notices, or recurring zeroes in the most recent school year.
- Students must agree to remain in their scheduled Honors, AP, Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses through the first semester. Any extenuating circumstances need to be approved by the Academic Committee.
- Students should obtain a minimum average of 75 percent at the end of the first semester to continue enrollment in an Honors or AP course. Placement of students who fall below a 75 is subject to review by the Academic Committee at semester.

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

## **Departmental Requirements**

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

## Summer School Information and Credit Recovery

Liberty Christian School offers the option of credit recovery during the summer for students. Liberty partners with Sevenstar Academy and Fusion Academy meeting Liberty's college-preparatory graduation requirements. Completion of coursework is required for students who have not earned a passing grade for any semester of a required Liberty course. Students must earn a semester grade of 70 percent or higher in the course to earn semester credit.

Semester grades earned for Liberty credit recovery will appear on the student's transcript and be included in the GPA calculation (GPA calculations take place at the end of each semester in January and in June). The grade for the first attempt of the course will remain on the Liberty transcript. The recovery course grade will not replace the failing grade on the transcript or in the GPA. Both grades will remain on the student's transcript. Please visit the Academic Advising Office for more details about summer school options, and the associated fees.

**Note:** Seniors who fail a required course will receive their diplomas upon completion of the equivalent summer school course. Final transcripts will not be submitted to the incoming college until all credits for graduation are earned.

# Liberty Learning Center

The Liberty Learning Center serves students in grades 6-12 who have diagnosed learning differences. Classroom and Testing Accommodations are considered based on the recommendations included in the student's evaluation report.

The **Liberty Learning Center (LLC) Study Hall** is **highly recommended** for eligible students in **6th grade** and **optional** for 7th, 8th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. The LLC Study Hall does not earn a credit, but does provide support to students through one-on-one conferencing, weekly grade checks, and strategies to improve executive function skills to empower and equip students in their Liberty classes.

A Learning Center class, entitled **"LLC Equipping for Success"** is **recommended** for **9th** grade LLC students. Freshmen will earn one elective credit by participating in the LLC Equipping for Success class. This class will provide support to students in writing research papers and other skills Freshmen are required to master in their core classes. In addition, the LLC Equipping for Success curriculum is designed to assist students in becoming self-advocates for their learning by improving skills in organization, test taking, note-taking, time management, and in communication with their classroom teachers. The LLC Teacher conferences with each student to complete weekly grade checks, and to determine next steps for completing and turning in assignments and studying for tests.

Another component of Liberty Learning Center Services is the alternate testing location, the **LLC Testing Center.** LLC eligible students in grades 6th -12th may choose to have testing accommodations in the LLC Testing Center.

There is an additional fee to be enrolled in Liberty Learning Center Services.

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

# Grade Point Average (GPA) and Class Ranking

# **GPA Calculation**

The student's GPA is calculated on both 4-point and 100-point scales and includes the following required 9th–12th grade courses taken at Liberty Christian School: Bible; English; Social Studies; Science; Math (beginning with Algebra I taken in 7th or 8th grade); World Languages; the first semester of a Speech course; the first semester of a Career and Technology Education (CTE) course, and all Honors, AP courses, and Liberty core Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses. \*Beginning with the class of 2028, Speech and Career and Technology Education (CTE) course grades are unweighted, but the GPA is weighted as follows: For the 100-point grading scale, 5 points are awarded for Honors courses and 10 points for AP and Liberty core Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses. Points are awarded for OnRamps courses if UT college transcript is not purchased. Weighted points are added to the GPA each semester. GPA is calculated at the end of every semester; approved summer courses will factor into Semester 1 calculation in January.

**Note:** Only grades earned or accepted by Liberty Christian School for eligible courses will be included in the GPA calculations and transcribed onto transcripts. Transfer grades or online classes (except for credit recovery and approved core classes) are not included in GPA or rank calculations. For students who transfer during the first semester of 9th grade, 8th grade high school courses are transcribed onto transcripts but are not included in GPA calculations.

All online courses must be approved through the Academic Advising department prior to enrollment. Courses taken without prior approval will not count towards Liberty graduation requirements.

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

#### The 4.0 Grading Scale

## **Class Ranking Calculation**

Liberty Christian School is a non-ranking school. However, Liberty ranks the top 10 percent of full-time, in-person students for the purpose of automatic admissions to Texas public colleges and universities. Class rank is calculated using the 100-point weighted GPA. Class rank is calculated at the end of every semester, starting with the spring semester of 10th grade. Approved summer courses will factor into Semester one GPA calculation in January. The top ten percent rank will be noted on transcripts in August of the senior year.

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

# **Graduation Requirements**

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

All online courses must be approved through the Academic Advising department prior to enrollment. Courses taken without prior approval will not count towards Liberty graduation requirements.

| Subject Area                             | <b>College Prep</b><br>(27 Credits)<br><i>See Page 7</i> | * <b>College Prep with Honors</b><br>(28 Credits)<br><i>See Page 7</i> |
|--|--|--|
| English                                  | 4  | 4  |
| Mathematics                              | 4  | 4  |
| Social Studies                           | 4  | 4  |
| Science                                  | 4  | 4  |
| Bible                                    | 4  | 4  |
| World Languages                          | 2  | 3  |
| Physical Education                       | 1  | 1  |
| Electives                                | 2  | 2  |
| Career and Technology (CTE)              | .5   | .5   |
| Speech                                   | .5   | .5   |
| Fine Arts                                | 1  | 1  |
| Week Without Walls                       | .25 each year  | .25 each year  |
| *12 semesters in Honors/AP/DC/DE courses | N/A  | Yes  |

English: English I, English II, English III and English IV or Dual Credit equivalent.

Social Studies: World Geography, World History, United States History, United States Government and Macroeconomics.

**Mathematics:** Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry must be completed for graduation requirements. Students must be continuously enrolled in a different and progressive math class every year in grades 9–12 to meet Liberty's graduation requirements.

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

**Bible:** Grades 9-11 have specific year-long bible classes they must take and pass for credit. Seniors choose from many offerings and must take and pass bible each semester of their senior year to meet this requirement. New students will be placed in Biblical Foundations.

**World Languages:** World Language requirements must be met with credits from the same language in grades 8–12. Students must have 2-3 continuous years of the same world language.

Physical Education: Physical Education requirements may be met through Athletics, Cheer, Dance Team, Band or Encore.

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

**Career and Technology Education (CTE):** Beginning with the class of 2024, the CTE credit requirement is met through a course offering in the CTE Department. See the CTE section for course offerings. Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year the technology requirement can also be met through the Yearbook course.

Speech: Credit is met through the current Speech course or Broadcast Journalism, Encore, or Worship Culture.

**Honors/AP/Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment Courses:** Starting in 2023-24, to graduate College Prep with Honors, students must pass any combination of 12 semesters in Honors, AP, or approved Liberty core Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses. Reference the <u>Liberty and TCC Crosswalk</u> and Appendix I for qualifying Dual Credit courses.

# **Recommended Course Sequencing**

|                    |  |   | Bible                               |   |  |                            |
|--------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|----------------------------|
|                    | 9th  | 10th  | 11th                                | 12th                                    |  |                            |
|                    |  |   |                                     | Biblical Foundations (new LCS students) |  |                            |
|                    | The Narrative  | How to Study                                      | Understanding the Times and         | or Understanding the Faith              |  |                            |
| 4 Credits Required | God's Word   | Culture   | or Discipleship and Christian Livin |   |  |                            |
|                    |  | or The Supernatural Context of the<br>Bible (0.5) |                                     |   |  |                            |
|                    | or Biblical or Biblical                                | or Introduction to Christian Ethics (0.5)         |                                     |   |  |                            |
|                    | Foundations  | Foundations                                       | or Biblical Foundations (new        | or Introduction to Logic (0.5)          |  |                            |
|                    | (new LCS (new LCS LCS students)<br>students) students) |   |                                     | ,                                       |  | or Cultural Theology (0.5) |
|                    |  | or Dual Credit Bible                              |                                     |   |  |                            |
|                    |  |   |                                     |   |  |                            |

|  |              |                        | English  |  |
|--|--------------|------------------------|--|--|
|  | 9th          | 10th                   | 11th   | 12th   |
|  | Exercise III | English I English II - | English III  | English IV   |
| 4 Credits Required English I<br>or English I<br>Honors | English I    |                        | English III  | or English IV: Sports Literature                               |
|  | Ligion       |                        | or AP English Language and<br>Composition                      | or AP English Literature and<br>Composition                    |
|  |              |                        | or Dual Credit Composition I<br>(0.5) and Composition II (0.5) | or Dual Credit Composition I (0.5) and<br>Composition II (0.5) |
|  | Honors       | Honors                 |  | or Additional Dual Credit English                              |
|  |              |                        |  |  |

|  |               |                            | Math  |   |
|--|---------------|----------------------------|---|---|
|  | 9th           | 10th                       | 11th  | 12th  |
|  |               | Geometry                   | Algebra II  | or Precalculus  |
|  | Algebra I     | Geometry                   | or Algebra II Honors                                    | or AP Precalculus   |
| 4 Credits Required   |               |                            | or Precalculus  | or Calculus   |
| (Must include  | e             | or Geometry                | or AP Precalculus                                       | or AP Calculus AB   |
| on-level or higher<br>level Algebra I,<br>Geometry, Algebra<br>Il plus an additional<br>math class each<br>school year)<br>or Geometry<br>Honors | Honors        | Honors                     | or AP Calculus BC                                       |   |
|  |               | or OnRamps College Algebra | or OnRamps College Algebra                              |   |
|  | or Algebra II |                            | or OnRamps Statistics                                   |   |
|  |               | or Intermediate Algebra    | or Intermediate Algebra                                 |   |
|  | ,             | or Algebra II<br>Honors    | or Dual Credit College<br>Algebra (0.5) and Precalculus | or Dual Credit College Algebra (0.5)<br>and Precalculus (0.5) |
|  |               |                            | (0.5)   | or Additional Dual Credit Math                                |

| Science   |         |                             |                             |   |                 |                 |
|---|---------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | 9th     | 10th                        | 11th                        | 12th  |                 |                 |
|   |         |                             | Physics                     | Physics                                       |                 |                 |
|   |         |                             | or OnRamps Physics          | or OnRamps Physics                            |                 |                 |
|   |         |                             | or AP Physics I             | or AP Physics I                               |                 |                 |
| 4 Credits Required<br>(Must include<br>on-level or higher<br>level Biology,<br>Chemistry, and<br>Physics)<br>or Biology<br>Honors | Biology | Biology Chemistry           | or Forensic Science         | or AP Physics C: Electricity and<br>Magnetism |                 |                 |
|   |         |                             | on Engine gring Essentials  | or AP Physics C: Mechanics                    |                 |                 |
|   |         | or Engineering Essentials   | or Forensic Science         |   |                 |                 |
|   |         | or Anatomy and Physiology   | or Engineering Essentials   |   |                 |                 |
|   |         |                             | or AP Biology               | or Anatomy and Physiology                     |                 |                 |
|   |         |                             | or AP Biology               |   |                 |                 |
|   |         | 0,                          | or Chemistry<br>Honors      |   | or AP Chemistry | or AP Chemistry |
|   | Honors  | or AP Environmental Science | or AP Environmental Science |   |                 |                 |
|   |         | or Dual Credit Science      | or Dual Credit Science      |   |                 |                 |

| -  |               | S                     | ocial Studies                                   |  |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|---|--|
|  | 9th           | 10th                  | 11th  | 12th   |
| 4 Credits Required<br>or AP Human<br>Geography | World History | United States History | US Government (0.5) and<br>Macroeconomics (0.5) |  |
|  |               | or AP World           | or AP United States History                     | or AP US Government and Politics (0.5) and AP Macroeconomics (0.5) |
|  |               | History               | or Dual Credit United States<br>History         | or Dual Credit Government (0.5) and<br>Macroeconomics (0.5)        |

# **Early Graduation Requirements**

Liberty Christian School supports early graduation as a means to earn a high school diploma specifically for student-athletes who will begin college in the spring of his/her senior year of high school. The College Recruiting Coordinator, Liberty Christian School Athletic Director, US Principal, and Director of Academic Advising shall approve such requests if the student has met the following criteria:

Basic guidelines for selection include:

- GPA 3.0 or higher
- Meet the graduation course requirements effective for their graduating class
- It is recommended that students initiate this option in his/her 10th-grade year and no later than December of his/her junior year
- Any outside courses must be approved by Liberty and be NCAA-compliant
- Contract signed by parents, Principal, Athletic Director, Academic Director

The process starts with the student's academic advisor to receive a complete list of guidelines and agreements. When approved, the early graduation contract is created and signed by the student, parents, and Liberty staff. Parents/guardians are responsible for the entire year of tuition for the student's senior year. Financial commitments are paid by December 1st of the graduating year. Transcripts will be sent once the student is cleared from the Liberty Business Office and any property of Liberty is returned.

# **Credits Awarded By Course**

| CTE (0.5 required)                          |     | SPEECH (0.5 required)                      |              | FINE ARTS (1 required)           |   |
|---|-----|--|--------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Advanced Broadcast Journalism and Reporting | 1   | Encore - Theatre Production                | 1            | AP Studio Art 2D Design          | 1 |
| AP Computer Science Principles              | 1   | Intro to Broadcast Journalism              | 1            | AP Studio Art 3D Design          | 1 |
| A/V Fundamentals                            | 1   | Advanced Broadcast Journalism and Re       | р <b>г</b> 1 | AP Studio Art Drawing            | 1 |
| Business/Entrepreneurship                   | 0.5 | Speech                                     | 0.5          | Art I                            | 1 |
| Creative Digital Media                      | 1   | Worship Culture                            | 1            | Art Photography                  | 1 |
| Creative Digital Media & Portfolio          | 1   |  |              | Band                             | 1 |
| Gameday and Event Operations                | 0.5 |  |              | Chorale                          | 1 |
| Intro to Broadcast Journalism               | 1   | PE (1 required)                            |              | Dance Team                       | 1 |
| Advanced Broadcast Journalism and Reporting | 1   | Athletics                                  | 1            | Drawing and Painting I           | 1 |
| Personal Finance                            | 0.5 | Band                                       | 1            | Drawing and Painting II/III/IV   | 1 |
| Unmanned Flight/Commercial Drone Cert.      | 1   | Cheerleading                               | 1            | Encore - Theatre Production      | 1 |
| Wired                                       | 0.5 | Dance Team                                 | 1            | Graphic Deisgn/Digital Art       | 1 |
| Yearbook                                    | 1   | Encore - Theatre Production                | 1            | Intro to Worship Culture         | 1 |
|   |     |  |              | Portfolio Art I                  | 1 |
|   |     |  |              | Sculpture and Ceramics I         | 1 |
| ELECTIVE ONLY                               |     | Bible Options for Elective or 12th Grade 0 | credit       | Sculpture and Ceramics II/III/IV | 1 |
| AP European History                         | 1   | Cultural Theology                          | 0.5          | Worship Culture                  | 1 |
| AP Microeconomics                           | 0.5 | Discipleship and Christian Living          | 1            | Yearbook                         | 1 |
| Great Works and Creative Writing            | 0.5 | Introduction to Christian Ethics           | 0.5          |                                  |   |
| Nutrition and Wellness                      | 0.5 | Introduction to Logic                      | 0.5          |                                  |   |
| PSAT Prep Team                              | 0.5 | The Supernatural Context of the Bible      | 0.5          |                                  |   |
| PSAT Prep Class (starting 23-24)            | 0.5 | Understanding the Faith                    | 1            |                                  |   |
| Student Internships                         | 0.5 |  |              |                                  |   |
| Sports Psychology                           | 0.5 |  |              |                                  |   |
| Vietnam War                                 | 0.5 |  |              |                                  |   |
| World War II                                | 0.5 |  |              |                                  |   |

# College Planning

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

**Note:** Each college and university has very specific requirements for admission. Students should check with their College Admissions Representative, college catalog, or the institution's admissions office for specific admissions requirements and recommendations. Academic Advisors are available to empower students to develop relationships with colleges and universities they are interested in applying to.

# **Degree Plans**

## **College Preparatory Degree Plan**

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

**Note:** Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II are required. Biology, Chemistry, and Physics are required. For a complete list of requirements, please refer to the chart on Page 9.

# College Preparatory with Honors Degree Plan

The College Preparatory with Honors Degree Plan accommodates students demonstrating levels of aptitude and performance equivalent to college-level work and who are applying to highly selective colleges and universities.Starting in 2023-24, to graduate College Prep with Honors, students must pass a combination of 12 semesters in Honors, AP, or approved Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses for upper school credit in 8-12 grade. The 12 semesters must include a minimum of 4 semesters of college-level work completed in AP or approved Dual Credit and Dual Enrollment courses. Reference the Liberty Crosswalk for qualifying Dual Credit courses. Also, **three** World Language credits from the **same language** are required.

**Note:** Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II must be completed to meet three of the four math requirements. Biology, Chemistry, and Physics must be completed to meet three of the four science requirements. For a complete list of requirements, please refer to the chart on Page 9.

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

# Sending Transcripts to Post-Secondary Institutions

Students submitting an official transcript to a college or university and the NCAA, should request it from the Academic Advising Office through the student's Scoir account. Scholarship transcript requests should be sent to the Registrar <u>Scholarship Transcript Requests</u>.

Every effort is made to complete requests as quickly as possible. However, please allow up to one week for processing requests. Liberty submits transcripts electronically when applicable. Otherwise, a paper transcript is sent through the U.S. Postal Service.

Additionally, **transcripts submitted by Liberty Christian School do not include PSAT, SAT, or ACT scores. Colleges must receive test scores directly from the testing institution. Students must contact College Board (SAT) and/or ACT to request submission of their scores to specific colleges.** 

**Note:** For more information about sending test scores, visit <u>https://www.collegeboard.org/</u> and <u>www.actstudent.org</u>.

# Upper School Course Catalog Course Descriptions for Grades 9-12

# New and Updated Upper School Offerings

The following courses have been added and updated to the Upper School Catalog for 2024-2025:

🚩 American Sign Language III – See Page 58.

Biblical Foundations – See Page 16.

**Discipleship and Christian Living** – See Page 17.

**Dual Credit Public Speaking (TCC SPCH 1315)** – See Page 25.

**English IV: Sports Literature** – See Page 29.

AP Environmental Science – See Page 48.

Great Works and Creative Writings – See Page 30.

**Introduction to Logic** – See Page 17.

**Intro to Worship Culture** – See Page 34.

**Personal Finance** – See Page 22.

**Sports Psychology** – See Page 23.

**The Supernatural Context of the Bible** – See Page 18.

Unmanned Flight/Commercial Drone Certification – See Page 24.

**Encore - Theatre Production Class** – See Page 33.

#### Bible

God is Truth. The Bible is God's revelation of Himself and His plan for redemption. The Liberty Christian Bible Program exists to invite students into a personal, saving relationship with Jesus Christ through active and reflective engagement with God's Word. As disciple-makers, we aim to train and equip students to know God, be known by God, make God known, and formulate a biblical worldview that engages life and culture through representing Jesus Christ.

#### The Narrative of the Bible

Prerequisite: None Grade: 9 (required) Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

The freshman Bible course introduces the text of the Old and New Testaments with emphasis on exploring the genres, major historical periods, and theological themes to recognize the metanarrative that arises from it all. Students will discover that the Old Testament events are not random stories, but a sequential narrative of how God has worked out His plan of salvation, leading to the promised Messiah, Jesus Christ. The course culminates in the person and life of Jesus revealed in the New Testament Gospels, and the practical application of His teachings. This course is designed to help students develop analytical skills and to gain a deeper understanding of the Bible's original context to equip and empower students to read the Bible on their own.

#### How to Study God's Word

Prerequisite: None Grade: 10 (required) Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

The sophomore Bible course invites students to encounter a living faith as they learn how to read, interpret, and apply the Bible for themselves while exploring the steps of Paul on his missionary journeys. Students will grow in their understanding of the Gospel, the establishment of the Church, and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. This class will equip students to read and understand God's Word. Students will take a journey through Acts and the New Testament Epistles as they apply sound interpretation principles. Additionally, they will explore the basic theological tenets and disciplines of the Christian faith as they are invited into a relationship with Jesus Christ, with the power of God's Spirit to transform their lives from the inside out.

#### **Understanding the Times and Culture**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11 (required) Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

In the junior Bible course, students build confidence in the breadth and depth of biblical truth as they compare competing worldviews impacting our culture today. Students learn to apply the principles of logic and biblical wisdom to distinguish truth from falsehood. Major worldviews, from cultural Christianity to secularism, are challenged intellectually to cast off myths and establish biblical truth. Guided discussions about significant real-world topics and issues take place for the benefit of student understanding and to assist parents in insulating but not isolating students from the world.

#### **Bible Electives**

Grade 12 students must choose between the following courses to fulfill the student's Bible credit requirements. Students in Grades 9-12 may choose to take one of the following courses where applicable, in addition to their required Bible course for elective credit.



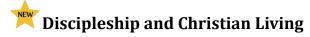
Prerequisite: None Grade: 9-12 Required for new LCS students Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Biblical Foundations serves as an introductory exploration of the major redemptive themes embedded in the biblical narrative. The course delves into the foundational acts of God's redemptive plan, emphasizing the pivotal moments in creation, the fall, and the unfolding story of redemption through six key acts of God's redemptive history for mankind.

#### Cultural Theology (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5

This elective course examines the "theology" of the culture around us - a world full of information and noise that can negatively influence our understanding of God, truth, reality, knowledge and more. Through study, discussion, and reflection, the course will focus on "hot topics" through a biblical lens to develop students' ability to discern and respond biblically. Students will complete a culminating project in which they consider how to become more than mere Consumers of Culture; but rather, lifelong Influencers for Christ.



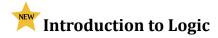
Prerequisite: None Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This course aims to provide a comprehensive foundation for students entering college, empowering them to live confidently as disciples of Christ while engaging with the challenges and opportunities that higher education brings. Through biblical teaching, practical application, and a supportive community, students will be equipped to navigate college life with a strong, Christ-centered foundation.

#### **Introduction to Christian Ethics**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5

This elective course examines the philosophy and practical application of biblical ethics - encouraging students to consider a variety of classic and current ethical issues and apply relevant biblical and theological concepts to them. After establishing a firm foundation for biblical ethical thinking and decision-making, students will analyze relevant moral issues related to business, law, medicine and more. The course will include guest speakers with real-world experience in these ethical issues, within their respective areas of expertise.



Prerequisite: None Grade: 11–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5

This course introduces students to the principles of formal logic. The curriculum emphasizes critical thinking skills while integrating a biblical worldview. Through the study of logical fallacies, argumentation, and deductive reasoning, students will develop the ability to analyze and construct sound arguments, grounded in biblical principles. Students will not only develop a foundation in logical reasoning; they will consider how logic informs well-reasoned arguments for the Christian faith.

# 📌 The Supernatural Context of the Bible

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5

This course will use the historical context of spiritual beings in the Bible to help students understand the biblical narrative and doctrines of Scripture within the proper context. Students will receive a fascinating introductory foundation into the Bible's behind-the-scenes world that will help expand their view of what the original authors of the Bible were thinking when they were writing Scripture. Through this course, students will be equipped with tools that can help them engage their faith in a more historically informed manner.

#### **Understanding the Faith**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This elective course systematically examines a reasoned defense of the basic elements of the Christian faith, including the authority of Scripture, the doctrine of the Trinity, the nature and existence of God, and what it means to love God and others. I Peter 3:15 exhorts believers to "…always [be] prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...." Other significant topics discussed include science and faith, the nature of truth, tolerance, and the problem of suffering and evil.

Dual Credit Option: Bryan College (CT-109) - Understanding the Faith: Survey of Christian Apologetics. (3 credit hours / additional fees required) Note: This is not an online course. College credit and grade are earned by passing the final exam for the Liberty course and submitting the results for credit. See your Academic Advisor for details. The deadline for registration is March 1, 2025, and the final exam submission deadline is June 1, 2025.

#### **Additional Bible Dual Credit Options**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and <u>Appendix I</u> for more information.

# **Career and Technology Education (CTE)**

Career and Technology Education (CTE) empowers students to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society. CTE courses are designed to provide students with the opportunity to use their unique God-given talents, make informed occupational choices, determine educational needs and options, develop employability traits, and acquire marketable skills. Every CTE student is given the opportunity to serve others, gain experience and confidence, and bring glory to our Lord and Savior.

#### **Advanced Broadcast Journalism and Reporting**

Prerequisite: A/V Fundamentals and Intro to Broadcast Journalism (MS or US) Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (CTE or Speech credit) Students must remain in the class the entire year to receive credit

This is an advanced course in journalistic reporting and writing devoted to creating in-depth articles and news stories in a professional manner. Emphasis will be on gathering content for the news through research, interviews and covering events. The course provides groundwork in storytelling techniques, writing, editing, and publishing across multiple platforms. Students will work together to produce a bi-weekly broadcast of Warrior Nation News to be shown on our digital platforms for communication to the Liberty community. Students will have the opportunity to gain knowledge through exposure to current professionals in this field in order to gain experience to prepare them for television news at the next level - whether that be internship, college, or career.

#### **AP Computer Science Principles**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (CTE credit)

AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. AP Computer Science Principles also gives students the opportunity to use current technologies to create computational artifacts for both self-expression and problem solving. Together, these aspects of the course make up a rigorous and rich curriculum that aims to broaden participation in computer science. This class will prepare students for the end-of-year AP Exam, as well as for course assessments that explore the implications of computing innovations by creating a computer application. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Computer Science Principles Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### A/V Fundamentals (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (CTE credit)

A/V Fundamentals gives students a broad overview of digital video content creation and feeds into either Creative Digital Media or Advanced Broadcast Journalism and Reporting. In this course students will learn the fundamentals of operating a camera, lighting and audio equipment. Students will gain experience in post-production software from the Adobe Creative Cloud and gain confidence in creating digital media from start to finish. Students will also be involved in live multi-camera productions throughout the school year.

#### **Business/Entrepreneurship**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (CTE credit)

Students will learn the principles necessary to begin and operate a business. The primary focus of the course is to help students understand the process of analyzing a business opportunity, preparing a business plan, determining feasibility of an idea using research, and developing a plan to organize and promote the business and its products and services.

#### Creative Digital Media (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: A/V Fundamentals

Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (CTE credit)

Creative Digital Media will enhance student's skills from A/V Fundamentals by introducing more in-depth and specialized experiences in videography, editing, lighting, and computer programs/software. Projects for this class will focus on creating a portfolio and digital "brand" for student work including short film, commercial/promo, digital marketing, and event broadcasting. Students will also be involved in live multi-camera productions throughout the school year.

#### **Creative Digital Media & Portfolio**

Prerequisite: Creative Digital Media

Grades: 11–12

Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1 (CTE credit)

Creative Digital Media & Portfolio will enhance students skills from A/V Fundamentals and Creative Digital Media by Focusing on creating and completing a portfolio for the student. The Class is designed to help students find the parts of Digital Media Content Creation and Multi-Camera Broadcasting that they value most and build a portfolio that reflects the student's interests. Students will work towards completing major projects throughout the year with a final portfolio goal in mind. Students will also be involved in live multi-camera productions throughout the school year.

#### **Gameday and Event Operations**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (CTE credit)

Have you ever wanted to be a part of creating and shaping the atmosphere at large events? This one semester course gives students the opportunity to enhance the fan experience on big game days, live events, and other large gatherings at Liberty by creating unique looks for venues, running music, images, and video board operation. Students will learn the necessary skills to create and enhance events for coaches, players and fans as they gain experience in game day and event timelines working behind the scenes of major events and learning what it takes to put on and manage large scale events. Students taking this class will be required to help manage the fan experience at two events as part of their grade.

#### Intro to Broadcast Journalism

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (CTE or Speech credit) Students must remain in the class the entire year to receive credit

This course is designed for the study and practice of the basic elements of broadcast journalism. The course will emphasize news gathering, writing, interviewing skills, video recording, and the study of mass media. Students will learn the basic elements of news value and vocabulary specific to broadcast writing. They will also identify various news sources and use interview skills to create stories using a video camera. This course also explores the world of digital video and television production at an entry level. Students learn on professional equipment in a modern digital TV studio. Students work in collaborative teams to produce projects using cameras, while learning the basics of studio and field production, lighting and sound. This entry-level course assumes no previous film or broadcast experience or training. The emphasis is visual storytelling through current technology.

#### **Nutrition and Wellness**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (Elective credit)

Nutrition and Wellness is designed to equip students with detailed and practical information on how to be excellent stewards of their body. The course will approach the subjects of nutrition, fitness, mental health, and wellness both through a scientific and practical approach. Reproductive subject matter is not included in the curriculum.



Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (CTE credit)

Personal Finance focuses on the fundamentals of financial literacy. This course will explore topics ranging from budgeting and saving to understanding credit and investments as we develop practical skills for a secure financial future. Students will engage in real-world scenarios and simulations as they cultivate responsible money management habits. This course will equip students with the tools necessary to successfully navigate the complexities of personal finance, fostering a foundation for life-long financial well-being.

#### **PSAT Prep Team**

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

Grade: 11

Length: Fall semester only Credit: .5 (Elective credit)

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

#### SAT/ACT Prep Class

Prerequisite: Completion of Algebra II required Grades: 11 Length: Fall semester only Credit: .5 (Elective credit)

This 11th grade preparatory class is designed to teach students test-taking strategies, provide practice in standardized testing skills to maximize scoring on the PSAT, SAT, and ACT Exams.

#### Speech

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5 (Speech credit)

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



Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (Elective credit)

The Sports Psychology course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the psychological factors influencing sports performance and personal growth. The course covers goal setting, emotional management, visualization, and team dynamics, to equip students with practical mental skills. The material is taught through lectures, discussion, and applied strategy. Students will learn to enhance their confidence, resilience, and overall well-being. The course cultivates a deeper appreciation of the psychological aspect of sports, equipping students to excel on and off the field. This course is open to high school students who desire to explore the psychological aspect of sports and personal development.

#### **Student Internships**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 11–12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5 (Elective credit)

Internships are a great way to help students gain real-world experience and give them the knowledge needed to decide the college and major that best suits them. Liberty Christian offers student internships in many fields of interest. Students will meet with Jamie Michalek and Toni King to discuss the possibility of an off-campus internship or an internal Liberty internship. Internal options offered: Events planning, Marketing/advertising (sales/promotions and social media/website), Science Lab, Athletics, Fine Arts, and Medical (nurses office).

Top 3 reason to experience an internship:

1) Gain insight and connection into your future goals in college

2) Helps to show work ethic, maturity, and responsibility

3) NO COST - Students bring an open mind, willingness to learn, and God-given gifts and talents

Students who select this option will meet with the Internship Coordinators to gain an understanding of options and program requirements.



Prerequisite: None Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (CTE credit)

This course uses the CrossFlight Sky Solutions curriculum to provide drone training for high school students in order to prepare them to take the FAA Part 107 Aeronautical Knowledge Test. After passing this test, students will be commercially certified to fly drones. Our goal is that students have employable skills and talents to offer businesses and industry above and beyond their peers.

#### Wired

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5 (CTE credit)

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



Prerequisite: meet TSAI college-readiness standard scores (see your Academic Advisor for details) Grades: 9–12 Length: Fall or Spring semester, limited class size, prioritized by graduation year Credit: .5 high school (Speech credit), 3 hours college credit

This course is an application of communication theory and practice to the public speaking context, with emphasis on audience analysis, speaker delivery, ethics of communication, cultural diversity, and speech organizational techniques to develop students' speaking abilities, as well as ability to effectively evaluate oral presentations.

#### **Additional CTE Dual Credit Options**

All Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the Liberty and TCC Crosswalk for more information.

# English

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

#### English I

Prerequisite: English 8 Grade: 9 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

## **English I Honors**

Prerequisite: English 8, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP Score Grade: 9 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This accelerated course teaches the fundamentals of English I and increases the ability to independently express ideas through writing and oral discussion. Students demonstrate reading comprehension via novels, plays, and short stories. Students improve writing skills through paragraph development and grammar exercises. One research paper using the APA format and other types of essays are incorporated into the writing activities. One novel for summer reading is a vital part of the course. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors/AP requirements.

#### English II

Prerequisite: English I

Grade: 10

Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1

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

#### **English II Honors**

Prerequisite: English I, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP Score Grade: 10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This course focuses on an accelerated survey of world literature with a major emphasis on reading and writing skills and increased vocabulary. Various novels are studied in addition to plays by famous playwrights such as Sophocles and Shakespeare. Grammatical skills and proficient writing techniques are also incorporated along with research papers utilizing the Chicago and APA formats. To achieve optimal success, students are expected to read daily. These reading assignments may be novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or author biographies. Two novels for summer reading are a vital part of the course. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors/AP requirements.

#### **English III**

Prerequisite: English II Grade: 11 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### AP English Language and Composition

Prerequisite: English II, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP Score Grade: 11 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (optional Dual Credit available through CCU; see your Advisor for details )

This college-level course is designed to enable students to develop skills in language and composition equivalent to the freshman-level class in most universities. The course prepares students to successfully master the AP Exam in English Language and Composition and to enter upper-level college courses with a firm foundation in all aspects of language and mechanics. The class centers on American literature, fiction and nonfiction, and how the works relate to the author's time period as well as present day. The course also focuses on composition in a variety of forums including, but not limited to, poetry, essays, oral presentations, and research papers in the MLA and APA formats. To achieve optimal success, students are expected to read daily. These reading assignments may be novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or author biographies. Summer reading novels are an important part of the course as well. Students taking this course are required to take the AP English Language and Composition Exam in May. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **English IV**

Prerequisite: English III Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (optional Dual Credit available through CCU; see your Advisor for details )

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



Prerequisite: English III Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

One of the goals of Sports Literature and Composition is to build upon the skills introduced and developed in English I, English II, and English III. This course examines the connection between sports and society from several perspectives through interaction with literature presented by authors from various genres. This course will prepare students for the challenging reading and writing they will encounter in college and beyond. Critical reading skills are a major focus in this class including novels, articles, and poems that are read and analyzed throughout the year; therefore, students are expected to read the assigned materials daily. The two major writing formats of Chicago and MLA are utilized. Increasing the student's vocabulary contributes to the focus of the curriculum. The course is designed to equip students with the skills necessary to be successful at the collegiate level of education, while drawing students closer to the Lord with a Christ-centered emphasis. Summer reading is an essential component, helping students prepare for the self-discipline needed to excel at the collegiate level. The primary objective of the course is to develop a greater sensitivity to the world of sports and understand the relationship of sports and society.

#### **AP English Literature and Composition**

Prerequisite: English III, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP Score Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (optional Dual Credit available through CCU; see your Advisor for details)

This college-level course is designed to develop skills in literature and composition beyond those customarily acquired in a senior-level class. The course prepares students to successfully master the English Literature and Composition AP Exam and to enter upper-level college courses with a firm foundation in all aspects of language and mechanics. The class focuses on British literature, with an emphasis on advanced, mechanically sound writing techniques and sophisticated critical thinking and analytical skills. In this class, critical reading skills are a major focus through novels, plays, short stories, and poetry, which are read and analyzed throughout the year; therefore, students are expected to read the assigned materials daily. The first semester involves an emphasis on expository and argumentative writing, while the second semester focuses on a variety of literature including prose and poetry. Summer reading is an essential component of the course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam in May. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# 📌 Great Works and Creative Writing

Prerequisite: None Grade: 9–12 Length: One semester Credit: 0.5 (Elective credit)

In this course, students will read works by great authors to discover the beauty found in the writings of established authors as well as from creative modern writers. The goal is that inspiring works will spark original student writings. The course will progress from quick writing sketches to an original short story.

#### **Dual Credit Composition I (TCC ENGL 1301)**

Prerequisite: English II, meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing (see your Academic Advisor for TSI exemptions)

Grade: 11–12 Length: Fall semester only Credit: .5 high school, 3 hours college credit

This course is an intensive study of and practice in writing processes, from invention and researching to drafting, revising, and editing, both individually and collaboratively. Emphasis is on effective rhetorical choices, including audience, purpose, arrangement, and style. Focus is on writing the academic essay as a vehicle for learning, communicating, and critical analysis.

## **Dual Credit Composition II (TCC ENGL 1302)**

Prerequisite: English II, meet TSI college-readiness standard for Reading and Writing (see your Academic Advisor for TSI exemptions)

Grade: 11–12 Length: Spring semester only Credit: .5 high school, 3 hours college credit

This course is an intensive study of and practice in the strategies and techniques for developing research-based expository and persuasive texts. Emphasis on effective and ethical rhetorical inquiry, including primary and secondary research methods; critical reading of verbal, visual, and multimedia texts; systematic evaluation, synthesis, and documentation of information sources; and critical thinking about evidence and conclusions.

#### **Additional English Dual Credit Options**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the Liberty and TCC Crosswalk for more information.

# **Fine Arts**

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

#### Art I

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

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

#### Art Photography

Prerequisite: Art I Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

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

#### Band

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or Physical Education credit)

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

#### Chorale

Prerequisite: Voice placement Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

Chorale is a mixed choir of different levels of singers. This group sings classical repertoire as well as pop and Broadway styles of music. Students will learn music theory, healthy vocal technique, and performance etiquette. Chorale participates in TAPPS Regional and State Competitions. This exciting group will be challenged to reach their full potential!

#### **Dance Team**

Prerequisite: Audition Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or Physical Education credit)

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

#### **Drawing and Painting I**

Prerequisite: Art 1 Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

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

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

Prerequisite: Drawing and Painting I, II, or III, respectively Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

Students will have a better understanding of different media and will continue to build their skill, composition, exploration of media resulting in a body of work that shows their skill. Most upper-level students use these pieces for competitions, personal growth in art, the student's voice, building a portfolio to use for AP Drawing, as well as college admissions requiring art/design/architecture portfolios.



Prerequisite: Spotlight, Showstoppers, the All-School Musical, Theatre Tech or outside theatre activity. Audition and interview required.

Grades: 9–12

Length: Two semesters

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

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

#### Graphic Design/Digital Art

Prerequisite: Art I Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

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



Prerequisites: none Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts credit)

This course is an introduction to leading worship. It will teach the fundamentals of music and composition. Students will have the opportunity to collaborate with the Worship Culture students on selected chapels.

#### Portfolio Art I

Prerequisite: Artwork Approval Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

Students will submit a portfolio of 4-6 artworks/sketchbook ideas for teacher approval. If the effort is shown, they may take a more rigorous approach to Art I. Advanced Art I will cover drawing, painting, printmaking, sculptural, and pottery skills. Students will be required to compete in various art competitions.

#### **Sculpture and Ceramics I**

Prerequisite: Art I Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

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

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

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

Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

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

#### AP Studio Art 2D Design

Prerequisites: Drawing and Painting I, Art Photography, Graphic Design, or Digital Art, and instructor approval Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

This course is designed to help students create and develop a portfolio of artwork. Students create artwork for the sustained investigation and selected works sections of their portfolio. While creating their portfolio, students develop competition-level artwork. This course will result in the student completing a 2D design portfolio using the guidelines set by the AP College Board. Students taking this course are required to submit a portfolio of completed work in lieu of a written AP Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### AP Studio Art 3D Design

Prerequisites: Sculpture and Ceramics I, and instructor approval Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

Students will explore three-dimensional forms with a variety of materials, such as clay, wood, plaster, papier-mâché, found objects, and fabric. These raw materials will be used in creating expressive sculptural designs that incorporate form and space, and relate the three-dimensional form to its environment. Students will produce several projects of high quality, college-level artwork. These projects will begin with exploring the elements and principles of design, and will involve each student developing an individual line of inquiry, experimentation, and risk-taking. Summer work is highly recommended. This course will result in the student completing a 3D design portfolio using the guidelines set by the AP College Board. Students taking this course are required to submit a portfolio of completed work in lieu of a written AP Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **AP Studio Art Drawing**

Prerequisites: Drawing and Painting I, and instructor approval Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts)

In this course, students will address a very broad interpretation of drawing issues and media. Line quality, light and shade, rendering of form, composition, surface manipulation, and the illusion of depth and mark-making are drawing topics that can be addressed through a variety of means, which could include painting, printmaking, mixed media, etc. This course will result in the student completing a drawing portfolio using the guidelines set by the AP College Board. Students taking this course are required to submit a portfolio of completed work in lieu of a written AP Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### Worship Culture

Prerequisites: Audition and interview, plus one year of band, choir or Intro to Worship Culture

Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or Speech credit)

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

#### Yearbook (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Fine Arts or CTE credit)

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

# **Additional Fine Arts Dual Credit Options**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the <u>Liberty and TCC Crosswalk</u> for more information.

# **Mathematics**

Mathematics is the language with which God spoke the universe into existence and serves as an important tool to describe God's creation and manage the resources therein. The Liberty Mathematics Department strives to promote mathematical literacy and equip students with the mathematical skills needed to succeed at the university level, meet the challenge of tomorrow's technology, compete in the workforce, and further establish the Kingdom of God by means of service and example in the community. *Note: Four years of math in high school are required for graduation; Liberty students must be enrolled and receive credit for a different math class every year at LCS.* 

# Algebra I

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra Grade: 9 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# Algebra II

Prerequisites: Algebra I and Geometry Grades: 10 –11 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# **Algebra II Honors**

Prerequisites: Algebra I, Geometry, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grades: 10 –11

Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1

Algebra II begins by developing a deeper understanding of the linear and quadratic functions learned in Algebra I. The remainder of the year is spent introducing and making connections between rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions including conics. Honors courses will take the same concepts to a deeper level, and students will be expected to combine concepts in more rigorous problem-solving experiences and use their knowledge of concepts in new situations. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### Calculus

Prerequisite: Precalculus Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### **AP Calculus AB**

Prerequisite: AP Precalculus, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Calculus AB is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus. This course is recommended for any student considering college studies or a vocation in the sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics, or business. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Calculus AB Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# **AP Calculus BC**

Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grades: 12

Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1

AP Calculus BC differs from AP Calculus AB in two significant ways. First, it covers the content of not just one but the first two semesters of college calculus. Second, it progresses at twice the pace of AP Calculus AB in order to cover these two college courses in one year of high school study. This fast-paced, rigorous course is recommended for academically strong students targeting college studies or a vocation in the sciences, technology, engineering, mathematics, or business. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Calculus BC Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# Dual Credit College Algebra (TCC MATH 1314)

Prerequisite: Algebra II, meet TSI College Readiness standard for Mathematics (See your Academic Advisor for TSI exemptions)

Grade: 11-12 Length: Fall semester only Credit: .5 high school credit, 3 hours college credit

This course is an accelerated in-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, exponential and logarithmic functions, and systems of equations using matrices. Additional topics such as sequences, series, probability, and conics may be included. This course is intended for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) majors, as well as students pursuing some Business and Education programs. It is a preparation for advanced coursework in mathematics.

# **OnRamps DE College Algebra**

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Precalculus (AP Precalculus students are not eligible), parent, counselor, principal and college approval

Grade: 11-12

Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1 high school credit, possible 3 hours college credit

OnRamps College Algebra is a dual enrollment course concerned with the basic facts and techniques of algebra that are used over and over again in almost every college-level mathematics course, as well as in other courses and everyday mathematics. Content includes the rational, real and complex number systems; the study of functions including polynomial, rational, radical, exponential, and logarithmic functions and related equations; inequalities; systems of linear equations; and sequences and counting theory. OnRamps College Algebra is a dual enrollment partnership with the University of Texas at Austin. Students must demonstrate their ability to do college-level work in order for the opportunity to earn college credit during the spring semester. UT Austin tuition for this course is paid to Liberty Christian School.

#### **Intermediate Algebra**

Prerequisite: Grade of 73 or below in Algebra II and Advisor Approval Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### Geometry

Prerequisite: Algebra I Grades: 9–10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### **Geometry Honors**

Prerequisite: Algebra I, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grades: 9–10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This course begins with logical reasoning and proof, utilizing both throughout the course. This course investigates properties of 2- and 3-dimensional figures. Some of the main ideas include proportions, congruence, transformations, coordinate geometry, special right triangles, and trigonometry. Algebra will be integrated throughout the course to serve as a bridge from Algebra I to Algebra II. Honors courses will take the same concepts to a deeper level, and students will be expected to combine concepts in more rigorous problem-solving experiences and use their knowledge of concepts in new situations. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

# Precalculus

Prerequisites: Geometry and Algebra II Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# Dual Credit Precalculus (TCC MATH 2412)

Prerequisite: Successful completion of TCC <u>MATH 1314</u> - College Algebra Grade: 11-12 Length: Spring semester only Credit: .5 high school credit, 4 hours college credit

This is an in-depth combined study of algebra, trigonometry, and other topics for calculus readiness.

#### **AP Precalculus**

Prerequisites: Geometry, Algebra II Honors, Grade Requirement, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

In AP Precalculus, students explore everyday situations and phenomena using mathematical tools and lenses. Through regular practice, students build deep mastery of modeling and functions, and they examine scenarios through multiple representations. They will learn how to observe, explore, and build mathematical meaning from dynamic systems. Students study each function type through their graphical, numerical, verbal, and analytical representations and their applications in a variety of contexts. Students apply their understanding of functions by constructing and validating appropriate function models for scenarios, sets of conditions, and data sets, thereby gaining a deeper understanding of the nature and behavior of each function type. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Statistics Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

# **OnRamps DE Statistical Methods**

Prerequisite: Algebra II and College Algebra or Precalculus Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 high school credit, possible 3 hours college credit Course Numbers: M.D9280R | 03102501

OnRamps Statistics is a dual enrollment data analysis course for high school juniors and seniors seeking to develop the quantitative reasoning skills and habits of mind necessary to succeed in the higher education environment. This course will focus on simulation to support understanding of high-level concepts, including lessons on experimental design and a high school research poster project to provide hands-on practical understanding opportunities. Statistics OnRamps is a dual enrollment partnership with the University of Texas at Austin. Students must demonstrate their ability to do college-level work in order for the opportunity to earn college credit during the spring semester. This course offering is a Texas Core Curriculum course. UT Austin tuition for this course is paid to Liberty Christian School.

#### **Additional Math Dual Credit Options**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the <u>Liberty and TCC Crosswalk</u> for more information.

# **Physical Education**

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

#### Athletics

Prerequisite: Completed medical physical Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This course is designed for students who wish to participate in at least one of the sports in the athletic program. Sports available for boys include football, basketball, baseball, soccer, wrestling, swimming, tennis, golf, track and field, and cross country. Sports available for girls include volleyball, basketball, softball, soccer, swimming, tennis, golf, track and field, and cross country. Athletes will be required to attend a Sports Performance Class offered during the school day. Sports Performance classes are designed to enhance the athletic performance of all athletes and include strength training, speed and agility work, along with mobility and conditioning.

Students enrolled in athletics are required to stay in athletics all year. Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for specific Physical Education Department Guidelines.

# **Cheerleading - Varsity Game Day and Competition Team**

Prerequisites for Varsity Game Day: Try out – no tumble requirement but must be able to perform certain stunts Prerequisites for Competition Team: Try out – various tumble and stunt requirements Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Physical Education credit)

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

# Science

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

# Anatomy and Physiology

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# Biology

Prerequisite: None Grade: 9 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# **Biology Honors**

Prerequisite: Algebra I or concurrent Grade: 9 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This course is for those students desiring a more comprehensive and detailed study of the topics listed under the Biology course. This course also prepares students for the Biology AP course. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### **AP Biology**

Prerequisites: Biology Honors, Chemistry Honors and Teacher Recommendation

Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a freshman college biology course. The following topics are examined in detail: biochemistry, cellular processes, energy, photosynthesis, cellular respiration, heredity, modern genetics, creation and evolution, zoology and botany, and ecology. Lab exercises are included with each topic. A summer review assignment will be required. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Biology Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# Chemistry

Prerequisite: Algebra I Grade: 10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# **Chemistry Honors**

Prerequisite: Algebra I Grade: 10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Chemistry Honors will follow the College Board model to prepare students for AP Chemistry in the future. The class will focus on a deep understanding of matter and energy, and students will be expected to explain their observations using their reasoning skills. Students will begin the course by observing and measuring properties of everyday materials and progress throughout the course to explore deeper and more detailed perspectives of the nature of matter. Chemistry Honors will motivate students to be active participants in applying critical thinking and mathematical skills as they engage in context-driven mathematics, data analysis, modeling, and productive collaborating with peers. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### **AP Chemistry**

Prerequisites: Chemistry Honors, Algebra II and Teacher Recommendation Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Chemistry is designed by the College Board to be the equivalent of a second semester college chemistry course. The course includes an expanded study of the topics covered in first-year chemistry as well as several advanced topics, such as molecular orbital theory, chemical equilibria, kinetics, electrochemistry, thermodynamics, and spectroscopy. Emphasis is on a deeper understanding of the major ideas of chemistry through qualitative and quantitative analysis of concepts and data. On average, a lab will be held once a week. A summer review assignment is a vital part of the course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Chemistry Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# **Engineering Essentials**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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



Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry Grades: 11-12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to engage students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships within the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Environmental Science Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **Forensic Science**

Prerequisites: Biology and Chemistry Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Forensic Science is an interdisciplinary science derived from all areas of science. The approach of this course is different from the other science offerings, in that it is a "real world" hands-on class. The class stresses problem solving skills, writing skills, math and computer skills, and decision-making skills as well as the ability to use specific instruments. Much of the class work is done in small cooperative learning teams. Students will learn to do the following: think critically, self-direct their work, interpret and analyze scientific data, communicate results in writing, and work in groups.

#### **Physics**

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Chemistry Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### **OnRamps DE Physics**

Prerequisites: Algebra II and Chemistry, parent, counselor, principal, and college approval

Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 high school credit, possible 3 hours college credit

OnRamps Physics is a dual enrollment course that focuses on mechanics, heat, and sound aspects of Physics during the first semester and completes the requirements of a general physics technical I course. OnRamps Physics is dual enrollment partnership with the University of Texas at Austin. Students must demonstrate their ability to do college level work during the fall semester in order for the opportunity to earn college credit during the spring semester. UT Austin tuition for this course is paid to Liberty Christian School.

#### **AP Physics I**

Prerequisites: Algebra II Honors, Biology, and Chemistry Corequisite: Precalculus or higher math Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Physics I is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as the following: Newtonian mechanics; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory simple circuits. The course includes inquiry-based learning that helps students develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Physics I Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# **AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism**

Prerequisites: AP Physics I and Instructor Approval Corequisite: Calculus or AP Calculus. Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism is equivalent to a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in physical science, engineering, architecture, or mathematics. Students will gain a working knowledge of calculus by applying this mathematical tool in real-world applications of physics. This course provides instruction in the following five content areas: electrostatics; conductors, capacitors, and dielectrics; electric circuits; magnetic fields; and electromagnetism. Upon completion of this course, students should have a strong conceptual understanding of the physics of electricity and magnetism and well-developed skills for critical thinking and problem solving. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **AP Physics C: Mechanics**

Prerequisites: AP Physics I and Instructor Approval Corequisites: Calculus or AP Calculus Grade: 12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Physics C: Mechanics is equivalent to a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in physical science, engineering, architecture, or mathematics. Students will gain a working knowledge of calculus by applying this mathematical tool in real-world applications of physics. This course provides instruction in the following six content areas of mechanics: kinematics; Newton's laws of motion; work, energy and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; circular motion and rotation; and oscillations and gravitation. Upon completion of this course, students should have a strong conceptual understanding of physics and well-developed skills for critical thinking and problem solving. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Physics C: Mechanics Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **Science Dual Credit**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the <u>Liberty and TCC Crosswalk</u> for more information.

# **Social Studies**

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

#### **AP European History**

Prerequisite: World History and completion of at least one AP history course Grade: 11-12th Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (Elective Credit)

This course will study European history since 1450. It will introduce students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, this course will develop the students' understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, enhance their ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and expand on their ability to express historical understanding in writing. Summer assignments are vital to this course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP European History Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# **AP Human Geography**

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

Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP Human Geography is an advanced, college-level course that will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement Human Geography Exam. It will introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the earth's surface. Students will learn to employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human socioeconomic organization and its environmental consequences. They will also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their research. A summer assignment is required as part of this course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Human Geography Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **Macroeconomics**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5

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

#### **AP Macroeconomics**

Prerequisite: U.S. History, Grade Requirement, and Teacher Recommendation Grade: 12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5

AP Macroeconomics is an advanced, college-level course that prepares students to take the Advanced Placement Macroeconomics Exam. This course is intended to give students a thorough understanding of economics as it applies to the economy as a whole. Lessons include analysis of national income and its components, price determination, economic performance measures, inflation and unemployment, money and banking, stabilization policies, and the United States and world trade. The course examines economic aspects of fiscal and monetary policy making from a Christian perspective. The course culminates with a group project. AP format testing is administered throughout the semester to prepare students to earn college credit through the AP Exam in Macroeconomics. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Macroeconomics Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### AP Microeconomics (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None Grades: 11–12 Length: Spring semester only Credit: .5 (Elective credit)

This course will give students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within an economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Microeconomics Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **United States Government**

Prerequisite: U.S. History Grade: 12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5

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

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

Prerequisite: U.S. History, Grade Requirement, and Teacher Recommendation Grade: 12 Length: Fall or Spring semester Credit: .5

AP United States Government and Politics is an advanced, college-level course that will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics Exam. This course follows the curriculum requirements for the "AP United States Government and Politics Course Description" published by the College Board, along with Liberty Christian School guidelines for a United States government survey course. This course gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. It includes the study of American government institutions, political beliefs and behaviors, political parties, interest groups, mass media, public policy, and civil rights and liberties. It is a challenging course requiring extensive reading, critical analysis, and a knowledge of national and international events. Developing a Christian worldview that will enable students to be citizens who are knowledgeable, informed, and involved is the ultimate goal for the AP U.S. Government course. Summer reading is required. Students taking this course are required to take the AP United States Government and Politics Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### **United States History**

Prerequisite: World History Grade: 11 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This course includes the study of people, events, and issues from the Reconstruction Period after the Civil War to the present. This survey includes the growth and development of the distinct and unique American culture as the U.S. grew into a world power. The chronicle of successes and failures of previous generations will serve as a guide for students in their own generational setting. This course also focuses on the religious topics of the

Great Awakenings and the missionary and evangelistic expressions in U.S. history. Students will apply a biblical stance, aligned with God's will, to United States history and their own lives.

#### **AP United States History**

Prerequisite: World History, Grade Requirement, and Teacher Recommendation Grade: 11 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP United States History is an advanced, college-level course that prepares students to take the Advanced Placement United States History Exam. As an accelerated course, the class takes a more targeted, detailed, and comprehensive survey of topics in United States history. Beginning with a brief review of United States history through the Civil War, it then focuses on the Reconstruction Era to the present. This course provides specific training in the document-based essay format on the AP History Exam, while stressing primary sources and students' analytical abilities. Mastery of the material in this course serves as a firm foundation for upper-level college courses. Summer reading is a vital part of the course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP United States History Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### Vietnam War (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11-12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (Elective Credit)

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

#### World Geography

Prerequisite: None Grade: 9 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### **World History**

Prerequisite: World Geography Grade: 10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### **AP World History**

Prerequisite: World Geography or, AP Human Geography, Grade Requirement and Teacher Recommendation Grade: 10 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

AP World History: Modern is an advanced, college-level course that prepares students for taking the World History: Modern Advanced Placement Exam. Though the majority of class time will focus on 1200 AD to the present, this course has a chronological framework beginning with the foundations of history and continuing to the present. Truly global in nature, the course includes studies of major political, social, economic, and artistic movements found in societies in Asia, Europe, Africa, and North and South America. Extensive reading and composition prepare students for the rigor of the Advanced Placement Exam. A summer assignment is required as part of this course. Students taking this course are required to take the AP World History: Modern Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

#### World War II (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None Grade: 11-12 Length: One semester Credit: .5 (Elective Credit)

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

#### **Additional History Dual Credit Options**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the <u>Liberty and TCC Crosswalk</u> for more information.

# World Languages

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

#### American Sign Language

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Note: Many colleges accept ASL to fulfill the foreign language requirement. Others accept ASL only within certain colleges, divisions, departments, or majors.

Are you interested in communicating with the deaf and hearing impaired community? Do you also want to expand your visual-perceptual, visual sensitivity skills and improve your spelling and reading skills? American Sign Language (ASL) is a beautiful and easier language to acquire than other spoken languages. Students will learn the structure of ASL, finger-spelling, numbers, and develop skills necessary to sustain basic conversations. The course is designed for students to acquire ASL through creative expressions in ASL ie. stories, poetry, and songs. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

# American Sign Language II

Prerequisite: ASL I

Grades: 9–12

Length: Two semesters

Credit: 1

Note: Many colleges accept ASL to fulfill the foreign language requirement. Others accept ASL only within certain colleges, divisions, departments, or majors. This is an online course.

This course will build on the knowledge of American Sign Language as a World Language. Students will develop ASL communication skills by learning relevant topics and conversations while understanding the Deaf community as people created in the image of God with social beliefs, traditions, history and values. As they learn about the Deaf community, students will discover the characteristics of the spiritual community as well. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).



Prerequisite: ASL II Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Note: Many colleges accept ASL to fulfill the foreign language requirement. Others accept ASL only within certain colleges, divisions, departments, or majors. This is an online course.

In this course students will dive into more advanced ASL signing, including unique grammar features and advanced classifiers and locatives. They will learn, compose, and present their newfound vocabulary and narratives and immerse themselves in Deaf culture and community by learning to express their opinions, use slang and idioms, and technology that offers authentic Deaf perspectives. Students will explore how travel, cultural differences, and geography affect sign language by learning important events and examining topics such as education, science, and literature. Students will translate Scripture into ASL structure, expanding their ability to speak the truth in ASL. Students will apply their language skills in real conversation activities, including conversations about their faith. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

#### German I

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### German II Honors (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: German I Grade: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# **German III Honors**

Prerequisite: German II Grade: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### Mandarin I

Prerequisite: Approval from Academic Advisor Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

This fun, beginning course is designed to introduce students to the basics of the Chinese language. Students will develop their Chinese proficiency in the four modalities of language learning (listening, speaking, reading and writing) with an emphasis on oral communication. Each unit in the course covers a specific theme that includes new vocabulary and language notes, with guided practice in cultivating students' interest in the language, biblical connections to Chinese characters, and the beauty of Chinese culture. Students will learn to say a basic prayer in Chinese, share basic information, and learn Chinese songs as a way to acquire the Chinese language. Note: Mandarin II Honors is the next course in this sequence. This course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

Students are encouraged to take this course, as it could have a huge impact on their future. "Tomorrow's leaders must be able to compete, work and thrive in a globalized world with diverse, multilingual consumers and economies in which China and the U.S. will continue to be major players" (U.S. News – October 25, 2016).

#### **Mandarin II Honors**

Prerequisite: Mandarin I Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Mandarin II Honors is a continuation of the study of the Chinese language and Chinese-speaking cultures, with emphasis on developing oral proficiency. Students will also be able to ask and respond to common daily-life topics, learn Bible verses relevant to thematic units, and develop their own prayers in Chinese. This course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

#### **Mandarin III Honors**

Prerequisite: Mandarin II Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### Spanish I

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### Spanish II

Prerequisite: Spanish I Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

# **Spanish II Honors**

Prerequisite: Spanish I Grades: 9–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Spanish II Honors continues the study of Spanish language and culture. Through the study of relevant, real-world, theme-based units, the aim of this class is to continue the refinement of four elements of language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. In this course, students will expand their conversational vocabulary. They will listen to and study traditional and pop Latino music, watch commercials, and read short novels in Spanish. Students will also learn to write and recite their own prayers in Spanish. More advanced grammar concepts will be emphasized in each unit of study. This class will be conducted primarily in Spanish, and students are expected to increase in their oral and written proficiency at a faster pace than the regular Spanish II class. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### **Spanish III**

Prerequisite: Spanish II Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

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

#### **Spanish III Honors**

Prerequisite: Spanish III Grades: 10–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

Spanish III Honors builds on skills acquired in Spanish II Honors. Students will develop more advanced skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing, with an emphasis on the ability to communicate in the past, present, and future tenses. The content of this course will be accelerated and expanded to include more vocabulary and grammar than regular Spanish III. Students will study the culture, history, geography, and literature of Spanish-speaking countries. The class will be conducted in Spanish, and students are expected to respond in Spanish. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

# **Spanish IV Honors**

Prerequisite: Spanish III Honors Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

The majority of this course is taught in Spanish, as students explore the cultures of Spanish-speaking people in a way that connects meaningfully to their lives. Units focus on health issues, food and culture, mission field work, novels, and Spanish film. The focus is on interpersonal and listening skills for communication, although students will continue to develop writing and reading skills as well. Students wishing to take the Spanish AP Exam at the end of the course will be provided with AP resources to study independently. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### AP Spanish Language and Culture

Prerequisites: Spanish IV Honors Grades: 11–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1

The AP Spanish course requires a higher degree of proficiency in speaking, writing, reading, and listening. Students will receive proper preparation to take the College Board Exam in May. Grammar is reviewed through reading and discussing literary works. Students will develop language skills and insight that applies to various real-world scenarios and disciplines. Students taking this course are required to take the AP Spanish Language and Culture Exam. see page 4 and 5 for more information about AP requirements, as well as registration and payment.

# Additional World Language Dual Credit Options

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the <u>Liberty and TCC Crosswalk</u> for more information.

# Middle School Course Catalog Course Descriptions for Grades 6-8

# New and Updated Middle School Offerings

The following courses have been added or updated to the Middle School Catalog for 2024–2025:

**Equipping New Students** - See Page 66.

Life Skills - See Page 66.

**Concert Choir** - See Page 71.

# Bible

God is Truth. The Bible is God's revelation of Himself and His plan for redemption. The Liberty Christian Bible Program exists to invite students into a personal, saving relationship with Jesus Christ through active and reflective engagement with God's Word. As disciple-makers, we aim to train and equip students to know God, be known by God, make God known, and formulate a biblical worldview that engages life and culture through representing Jesus Christ.

#### God's Grand Design

Prerequisite: None Grade: 6

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

#### The Life and Triumph of Christ

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 7

This course reveals the Bible as the true story of what God is doing to glorify Himself by redeeming His fallen creation. Students will explore the Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and Revelation. The Gospels present the life of Christ as the fulfillment of God's redemptive plan as promised in the Old Testament. The book of Acts covers Christ's role in the redemptive storyline of the development of His church. The Epistles show students the truths that ground believers and allow them to live out the Great Commission until Christ returns. Finally, the students will see the climactic fulfillment of His triumph over all things in Revelation. Designed to depart from the traditional lecture method, this course uses multiple teaching and learning strategies to engage students in the Bible and invite them into a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

#### **Biblical Worldview Basics**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8

Students will analyze the basic components of a worldview and using the teachings of Scripture, will examine how they think about the world through a biblical lens. Students will be invited to apply biblical thinking to their developing understanding of values, identity, life purpose, godly relationships, society, other worldviews, and situations in their own lives.

# Career and Technology (CTE)

Career and Technology Education (CTE) empowers students to manage the challenges of living and working in a diverse, global society. CTE courses are designed to provide students with the opportunity to use their unique God-given talents, make informed occupational choices, determine educational needs and options, develop employability traits, and acquire marketable skills. Every CTE student is given the opportunity to serve others, gain experience and confidence, and bring glory to our Lord and Savior.

#### **Intro to Broadcast Journalism**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 6-7

This course is designed for the study and practice of the basic elements of broadcast journalism. The course will emphasize news-gathering, writing, interviewing skills, video recording, and the study of mass media. Students will learn the basic elements of news value and vocabulary specific to broadcast writing. They will also identify various news sources and use interview skills to create stories using a video camera. This course also explores the world of digital video and television production at an entry level. Students learn on professional equipment in a modern digital TV studio. Students work in collaborative teams to produce projects using cameras, while learning the basics of studio and field production, lighting and sound. This entry-level course assumes no previous film or broadcast background.

#### **Advanced Broadcast Journalism**

Prerequisite: None Grades: 7-8

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

#### **Digital Life Skills and Leadership**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6

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



Prerequisite: None

Grade: 7-8

This course is designed to assist new 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in their understanding of Liberty's Learning Management System (LMS) while learning the digital and organizational skills required to support a successful learning career. Students will be introduced to MyLiberty, Brightspace and Google Workspace as it relates to our Middle School curriculum. Students will also learn the importance of digital citizenship and servant leadership as they practice skills such as goal setting, effective communication, time management, and collaborative strategies.



Prerequisite: None Grade: 7-8

This course will help students become capable, responsible young adults equipped to become leaders for Christ. Course material will include the importance of developing efficient routines and habits as well as understanding how to manage time, money, and practices for wellbeing. The students will learn by doing hands-on activities with a focus on real-world application and relevance.

#### **STEM 6**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 6

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

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

#### STEM 7

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 7

Flight and Space: The exciting world of aerospace comes alive through the Flight and Space unit. Students will become engineers as they design, prototype, and test modulus to learn about the science of flight and what it takes to travel and live in space. They solve real-world aviation and space challenges and plan a mission to Mars.

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

#### **STEM 8**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 8

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

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

# English

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

# English 6

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6

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

# **English 6 Honors**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grade: 6

This course is designed to challenge students to comprehend, analyze, appreciate, and enjoy a variety of texts, as well as develop critical thinking skills through creative written expression. In an interactive writing workshop, students will learn the following types of writing: narrative, informative, and argument. Heavy emphasis will be placed on developing students' critical thinking skills and communicating their findings. Students will be introduced to various forms of literature and writing genres. The English Honors course focuses on more complex text choices and an in-depth study of those works. Students will also learn more about literary analysis and rhetorical analysis. Summer reading is required. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

# English 7

Prerequisite: English 6 Grade: 7

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

#### **English 7 Honors**

Prerequisite: English 6, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grade: 7

Through a reading and writing workshop, this course focuses on students' development of deeper thinking skills. Students are challenged to analyze, evaluate, and create, all the while interacting with various genres of literature and writing. Critical thinking, perceptive reading, honest discussion, oral presentations, and powerful writing are the foundations of this course, based on the taxonomy of Socratic reasoning. The English Honors course focuses on more complex text choices. Summer reading is required. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### **English 8**

Prerequisite: English 7 Grade: 8

8th Grade English is a comprehensive and dynamic course designed to foster students' proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking. This course will empower students to become confident communicators and critical thinkers, preparing them for success in high school and beyond. Summer reading is required.

#### **English 8 Honors**

Prerequisite: English 7, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grade: 8

8th Grade Honors English is a pivotal course that equips students with essential skills for success in high school and beyond. It aims to foster a lifelong love of reading, an appreciation for effective communication, and a deep understanding of the written and spoken word. This course will empower students to engage thoughtfully with the world and express themselves with confidence and clarity. Summer reading is required. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

# **Fine Arts**

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

#### Art for Middle School

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 6–7

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

#### **Portfolio MS Art**

Prerequisite: 6th grade Art & Instructor Approval

Grade: 7

Through the basic foundations of art, I hope to develop the creative thought process. An effective artistic background actually enhances the students ability to think. Students will cover the Elements and Principles of Design. Units of instruction will cover art history, various art techniques, artists, art criticism and connections to all of their academic classes. The basic fundamentals of visual art will be taught utilizing projects in both 2-D and 3-D design. Students will also learn about various art movements and artists. In art we are not looking for one correct answer, we are looking for all the possibilities. This ability to think along a variety of paths will undoubtedly be utilized later in life in many ways no matter what field the individual chooses. There is a satisfaction that accompanies visual self-expression and it must be experienced to be fully realized.

#### Art I

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 8

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

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

#### Portfolio Art I

Prerequisite: Portfolio Review with Teacher Approval

Grade: 8

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

Students will submit a portfolio of 4-6 artworks/sketchbook ideas for teacher approval. If the effort is shown, they may take a more rigorous approach to Art I. Advanced Art I will cover drawing, painting, printmaking, sculptural, and pottery skills. Students will be required to compete in various art competitions.

#### Band

Prerequisite: None Grades: 6–8

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



Prerequisite: Interview and Vocal Warm Up Grades: 6-8 (Boys and Girls)

Students will explore a broad range of music from classical to pop. This course is an introduction to vocal music and production, sight-singing, and music theory. This choir will compete at a show choir competition in the spring. There will be a fall concert, a Christmas concert, a spring showcase, and the potential to sing at other venues, such as the National Anthem at sporting events. The only prerequisite is an interview and a vocal warm up with the instructor.

# **Dance Technique**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6-8

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

#### **Dance Technique II**

Prerequisite: Dance Technique or a minimum of 2 years outside studio dance classes

Grade: 6-8

Offered to boys and girls, this course is a continuation of Dance Technique in dance, movement, and movement vocabulary. There will be an emphasis on building from foundational movement to a more advanced movement and a dive into dance history. This course will include, but not limited to ballet, jazz, hip hop, musical theatre, ballroom, and cultural dance. Students will expand their understanding and knowledge of dance and its origins. This class will offer a creative and physical outlet that helps students learn through a physical connection.

#### **Dance Technique III**

Prerequisite: Dance Technique or a minimum of 2 years outside studio dance classes and audition Grade: 6-8

This advanced dance class is by audition only. This class is to provide the student who has had prior technical training a challenging environment to grow as a dancer. The student must have knowledge and physical ability of technical skills ranging from intermediate to advanced. The course will focus on perfecting technical skills, learning new advanced choreography and building physical endurance. The student's creative expression will be demonstrated through choreography, skill and performance.

#### **Middle School Cheer and Dance**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6-8

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

#### **Showstoppers**

Prerequisite: Audition required Grades: 6–8

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

### Spotlight

Prerequisite: Audition required

Grades: 6-8

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

### **Technical Theatre**

Prerequisites: None Grades: 6-8

Theatre Tech is a theater training course which will explore the backstage world of theatre. Students will investigate several areas of production and design from both a practical and a theoretical base. Students will be given the opportunity to explore the following areas: theatre and shop safety, scenic design and painting, set construction, lighting design and operation, sound design and operation, theatre history. Students will also receive training from working individuals in the technical industry. Our theatre tech team will be a part of our Fall Show, One Act Play, and the All School Musical.

#### Yearbook (Not offered 2024-2025)

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 8

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

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

### **Mathematics**

Mathematics is the language with which God spoke the universe into existence and serves as an important tool to describe God's creation and manage the resources therein. The Liberty Mathematics Department strives to promote mathematical literacy and equip students with the mathematical skills needed to succeed at the university level, meet the challenge of tomorrow's technology, compete in the workforce, and further establish the Kingdom of God by means of service and example in the community.

#### **6th Grade Mathematics**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6

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

#### **6th Grade Mathematics Honors**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation, MAP score, Class Average

Grade: 6

In this course, students learn traditional mathematics. This course is designed for students who excel in, and have a passion for, the study of mathematics. Skills covered in this course are the computation and estimation of whole numbers, fractions, decimals, and percent, as well as the practical application of these skills. Geometric concepts and formulas are also taught, as are algebraic equations and an introduction to integers. This class lays a solid foundation for students entering the 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Honors course. When compared to the on-level 6<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics course, the Honors course moves at a faster pace, to include selected 7th grade concepts, and is more application-based. The next course in the sequence is 7th grade Mathematics Honors.

#### **7th Grade Mathematics**

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Mathematics Grade: 7

In this course, students review the foundational skills learned in 6th grade mathematics. This course develops foundational algebraic skills, including using variables, algebraic expressions, equations (using decimals, integers, and rational numbers), and geometry. The next course in sequence is 8th Grade Mathematics.

#### **7th Grade Mathematics Honors**

Prerequisite: 6th Grade Mathematics Honors, Teacher Recommendation, MAP score, Class Average

Grades: 7

In this course, students review the foundational skills learned in 6th grade mathematics. The Honors course is designed for students who excel in, and have a passion for, the study of mathematics. This course develops foundational algebraic skills, including using variables, algebraic expressions, equations (using decimals, integers, and rational numbers), and geometry. Students will develop these algebraic skills while applying critical thinking and problem-solving skills. When compared to the on-level 7th grade mathematics course, the Honors course moves at a faster pace, to include selected 8th grade concepts, and is more application-based. The next course in sequence is Algebra I Honors.

#### **8th Grade Mathematics**

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Mathematics

Grade: 8

In this course, students will work through 8th-grade mathematics concepts and skills. Their study of mathematics will include a focus on numbers and operations, algebra, geometry, data analysis, and personal finance skills. As students work on the practical application of these skills, they will also improve in problem-solving and critical thinking while reinforcing their understanding of mathematical vocabulary. This class provides students with an opportunity to solidify their conceptual foundation prior to Algebra I.

### Algebra I Honors

Prerequisite: 7th Grade Mathematics or 7th Grade Mathematics Honors, Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grade: 8

Credit: 1 (Math credit for upper school is included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations. Note: Four years of math in high school are required for graduation; Liberty students must be enrolled and receive credit for a different math class every year at LCS.)

Algebra I is the first year of a two-year study of algebra. The Honors course is designed for students who excel in math. This course emphasizes rules, symbols, and the laws of arithmetic as applied to algebraic structure. In Algebra I, students obtain analytical and critical thinking skills that will be the basis for future math classes, with an emphasis on problem solving. When compared to the standard Algebra I course, the Honors course moves at a faster pace, covers many topics in greater depth, and includes some additional topics. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **Physical Education**

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

### Athletics

Prerequisite: None

Grades: 6–8

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

### **Dance Technique**

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6-8

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

#### **Dance Technique II**

Prerequisite: Dance Technique or a minimum of 2 years outside studio dance classes

Grade: 6-8

Offered to boys and girls, this course is a continuation of Dance Technique in dance, movement, and movement vocabulary. There will be an emphasis on building from foundational movement to a more advanced movement and a dive into dance history. This course will include, but not be limited to ballet, jazz, hip hop, musical theatre, ballroom, and cultural dance. Students will expand their understanding and knowledge of dance and its origins. This class will offer a creative and physical outlet that helps students learn through a physical connection.

### **Dance Technique III**

Prerequisite: Dance Technique or a minimum of 2 years outside studio dance classes and audition

Grade: 6-8

This advanced dance class will be by audition only. This class is to provide the student who has had prior technical training a challenging environment to grow as a dancer. The student must have knowledge and physical ability of technical skills ranging from intermediate to advanced. The course will focus on perfecting technical skills, learning new advanced choreography and building physical endurance. The student's creative expression will be demonstrated through choreography, skill and performance.

### Middle School Cheer and Dance

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6–8

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

### Science

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

### Science

Prerequisite: None Grade: 6

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

#### **Science Honors**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grade: 6

Science Honors for 6<sup>th</sup> grade is a rigorous hands-on applied physical science course that encourages critical and analytical thinking. Throughout the year, students will collect and analyze data through structured labs and by using and creating models. Honors labs will be more student-led, with pre-labs and post-labs required. Physical science is a study of inanimate natural objects including astronomy, chemistry, physics, and earth science, with an emphasis on using the scientific method. Students will acquire an understanding of the earth's formation and the constructive and deconstructive forces that act upon it, like volcanoes, while realizing that all things were put in motion as stated in Genesis 1:1. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is mandatory, including all fairs to which the student may advance. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

#### Life Science

Prerequisite: None Grade: 7

Life Science covers the observations, predictions, and conclusions about the living world God created.

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

#### **Life Science Honors**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grade: 7

Life Science Honors covers the observations, predictions, and conclusions about the living things God created at an accelerated rate. The content of this course includes topics such as cytology (the study of cells) and genetics, creation, evolution, biology, plant and animal life, and taxonomy. There will be an emphasis on the scientific method by making a claim based on scientific research, experimentation, and reasoning based on scientific principles. These topics will be studied through a variety of methods including labs, hands-on problem-solving activities, technology, and class discussion. The primary objectives of Life Science are for students to gain a deeper understanding of God's character and power through all He has created, and further develop reasoning, critical thinking, and independent learning skills, while making practical decisions in their everyday lives. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is mandatory, including all fairs to which the student may advance. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### **Science of Physical Creation**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 8

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

#### **Science of Physical Creation Honors**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grade: 8

This course moves at an accelerated pace and involves more discussion, peer reviews, and presentations. There will be more critical and analytical thinking involved with questioning and reflecting on key ideas. This course investigates God's physical design of the world through inquiry-based learning in a lab setting. Interaction in physical science is based on the principle that all students can reason like a scientist by thinking and developing ideas through the collection of evidence. The basis of this course involves observing, thinking, discussing, investigating, and practicing. The content focuses on the method of claim, evidence, and reasoning; the conservation of matter and chemistry; and the interactions of energy and forces that are present in everyday life. In guided inquiry lab activities, students perform experiments and construct many physical science concepts based on evidence they collect during experimentation. Students will be required to keep an up-to-date lab notebook that will be their primary study guide for all assessments. Participation in the Liberty Science Fair is mandatory, including all fairs to which the student may advance. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

## **Social Studies**

The Social Studies Department is dedicated to helping students become well-informed, intelligent citizens who see a culturally diverse world through the lens of Christianity. Courses offered are designed to help students develop reasoning and critical thinking skills, to understand God's plan as it is revealed in history, and to respect the United States and the value of democracy. Coursework in middle school is built in three stages: an introduction to ancient civilizations, exploring contemporary world history, and studying the foundation of the history of the United States. More advanced coursework is offered for students who wish to further their studies in this field in preparation for college and beyond.

#### Ancient Civilizations, Languages, and Cultures

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 6

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

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

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grade: 6

This class is an accelerated survey of ancient civilizations and their cultures, histories, and languages. One objective of this course is to provide a solid foundation for the understanding of Western Civilization and the origins of Christianity. Throughout the entire year, an emphasis will be placed on the Greek and Latin languages, which provide the roots of more than 80 percent of the words used in literate English. The course begins with the origin of the world and its cultures as they developed from the time of Creation through the modern age. This course requires additional reading, writing, analysis, translation, and study beyond a basic understanding. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

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

Prerequisite: None

Grade: 7

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

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

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score Grade: 7

This class is an accelerated survey of the people, places, and societies of the contemporary world. Students will learn to interpret maps while exploring cultures and histories of the countries of the world. Students will compare institutions common to all societies such as government, education, and religion. Students will investigate and understand how belief in God and the Bible are fundamental to loving people and impacting the world for Christ. An emphasis will be placed on critical thinking, analysis, and problem solving as it relates to world events and cultures. Class time will include mini-lessons, Socratic seminars, group collaboration and discussions, video excerpts, reading assignments, projects, and hands-on activities. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### **United States History**

Prerequisite: None Grade: 8

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

### **United States History Honors**

Prerequisite: Teacher Recommendation and MAP score

Grade: 8

This course is designed to give students an understanding of the establishment of the United States. Students will develop an appreciation of America's history as they study the cultural, economic, political, social, and religious development of the United States from its beginning through the Civil War. This course is accelerated and requires supplemental reading along with a large, in-depth project through the National History Day foundation. This course prepares students for AP classes and other academically challenging courses in upper school. see page 4 and 5 for more information about Honors and AP requirements.

### World Languages

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

### American Sign Language I

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (World Language credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations) Note: Many colleges accept ASL to fulfill the foreign language requirement. Others accept ASL only within certain colleges, divisions or departments. Others may accept ASL only for certain majors.

Are you interested in communicating with the deaf and hearing impaired community? Do you also want to expand your visual-perceptual, visual sensitivity skills and improve your spelling and reading skills? American Sign Language (ASL) is a beautiful and easier language to acquire than other spoken languages. Students will learn the structure of ASL, finger-spelling, numbers, and develop skills necessary to sustain basic conversations. The course is designed for students to acquire ASL through creative expressions in ASL ie. stories, poetry, and songs The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

### German I

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (World Language credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)

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

#### Mandarin I

Prerequisite: Approval from Academic Advisor

Grades: 8–12

Length: Two semesters

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

This fun, beginning course is designed to introduce students to the basics of the Chinese language. Students will develop their Chinese proficiency in the four modalities of language learning (listening, speaking, reading and writing) with an emphasis on oral communication. Each unit in the course covers a specific theme that includes new vocabulary and language notes, with guided practice in cultivating students' interest in the language, biblical connections to Chinese characters, and the beauty of Chinese culture. Students will learn to say a basic prayer in Chinese, share basic information, and learn Chinese songs as a way to acquire the Chinese language. Note: Mandarin II Honors is the next course in this sequence. The course has been carefully aligned to national standards as set forth by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

Students are encouraged to take this course, as it could have a huge impact on their future. "Tomorrow's leaders must be able to compete, work, and thrive in a globalized world with diverse, multilingual consumers and economies in which China and the U.S. will continue to be major players" (U.S. News – Oct. 25, 2016).

#### Spanish I

Prerequisite: None Grades: 8–12 Length: Two semesters Credit: 1 (World Language credit for upper school included on the student's transcript and in GPA calculations)

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

## Appendix I

#### **Additional Dual Credit Options**

All online Dual Credit courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning .5 credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

See your Academic Advisor and the Liberty and TCC Crosswalk for more information.

### **Online Dual Credit Bible Courses**

Online Dual Credit Bible courses may be taken in Grade 12 to fulfill the student's Bible or elective credit requirements. Eligible students in Grade 11 may choose to take an online Dual Credit course in addition to their required Bible course for elective credit.

All online Dual Credit Bible courses are one semester courses. In addition to earning ½ credit toward fulfilling Liberty graduation requirements, students will be eligible to earn college credit hours upon completion of enrollment at the applicable college or university, successful completion of course requirements, and payment of college tuition and fees.

Liberty offers the following online dual credit courses through Colorado Christian University (CCU) and Grand Canyon University (GCU).

See your Academic Advisor for more information.

### **Colorado Christian University**

#### C. S. Lewis in Film and Literature

HUM 229A / 3 credits

Students will examine some of the major works of C. S. Lewis to see how this master storyteller and great communicator used story, and particularly metaphor, to communicate the Christian message to a secular world.

#### **History of Christianity**

#### HIS 211A / 3 credits

This course surveys the history of Christianity from its beginnings through the twentieth century. It stresses the highlights of each era. The course stresses church organization and practice. Additionally, the history of theology, doctrine and spirituality, and the impact of Christianity upon society and society upon Christianity are explored.

#### **Introduction to Apologetics**

APL 100A / 3 credits

This course is an introduction to principles and methodologies of practical Christian apologetics. Multiple apologetic approach

#### Introduction to Systematic Theology

THE 200A / 3 credits

This course covers basic issues, themes, and categories of Christian theology.

#### **New Testament Introduction**

BIB 102A / 3 credits

This course provides the background, content, unity and progression of the New Testament Scriptures. The student will capture an understanding of the life and ministry of Christ, the development of the Church and the unfolding of the New Covenant.

### **Old Testament Introduction**

BIB 101A / 3 credits

This course provides an overview of the historical development and fulfillment of God's sovereign plan for both the people and the land of Israel.

#### **Grand Canyon University**

#### **Old Testament Survey**

BIB-106 / 4 credits

This course introduces the text of the Old Testament with emphasis on the biblical narrative, genres, major historical periods, and theological themes.

#### **New Testament Survey**

BIB-107 / 4 credits

This course introduces the text of the New Testament with emphasis on the biblical narrative, genres, major historical periods, and theological themes.



# Liberty Christian School

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