

## 2025-2026 Lutheran South Academy Curriculum Guide

Friends,

An important goal of Lutheran South Academy is to prepare our students academically. Being prepared academically means more than just a well-rounded education; it means that after graduation, our students are prepared for the academic challenges of the college or university of their choice after. To accomplish this, LSA has aligned its curriculum to move our students to that goal one step at a time. The rigorous Lower School curriculum prepares our students for the Advanced Placement and Dual Credit curriculum of our High School. This helps us to accomplish our mission of “Securing Their Future”.

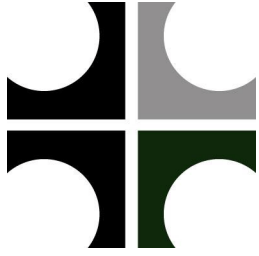
This planning guide outlines our curriculum from pre-kindergarten through grade twelve and is useful not only as a description of the scope and sequence of our curriculum, but also as a planning guide for students and parents as they navigate the PreK-12 years. As the students’ progress from our Lower School through our Middle School, more and more academic choices are available. The critical High School years are full of choices and require that both parents and students begin planning together well before those High School years. It is our hope that this guide provides the needed information to help in this planning process.

The academic progress and success of each and every one of our students is important to us. Our administration and guidance departments are committed to helping parents and students not only with their academic planning, but also with the entire college admissions process.

Your Servant In Christ,



Scott Browning  
Head of School



*Securing Their Future  
Today ~ Tomorrow ~ Eternally*

Lutheran South Academy believes in educating the whole child. We encourage our students to strive for excellence – excellence in academics, excellence in athletics and extra-curricular activities, excellence in faith and character, excellence in every aspect of their lives. This standard of excellence is what will secure their future.

To accomplish this, we ask our SOUTH students to focus on four specific areas of their lives:

**SALVATION**

Focusing on the eternal salvation and well-being of students, nurturing their faith through a Christ-centered education that fosters a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, and guiding them to embrace God’s grace, love, and forgiveness.

**OPPORTUNITY**

Providing a diverse array of extra-curricular and co-curricular activities that complement and enhance students’ academic journey, offering opportunities for them to explore their interests, develop new skills, and cultivate their passions. All activities are led by dedicated Christian individuals who serve as role models, nurturing students’ character, values, and faith through their leadership and guidance.

**UNITY**

Cultivating a sense of unity, community, and family within the school, promoting Christian relationships, emphasizing the importance of unity in the body of Christ, and fostering an environment of love, forgiveness, and mutual support.

**TRUTH**

Upholding the truth of God’s Word as the ultimate authority, teaching students to know, understand, and apply biblical teachings, guided by the principle of “sola scriptura” which acknowledges the Bible as their sole source of divine revelation and Christian doctrine.

**HOPE**

Inspiring in students hope for their future by providing them with a well-rounded education that prepares them for life beyond school. Building hope by fostering students’ trust in God’s faithfulness, diligently equipping them academically and spiritually, and nurturing their resilience to empower them to tackle challenges with unwavering perseverance and adaptability in an ever-evolving world.



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Table of Contents

**PLANNING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM..... 12**

**Graduation Requirements..... 12**

    Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsements ..... 13

**Performance Acknowledgements..... 13**

**Honors Courses ..... 14**

**Advanced Placement Program ..... 14**

**San Jacinto South Dual Credit Program ..... 14**

**Additional Dual Credit Opportunities ..... 15**

**Alternative Credit Program ..... 15**

**HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS..... 16**

**Spiritual Life ..... 16**

        Theology 9..... 16

        Theology 10..... 16

        Theology 11..... 16

        Theology 12..... 17

**Language Arts ..... 17**

        English 1 ..... 17

        English 1 Honors..... 17

        English 2 ..... 17

        English 2 Honors..... 18

        English 3 ..... 18

        AP English Language & Composition..... 18

        English 4 ..... 19

        AP English Literature & Composition ..... 19

        English 4 Dual Credit ..... 19

        Communication Applications ..... 19

        Debate 1..... 20

        Debate 2..... 20

        Yearbook ..... 20

        Teen Leadership ..... 20

**AP Capstone Diploma Program ..... 21**

AP Seminar .....	21
AP Research.....	21
<b>Mathematics .....</b>	<b>21</b>
Algebra 1 .....	21
Geometry .....	22
Geometry Honors.....	22
Algebra 2 .....	22
Algebra 2 Honors.....	22
Algebra 3 .....	22
Pre-Calculus Honors .....	23
Calculus 1 .....	23
AP Calculus AB.....	23
AP Calculus BC.....	23
AP Statistics .....	24
<b>Science .....</b>	<b>24</b>
Biology 1.....	24
Biology 1 Honors .....	24
Chemistry 1 .....	24
Chemistry 1 Honors.....	25
Physics.....	25
AP Physics 1.....	25
AP Physics 2.....	25
AP Chemistry.....	26
AP Biology .....	26
Forensic Science .....	26
AP Environmental Science.....	27
Astronomy.....	27
Geology .....	27
<b>Social Studies.....</b>	<b>27</b>
Ancient World History and Geography (Special Topics in Social Studies) .....	27
Ancient World History and Geography Honors (Special Topics in Social Studies) .....	28
Modern World History .....	28
AP World History: Modern .....	29
United States History .....	29
AP United States History .....	29
United States History Dual Credit .....	30
Government .....	30
AP Government.....	30
Government Dual Credit .....	30
Economics .....	31
AP Economics.....	31
Economics Dual Credit .....	31
Texas Court 1 – Foundation of Law .....	31
Texas Court 2 – Trial/Appellate Advocacy.....	32

Humanities Dual Credit .....	32
Philosophy Dual Credit .....	32
Psychology Dual Credit.....	32
History of United States Sports .....	33
Reel History .....	33
Peer Assistance Leadership (PALs) 1 & 2.....	33
<b>Foreign Languages .....</b>	<b>33</b>
Spanish 1 .....	33
Spanish 2 .....	34
Spanish 3 Honors.....	34
AP Spanish Language and Culture.....	34
<b>Physical Education .....</b>	<b>35</b>
Foundations of Personal Fitness .....	35
Advanced PE – Football.....	35
Athletic PE through Participation .....	35
<b>Fine Arts .....</b>	<b>35</b>
Symphonic Band.....	35
Symphonic Band Honors .....	36
Chorus .....	36
Concert Choir .....	36
Concert Choir Honors.....	36
Chapel Band .....	36
AP Music Theory .....	37
Art 1.....	37
Art 2.....	37
Art 3.....	37
Art 4.....	38
Ceramics 1.....	38
Ceramics 2.....	38
Ceramics 3.....	38
Ceramics 4.....	38
AP 3D Studio Ceramics .....	39
AP Drawing.....	39
Theatre Arts 1.....	39
Theatrical Production through Participation.....	40
<b>Business.....</b>	<b>40</b>
STEM Practicum .....	40
Digital Media .....	40
INCubator .....	40
Sports Broadcast Journalism .....	41
<b>STEM .....</b>	<b>41</b>
Flight 1.....	41
Flight 2.....	41

Robotics 1.....	42
Robotics 2.....	42
AP Computer Science Principles.....	42
Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting and Drawing .....	42
<b>LEAH Schools Online Courses.....</b>	<b>43</b>
<b>Spiritual Life .....</b>	<b>43</b>
Theology 1 – Overview and Introduction to God’s Word (1010-OLO) .....	43
Theology 2 – New Testament (1020-OLO) .....	43
Theology 3 – Old Testament (1030-OLO) .....	43
Theology 4 – Called to Believe (1040-OLO).....	44
Theology 4 – The Christian in a Pluralistic Society (1043-OLO).....	44
Theology 4 – Apologetics (1044-OLO).....	44
<b>Language Arts.....</b>	<b>44</b>
English 1 – Introduction to Literature/Composition (610-OLO).....	44
English 2 – American Literature/Composition (620-OLO).....	45
English 3 – British Literature/Composition (630-OLO).....	45
World Literature/Composition (640-OLO) .....	45
Writing Experience (680-OLO) .....	45
AP English Literature/Composition (691-OLO).....	45
<b>Mathematics .....</b>	<b>46</b>
Algebra 1 (720-OLO).....	46
Geometry (730-OLO).....	46
Algebra 2 / Trigonometry (750-OLO) .....	46
Pre-Calculus (790-OLO) .....	46
Introduction to Finite Mathematics (775-OLO).....	47
<b>Science .....</b>	<b>47</b>
Biology (820-OLO) .....	47
Chemistry (830 and 831-OLO).....	47
Marine Biology (850-OLO).....	47
Astronomy (0840-OLO) .....	48
Geology (0841-OLO).....	48
<b>Social Studies.....</b>	<b>48</b>
World History (510-OLO).....	48
U.S. History (520-OLO) .....	48
AP U.S. History (560-OLO).....	48
American Government (530-OLO) .....	49
Economics (531-OLO).....	49
AP American Government and Politics (590-OLO).....	49
AP Macroeconomics (537-OLO) .....	50
Psychology (540-OLO) .....	50
AP Psychology (550-OLO).....	50
<b>Foreign Languages .....</b>	<b>51</b>

Chinese 1 (440-OLO) .....	51
Chinese 2 (450-OLO) .....	51
Chinese 3 (455-OLO) .....	51
Chinese 4 (460-OLO) .....	51
French 1 (470-OLO) .....	52
French 2 (480-OLO) .....	52
French 3 (490-OLO) .....	52
Spanish 1 (400-OLO).....	52
Spanish 2 (410-OLO).....	52
Spanish 3 (420-OLO).....	53
Spanish 4 (430-OLO).....	53
<b>Physical Education .....</b>	<b>53</b>
Health Education (5201-OLO) .....	53
Foundations of Fitness (5203-OLO).....	53
Personal Nutrition (5240-OLO).....	54
Sports and Activities (5205-OLO) .....	54
<b>Fine Arts .....</b>	<b>54</b>
AP Art History (970-OLO) .....	54
Introduction to Digital Photography A & B (930-OLO) (935-OLO).....	54
Multimedia Design Concepts (915-OLO).....	55
Music Appreciation A & B (910-OLO) (911-OLO).....	55
<b>Business.....</b>	<b>55</b>
Accounting (444-OLO).....	55
Business Law (445-OLO).....	55
Criminal Justice (370-OLO) (371-OLO).....	56
<b>STEM .....</b>	<b>56</b>
AP Computer Science A (950-OLO) .....	56
AP Computer Science Principles (985-OLO) .....	56
Computer & Network Security Fundamentals (350-OLO).....	57
Digital Information Technology (990-OLO) .....	57
Foundations of Programming (940-OLO) .....	57
Video Game Design A (945-OLO) .....	57
Video Game Design B (946-OLO).....	57
<b>Elective.....</b>	<b>58</b>
Personal Financial Literacy (360-OLO).....	58
<b><i>Planning Your Middle School Program .....</i></b>	<b><i>59</i></b>
<b>Philosophy.....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Promotion Policy .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Core Subjects .....</b>	<b>59</b>
<b>Enrichment.....</b>	<b>59</b>

<b>Middle School Course Descriptions.....</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Bible Studies.....</b>	<b>60</b>
Bible Study 6.....	60
Bible Study 7.....	60
Bible Study 8.....	60
<b>Language Arts.....</b>	<b>60</b>
Language Arts 6.....	60
Language Arts 7.....	61
Language Arts 8.....	61
Journalism.....	61
<b>Mathematics.....</b>	<b>61</b>
Math 6.....	61
Math 7.....	62
Pre-Algebra 7/8.....	62
Algebra 1.....	62
Geometry.....	62
<b>Science.....</b>	<b>62</b>
Science 6.....	63
Science 7.....	63
Science 8.....	63
<b>Social Studies.....</b>	<b>63</b>
Geography.....	63
Texas History.....	63
American History.....	64
<b>Foreign Language.....</b>	<b>64</b>
Spanish 6.....	64
Spanish 1A and Spanish 1B.....	64
<b>Physical Education.....</b>	<b>65</b>
General Physical Education.....	65
Health.....	65
Athletic Physical Education.....	65
<b>Fine Arts.....</b>	<b>65</b>
Beginning Choir.....	65
Concert Choir.....	66
Beginning Band.....	66
Concert Band.....	66
Art 6.....	66
Art 7/8.....	66
<b>Other.....</b>	<b>67</b>
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Think Tank.....	67
7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Learning Lab.....	67

<b>Technology .....</b>	<b>67</b>
Computer Literacy 6 .....	67
<b>Orange Lutheran Online Middle School Class .....</b>	<b>67</b>
Yearlong Spanish 1 .....	67
<b><i>Lower School Grade Descriptions .....</i></b>	<b><i>68</i></b>
<b>Pre-Kindergarten .....</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>Kindergarten.....</b>	<b>68</b>
Language Arts.....	68
Mathematics .....	69
Religion.....	69
Science .....	69
Social Studies.....	69
Spanish .....	69
Physical Education.....	69
Art .....	70
General Music .....	70
Technology .....	70
<b>First Grade .....</b>	<b>70</b>
Language Arts.....	70
Mathematics .....	70
Religion.....	70
Science .....	70
Social Studies.....	71
Spanish .....	71
Physical Education.....	71
Art .....	71
General Music .....	71
Technology .....	71
<b>Second Grade .....</b>	<b>71</b>
Language Arts.....	72
Mathematics .....	72
Religion.....	72
Science .....	72
Social Studies.....	72
Spanish .....	72
Physical Education.....	72
Art .....	73
General Music .....	73
Technology .....	73
<b>Third Grade .....</b>	<b>73</b>
Language Arts.....	73
Mathematics .....	73

Religion.....	74
Science .....	74
Social Studies.....	74
Spanish .....	74
Physical Education.....	74
Art .....	74
General Music .....	74
Technology.....	75
<b>Fourth Grade .....</b>	<b>75</b>
Language Arts.....	75
Mathematics .....	75
Religion.....	75
Science .....	75
Social Studies.....	75
Spanish .....	76
Physical Education.....	76
Art .....	76
Instrumental Music .....	76
General Music .....	76
Technology.....	76
<b>Fifth Grade .....</b>	<b>76</b>
Language Arts.....	77
Mathematics .....	77
Religion.....	77
Science .....	77
Social Studies.....	77
Spanish .....	77
Physical Education.....	78
Art .....	78
Instrumental or Vocal Music .....	78
Technology.....	78
<b>W.I.N.G.S.....</b>	<b>78</b>
Where Imagination and Natural Gifts Soar .....	78



## PLANNING YOUR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

Lutheran South Academy strives to assist young people in preparing for the future. A rigorous academic curriculum within a strong spiritual community is the foundation of our philosophy. Through daily prayer, Bible study classes and contact with Christian teachers, students are provided with opportunities to grow closer to Jesus while preparing for their post-graduation endeavors.

Most of the academic courses taken at LSA are determined by the graduation requirements of the State of Texas. The following pages outline the possible graduation plans. Your passion for music, art, athletics, journalism, mathematics, or science will influence which electives you take. However, all of the choices you make regarding your high school courses should be made with the idea of keeping as many doors of opportunity open as possible. Therefore, you should plan as challenging of a program as you can successfully handle. In this way, you will be better prepared to pursue your changing interests as an adult.

Next are descriptions of all courses offered at LSA with accompanying information about prerequisites and grade level. We encourage you to give the attention to planning for high school the importance that it deserves. Be sure to include prayer as an integral part of your planning, so that you will be guided to find God's place for you in this life before we all join Him in the next.

### Graduation Requirements

Lutheran South Academy desires that all of its students graduate with the Texas Distinguished Level of Achievement (DLA) plan along with a Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement. Students may earn more than one endorsement. This program of study includes the minimum of:

- 4 credits of English, Math, Science and Social Studies,
- 2 credits of Language other than English
- 1 credit of Fine Arts
- 1 credit of Physical Education
- 1/2 credit that fulfills the LSA Communications requirement
- 5 1/2 elective credits
- 1 credit for Theology for each year of attendance at LSA

Students must have at least 26 total state credits (credits earned in Theology and Teacher Aide are not state credits)

## Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsements

### **Business and Industry Pathways**

- 3 or more years of Yearbook
- 3 or more years of Newspaper
- 3 or more years of Broadcast Journalism

### **Art and Humanities Pathways**

- 4 credits of Spanish or Mandarin
- 2 credits of Spanish + 2 credits of Mandarin
- 4 credits in one or two Fine Arts areas (Art, Band, Choir)
- 5 credits in Social Studies

### **Multidisciplinary Studies**

- 4 credits of advanced courses
  - 4 x 4
- 4 credits of AP/Dual credit courses

### **Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM)**

- 5 Math credits (Choose 2: Algebra 3, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics)
- 5 Science credits (Choose 2: Forensic Science, AP Physics, AP Physics2, Biology 2, AP Chemistry, Anatomy)
- 2 Computer Science credits (plus an additional advanced Math or Science credit)

## Performance Acknowledgements

Students may earn a performance acknowledgment for outstanding performance

- In dual credit courses – at least 12 hours of college academic courses with a grade of the equivalent of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- In bilingualism – completing all English language arts requirements and maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale AND completion of a minimum of 3 credits in the same language while maintaining a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- On an AP test by scoring a 3 or above on a College Board advanced placement examination.
- On the PSAT (earning a score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®) that qualifies the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board or as part of the National Achievement Scholarship Program of the National Merit Scholarship Corporation), SAT (by earning a combined critical reading and math score of at least a 1250) and/or ACT (by earning a composite score of 28).

## Honors Courses

Honors level courses are more challenging, and topics are taught in greater depth than are regular courses. All courses labeled Honors are specifically designed to prepare students for the AP curriculum.

## Advanced Placement Program

As a member of College Board, Lutheran South Academy is committed to the AP Program, which is a collaborative effort among motivated students, dedicated teachers, and committed high schools, colleges, and universities. AP courses are college level courses that provide students with opportunities for critical thinking and problem solving. They prepare a student more completely for success in college and give a student the opportunity to earn credit while still in high school. These courses receive quality grade points.

*Advanced Placement courses offered at LSA include:*

AP 3-D Art and Design	AP Chinese Language	AP Government
AP Biology	AP Computer Science Principles	AP Human Geography
AP Calculus AB	AP Drawing	AP Modern World History
AP Calculus BC	AP Economics	AP Physics 1 & 2
AP Capstone Research	AP English Language	AP Spanish Language
AP Capstone Seminar	AP English Literature	AP Statistics
AP Chemistry	AP Environmental Science	AP United States History

## San Jacinto South Dual Credit Program

LSA students have access to college level courses taught by San Jacinto College South professors. In order for students to qualify for these courses, online application must be made to the college, entrance testing requirements (TSIA) must be met, and registration for the classes must be made on the college campus. Since college classes meet twice weekly, students will be placed in a two-period block schedule each day. Juniors and Seniors who participate in Dual Credit must enroll in six hours of college credit (2 classes per semester). Students enrolling in dual credit must also enroll in at least three high school classes during the available periods in the high school schedule. The student is responsible for all college costs and for meeting the required college deadlines. Students who successfully complete these courses receive college as well as high school credit. Students wishing to take other college courses while in high school should contact the LSA registrar for more information. **Grades of C or better must be earned to receive high school credit and to remain in the program. A student who withdraws from a dual credit course will not be eligible to take another dual credit course.**

LSA Course	Credits	San Jacinto South Course
US History	1 credit for 2 semesters	HIST 1301/1302
Humanities	0.5 credit for 1 semester	HUMA 1301
Psychology	0.5 credit for 1 semester	PSYC 2301
English 4	1 credit for 2 semesters	ENGL 1301/1302
Government	0.5 credit for 1 semester	GOVT 2305
Economics	0.5 credit for 1 semester	ECON 2301

## Additional Dual Credit Opportunities

In addition to dual credit via San Jacinto Community College, LSA students also have the opportunity to take dual credit courses through Grand Canyon University and Concordia University Nebraska. Courses offered through Grand Canyon University, as part of LSA's membership to the Canyon Christian Schools Consortium, are online and do not receive premium points toward the GPA unlike the courses offered at San Jacinto Community College. Courses offered through Concordia University Nebraska are available in conjunction with the coordinating courses taught at Lutheran South Academy by LSA teachers. These particular dual credit offerings also do not receive premium points toward the GPA unlike the courses offered at San Jacinto Community College; however, the coordinating course taken at LSA do have premium points as applicable for honors-level and AP-level courses.

## Alternative Credit Program

Students in grades 8-12 may earn high school credits by correspondence. Courses must be taken from Texas Tech University (<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/ttuisd>). These credits may be applied toward state graduation requirements. Students who have at least 80 clock hours of instruction in a semester course and have failed a course may recover the credit by passing an examination given by Texas Tech or The University of Texas at Austin. Students must receive a 70 or above on the examination to receive credit for the course.

## HIGH SCHOOL COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

This section of the planning guide contains descriptions of courses offered in grades 9-12 at Lutheran South Academy. Descriptions are divided into content areas and include information about course content, grade placement, prerequisites, and credits. Unless otherwise indicated for the specific course description, credit is awarded or denied at the end of each semester. Students are required to achieve a grade of 60 or higher on a college grade scaled to receive credit in a course. A high school scale is used to report the grades on an official transcript. All courses except Religion receive one-half credit per semester.

### Spiritual Life

#### *Theology 9*

Department: Religion

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1.0

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Lutheran Study Bible ESV

Prerequisites: None

*Theology 9* is the introductory theology course that students must take the first & second semesters of their freshman year. The first semester, students will be introduced to the makeup of the Bible and explore key concepts in the story of salvation: Creation, Original Sin, Actual Sin, Law, Gospel, Vicarious Atonement, Justification, Means of Grace, Faith, Sanctification, and Eschatology. The second semester is a world religions course that examines the key concepts in the story of salvation as they are found in major religions of the world. Students will study various world religions and examine each from a Christian framework and worldview.

#### *Theology 10*

Department: Religion

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1.0

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Lutheran Study Bible ESV

Prerequisites: None

*Theology 10* is a theology course that focuses entirely on the New Testament of the Bible. The first semester reinforces the key concepts in the story of salvation by examining the life of Jesus through a study of the Gospels and its teachings when applied to our lives today. The second semester is an ethics course where students will study various approaches to ethics in general, such as deontological ethics, normative ethics, situational ethics, etc. Students will also explore specific ethical applications, such as medical ethics, business ethics, and the like.

#### *Theology 11*

Department: Religion

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 1.0

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Lutheran Study Bible ESV

Prerequisites: None

*Theology 11* is a theology course that has students in the first semester dive into the first books of the Old Testament and see how the path for Jesus is enacted. This course reinforces the key concepts in the story of salvation by examining the Old Testament books of Genesis through Joshua. The second semester is a character study rooted in the Old Testament. Students will explore both the strengths and weaknesses



Students enrolled in English 2 continue to increase and refine their communication skills. Students practice all forms of writing with emphasis on persuasive and analytical writing. As well as personal forms of writing. These personal forms of writing may include a response to literature, a reflective essay, or an autobiographical narrative. Other modes of writing include descriptive and expository writing. Students read extensively in multiple genres from world literature and interpret the possible influences of the historical context on a literary work.

### *English 2 Honors*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 10                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 1, English 1 Honors or equivalent

Honors English 2 is designed with the purpose of preparing students for both the AP Language and Composition and the AP Literature and Composition courses, the AP exams, and college coursework, following the content requirements for Honors vertical alignment prescribed by the College Board. This class builds on the skills introduced at the ninth-grade level and provides experiences that will enrich the student's appreciation of literature and language, including independent reading assignments, literary analysis, rhetorical analysis, research opportunities, vocabulary building, and advanced composition skills. Through reading a variety of texts, both fiction and nonfiction, students will engage in close observation and analysis, evidence-based writing, high-order questioning, and academic conversation in order to extend their content knowledge while strengthening their critical thinking skills.

### *English 3*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 11                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 2, English 2 Honors or equivalent

Students enrolled in English 3 continue to increase and refine their communication skills. In English 3, students practice all forms of writing. Students read extensively in multiple genres from American literature. Periods from American literature may include the Pre-Colonial period, Colonial and Revolutionary periods, Romanticism and Idealism, Realism and Naturalism, early 20<sup>th</sup> century, and late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Composition moves include persuasive, expository, analytical, and creative writing.

### *AP English Language & Composition*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 11                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 2, English 2 Honors or equivalent

The Advanced Placement English Language and Composition course engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of periods, disciplines, and rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Students will write in a variety of forms – expository, analytical, argumentative – as the basis of academic, professional, and personal communication. In addition, students will read a variety of prose styles from many disciplines and historical periods with an emphasis on American literature to gain an understanding of the connections between interpretive skill in reading and writing. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the AP exam in English Language and Composition administered by the College Board. Students also have the opportunity to earn

dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *English 4*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 3, AP English Language, or equivalent

Students enrolled in English 4 continue to increase and refine their communication skills. In English 4, students are expected to write in a variety of forms, including business, personal, literary, and persuasive texts. Students read extensively in multiple genres from British literature and world literature. Periods from British literature may include the old English period, Medieval period, English Renaissance, 17<sup>th</sup> century, 18<sup>th</sup> century, Romantic period, Victorian period, and modern and post-modern periods.

### *AP English Literature & Composition*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 3, AP English Language, or equivalent

AP English Literature & Composition is the equivalent of a college-level sophomore class. Students can, based on their performance on the AP Examination, earn up to two semesters of college credit and/or advanced placement in college composition. By engaging in close reading and critical analysis, students will focus on reading, analyzing, and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. They learn how to discover meaning in literature by considering a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery and symbolism. Students are expected to justify their interpretations by reference to details and patterns found in the text, to compare their own interpretations as their understanding of the text deepens. Through study and practice, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

### *English 4 Dual Credit*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: San Jacinto Tuition  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of English 3, AP English Language, or equivalent and evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto College have entered into an agreement to offer college level courses and award to students' concurrent high school credit and college hours. This two-semester course is designed to be a college level course and covers the elements for both English IV and 1301 Composition/1302 Literature. Tuition and textbooks are paid for by the student. The course is taught on the San Jacinto College South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *Communication Applications*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 9-12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: None

Communication Applications focuses on the skills necessary for oral presentations with an emphasis on good communication in the work world. Skill development includes writing, researching, listening, organizing, and critical thinking. Students will study philosophies of communication and techniques for speaking for success; they will have a variety of speech-presentation opportunities that will require creativity and technological knowledge. Students will develop self-confidence as their skills increase.

### *Debate 1*

Department: Language Arts	Grade Level: 9-12	Credits: 1
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: None		

In Debate 1, students will develop their skills in public speaking, information literacy, and argumentation. Through the study of both the classical rhetorical tradition and modern public discourse, they will develop sound critical thinking and sharpen their persuasive skills. Students will conduct research and construct arguments in a variety of persuasive genres to prepare them for oral argumentation in various debate formats, including Big Questions, Lincoln-Douglas, and Policy Debate. This course covers the essential skills of Communication Applications, thereby fulfilling the required speech credit.

### *Debate 2*

Department: Language Arts	Grade Level: 10-12	Credits: 1
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Debate 1		

In Debate 2, students will master their skills in public speaking, independent research, and argumentation. Through the study of both the classical rhetorical tradition and modern public discourse, they will develop sound critical thinking and sharpen their persuasive skills. Students will conduct research and prepare oral arguments for a variety of debate formats, including Big Questions, Lincoln-Douglas, and Policy Debate.

### *Yearbook*

Department: Language Arts	Grade Level: 9-12	Credits: 1-4
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation		

Students will learn to write in a variety of forms for a variety of purposes using the fundamentals of journalistic writing. The course centers around the production of the school yearbook, *The Pioneer*, and students learn the fundamentals of publication culminating in the publication of the book at the end of the school year. Students enrolled in the yearbook course for two sequential years can fulfill their technology requirement.

### *Teen Leadership*

Department: Language Arts	Grade Level: 9-12	Credits: 0.5
Course Length: 1 Semester	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: None		

Teen Leadership is a one-semester course designed to develop business, professional, and leadership skills in a nurturing environment. Students will learn to handle peer pressure, communicate effectively,

demonstrate creative problem solving, accept personal responsibility for one's thoughts, attitudes, and actions and realize the importance of life goals and vision. Students will present a variety of speeches and participate in group discussion and activities. Teen Leadership counts as a speech credit.

### AP Capstone Diploma Program

The AP Capstone Diploma Program is a two-year program based on two AP courses, AP Seminar and AP Research. Students who fulfill the requirements can earn academic awards recognized by colleges around the world.

#### *AP Seminar*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 10-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Teacher recommendation

Students will develop and practice the skills in research, collaboration, and communication that they will need in any academic discipline. Students will investigate topics in a variety of subject areas, write research-based essays, and design and give presentations both individually and as part of a team.

#### *AP Research*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of AP Seminar, a score of 3 or better on AP Seminar test, and teacher recommendation

AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a year long investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

### Mathematics

#### *Algebra 1*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 9                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra or equivalent

Algebra 1 lays the foundation for all future math courses. Topics include the properties of algebra, linear functions and inequalities, quadratic functions, systems of linear equations and inequalities, properties of exponents, simplification of polynomials, factoring, and rational functions.

### *Geometry*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 9-10                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors or equivalent

Geometry serves as an introduction to Euclidean geometry. Topics include logic, proof, angles, parallelism, properties of two and three-dimensional figures, congruence, similarity, basic trigonometry, linear equations, and other concepts that will serve as the foundation for future math.

### *Geometry Honors*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 9-10                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 with a 90% or better, Algebra 1 Honors (or Middle School Algebra 1) with an 80% or better or equivalent

Geometry Honors serves as an introduction to Euclidean geometry. Topics include logic, proof, angles, parallelism, properties of two and three-dimensional figures, congruence, similarity, and basic trigonometry. Additional emphasis is given to writing formal proofs.

### *Algebra 2*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 10-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1, Algebra 1 Honors or equivalent, Geometry, Geometry Honors or equivalent

Algebra 2 provides students with a second year of algebra. Topics include linear and quadratic functions, powers and roots, logarithms and radicals, rational expressions, conics, complex numbers, sequences and series, and matrices.

### *Algebra 2 Honors*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 10-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1 with a 90% or better, Algebra 1 Honors with an 80% or better or equivalent. Successful completion of Geometry with a 90% or better, Geometry Honors with an 80% or better or equivalent

Algebra 2 Honors provides students with a second year of algebra. Topics include linear and quadratic functions, powers and roots, logarithms and radicals, rational expressions, conics, complex numbers, probability, and matrices. Emphasis is given to solving word problems.

### *Algebra 3*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 2, Algebra 2 Honors, or equivalent

Algebra 3 provides students with a third year of algebra skills development before they begin college-level mathematics. Topics include linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and logarithmic

functions, and their applications. Students have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *Pre-Calculus Honors*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 10-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 2 with a 90% or better, Algebra 2 Honors with an 80% or better, or Algebra 3 or equivalent

Pre-Calculus Honors prepares students for the study of calculus or other college-level mathematics. Topics include a review of algebra and an in-depth study of trigonometry, analytical geometry, and analysis of functions.

### *Calculus 1*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus Honors or equivalent

Calculus 1 is equivalent to the first semester of college calculus. Topics include functions, limits, differential calculus, and integral calculus. Students have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *AP Calculus AB*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Calculus Honors or equivalent

AP Calculus AB is equivalent to the first semester of college calculus. Topics include functions, limits, differential calculus, and integral calculus. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the Calculus AB Exam administered by the College Board. Students also have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *AP Calculus BC*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator or TI Nspire (non-CAS)  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of AP Calculus AB or equivalent

AP Calculus BC is equivalent to the second semester of college calculus, with a thorough review of AP Calculus AB in preparation for the AP Calculus BC exam which includes material from both semesters of college calculus. Topics include techniques of integration, applications of integration, differential equations, calculus with polar and parametric equations and vectors, and sequences and series. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the AP Calculus BC Exam administered by the College Board. Students also have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *AP Statistics*

Department: Mathematics                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 2 with an 90% or better or Algebra 2 Honors with an 80% or better or equivalent

AP Statistics is a college-level introduction to statistics. Topics include gathering and organizing data, linear regression, experimental design, probability, and statistical inference. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the AP Statistics Exam administered by the College Board. Students also have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

## Science

### *Biology 1*

Department: Science                      Grade Level: 9                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: None

Biology 1 provides instruction for learning new terminology, understanding processes, thinking critically, solving problems, developing lab skills, and becoming scientifically literate about living organisms. It involves the study of God's gift of life in these areas: 1) the structure and function of four families of biological molecules, 2) the flow of matter and energy through an ecosystem, 3) genetics and the transfer of information through a population, and 4) internal systems which comprise microbes, plants, and animals.

### *Biology 1 Honors*

Department: Science                      Grade Level: 9                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: None

Honors Biology 1 provides instruction for learning new terminology, understanding processes, thinking critically, solving problems, developing lab skills, and becoming scientifically literate about living organisms. It involves the study of God's gift of life in these areas: 1) the structure and function of four families of biological molecules, 2) the flow of matter and energy through an ecosystem, 3) genetics and the transfer of information through a population, and 4) internal systems which comprise microbes, plants, and animals. While covering the same concepts as Biology 1, Honors Biology 1 includes more in-depth inquiry and more comprehensive assessments. Students who successfully complete Honors Biology 1 will build the necessary knowledge and skills to attempt AP Biology as a junior or senior.

### *Chemistry 1*

Department: Science                      Grade Level: 10                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology 1, Biology 1 Honors, or equivalent, and Algebra 1



AP Physics 2 is a lab-oriented course covering topics in algebra and trigonometry-based physics. The students will seek out and understand the basic laws of nature, which describe all physical phenomena. These laws are discovered and subsequently quantified using mathematical models to represent the physical situation and predict future events. This course provides the student with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical and scientific skills needed to pass an AP exam in the spring and also to enroll in a calculus-based physics course in college (assuming they have also taken and passed Calculus). Students will cultivate their understanding of physics and science practices as they explore the following topics: thermodynamics, electrostatics, electric circuits, magnetism, optics, waves, sound, and modern physics. Throughout the year students will be reminded of the role of their Creator in establishing an ordered universe and the agreement between the observable world and God's word.

### *AP Chemistry*

Department: Science

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Chemistry 1, Chemistry 1 Honors, or equivalent, and Algebra 2

AP Chemistry is a lab-oriented course covering topics in measurement, types of reactions, stoichiometry, thermochemistry, atomic structure, periodicity, chemical kinetics, chemical equilibrium, acids and bases, nuclear chemistry, and electrochemistry. Recommended for students planning to attend a college or university majoring in a science, engineering, or health-related field. This course provides the student with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical and scientific skills needed to pass an AP exam in the spring and also to enroll in a calculus-based physics course in college (assuming they have also taken and passed Calculus). The AP Chemistry course offers students a college-level foundation for future advanced studies in Chemistry. Through inquiry-based investigations, students enhance their understanding of topics including atomic structure and properties, compound structure and properties, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermochemistry, equilibrium, acids and bases, thermodynamics, and electrochemistry.

### *AP Biology*

Department: Science

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Biology 1 Honors, Chemistry 1 Honors, or equivalent

In AP Biology, students will study the core scientific principles, theories, and processes that govern living organisms and biological systems from a Christ-centered perspective. Students will do hands-on laboratory work and use simulations to investigate natural phenomena. The course content is presented in four big ideas: 1) Evolution, 2) Energetics, 3) Information Storage and Transmission, and 4) Systems Interactions. Students will design an experiment to test a prediction. They'll collect, analyze, and interpret data to draw a conclusion. Students will also learn to support a scientific claim with evidence. This course provides the student with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical and scientific skills needed to pass an AP exam in the spring.

### *Forensic Science*

Department: Science

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Biology 1 & Chemistry 1



Ancient World History and Geography is a hybrid course that incorporates Geography into a study of the beginnings of human history through 1200. The course emphasizes the importance of physical, cultural, and environmental geography in the shaping of the human experience and seeks to understand how God's creation affects man and how man affects God's creation in our human efforts to be good caretakers of our world.

This survey of Ancient World History and culture incorporates a basic world geography course through inclusion of more detail, emphasis on environmental concerns, analysis of cultural geography, and emphasis on maps and political geography. Students explore God's creation of the man and the world, early man before writing, River Valley civilizations, and the Classical period, including the study of Greece, Rome, Byzantium, and China using a blend of historical thinking skills and geography to better understand the people, places, and environments.

*Ancient World History and Geography Honors (Special Topics in Social Studies)*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 9

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: None

Ancient World History and Geography is a hybrid course that incorporates Geography into a study of the beginnings of human history through 1200. The course emphasizes the importance of physical, cultural, and environmental geography in the shaping of the human experience and seeks to understand how God's creation affects man and how man affects God's creation in our human efforts to be good caretakers of our world.

This survey of Ancient World History and culture incorporates a basic world geography course through inclusion of more detail, emphasis on environmental concerns, analysis of cultural geography, and emphasis on maps and political geography. Students explore God's creation of the man and the world, early man before writing, River Valley civilizations, and the Classical period, including the study of Greece, Rome, Byzantium, and China using a blend of historical thinking skills and geography to better understand the people, places, and environments.

As an honors course, this class is designed to prepare students to take the more challenging AP Modern World History course and will include faster pacing, more self-directed learning practices, expectations of a higher reading comprehension, and a strong focus on critical and historic thinking skills including the introduction of DBQ writing with primary source materials.

*Modern World History*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Ancient World History and Geography, Honors World History and Geography, or equivalent

Modern World History is a survey course of human history from 1200 to the present. The course begins with the fall of the Classical empire emphasizing the social, political, environmental, cultural, economic, and technological factors which shaped the world today. Through the lens of historical thinking skills, students will examine an overview of significant people, events, and issues exploring the rise and fall of global empires, the growth of Christianity and other major religions, the development of the modern

nation state, wars, industrialization, revolutions, increased trade, and movement of people, which led us to the globalization of our world today.

### *AP World History: Modern*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 10

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: 90% and Teacher Recommendation in Ancient World History and Geography or 80% and Teacher Recommendation in Honors Ancient World History and Geography

AP World History: Modern is an introductory college-level modern world history course. Students cultivate their understanding of world history from c. 1200 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like humans and the environment, cultural developments and interactions, governance, economic systems, social interactions and organization, and technology and innovation. Solid reading, comprehension, writing skills, and a willingness to devote considerable outside class time are necessary for this class. This is a rigorous course that will help students transition into self-directed, independent advocates of the learning process as they challenge themselves at a higher level of thinking and learning pursuing college-level studies while still in high school. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the AP Modern World History Exam administered by the College Board in May.

### *United States History*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Successful completion of World History, Ancient World History and Geography, Honors World History and Geography, or equivalent

This course, which is the second part of a two-year study of U.S. history that begins in Grade 8, is a study of the history of the United States from Reconstruction to the present. Historical content includes the political, economic, and social events and issues related to industrialization and urbanization, major wars, domestic and foreign policies of the Cold War and post-Cold War eras, and reform movements including civil rights. Students use critical thinking skills to explain and apply different methods that historians use to interpret the past, including points of view and historical context.

### *AP United States History*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: 90% and Teacher Recommendation in Modern World History or 80% and Teacher Recommendation in previous AP Social Studies course or equivalent and evidence of college readiness

AP U.S. History is an introductory college-level U.S. History course. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. history from c. 1491 CE to the present through analyzing historical sources and learning to make connections and craft historical arguments as they explore concepts like American and national identity; work, exchange, and technology; geography and the environment; migration and settlement; politics and power; America in the world; American and regional culture; and social structures. Emphasis is placed on higher order critical thinking skills, essay writing, and interpretation of original documents. Solid reading, comprehension, writing skills, and a willingness to devote considerable outside class time are necessary for this class. This is a rigorous course that will help students transition into self-directed, independent

advocates of the learning process as they challenge themselves at a higher level of thinking and learning pursuing college-level studies while still in high school. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the United States History exam administered by the College Board.

### *United States History Dual Credit*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 11                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of World History, Ancient World History and Geography, Honors World History and Geography, or equivalent and evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto College have entered into an agreement to offer a college level course in United States History that satisfies high school graduation and earns college credit hours. Students taking this course must enroll concurrently in EDUC 1300 and PSYCHOLOGY 2301. The course is taught on the San Jacinto South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *Government*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of US History, AP US History, or equivalent

Government focuses on the principles and beliefs, including Christianity, on which the United States was founded and the structure, functions, and powers of government at the national, state, and local levels. Students analyze major concepts of republicanism, federalism, checks and balances, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, and individual rights.

### *AP Government*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: 90% and Teacher Recommendation in U.S. History or 80% and Teacher Recommendation in previous AP Social Studies course or equivalent and evidence of college readiness

AP U.S. Government and Politics is an introductory college-level course in U.S. government and politics. Students cultivate their understanding of U.S. government and politics through analysis of data and text-based sources as they explore topics like constitutionalism, liberty and order, civic participation in a representative democracy, competing policy-making interests, and methods of political analysis. This course will give students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Solid reading and writing skills and willingness to devote considerable outside class time are necessary for this class. This is a rigorous course that will help students transition into self-directed, independent advocates of the learning process as they challenge themselves at a higher level of thinking and learning pursuing college-level studies while still in high school. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the AP Government and Politics Exam administered by the College Board in May.

### *Government Dual Credit*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: San Jacinto Tuition  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of US History, AP US History, or equivalent and evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto have entered into an agreement to offer a college level Government course and award students with credit for graduation and college credits. This one semester course is designed to be a college level Government course and covers the elements for U.S. Government. Tuition and textbooks are paid for by the student. The course is taught on the San Jacinto South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *Economics*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of US History, AP US History, or equivalent

This course is an introduction to the economic systems and economic principles that have application to students' lives, especially the free enterprise system. The one-semester course includes both the theories of economic principles and the practical concerns of consumers including instruction on topics concerning personal finance. The course introduces critical economics and management decisions and examines the importance of investment and future savings for the student, and how the Christian deals with money in the modern world.

### *AP Economics*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: 90% and Teacher Recommendation in U.S. History or 80% and Teacher Recommendation in previous AP Social Studies course or equivalent and evidence of college readiness, and Algebra 2

AP Macroeconomics is an introductory college-level macroeconomics course. Students cultivate their understanding of the principles that apply to an economic system as a whole by using principles and models to describe economic situations and predict and explain outcomes with graphs, charts, and data as they explore concepts like economic measurements, markets, macroeconomic models, and macroeconomic policies. This is a rigorous course that will help students transition into self-directed, independent advocates of the learning process as they challenge themselves at a higher-level of thinking and learning while pursuing college-level studies while still in high school. At the end of the course, the student will be prepared to take the AP Economics exam administered by the College Board in May.

### *Economics Dual Credit*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: San Jacinto Tuition  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of US History, AP US History, or equivalent and evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto College have entered into an agreement to offer a college level Economics course and award students with credit for graduation and college credits. This one semester course is designed to be a college level Economics course and covers the elements for Economics and Free Enterprise Tuition and textbooks are paid for by the student. The course is taught on the San Jacinto South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *Texas Court 1 – Foundation of Law*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 10-12                      Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters  
Prerequisites: None

Fees/Materials: None

This year-long elective course is intended to give a summary of the foundational areas of law studied in law school- Constitutional Law, Criminal Law & Procedure, Contracts, Torts, and Family Law (possibly more depending on the pace of the course). These subjects will be taught in a manner similar to the Socratic method utilized by law school professors. Students will be asked to read actual cases, brief them, and discuss them openly in class to discern the rule of law. After studying the case law in a given area, we will study the corresponding Street Law chapter to summarize the content we have studied. We will take field trips in both fall and spring to watch trials at both the Criminal Justice Center and the Civil Courthouse. This course requires reading, writing, and strong comprehension skills of upper-level material.

### *Texas Court 2 – Trial/Appellate Advocacy*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Texas Court 1 and teacher approval

This course is focused on pre-trial and trial courtroom procedures and argument. Students will be expected to learn pre-trial procedures, trial procedures, the rules of evidence, how to become a strong public speaker, and learn proper courtroom decorum. Students will study several different cases (both civil and criminal- some real, some fictional) and will learn through role-play as prosecutors, civil litigators, witnesses, and Judges.

### *Humanities Dual Credit*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 0.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Fees/Materials: San Jacinto Tuition

Prerequisites: Evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto College have entered into an agreement to offer a college level course in Humanities. Students will be awarded credit for high school graduation and college credits. This class is a one semester course to be taken concurrently with U.S. History Dual Credit. The course is taught on the San Jacinto South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *Philosophy Dual Credit*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 0.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Fees/Materials: San Jacinto Tuition

Prerequisites: Evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto College have entered into an agreement to offer a college level course in Philosophy. Students will be awarded credit for high school graduation and college credits. This class is a one semester course to be taken concurrently with U.S. History Dual Credit. The course is taught on the San Jacinto South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *Psychology Dual Credit*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 11

Credits: 0.5

Course Length: 1 Semester

Fees/Materials: San Jacinto Tuition

Prerequisites: Evidence of college readiness

LSA and San Jacinto College have entered into an agreement to offer a college level course in Psychology. Students will be awarded credit for high school graduation and college credits. This class is a one semester course to be taken concurrently with U.S. History Dual Credit. The course is taught on the San Jacinto South campus by an instructor from SJC.

### *History of United States Sports*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 9-12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: None

Students learn U.S. History through the evolution of a variety of sports. Students study sports teams, heroes, mascots, and the impact of the media. Connections are made between sports and events occurring in the U.S. at the time. Students use critical thinking skills to locate, organize, analyze, and use data from a variety of sources.

### *Reel History*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 9-12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 1 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: None

Students learn about key historical events through the use of modern and classical films. Students use critical thinking skills to analyze and discern the historical event from class instruction and the film's depiction.

### *Peer Assistance Leadership (PALs) 1 & 2*

Department: Social Studies                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 0.5  
Course Length: 2 Semester                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Application and Teacher approval

This one credit elective is designed to train older students in assisting other students in having a positive and productive school experience. Enrollment is limited to 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Interviews and written applications are required.

## Foreign Languages

### *Spanish 1*

Department: Foreign Languages                      Grade Level: 9                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: None

Spanish 1 serves as an introductory course of language acquisition at the high school level. Acquiring another language incorporates communication skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students develop these skills by using communication strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions, and to get others to adopt a course of action. Knowledge of the Hispanic culture, comparisons between languages

and cultures, and community interaction all contribute to enhance the communicative language learning experience. The acquisition of vocabulary and communication skills is the primary focus of this entry level course.

### *Spanish 2*

Department: Foreign Languages                      Grade Level: 9-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish 1 or equivalent

Spanish 2 is the next step in the Spanish language acquisition. Grammar concepts and vocabulary learned in level one will serve as the starting point for this phase of study. More complex grammar structures, vocabulary groups based in real life experiences and additional verb tenses (preterite, imperfect, future, and subjunctive) will be mastered through listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills building. Students also have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *Spanish 3 Honors*

Department: Foreign Languages                      Grade Level: 10-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish 2 or equivalent

The Spanish 3 Honors course continues to engage students with extensive vocabulary building and development of more complex grammar structures. It provides the student with a variety of opportunities to practice giving and asking for information. The course builds skills for higher levels of communication: giving advice, expressing opinions (complaining/disagreeing), reacting to news, introducing and changing topics, talking about challenges and accomplishments, and discussing future plans. There is an emphasis on writing skills and an appreciation for Hispanic literature. Students also have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

### *AP Spanish Language and Culture*

Department: Foreign Languages                      Grade Level: 11-12                      Credits: 1  
Course Length: 2 Semesters                      Fees/Materials: None  
Prerequisites: Successful completion of Spanish 3 Honors or equivalent

AP Spanish Language and Culture is designed to advance students further in the knowledge of the Spanish language and to sharpen their skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing. This course provides students with the opportunity to deepen their knowledge of Spanish grammatical structure as present in great pieces of Spanish literature and to model such structures in their own imitations. Students read and discuss a variety of Spanish authors giving the students an opportunity to express (both orally and in writing) their own thoughts on modern-day issues in Spanish. At the end of the course, students will be prepared to take the Spanish Language exam administered by the College Board. Students also have the opportunity to earn dual credit for this course through Concordia University Nebraska by paying an additional fee. See your teacher for details.

## Physical Education

### *Foundations of Personal Fitness*

Department: Physical Education

Grade Level: 9-10

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Uniform Fee

Prerequisites: None

The basic purpose of this course is to encourage and motivate students to strive for lifetime personal fitness and health. This course focuses on muscular strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, cardiovascular endurance, and aerobic training.

### *Advanced PE – Football*

Department: Physical Education

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Coaches approval

Students develop motor skills and learn the rules of football while engaging in physical activity.

### *Athletic PE through Participation*

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Uniform Fee

Prerequisites: None

The LSA Athletic Department will award a Physical Education credit to any student who completes **both** of the requirements set forth below.

#### **Participation Requirement:**

This requirement can be met by participating and completing the in-season requirements for 2 or more sports teams.

#### **Weight Training Requirement:**

This requirement can be met by logging an average of at least 100 minutes a week for weight training with the LSA Athletic Department. Students will be allowed to complete this requirement during their study hall or by doing the lifting during a time assigned by the LSA Athletic Department. There will not be an Athletic PE class offered during the school day.

## Fine Arts

### *Symphonic Band*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Music Fee/Instrument

Prerequisites: None

Psalm 98:6 invites us “with trumpets and the sound of the horn [to] make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!” The LSA Symphonic Band provides students the opportunity to use and grow their musical talents within a large ensemble setting. Continued emphasis is given to the development of musicianship and technical skills through a large repertoire of appropriate level band literature. The Symphonic Band

performs in concerts, interscholastic competitions, and other events throughout the course of the year and students are also encouraged to participate in the All-State Band competitions available to the members of the ensemble. While previous playing experience is highly recommended, it is not required.

### *Symphonic Band Honors*

Department: Fine Arts	Grade Level: 11-12	Credits: 1-2
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: Music Fee/Instrument	
Prerequisites: None		

Third and fourth-year students enrolled in Symphonic Band who demonstrate performance excellence, and who complete required writing assignments may receive honors credit for the class.

### *Chorus*

Department: Fine Arts	Grade Level: 9-12	Credits: 1-4
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: None		

Chorus is a course designed to give students a chance to learn the basic elements of vocal production, music reading, and singing quality in a group setting. This group will only perform at the Christmas Concert and the Spring Concert.

### *Concert Choir*

Department: Fine Arts	Grade Level: 9-12	Credits: 1-4
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: Audition		

Concert Choir is a course designed to promote higher learning in vocal music education. The group focuses on technical aspects of music as well as study in music theory, sight reading, and ensembleship. This group sings for seasonal concerts, worship, community events, competitions, festivals, and tours.

### *Concert Choir Honors*

Department: Fine Arts	Grade Level: 11-12	Credits: 1-2
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: Audition		

Third and fourth-year students enrolled in Concert Choir who demonstrate performance excellence, and who complete required writing and presentation assignments may receive honors credit for the class. Students receiving honors credit for two (2) years will satisfy the speech requirement for LSA.

### *Chapel Band*

Department: Fine Arts	Grade Level: 9-12	Credits: 1-4
Course Length: 2 Semesters	Fees/Materials: None	
Prerequisites: Audition		

The Lutheran South Chapel Band gives students the opportunity to function as leaders in the faith through meaningful worship experience. Students are selected through an audition process and those selected learn to use their talents in leading the faculty, staff, and student body in corporate worship of our









INCubator is a full-year course and offers an authentic entrepreneurship experience as students build a business. Students make mistakes, take risks and learn to pivot. They develop their own product or service startup to gain investment funds in a final shark-tank style pitch event. Real entrepreneurs and industry experts serve as volunteer coaches and mentors guiding student teams through the processes of developing hypotheses about a business concept, testing those hypotheses, adapting, and continually learning and improving. Students leave the course having completed a Business Model Canvas, competitive analysis, financial model, minimum viable product, pitch deck, future communications plan, and future funding plan.

### *Sports Broadcast Journalism*

Department: Business

Grade Level: 9-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: None

This course is designed to teach the skills needed to be successful in the field of sports journalism reporting and on-air sports broadcasting. Students in the course will produce live LSA sporting events complete with play-by-play announcers, color commentary, and sideline reporters. In addition to live broadcasts, students will attend sporting events, record the games, and interview players and coaches to create highlight stories, documentaries, and pre/post-game content. Students will work in front of the camera, behind the microphone and camera, and from their laptops while editing, blogging, and posting their work. The program is structured to be a small-scale high school version of ESPN.

## STEM

### *Flight 1*

Department: STEM

Grade Level: 10-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Books and Materials \$150/FAA Written Test \$135/FAA Practical Exam (Checkride) \$300-500/Medical Certificate (before flight time begins, if applicable) \$125

Prerequisites: 2.5 or above Cumulative GPA

This year-long course, taught by certified flight instructors, will explore aviation operations, an exciting, high-demand field with many applications in today's workforce. Students will gain knowledge and skills in aircraft types, construction, aerodynamics, and a variety of other aviation topics. A primary goal of this course is to prepare students to take the FAA Written Exam and the FAA Practical Exam (Checkride) towards a Private Pilot License. This course does not include the flight time required to earn a Private Pilot License. Parents can choose whether or not their students pursue the flight hours from a number of outside business options at considerable personal expense.

### *Flight 2*

Department: STEM

Grade Level: 11-12

Credits: 1

Course Length: 2 Semesters

Fees/Materials: Books and Materials \$150

Prerequisites: Flight 1 and first solo flight completed

This year-long course, taught by advanced ground instructors, will train students in the rules and use of flight instruments. A primary goal of this course is to prepare students to take the written exam to earn an instrument rating. This course does not include the written test or the flight time required to earn and



Course Length: 2 Semesters  
Prerequisites: None

Fees/Materials: None

This hands-on course introduces students to the principles and practices of Computer-Aided Drafting (CAD), a key tool in the fields of engineering, architecture, and design. Throughout the course, students will explore the fundamentals of 2D and 3D drafting, learn how to use CAD software for design visualization, and understand the importance of accuracy and precision in technical drawings. The curriculum emphasizes practical applications, problem-solving, and creativity in drafting. In the first semester, students will concentrate on 2D design and drafting techniques and principles, while in the second semester, they will shift their focus to 3D design and modeling techniques. Aligned with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for Engineering and Technology, this course provides students with a comprehensive introduction to drafting, design, and modeling in the context of engineering. Students will also explore the ethical, environmental, and societal impacts of engineering projects and design solutions, with a focus on the importance of technical drawing in the creation of safe and sustainable products.

## LEAH Schools Online Courses

### Spiritual Life

#### *Theology 1 – Overview and Introduction to God’s Word (1010-OLO)*

Grade 9 (one unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

During the freshmen year, students will be introduced to an overview of the Bible. Each student will not only learn how to use the resources available in the Lutheran Study Bible but will also be educated in the origins and reliability of Scripture. Using God’s Word as the foundation, students will explore creation, covenants, Christ, church, adolescence, adversity, prayer, God’s plan for human sexuality and ten key concepts found in Biblical teaching.

#### *Theology 2 – New Testament (1020-OLO)*

Grade 10 (one unit)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of Theology 1. Any semester grade of an “F” must be remediated prior to advancing to the next Theology course.

Sophomores will study the New Testament to discover the promises of God for our lives and the joy of living life as a Christian. Topics include: an overview of the historical setting for the writing of the New Testament; the four Gospels; the writings of the apostle Paul; the writings of John and Peter; the book of Hebrews, and the doctrines and life applications taken from each of the writings covered.

#### *Theology 3 – Old Testament (1030-OLO)*

Grade 11 (one unit)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of Theology 2. Any semester grade of an “F” must be remediated prior to advancing to the next Theology courses.

Junior Theology focuses on the conjunction between the Old Testament and the New Testament eras, and the Old Testament's role as the revelation of Yahweh's plan for salvation through the Messiah. This takes place primarily through an investigation of the typological events in Israel's history and their covenant-based relationships with Yahweh. Special attention is paid to the foundational role of hermeneutics in the reading and understanding of the Old Testament.

*Theology 4 – Called to Believe (1040-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of Theology 3. Any Theology semester grade of an "F" must be remediated prior to advancing to the next Theology course.

This one-semester course is devoted to studying the sole source of Christian theology, namely the Holy Scriptures. Students will examine the major teachings of the Christian faith (i.e. the Triune God, Humanity, Sin, Christology, Justification, Vocation, Ecclesiology, Eschatology, Sacraments). Not only will students study what Christians believe, students will be introduced to apologetics. Following this course, students are required to complete either the World Religions course or the Apologetics course.

*Theology 4 – The Christian in a Pluralistic Society (1043-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of the semester course Theology 4 – Called to Believe. Any Theology semester grade of an "F" must be remediated prior to advancing to the next Theology course.

This one-semester course is designed to prepare graduation seniors for the reality they will face as Christians living in a pluralistic society. This course is comprised of several units including, but not limited to: Intro to World Religions, Intro to Apologetics, Christians and Ethics, Faith in College, and Christian Themes in the Media.

*Theology 4 – Apologetics (1044-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: Final grade of "B" or better in Theology 3 or approval by Department Chair and completion of the semester course Theology 4 – Called to Believe. Any Theology semester grade of an "F" must be remediated prior to advancing to the next Theology course.

One semester devoted to preparing and equipping the student to defend the faith from modern and postmodern criticism. The goal of this class is to prepare the college bound student to address potential attacks from liberal academia. The student will be able to explain the rational and historical basis that undergird Christianity's claim to exclusive truth.

## Language Arts

*English 1 – Introduction to Literature/Composition (610-OLO)*

Grade 9 (one unit) UC approved course ("b")

PREREQUISITE: Freshmen placement test

The purpose of this course is to develop fundamental English skills. Students will study the correct usage of language through grammar and mechanics of writing. In addition, introductory literary units including

the short story, the novel, and poetry will be studied. Vocabulary study and development of writing skills form an integral part of the program.

*English 2 – American Literature/Composition (620-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“b”)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 1 – Introduction to Literature/Composition

This course includes a comprehensive study of American literature incorporating developmental, canonical, and modern reading. In addition, the course further develops vocabulary and writing skills through formal essays, a topical research paper, and a variety of creative and analytical writing experiences. A review of the grammar and mechanics introduced in English 1 will be part of the curriculum.

*English 3 – British Literature/Composition (630-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“b”)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 2 – American Literature/Composition

This course is designed to develop and refine skills in writing, grammar and vocabulary building. Particular emphasis is placed on the study of British literature by reading assignments of classical British works. Students who complete English 3 with a grade of an “A-” or better, and receive approval of the Instructor, will be eligible to take AP English courses whether they are a junior or senior.

*World Literature/Composition (640-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“b”)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 3 – British Literature/Composition

This course is designed to prepare students for college level English. Major literary works are drawn from around the world and studied in thematic context of Christianity, history, culture, and modern society. Composition includes analytical essays, a college application essay, and a major research paper.

*Writing Experience (680-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“b”)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 3 – British Literature/Composition

This course of study includes writing for the college-bound student, as well as those who aspire to grow in their writing abilities. In a writing workshop, the students will analyze and develop individual writing skills with an emphasis on expository and creative forms as well as a focus on grammar. The students will be encouraged to publish their works.

*AP English Literature/Composition (691-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“b”)

PREREQUISITE: Completion of English 3 – British Literature/Composition with a grade of “A-” or higher and approval of the Instructor.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

AP English Literature/Composition allows the student to work and progress in a literature curriculum at a college or university level. The course, consistent with Advanced Placement guidelines, will facilitate the

student's efforts on the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition test offered in the spring. The curriculum closely examines highly regarded texts written originally in the English language. Forms studied will include drama, poetry, and prose. Students will read, discuss, and analyze major authors. Through these studies, students will find themselves better able to serve God with mind, voice, and pen.

## Mathematics

### *Algebra 1 (720-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course ("c")

PREREQUISITE: Freshmen Placement Test.

This course teaches students to solve linear equations, use linear equations to solve word problems, solve systems of linear equations, factor & solve quadratic equations, and simplify expressions involving polynomials, exponents, and radicals. Topics in Algebra 1 comprise a large portion of many college entrance exams.

### *Geometry (730-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course ("c")

PREREQUISITE: Freshmen must pass the Algebra Diagnostic Test in May. For returning students: Algebra with a minimum grade of "C-" for each semester.

This course is a study of geometric figures in two and three dimensions. It is designed to increase a student's understanding of spatial relations. Emphasis is also placed upon applying algebra to geometric problem solving and applying the basic terminology and concepts of geometry in a logical and organized manner, including formal proofs.

### *Algebra 2 / Trigonometry (750-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course ("c")

PREREQUISITE: Algebra with a minimum grade of "C-" and Geometry with a minimum grade of "C-" for each semester.

This course leads to an understanding of algebra beginning with review of Algebra 1 concepts and extending these same concepts and skills. Topics such as solving polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric equations are first encountered in this course. The study of angles and triangles are the main emphasis of the trigonometry section of the course.

### *Pre-Calculus (790-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course ("c")

PREREQUISITE: Algebra 2/Trigonometry with a minimum grade of "C-".

Analytic Geometry and Trigonometry are integrated with other important topics in mathematics by an approach that stresses the use and understanding of functions. Study will include such topics as rational and irrational numbers, vectors, polar coordinates, sequences and series, matrices, and probability.

### *Introduction to Finite Mathematics (775-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“c”)

PREREQUISITE: Algebra 2/Trigonometry with a minimum grade of “D-” or Pre-Calculus with a minimum grade of “C-”.

This course emphasizes application and problem solving. Students will engage in the study of systems of numeration, finance, probability, apportionment, and statistics. This course provides students with a clearer understanding of many basic mathematical skills used in business, economics, health, and social sciences. It will help prepare students for a college level liberal arts mathematics course.

## Science

### *Biology (820-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“d”)

PREREQUISITE: Freshmen Placement Test

This course focuses on the relationships between living organisms and their environment. Similarities and differences between all organisms, from simple to complex are examined. Additionally, recent developments in molecular biology and biotechnology are presented. Specific topics and activities for the first semester include study of population dynamics, online dissection of a plasma membrane, exploration of bioenergetics, examination of the cellular basis of inheritance, application of Mendel’s rules, and research of evolution. Learning methodology includes assigned readings, lectures, discussion responses, high-frequency online interaction with classmates, and introspective learning summaries. This course includes a wet lab component that will take place in a high laboratory setting and is designed for the student who is able to handle the rigor of a semester in 8 weeks.

### *Chemistry (830 and 831-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“d”)

PREREQUISITE: Biology with a minimum grade of “C-” or and Algebra or Geometry with a minimum grade of “C-” for each semester. Students with a “C-” in Algebra need approval of the Instructor and Department Chair.

This subject provides a study of matter and the changes that occur in it. Physical and chemical changes are identified. Energy relationships are studied and interpreted. Emphasis is given to interpreting the behavior of atoms and molecules based upon what students observe in the laboratory. Formula and equation writing follows an understanding of the changes that are being described.

### *Marine Biology (850-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“d”)

PREREQUISITES: Biology with a minimum grade of 70%, and Chemistry with a minimum grade of 70%.

Throughout this course, students will meet marine animals and see how they interact with each other and their environment. They will tour the evolving seafloor and see trenches, volcanoes, and ridges, just to name a few. Along the way, students will hang ten as they discover waves, currents, tides, and other physical interactions between the ocean and the land. Finally, students will study the impacts of chemical processes on our blue planet and how they affect the water, the atmosphere, and even our climate. With

a focus on conservation, this course will show students that the ocean connects us all, across distance and even time. Hang on – it’s going to be an amazing journey.

### *Astronomy (0840-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one-half unit) UC approved course (“g”)

PREREQUISITE: Chemistry

Astronomy is a science elective designed for students with an interest in learning more about the sky. Astronomy includes a study of the moon, planets, and stars, as well as an examination of the instruments used in modern astronomy.

### *Geology (0841-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one-half unit) UC approved course (“g”)

PREREQUISITE: Chemistry

Geology is a science elective designed for students with an interest in learning more about the earth. Geology involves the study of important mineral and rock types, the learning of skills involved in interpreting geological maps, and the study of the continental drift theory.

## Social Studies

### *World History (510-OLO)*

Grades 9-10 (one unit) UC approved course (“a”)

PREREQUISITE: None

This course includes a brief review of medieval history followed by in-depth examinations of the Renaissance and Reformation, the rise of democratic ideas, the history of world revolutions, the development of imperialism, the impact of the World Wars, and the presence of nationalism in the contemporary world. Each unit utilizes a variety of materials and has an emphasis on geographical relationships.

### *U.S. History (520-OLO)*

Grades 10-11 (one unit) UC approved course (“a”)

PREREQUISITE: World History

This course includes the study of the political, social, economics, and geographic development of the United States from the colonial days to the present. Emphasis is placed on the personalities that helped shape this nation and on the origins of current political elements. Current events and world issues are discussed throughout the year, and special emphasis is placed on helping students develop a cultural understanding of the nation.

### *AP U.S. History (560-OLO)*

Grade 11 (one unit) UC approved course (“a”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 90% or higher in World History both semesters and approval of the Instructor and Department Chair.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

Within AP U.S. History, students will develop and use historical thinking skills (chronological reasoning, comparison and contextualization, crafting historical arguments from historical evidence, and historical interpretation and synthesis) to examine the history of the United States from 1491 to the present. Students will learn through active participation as they analyze sources and collaborate to gain a conceptual understanding of U.S. History. The AP U.S. History course is structured around nine time periods outlined within the College Board Advanced Placement United States History Framework. Each time period is divided into key concepts meant to contextualize history and show continuity as well as change over time. The intention is for students to explore history, establishing economic, political, and social patterns.

### *American Government (530-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit) UC approved course (“a”)

PREREQUISITE: U.S. History

This course is designed as an introduction to American Government. Federal, state, and local organization and operation of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches are the main theme of this course.

*\*NOTE: To satisfy UC requirements for the “a” requirement, it is recommended that this class is taken during the same year with Economics.*

### *Economics (531-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit) UC approved course (“a”)

PREREQUISITE: U.S. History

Economics is the systematic study of man’s effort to satisfy his wants by securing goods and services from the scarcity of nature. The high school economics course is an introduction to the essential concepts, principles, values, and methods of economic analysis and their application to the modern world.

*\*NOTE: To satisfy UC requirements for the “a” requirement, it is recommended that this class is taken during the same year with American Government.*

### *AP American Government and Politics (590-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit) UC approved course (“a”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of “B-” or higher in AP U.S. History, or an “A-” or higher in U.S. History, both semesters.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

AP American Government will be taught as a college level course designed to give students a critical perspective on government and politics in the United States. The course involves the study of general concepts and facts about the American government that can be directly applied to the present day political atmosphere. The course is designed to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Examination for American Government and Politics offered by Educational Testing Services in the spring. All students enrolled in this class will pay for and take the AP exam.

*\*NOTE: To satisfy UC requirements for the "a" requirement, it is recommended that this class is taken during the same year with AP Macroeconomics.*

### *AP Macroeconomics (537-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit) UC approved course ("a")

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of "B-" or higher in AP U.S. History, or an "A-" or higher in U.S. History, both semesters.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

You have been called upon to assist the leader of the Marco Islands who is running for reelection next year. The economy is in shambles, and you need to come up with some feasible solutions. This will not only help the people of the Marco Islands but will also ensure a victory for your employer. You were hired over the Internet and received a first-class ticket to the Marco Islands where you can learn first-hand about the situation. You arrive at Pineapple Airport in the middle of the day and are met by a man with a briefcase who is holding a sign with your name on it. You approach the man and introduce yourself. "I'm Mr. Scarcity," he says. "I'll be your guide as you learn about the economic situation of the islands. You need to learn everything you can about both macroeconomics and our Marco Islands for your presentation to our island leader in May." The course is designed to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Examination for Macroeconomics offered by Educational Testing Services in the spring. All students enrolled in this class will pay for and take the AP exam.

*\*NOTE: To satisfy UC requirements for the "a" requirement, it is recommended that this class is taken during the same year with AP American Government and Politics.*

### *Psychology (540-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course ("g")

PREREQUISITE: Students must earn a 75% or better in both semesters of previous social science course

This course explores the basic psychological concepts of human and animal behavior in such areas as learning motivation, perception, growth and development, personality, and social behavior. Important historical psychological theories will be introduced and analyzed. The course is academically challenging, designed for advanced college bound students.

### *AP Psychology (550-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course ("g")

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 80% or higher in World History or AP World History, both semesters and approval of the Instructor and Department Chair.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

AP Psychology is a college level survey course designed to introduce students to the systematic, scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students will develop a working knowledge of the theories and principles of the major sub-fields of psychology, and will be exposed to the many contributing psychologies and significant research studies, both historical and current, that have shaped our understanding of behavior and mental processes. Students will become trained in the ethics and methodologies that psychologists use in research and practice, and will develop the ability to understand connections between and apply to real-world issues the psychological theories and principles learned in this course. This course is designed to help students prepare for the Advanced Placement Examination in Psychology offered by The College Board in the spring.

## Foreign Languages

### *Chinese 1 (440-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: None

Students join various native speakers of Mandarin Chinese as they give a lively introduction to the language and its rich culture. Set in their everyday environment, the native speakers take students through different daily scenarios and give them necessary skills to read, write, and speak Chinese. In this course, students learn the basic Chinese language. At the very beginning, the course starts by introducing students to a general knowledge of Pinyin, Mandarin Chinese, Chinese dialects, and Chinese characters. After one semester, students will be able to engage in conversation in Chinese including greeting people, introducing themselves to others, and exchanging basic information with others. Students learn to count from 1 to 1,000 and make simple sentences in both spoken and written Chinese. They also learn 160 “magical” Chinese characters and use them on a variety of topics. As students walk through the units step by step, they get to know not only the language itself, but also the culture in which the language takes place and keeps developing.

### *Chinese 2 (450-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 65% or better in both semesters of Chinese 1

Students join various native speakers of Mandarin Chinese as they give a lively introduction to the language and its rich culture. Set in their everyday environment, the native speakers take students through different daily scenarios and give them necessary skills to read, write, and speak Chinese. In this course, students learn the basic Chinese language. At the very beginning, the course starts by introducing students to a general knowledge of Pinyin, Mandarin Chinese, Chinese dialects, and Chinese characters. After one semester, students will be able to engage in conversation in Chinese including greeting people, introducing themselves to others, and exchanging basic information with others. Students learn to count from 1 to 1,000 and make simple sentences in both spoken and written Chinese. They also learn 160 “magical” Chinese characters and use them on a variety of topics. As students walk through the units step by step, they get to know not only the language itself, but also the culture in which the language takes place and keeps developing.

### *Chinese 3 (455-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 75% or better in both semesters of Chinese 2

Learn more about Chinese culture, including the origins, anecdotes, and etiquette for various culture settings, using authentic materials. You will also compare and contrast the Chinese culture with your own as you continue to build knowledge of vocabulary, sentence structure, and grammar.

### *Chinese 4 (460-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 75% or better in both semesters of Chinese 3

Program designed for students who have learned three years of Chinese. Students will learn 600 basic words for listening and speaking, additional sentence structures with a higher level of syntax complexity, in-depth practice for grammatical items that have already been learned in the past three levels, and new grammar points, including some points used often in written Chinese and modal practices. Students will gain listening speaking, reading, and writing skills in standard Chinese. Thus, approximately attaining the Intermediate High to Advanced Low level on the ACTEL proficiency scale.

*French 1 (470-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: None

Learn how to introduce yourself and others, share your interests, and talk about the weather, all in the language of Molière. Explore the rich culture of France including historical sites, foods, and sports through interactive activities, written practice, and speaking and listening exercises.

*French 2 (480-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 65% or better in both semesters of French 1

Expand your listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in French through interactive videos, dialogues, and self-checks. Grow your vocabulary and learn to discuss activities in the past, future, and conditional tenses. Explore the francophone world and the influence France has had across the globe. This course provides elective credit.

*French 3 (490-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 70% or better in both semesters of French 2, and/or approval of the Instructor and Department Chair

This course is designed to reinforce the language skills learned in French 1 and 2 and to continue to prepare students for living in a global society. Classroom instruction will involve the students in communicative tasks through speaking, listening, reading and writing.

*Spanish 1 (400-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: None

This course develops language skills through listening, speaking, reading memorization and acquisition of vocabulary, as well as written exercises. The main goal of this course is to promote oral communication.

*Spanish 2 (410-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A grade of 65% or better in Spanish 1 in both semesters, and approval of the Instructor and Department Chair. Freshmen & transfer students must pass a placement examination in order to enroll in Spanish 2.

This course continues to develop language skills through listening, speaking, reading and writing to enhance communication in Spanish.

### *Spanish 3 (420-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of “B” or better in both semesters of Spanish 2 and/or approval of the Instructor and Department Chair.

This course is designed to reinforce the foreign language skills learned in Spanish 1 and 2 and to continue to prepare students for living in a global society. Classroom instruction will involve the students in communicative tasks through speaking, listening, reading and writing in Spanish.

### *Spanish 4 (430-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“e”)

PREREQUISITE: A final grade of 80% or better in both semesters of Spanish 3 and/or approval of the Instructor and Department Chair.

This course continues the curriculum which was begun in Spanish 3 with a heavy emphasis on grammar and proper articulation. Students will improve their communication skills through discussion, reading, lectures, and media presentations. This course will assist students for advanced placement in Spanish.

## Physical Education

### *Health Education (5201-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

The emphasis of this course is on physical, mental, social-emotional, and spiritual wellness. Specific topics include holistic health and wellness, nutrition, exercise, sleep, infectious and non-infectious diseases, stress, self-image, self-awareness, self-management and goal-setting, responsible decision-making, persuasive advertising, first aid and emergencies, bullying and abuse, social awareness, effective communication, dating and marriage, and death and suffering. Learning methodology includes assigned readings and videos, lectures, discussion responses, high-frequency online interaction with classmates, and introspective learning summaries.

### *Foundations of Fitness (5203-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

The emphasis of this course is on physical fitness through active living. In addition, studies will include units on cardiorespiratory fitness, muscular fitness, flexibility, designing a personal fitness program, body composition, maintaining a healthy body weight, and incorporating fitness throughout various stages of life.

*Personal Nutrition (5240-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

The emphasis of this course is on nutrition and healthy eating as a way of life. In addition, the course will include units of study on the importance of having a nutritionally balanced diet, dieting and nutrition myths vs. facts, designing a personal nutrition plan, achieving a healthy body image, and incorporating nutrition throughout the various stages/phases of life.

*Sports and Activities (5205-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

This course will emphasize the importance of physical sports/activities in reaching and maintaining a healthy/active lifestyle. The course will include an overview of the physical benefits, as well as the basic skills that are needed for various team/individual sports and activities. Students will set personal/individual fitness goals and be able to experience what sports/activities will help them to achieve these goals, both now and as their physical needs change.

## Fine Arts

*AP Art History (970-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“f”)

PREREQUISITE: A 90% or better in either the previous English or Social Studies class, 80% or better in the previous AP English or AP Social Studies class.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

Within AP Art History, students will explore the interconnections between culture, art, and historical context through the critical analysis of art, culture, and purpose. Through the use of a defined art historical skill set and reflective learning, students will analyze relationships across cultures with a global lens. The examination of how people have responded to and communicated their experiences through art will enable students to think conceptually about art ranging from prehistory to contemporary. Students will be active participants, engaging with art and its context as read, research, and collaborate to learn about art, artists, art making, and responses to and interpretations of art. The AP Art History course is structured around three big ideas, three essential questions, twelve learning objectives, and ten content areas outlined within the College Board Advanced Placement Art History Framework. Each content area is represented by prescribed image set accompanied by enduring understanding and essential knowledge statements that provide required contextual information to serve as a foundation and catalyst for student learning within the course. The intention is for students to explore art in its historic and cultural contexts.

*Introduction to Digital Photography A & B (930-OLO) (935-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit for each semester online course)

PREREQUISITE: Must take Introduction to Digital Photography A prior to taking Introduction to Digital Photography B.

This course focuses on the basics of digital photography and the basics of photography in general. Studies include using the camera, file transfer and storage, post-production, elements of composition, the properties of light, black and white conversion, watermarks, and image selection for portfolios. Students are required to read lectures, respond to discussion questions, view the work of their classmates and professional photographers, photograph images out on assignment and make necessary corrections to photos before submission in this course.

*Multimedia Design Concepts (915-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

This course combines the elements of art, the principles of design and computer-generated audio/visual techniques with an emphasis on creative problem-solving skills. Course discussions and assignments guide students to a stronger grasp of media literacy and visual communication, with the development of basic proficiency in interactive media design. Using up-to-date software, students will be able to create static digital presentation, simple animations, and interactive media pieces. Students will also develop self-promotional pieces and successfully publish their work to the Internet in the form of a Webfolio.

*Music Appreciation A & B (910-OLO) (911-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit for each semester) UC approved course ("f")

PREREQUISITE: None

In this course, students explore a variety of musical styles, forms, fundamentals, instruments, and composers. They will learn about the social backgrounds of various artists and how the various styles and periods reflect the mainstream of history and influence and are influenced by the society at large. There is a focus on listening skills that sharpen students' aesthetic valuing of music and its elements that allows students to engage and interact with music. Students gain an understanding of melody, harmony, rhythm and meter, tempo, dynamics, and others, and learn how these are combined to produce the effects of the music they hear. Learning methodology includes assigned readings, listening, lectures, discussion responses, high-frequency online interaction with classmates, and introspective learning summaries.

## Business

*Accounting (444-OLO)*

Grade 12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

Introduction to Accounting focuses on the basics of analyzing, journaling, and completing financial statements for a service business organized as a proprietorship and merchandising business. Students explore topics such as the accounting equation, T accounts, journalizing, posting to a general ledger, and recording and adjusting financial entries.

*Business Law (445-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit) Elective courses Offered Online Only

PREREQUISITE: None

This course focuses on the foundation of the U.S. legal system in the areas of business and personal law. Students will explore the evolution of our legal and court systems, and understand criminal, civil, property, employment, and contract laws, including legalities in business and financing. Activities include, but are not limited to, discussion questions, weekly summaries, lectures, and multimedia activity.

*Criminal Justice (370-OLO) (371-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

This course is designed to introduce students to the fields of law enforcement, the court system, and the correctional system. This course provides technical skill proficiency, industry content knowledge and competency-based applied learning that contributes to the higher-order reasoning and problem-solving skills, work attitudes, general employability skills, technical skills, and occupation-specific skills, needed in all aspects of law, public safety, and security careers. This course is about criminal justice and its development. Due to the nature of this subject, the material can be very detailed.

## STEM

*AP Computer Science A (950-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“g”)

RECOMMENDED: Completion of Foundations of Programming or Computer Science

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

The AP Computer Science A course is an introductory computer science course. A large part of the course involves developing the skills to write programs or parts of programs that correctly solve specific problems. The course also emphasizes the design issues that make programs understandable, adaptable, and when appropriate, reusable. At the same time, the development of useful computer programs and classes is used as a context for introducing other important concepts in computer science, including the development and analysis of algorithms, and development and use of fundamental data structures, and the study of standard algorithms and typical applications. In addition, an understanding of the basic hardware and software components of computer systems and the responsible use of these systems are integral parts of the course.

*AP Computer Science Principles (985-OLO)*

Grades 10-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“d”)

PREREQUISITE: Freshmen: concurrent enrollment in (H) Geometry and have experience in programming that will be verified by the instructor. For returning students: Algebra with a minimum grade of 90% or Enriched Algebra with a minimum grade of 85% for each semester. Recommended: Computer Science with a minimum grade of 80% for each semester or OLO Foundations of Programming with a minimum grade of 80%; or have experience in programming that will be verified by the instructor.

FEES: AP Exam Fee of \$100.00. All students enrolled in AP courses are expected to take the AP Exam.

In this engaging, project-based curriculum, students develop computational thinking and programming skills through collaborative, open-ended projects that are personally meaningful to students’ lives. Students examine how computing shapes our society by investigating and debating issues such as

cybersecurity, data privacy, and digital literacy. Assignments grow in complexity as students explore programming concepts first through block-based, drag-and-drop coding in Scratch, followed by text-based coding in Python. This innovative curriculum is designed to engage all students, while also providing rigorous preparation for the AP Computer Science Principles exam.

### *Computer & Network Security Fundamentals (350-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“g”) Offered Online Only

PREREQUISITE:

This course covers the fundamentals of computer safety, network security, and prevention of digital attacks. Experience a hands-on approach to security strategies and explore employment opportunities in one of the fastest growing industries: Cybersecurity.

### *Digital Information Technology (990-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“g”)

PREREQUISITE: None

This exciting course provides you with foundational skills needed for future careers in a variety of technological fields. You’ll explore emerging technologies, digital design, Microsoft Office online applications, operating systems, and much more! Learn your strengths and how they relate to potential career opportunities.

### *Foundations of Programming (940-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one unit) UC approved course (“g”)

PREREQUISITE: None

Foundations of programming will teach students the fundamentals of programming using the computer language Python. The course provides students with the concepts, techniques, and processes associated with computer programming and software development. Students will also explore the many programming career opportunities available in this high-demand field.

### *Video Game Design A (945-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

This semester course provides an introduction to the game design industry to study various career opportunities. Students will evaluate games and their use of images, sound effects and music to make the games attractive to players. Using game design software, they will develop multilevel games. Students will design a game from scratch using relevant software, and add original sound effects, audio, and music.

### *Video Game Design B (946-OLO)*

Grades 9-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: Video Game Design A with an 80% or better

This semester course is a continuation of Video Game Design A. The course leads students further through the theory and process of designing and programming computer games. The history, genre and future of gaming are considered. A unit on successful game attributes will include game plots, controls, strategies,

graphics and foley sound effects. The planning of their students' game project will study storyline, characters, music, and flowcharting. Students will play other students' games and provide feedback.

## Elective

### *Personal Financial Literacy (360-OLO)*

Grades 11-12 (one-half unit)

PREREQUISITE: None

Learn one of life's most important lessons, how to make sound financial decisions. In this course, you will learn financial decision-making skills using real-life scenarios. This course will teach the skills and knowledge you need to become a wise consumer, saver, investor, user of credit, and money manager. Use your financial literacy skills to excel in today's global workforce and society.

*NOTE: This is a semester course.*



## Planning Your Middle School Program

### Philosophy

Students in the Middle School are in transition from childhood to young adulthood. Thus, these are special, exciting years as students experience sudden bursts of growth, not only in their bodies, but also in their spiritual, academic, and social lives. LSA strives to make these years stimulating, productive and enjoyable. We desire to be in partnership with the students and their families as they travel through these interesting and often challenging years.

### Promotion Policy

Students moving from sixth to seventh, seventh to eighth, or eighth to ninth grade must have a yearly passing average of the two school semesters (60 or higher) in each of the core classes (Language Arts, Science, Math, Geography/History and Religion) and in non-core classes. If a student has an overall failing average in one or two core classes, the student will be required to attend summer school. If the student has failed three or more core subjects, the student will be retained in the present grade level.

### Core Subjects

**Bible Study:** Bible Study courses are Bible-based courses studying our salvation from a historical perspective and making it come alive through a relational perspective.

**Language Arts:** Language Arts received special emphasis in a double block of time to study literature and composition.

**Mathematics:** Math courses are offered through Geometry, thereby allowing students to complete Calculus through a normal progression while still in high school.

**Science:** Science courses are integrated, laboratory-based courses.

**Social Studies:** Sixth grade studies Geography, followed by Texas History in seventh grade, and American History in eighth grade.

### Enrichment

**Spanish:** Spanish course lay a foundational vocabulary to better equip students for high school Spanish.

**Physical Education:** These activity-based courses teach physical fitness, team, and individual sports in an organized setting.

**Technology:** Students are taught a wide variety of computer skills and programs using the latest state of the art equipment.

**Electives:** Students may choose an elective from the following: band, choir, art, study skills, Spanish, or journalism.

**Exploratories:** This is a unique opportunity for students to experience a variety of unconventional topics. Students fill out an interest survey and are then placed in six-week classes based on their input. Exploratory classes meet one day a week for approximately 40 minutes. Some of the courses offered have included rocketry, dancing, wood burning, writing, cultural crafts, strategy games, drawing and ultimate Frisbee. Students participate in three classes per semester. This experience is designed to expose students to new skills in a relaxed setting.

## Middle School Course Descriptions

### Bible Studies

#### *Bible Study 6*

Department: Religion                      Grade Level: 6  
Course Length: Full Year                      Fees/Materials: None

The students will learn that the Bible has the answers to their personal conflicts: repentance, confession, and forgiveness. They will begin to understand that they need to obey God regardless of how they feel. Students will also learn the key concepts of faith such as law, Gospel, confession and repentance, forgiveness, and grace while focusing specifically on the person, attributes, and work of God the Son.

#### *Bible Study 7*

Department: Religion                      Grade Level: 7  
Course Length: Full Year                      Fees/Materials: None

In Bible Study 7, students learn skills that strengthen their relationship with their families and friends. By learning how to use God's way of resolving conflicts, students will be better prepared to mature into responsible adults and experience more stable relationships at home, in the workplace, and in their communities. Students study the beginning of the church as described in the book of Acts. They learn that some of the problems faced by members of the early church are the same problems that we still face today. By knowing more about the history of the church, the world, and the people God created to occupy it, students will be able to witness God's love and grace.

#### *Bible Study 8*

Department: Religion                      Grade Level: 8  
Course Length: Full Year                      Fees/Materials: None

This course focuses on the students' Christian relationships with God and their fellow human beings. Different resources and approaches help students understand how their actions and decisions affect those around them. Students become informed witnesses of the Word, through learning Christian doctrine and supporting their beliefs through knowledge of the Bible. Students will learn to use a Christian perspective to handle everyday issues and relationships.

### Language Arts

#### *Language Arts 6*

Department: Language Arts                      Grade Level: 6  
Course Length: Full year/double blocked                      Fees/Materials: None

The sixth grade Language Arts course encompasses writing, grammar, and reading. The course begins with a unit designed to prepare incoming middle school students with basic organization, time management, note-taking, and test-taking strategies. First semester focuses on historical fiction, while the second semester focuses on biography and modern fiction. The reading/writing connection is emphasized though

author studies, novels, and written compositions. Writing assignments include both formal and informal styles. Poetry is used to foster self-expression and creativity. Daily oral language activities provide frequent grammar practice.

### *Language Arts 7*

Department: Language Arts

Grade Level: 7

Course Length: Full year/double blocked

Fees/Materials: None

The seventh grade Language Arts course encompasses writing, grammar, and reading. The reading/writing connection is built into the curriculum, and students learn by doing. Vocabulary development is supported throughout the readings. Students also learn to integrate more sophisticated vocabulary and grammar in their writing. At the same time, listening and speaking are encouraged through formal and informal presentations. Students learn to integrate the writing process into daily activities, use problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, develop decision-making skills, and examine their Christian walk using literature as a springboard and writing as a tool for self-reflection.

### *Language Arts 8*

Department: Language Arts

Grade Level: 8

Course Length: Full year/double blocked

Fees/Materials: None

The eighth grade Language Arts curriculum reflects the importance of writing as a process, emphasizing collaborative learning, critical-thinking skills, reading/writing connection, and the need to integrate more sophisticated grammar and mechanics within writing. Vocabulary, writing, language, and literature are emphasized; listening and speaking skills are also important and develop naturally from the learning process.

### *Journalism*

Department: Language Arts

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

Students will learn to write in a variety of forms for a variety of purposes using the fundamentals of journalistic writing. The course centers around the publication of the Middle School online newspaper, *Pioneer Express*, and students learn the fundamentals of publication as they produce at least four articles for the newspaper. The students are also responsible for the Middle School yearbook. They will do all the editing, proofing, and photography for the content of the yearbook.

## Mathematics

### *Math 6*

Department: Mathematics

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full Year

Fees/Materials: None

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade Mathematics, the students learn important middle school mathematics concepts and see how they are related. They also gain an understanding of underlying principles of Algebra and geometry. Lessons often include pictures, charts, graphs, or models to assist in the learning process. Students explore and discover the importance of mathematics in daily life.

### *Math 7*

Department: Mathematics

Grade Level: 7

Course Length: Full Year

Fees/Materials: None

The General Mathematics 7 course uses real-life data and problems, chapter themes, projects, and mathematical modeling to illustrate the everyday usefulness of mathematics. Through numerous real-life applications, students learn to value the mathematics they are learning and to see the usefulness of mathematics as a tool for problem solving. Students use calculators to simulate the real-world use of technology.

### *Pre-Algebra 7/8*

Department: Mathematics

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Full Year

Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: Student qualification, teacher recommendation

The Pre-Algebra course integrates mathematical strands such as Algebra, Geometry, measurement and data analysis. In the context of interesting applications, students learn, practice and extend mathematical concepts and skills in examples, exercises and special features. Students investigate mathematics with in-class lectures and discussions, hands-on labs, manipulatives and technology activities. The students use calculators as well as other mathematical tools including mental math, estimation and number sense. Taking Pre-algebra in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade is considered an advanced level in middle school mathematics. Students enrolling in the course must meet requirements based on grades, test scores, and teacher recommendation.

### *Algebra 1*

Department: Mathematics

Grade Level: 8 Credits: 1 HS

Course Length: Full Year

Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Pre-Algebra or equivalent.

Algebra 1 lays the foundation for all future math courses. Topics include the properties of algebra, linear functions and inequalities, quadratic functions, systems of linear equations and inequalities, properties of exponents, simplification of polynomials, factoring, and rational functions.

### *Geometry*

Department: Mathematics

Grade Level: 8

Credits: 1

Course Length: Full Year

Fees/Materials: TI 84 Calculator

Prerequisites: Successful completion of Algebra 1

Geometry Honors serves as an introduction of Euclidean geometry. Topics include logic, proof, angles, parallelism, properties of two- and three-dimensional figures, congruence, similarity, and basic trigonometry. Additional emphasis is given to writing formal proofs.

## Science



Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

In Texas History, students study the history of Texas from early times to the present. Students examine the full scope of Texas history, including the cultures of Native Americans living in Texas prior to European exploration. The focus in each era is on the impact of key individuals, events, and issues. Students identify regions of Texas and the distribution of population within and among the regions. Students describe the structure and functions of municipal, county, and state governments, explain the influence of the U.S. Constitution on the Texas Constitution, and examine the rights and responsibilities of Texas citizens.

### *American History*

Department: Social Studies

Grade Level: 8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

Using critical-thinking skills, including the identification of bias in written, oral, and visual materials, students study the history of the United States from the early colonial period through Reconstruction. Historical content focuses on the political, economic, and social events and issues related to the colonial and revolutionary eras, the creation and ratification of the U.S. Constitution, challenges of the early Republic, westward expansion, sectionalism, Civil War, and reconstruction. Students describe the physical characteristics of the United States and their impact on population distribution and settlement patterns. Students analyze economic factors that influenced the development of colonial America and the early years of the Republic and identify the origins of the free enterprise system. Students examine American beliefs and principles reflected in the U.S. Constitution and other historical documents. Students evaluate the impact of Supreme Court cases and major reform movements of the 19th century as well as evaluating that impact of scientific discoveries and technological innovations on the development of the United States.

## Foreign Language

### *Spanish 6*

Department: Spanish

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

Students will be able to recall information learned throughout the year by creating sentences to communicate with peers and others in the community. The Middle School Total Physical Response Storytelling (TPRS) program is introduced. The students will also be able to use this new information for future classes. This course establishes the building blocks of the Spanish curriculum.

### *Spanish 1A and Spanish 1B*

Department: Spanish

Grade Level: 7 & 8

Credits: 1 HS

Course Length: Two Full years    Fees/Materials: None

Prerequisites: None & Spanish 1A

**Spanish 1A** introduces students to the Spanish-speaking world with a balance of grammar and vocabulary in every lesson along with consistent review and assessment.

**Spanish 1B** continues where Spanish 1A left off. These two courses serve as an introductory course of language acquisition at the high school level. Acquiring another language incorporates communication skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students develop these skills by using communication strategies, technology, and content from other subject areas to socialize, to acquire and provide information, to express feelings and opinions and to get others to adopt a course of action. Knowledge of the Hispanic culture connects to other disciplines. Comparisons between languages and cultures, and community interaction enhance the communicative language-learning experience. The primary goal of this entry-level course is the acquisition of vocabulary and communication skills.

## Physical Education

### *General Physical Education*

Department: Physical Education

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Uniform Fee

The physical education classes introduce the middle school students to a variety of team sports (football, volleyball, basketball, soccer, softball), and also some individual life-long sports (golf, tennis, bowling). Students learn concepts underlying a healthy lifestyle and develop life-long fitness skills through running, jogging, sit-ups, push-ups, and strength training.

### *Health*

Department: Physical Education

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Uniform Fee

Health Class is taken in conjunction with P.E. Students learn about food, nutrition, weight management and exercise, health issues, safety and first aid tip, and sexual education.

### *Athletic Physical Education*

Department: Physical Education

Grade Level: 6-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Uniform Fee

The athletic physical education classes provide a high intensity workout for the middle school students that are involved in after school athletics. Students will work on daily strengthening drills, endurance drills, speed drills, and conditioning workouts. They will learn proper lifting technique in the weight room. They participate in anaerobic and aerobic exercises. Running and agility drills will also be incorporated into the program. They will also work on specific sport training during the appropriate seasons.

## Fine Arts

### *Beginning Choir*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Music Fee

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade concert choir is designed to promote a passion and appreciation for music and serve as an introduction to vocal ensemble performances. Through the use of various types of music, students gain

skills that are necessary for development as musicians through technique study, sight-singing, and diction study. Students sing at various concerts, chapels, festivals, and church services throughout the year.

### *Concert Choir*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Music Fee

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade concert choir continues to promote a passion and appreciation for music. Through the use of various types of music, students gain more advanced skills that are necessary for development as musicians through technique study, sight-singing, and diction study. Students sing at various concerts, chapels, festivals, and church services throughout the year.

### *Beginning Band*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Music Fee/Instrument

The 6<sup>th</sup> grade band is a class for beginning band students or those with one year of playing experience. It is a course in which students have an opportunity to further their instrumental technique, grow in their knowledge of music, participate in a group activity and use as an outlet for self-expression to the glory of God.

### *Concert Band*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: Music Fee/Instrument

Concert Band is a class for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. It is preferred that students have previous playing experience, but it is not required. It is a course in which students have an opportunity to further their instrumental technique, grow in their knowledge of music, participate in a group activity and use music as an outlet for self-expression to the glory of God.

### *Art 6*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

Sixth grade art is a course that addresses art standards using a theme-based approach. Students receive instruction in the elements and principles of design, media and forms, and skills and techniques. Elements and principles include line and pattern; light, value, and contrast; and proportion and scale. Art History focuses on the Western World from ancient times to the present. The multicultural focus is on Native North American, Chinese, and Korean cultural contributions to art.

### *Art 7/8*

Department: Fine Arts

Grade Level: 7-8

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

Seventh/eighth grade art is a course that encourages personal expression with themes such as Storytellers, Teachers, Messengers, and Pioneers. Students receive instruction in the elements and principles of design, media and forms, and skills and techniques. Skills and techniques include gesture and

contour, proportions and perspective. Art History focuses on major genres including portraits, fantasy, and architecture. The multicultural focus includes personal encounters with diverse artists from Haiti, Puerto Rico, and Israel.

## Other

### *6<sup>th</sup> Grade Think Tank*

Department: Other

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full year

Fee/Materials: None

The Think Tank is designed to teach organizational skills and study skills. The teacher will use the first 10-15 minutes to review different skills throughout the year, and the remainder of the class period is for students to work on homework.

### *7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Learning Lab*

Department: Other

Grade Level: 7,8

Course Length: Full year

Fee/Materials: None

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Learning Lab is designed to teach students new technology applications and online resources. The teacher will use the first 10-15 minutes to review different resources and skills throughout the year, and the remainder of the period is for students to work on homework.

## Technology

### *Computer Literacy 6*

Department: Technology

Grade Level: 6

Course Length: Full year

Fees/Materials: None

The technology applications (Computer Literacy) curriculum has four strands: foundations, information acquisition, work in solving problems, and communication. Students learn to make informed decisions about technologies and their applications. Students learn to select the technology appropriate for the task, synthesize knowledge, create a solution, and evaluate the results. At the 6<sup>th</sup> grade level the students learn to type with efficacy and learn the basics of Microsoft Word and Microsoft PowerPoint.

## Orange Lutheran Online Middle School Class

### *Yearlong Spanish 1*

This course focuses on developing language skills through listening, speaking, reading, memorization, and acquisition of vocabulary, as well as written exercises. Each week covers thematic subjects through pertinent to students' lives. The themes are incorporated into grammatical lessons. Specific topics and activities for the first semester include: common vocabulary—including articles and adjectives. Learning methodology includes assigned readings, lectures, discussion responses, online interaction with classmates, and introspective learning summaries.



## Lower School Grade Descriptions

### Pre-Kindergarten

Pre-Kindergarteners (three-year old level and four-year old level) explore the world with their senses through varied activities and experimentation. The curriculum for these two age groups revolves around monthly themed units with specific objectives for Language Arts, math, Social Studies, Science and Religion. Skills for physical, cognitive, emotional, social, aesthetic and spiritual development are interwoven within the academic areas.

Language arts, math, science, and social studies are incorporated into themes which include *Back to School; All About Me; My Family and Friends; Time, Weather and Seasons; My Neighborhood; Living Things; The World Around Me; Animals; and My Favorites*. Specific objectives for each unit in Pre-Kindergarten Three differ from the objectives of Pre-Kindergarten Four. Pre-Kindergarten Four also uses the curriculum resources from Big Day for Pre-K from Scholastic. Within these monthly themes the religion curriculum teaches the children that Jesus loves them and is their friend. The Bible stories are presented in chronological order so that the children know Jesus as the Savior who takes away sin and is always present in their lives. The concepts from the Bible stories make application to the young child's life in today's world.

Individual work in centers, as well as large and small group times, integrates the development of the whole child. Learning centers provide opportunities for hands-on reinforcement of concepts and skills that have been introduced in a group setting. These centers are deliberately planned and organized to give support to the themes, skills and concepts.

Pre-Kindergarten classes also participate in Physical Education, music, Spanish and Technology. iPads are used to integrate technology into a variety of curricular areas. Students present and Christmas program in December and a spring program in April. Students experience Art through planned activities related to the monthly themes. Various media are incorporated into both the guided activities and the free exploration centers. Students are active in worship through weekly Chapel services and through service projects.

### Kindergarten

#### *Language Arts*

Kindergarten students engage in activities to develop their use of oral language skills in accordance with beginning the foundations of reading and writing. Activities focus on extending vocabulary skills of familiar words while learning words that are conceptually challenging. Students are exposed to classic and contemporary children's literature. They focus on listening skills to develop comprehension. Students also differentiate between fiction and nonfiction literature.

Student in Kindergarten begin the process of writing, focusing on the sequence of sounds and letters and connecting these concepts. Students begin reading and writing words. In Kindergarten, students write the letters of the alphabet, and using their knowledge of sounds and letter, begin independent writing.

### *Mathematics*

The goals of mathematics in Kindergarten include developing whole number concepts and using patterns and sorting to explore numbers, data, and shapes. These key components are building blocks to mathematical processes such as algebraic thinking, quantitative reasoning, number operation, and mathematical expression. Through manipulative materials, students in Kindergarten develop these processes to solve mathematical problems, as well as infer relationships of mathematics in the everyday world.

### *Religion*

The Kindergarten curriculum is designed to assist students in learning the key concepts of faith that reflect children's growing perception of spiritual relationships. These relationships include "Me and God," "Me, God, and Others," and "Me, God and my World." Students worship during weekly Chapel services and also participate in service projects.

### *Science*

Science in Kindergarten introduces the use of simple classroom and field investigations to assist students in asking questions, gathering information, communicating their findings, and making informed decisions. Students focus on components of the natural world. Students develop a sense of seasons and change in the natural world. Students investigate organisms and their parts, and learn how to group living and nonliving organisms based upon their features.

### *Social Studies*

The focus of social studies in Kindergarten is on self, home, family, and the classroom. Students are exposed to our state and national heritage, including patriotic holidays and the contributions of historic figures. Students discuss the geographic concepts of location and chronology. Meeting the basic needs of food, shelter, and clothing are discussed. Authority of home and school, along with customs, symbols, and celebrations are also a focus of social studies in Kindergarten. Through a variety of oral and visual sources, students begin to understand their roles as members of society.

### *Spanish*

Spanish at the Kindergarten level is focused on developing simple usage of common words, along with a cultural emphasis, primarily in the seasonal celebrations. Student in Kindergarten learn simple greetings, colors, numbers (0-10), days of the week, months, animals, body parts, and terminology associated with seasonal celebrations, food, etc. Kindergarten students also learn expression of language in the form of questions. Thematic based approach is used.

### *Physical Education*

Students acquire the knowledge and skills for movements that provide the foundation for enjoyment, social development, and a physically active lifestyle. The students learn fundamental movement and apply concepts dealing with space and body awareness. Students are engaged in activities that develop basic levels of strength, endurance, and flexibility. In addition, students learn to work safely in group and individual movement settings.

## *Art*

Students experience Art through planned activities related to the monthly themes.

## *General Music*

Kindergarten students participate in a general music class. Students learn to vocalize appropriately and are introduced to musical experiences including singing, composing, improvisation, expressive movement and singing games. Students sing together as a class and individually with both sacred and secular songs of various genres. Students participate in a Christmas Musical and a spring program.

## *Technology*

Students demonstrate a knowledge and appropriate use of hardware components, software programs, and their connections. Students use data input skills to complete an assigned task. Students use iPads to integrate technology into a variety of curricular areas.

# First Grade

## *Language Arts*

Students continue to develop their language and communication skills toward becoming independent readers and writers. Students listen and respond to a variety of children's literature, including selections from classic and contemporary works, which stimulates vocabulary development. Students learn decoding techniques to develop their reading skills. Students read stories, poems, and informational text (both orally and silently) which are appropriate in difficulty for their word recognition level and understanding. First semester emphasizes phonics; second semester emphasizes fluency and reading comprehension. Students demonstrate knowledge and comprehension by asking and answering questions, retelling stories, predicting outcomes, and making and explaining inferences. Students develop their skills as writers, demonstrating the differences between phrases and sentences. Students organize information into stories and journals using grammatical rules. Students work to become proficient spellers.

## *Mathematics*

The primary focal points of mathematics in Grade One are adding and subtracting whole numbers, and organizing/analyzing data. Students work to build a foundation of basic number theory, quantitative reasoning, geometric skills, algebraic thinking, and basic mathematical reasoning. Students use numbers to order, compare, label, and express quantities in relationship to solving mathematical problems. Students use informal language to analyze mathematical graphs, geometric properties, and measurement concepts. Students learn to use simple fractions, to tell time to the hour and half hour, and to count coins.

## *Religion*

Religion is designed to assist students in learning key concepts of faith such as Law, Gospel, confession, repentance, forgiveness, and grace. This is achieved in accordance with a specific focus on the person, attributes, and work of the Triune God. Students worship during weekly Chapel.

## *Science*

Students identify components of the natural world while learning to gather information, perform measurements, and draw conclusions. Topics including heat, natural resources, weather, physical health,

symbiotic relationships, and living organisms are studied. Students are also exposed to systems and cycles of interaction in terms of space, time, energy, and matter. Students actively explore these properties and apply the components of the scientific method.

### *Social Studies*

The focus of social studies is to develop a relationship between classroom, school, and community. Students piece together elements of chronology among past, present, and future events. Students design simple maps to identify the location of places in the classroom and the world. The value of goods, wants, and services is developed. Students identify historic and ordinary people who are examples of good citizens and study their importance in society. Students build a foundation in history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, and culture.

### *Spanish*

Grade One students begin the year reviewing terminology and expressions from Kindergarten. These concepts assist in leading to the introduction of new Spanish terminology and its usage. Students learn more commands, numbers (0-20), birthdays, zoo animals, family cultural celebrations, clothes, and school-related vocabulary. Students begin to learn the grammatical usage of the Spanish language by investigating and learning adjectives and prepositions. Thematic based approach to learning.

### *Physical Education*

Students acquire the knowledge and skills for movements that provide the foundation for enjoyment, social development, and a physically active lifestyle. The students learn fundamental movement and apply concepts dealing with space and body awareness. Students are engaged in activities that develop basic levels of strength, endurance, and flexibility. In addition, students learn to work safely in group and individual movement settings.

### *Art*

Students continue to develop their art skills by relying on their perceptions of the environment, memory, imagination, and life experiences. Art is integrated into the other subject areas, as well as having class with the art teacher.

### *General Music*

Students continue their musical experiences through beautiful singing, composing, improvisation, expressive movement and singing games. Students participate in a Christmas Musical and spring program.

### *Technology*

Students review the five major parts of a computer, the proper care of software and hardware, and identification of letters and numbers on the keyboard. Students will use appropriate terms as they begin using simulation programs to develop problem-solving skills. Under the guidance of the teacher, students use the web to enhance and extend other curricular areas. Students use the computer lab as well as iPads in the classroom to integrate technology to many curricular areas.

## Second Grade

### *Language Arts*

Second grade students move from learning to read to reading to learn. They continue to develop their language and communication skills toward becoming independent readers and writers by reading and responding to a wide variety of literature selections including fiction, nonfiction, poetry, biography, historical fiction, folklore, and readers' theater. During whole group, small group and independent instruction, students learn and practice reading strategies to build comprehension including making inferences, drawing conclusions, comparing and contrasting, and finding main ideas.

Students develop written communication skills through participating in writing workshops incorporating personal narratives, fiction, writing instructions, letter writing, and beginning research. Students also receive direct instruction in sentence structure, parts of speech, grammar, syntax, and spelling patterns. Students practice contemporary manuscript handwriting throughout the year.

### *Mathematics*

Students continue to develop a strong foundation in number and problem-solving skills and concepts through direct instructions, technology, use of manipulatives, and independent practice. Students learn place value, adding and subtracting numbers up to three digits, geometry, fractions, American and metric measurement of distance, volume and mass, and multiplication/division readiness.

### *Religion*

Religion instructions focuses on faith development. Students study Old Testament Bible stories illustrating God's promises and faithfulness and New Testament Bible stories demonstrating His great love for us in Jesus Christ. Students memorize Bible verses, retell stories, and learn to share their growing faith. Students worship during weekly Chapel services and participate in regular service projects.

### *Science*

Second graders continue to investigate Life, Earth, Physical and Health sciences through the science text, technology, and hands-on activities. Students increase knowledge of plant and insect life cycles, formation of rocks and fossils, movements of earth, moon, and sun, interactions of force, matter, sound, and light. Health topics including care of teeth and safety are also part of the curriculum.

### *Social Studies*

Second grade students continue to develop an understanding of self, classroom, and community, and their relationship to society. Students explore citizenship, geography (including map skills and landforms), local, state, and national government, American history, and economics.

### *Spanish*

Students continue to increase their vocabulary, develop grammar skills, and demonstrate understanding of concepts. Students practice use of adjectives and prepositions, reinforce parts of the body, animals, numbers (0-30 and counting to 100 by 10's), school vocabulary, and commands. The rich culture of the Hispanic community is emphasized. Thematic based approach.

### *Physical Education*

Students acquire the knowledge and skills for movements that provide the foundation for enjoyment, social development, and a physically active lifestyle. Students continue to learn fundamental movement and apply concepts dealing with special and body awareness. Students are engaged in activities that

develop basic levels of strength, endurance and flexibility. Students understand the relationship between physical activity and health throughout life.

### *Art*

The art curriculum introduces students to various elements of art including line, color, shape, form, texture, pattern, space, and composition. Students use a variety of art media in a variety of subject areas, as well as having a class with the art teacher.

### *General Music*

Students continue to learn basics of pitch through the use of diatonic solfege as well as the relationship between beat and rhythm. Proper singing technique is emphasized as well as music literacy and expressive elements to music through song, game, dance, traditional notation and other activities. Students participate in two performances a year: a Christmas Musical and a Spring Program. Classes meet two times per week for thirty minutes.

### *Technology*

Students review the five major parts of a computer, the proper care of software and hardware, and demonstrate mastery in identification of letters and numbers on the keyboard and in using the mouse. The students also use iPads and the computer lab to develop a variety of skills and learn to navigate on-line resources.

## Third Grade

### *Language Arts*

Third grade students read and write more independently than in previous grade levels. Students spend time engaged in their own reading and writing, as well as in assigned tasks and projects. Students learn root words, prefixes, and suffixes. Students begin to distinguish fact from opinion, as well as to learn to support their inferences by citing portions of text. Students read from a variety of genres including realistic and informative fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Classroom discussion enables students to develop oral skills.

Students write with more proficient spelling as they are instructed in spelling techniques. Continued development of skills in syntax and grammar including word usage, capitalization, and punctuation is emphasized as students write in longer sentences and organize their writing into longer passages. Students master manuscript writing and begin to use cursive writing in the production of writing samples and drafts which have been edited and finalized according to grammatical rules.

### *Mathematics*

Students use addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division as generalizations connected to concrete experiences. Students are introduced to fractions and decimals. Students use visual mathematics, such as graphs and charts, to develop mathematical understanding. Students learn the correct formal language used to communicate shapes and solids, make predictions, estimate and compare, and solve applications problems. Students are equipped with skills necessary to evaluate data and make predictions and decisions to solve mathematical problems.

### *Religion*

The religion curriculum is designed to help students learn the concepts of faith. Topics of instruction include Law and Gospel, confession and repentance, forgiveness and grace, while emphasizing the actions of God on behalf of His people. Lessons reflect the need for the Law, which shows our sins, and the Gospel, which leads us to God's grace. Students are encouraged to live in Christ through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Students acquire a knowledge of Bible truths and the ability to apply Scripture to their daily life. Students worship during weekly Chapel services and participate in regular service projects.

### *Science*

Students will develop an understanding of science using the five major strands of science including the Nature of Science, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), Life Science, Earth Science, and Physical Science. Students are engaged through a blend of print, inquiry, and digital experiences in order to build understanding of science concepts.

### *Social Studies*

Students build a foundation in history, geography, economics, government, citizenship, culture, society, and social studies skills through a variety of rich resources. Students expand their knowledge through the identification and study of people who make a difference.

### *Spanish*

Spanish offers a comprehensive review of previously learned Spanish language. Students continue to develop grammar skills including the use of adjectives, prepositions, and simple command words and phrases. Students continue to build school vocabulary and numbers (0-40). They learn new vocabulary in categories including birds and animals of the wood/prairie, health-related concepts, household words and seasonal cultural celebrations.

### *Physical Education*

Students acquire the knowledge and skills for movements that provide the foundation for enjoyment, social development, and a physically active lifestyle. Students continue to develop strength, endurance, and flexibility. Students demonstrate more mature movement forms, learn age-specific skills, and the health benefits of physical activity. Students begin to learn game strategies, rules, and etiquette.

### *Art*

The goal of the art program is to teach every child to express him/herself through art. The first half of the year emphasizes understanding art elements (line, color, space, balance, etc.) and the development of drawing skills and painting techniques. During the second half of the year, students explore a number of different media.

### *General Music*

Students continue to develop musical skills through proper singing techniques and rhythmic accuracy. Students often use instruments to reinforce fine motor skills in conjunction with beat and rhythm. Proper singing technique is emphasized as well as music literacy and expressive elements to music through song, games, dance, traditional notation and other activities. Students participate in two performances a year: a Christmas Musical and a Spring Program.

### *Technology*

Students review the five major parts of the computer, review care of software and hardware, and proper terminology. Students are introduced to keyboarding and begin word processing incorporating graphics into their work. Students continue using the web under the guidance of the teacher. Computer lab and iPads are used to integrate technology into the curriculum.

## Fourth Grade

### *Language Arts*

Significant blocks of time are devoted to independent reading. Students continue to read selections from classic and contemporary literature, and adapt their reading approach to a variety of texts. Students read for meaning and develop the ability to paraphrase their reading. Students continue to develop a variety of vocabulary words and concepts. Students produce summaries of their reading focused on plot, character analysis, setting and cause and effect. Students begin to analyze spoken language for meaning by evaluating content and the speaker's intent.

Written language is developed through direct instruction in parts of speech and spelling. Students use their skills to create manuscripts which are edited and produced as written compositions. Students create responses in complete sentences and communicate their thoughts effectively.

### *Mathematics*

Mathematics reinforces the use of mathematical skills and operational strategies involving numbers. Students apply this learning to analyze graphs, charts, and data to develop comparisons, predictions, and estimation of data involving numbers. Students continue their development in the use of numbers to measure and explore objects along with solving mathematical application problems.

### *Religion*

Students will learn the importance of personal responsibility as it relates to conflict and will discover ways to prevent conflict in the future. Students will learn that the Bible has the answers to their personal conflicts: repentance, confession, and forgiveness. They begin to understand the importance of obeying God regardless of how they feel.

### *Science*

Students will develop an understanding of science using the five major strand of science including the Nature of Science, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math), Life Science, Earth Science, and Physical Science. Students are engaged through a blend of print, inquiry, and digital experiences in order to build understanding of science concepts.

### *Social Studies*

Grade Four examines the history of Texas from its beginnings to the present. Topics include the Texas Revolution, establishment of the Republic of Texas, and subsequent annexation by the United States. The curriculum emphasizes an understanding of the people involved in these events, as well as the numerous populations which are a part of Texas history. Economics, geography, and culture are also topics of study in the exploration of Texas history and Texas today. Students use critical-thinking skills, including

generalizations, predictions, and comparison/contrast to better understand the development of the Republic and State of Texas.

### *Spanish*

Fourth Grade Spanish adds a component known as Total Physical Response Storytelling (TPRS). The goal is to develop fluency. Students are active in the storytelling process and use the method to develop speaking and comprehension skills. Students add to their vocabulary base by learning household and clothing terms, numbers (0-100), and reviewing previously learning material. As part of the K-12 Spanish curriculum, students continue to learn about cultural and seasonal celebrations in the Hispanic culture.

### *Physical Education*

Students continue to develop strength, endurance, and flexibility. Students demonstrate mature form in fundamental motor and manipulative skills. Students demonstrate more mature movement forms, learn age-specific skills and the health benefits of physical activity. Students continue to learn game strategies, rules, and etiquette. Students continue to understand the importance of physical activity and the health benefits.

### *Art*

Students will explore basic materials and utilize various tools techniques in order to creatively express themselves. Students will also understand how colors are related and will apply these relationships to their artwork.

### *Instrumental Music*

Students are formally introduced to instrumental music through the recorder. Basic notation, rhythm, pitch, steady beat and fine motor movements are all taught through the recorder curriculum. Students will grow in their knowledge of the basic components of music, learn to play as a member of an ensemble, and use music as an outlet for self-expression to the glory of God. Students participate in recorder classes two days a week.

### *General Music*

Students continue to develop musical skill with a vocal emphasis. Proper singing technique is taught and encouraged in conjunction with songs, games, dances, music notation, and other activities that reinforce musical development. Students also learn music as it relates to history and culture through the study of composers and influential composers. Students participate in two performances a year: a Christmas Musical and a Spring Musical.

### *Technology*

Students continue to develop their keyboarding skills in conjunction with word processing. They expand their computer knowledge through the use of MacBooks complete cross-curricular assignments and projects using a variety of programs.

## **Fifth Grade**

### *Language Arts*

Students refine and master skills for language development. Focus is on main idea, summarizing, generalizing, inferencing, sequencing, cause and effect, fact and opinion, and drawing conclusions. Students continue to read contemporary and classic literature in several genres. Students are able to organize information and analyze in more depth the use of characterization, plot, conflict and setting.

Student writing builds on previously learned concepts as students link ideas and produce final, error-free pieces. Specific grammar units in usage and mechanics are taught, supplemented with daily oral language activities. Students incorporate research in cross-curricular areas as they learn to select multiple pieces of text to complete research-based writing assignments. Vocabulary development is another focus of language development.

### *Mathematics*

Students continue to build their knowledge of number theory, number operations, quantitative and spatial reasoning skills, and problem-solving techniques. Students continue to master operational skills using whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. These operational skills are combined with instruction in analyzing charts, graphs, shapes, and space, along with problem-solving applications.

### *Religion*

Religion is designed to acquaint students with the concepts of faith. Topics include Law and Gospel, confession, and repentance, forgiveness and grace, while emphasizing the actions of God on behalf of His people. Lessons in Grade Five reflect the need for the Law, which shows us our sins, and for the Gospel, which leads us to see God's grace. These lessons encourage students to lead a daily life in Christ through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Students also study the Old Testament and apply the Word in developing God-pleasing relationships with one another.

### *Science*

Science includes the planning and implementing of digital labs, interactive activities, field and laboratory investigations as students integrate the scientific method into their study. Students study life, physical, and earth sciences. Students also participate in the Science Demonstration Day where they research and demonstrate a scientific concept. These demonstrations are performed for other students at Lutheran South Academy. Students use the computer for science research activities.

### *Social Studies*

Students learn the history of the United States from exploration through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Topics include early exploration, the colonial and revolutionary periods, the establishment of the United States, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and major events during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Students study the roots of democratic governance in our nation and its important ideals. Study includes the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Customs, celebrations, and contributions of various racial and ethnic groups, inventors, and scientists are identified and discussed.

### *Spanish*

Students continue the TPRS method of storytelling to develop Spanish language skills. The goal is to develop fluency. Students learn new commands and numbers up to one thousand. Students learn additional vocabulary for clothing, as well as for pastime activities. Continued emphasis is placed on cultural and seasonal celebrations.

### *Physical Education*

Students demonstrate competence and improved accuracy in manipulative skills. Basic skills including jumping rope, catching, and throwing and used in games. Students continue to learn game strategies, rules, and sportsmanship. Students match different physical activities to health-related fitness components and learn ways to improve fitness based on frequency, intensity, and time.

### *Art*

Students use art to respond to and demonstrate understanding of concepts across curriculum. Art concepts include composition, line, area, texture, value, color and space.

### *Instrumental or Vocal Music*

Fifth Grade students have the opportunity to select a traditional concert band instrument or vocal music as an elective. Students who chose band are taught basic elements of music such as rhythm, notation, pitch, steady beat, intonation, and tuning. Through instrumental music students also improve their hand-eye coordination and fine motor movements. Students also learn how to play as a member of a performing ensemble and have the opportunity to perform at two concerts within the school year. Students who chose vocal music continue to develop musical skill through vocal development. Proper singing technique is developed through vocal warm-ups, rounds, counter melodies and polyphonic harmonies in songs. Games, dances, music notation and other resources promote musical literacy. Students also learn how music relates to history and culture through the study of composers and influential compositions. Students participate in two performances a year: a Christmas Musical and a Spring Program.

### *Technology*

Students continue to develop their keyboarding skills in conjunction with word processing. They expand their computer knowledge through daily use of individual computers to complete cross-curricular assignments and projects using a variety of computer programs.

## W.I.N.G.S

### *Where Imagination and Natural Gifts Soar*

WINGS is a program of enrichment for students who exhibit high performance capability in an intellectual or creative area; demonstrate an unusual capacity for leadership; or excel in a specific academic field. WINGS is an additional component to the lower school education program, scheduled during the regular school day. The WINGS placement process occurs annually.

- The program addresses the specific gifts, talents and needs of individual students, through a project approach.
- The program provides a balance of cognitive and affective development, which will challenge students to achieve educational excellence.
- Grades 1-3 receive one hour per week of instruction
- Grades 4-5 receive one hour thirty minutes per week of instruction.
- This fee-based program is designed for students who have been identified as gifted and/or high-achieving and will benefit from differentiation of instruction and social interaction with other gifted peers.