



Fort Bend Christian Academy

2026-2027 Upper School

Course Guide

Where Faith and Excellence Soar

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Vision Statement

Fort Bend Christian Academy's vision is to be among the premier Christian schools in the nation, inspiring students to excellence for the glory of God.

Mission Statement

Fort Bend Christian Academy exists to glorify God through excellence in college preparatory Christian education. It is the mission of Fort Bend Christian Academy to equip students to thrive spiritually, academically, socially, emotionally, and physically.

Statement of Curriculum

Our curriculum goal is to apply the Core Values of Fort Bend Christian Academy by encouraging each student to achieve his/her fullest potential spiritually, academically, socially, physically, and emotionally.

Spiritual Development will be encouraged by providing:

- instruction from the Bible concerning the meaning of the Christian Gospel;
- opportunities for students to hear, understand, and believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ and trust in Jesus as personal Savior;
- opportunities for students to observe and practice the teachings of Jesus Christ throughout the school day and to adopt Christian attitudes and values.

Academic Excellence will be encouraged by providing:

- instruction from a curriculum that stresses the basic skills of reading, writing, computing, listening, and communicating;
- opportunities for logical thinking processes (analysis, evaluation, synthesis, and problem solving);
- opportunities for creative thinking processes involving original combinations of ideas, as well as the development of new ideas and solutions;
- opportunities to understand, appreciate, and participate in musical, dramatic, and other artistic expressions of cultural experiences.

Social Participation will be encouraged by providing:

- instruction concerning civic and social responsibilities;
- opportunities to develop and demonstrate respect for people and property, and for the rights of all other members of society;
- opportunities to form satisfying and responsible relationships with persons of various backgrounds.

Physical Development will be encouraged by providing:

- instruction and activities that promote physical fitness and coordination;
- opportunities to develop a wholesome spirit of competition, cooperation, and sportsmanship in athletic activities;
- opportunities to understand and practice principles of physical health, nutritional habits, and personal hygiene.

Course Selection Information

Academic, Honors and Advanced Placement Levels:

Students currently enrolled in Academic level classes with an average of 90 or higher AND a teacher recommendation may enroll in Honors or Advanced Placement (AP) level classes for the next year. Students currently enrolled in Honors or AP level classes with an average of 85 or higher AND a teacher recommendation may remain in Honors or AP level classes for the next year.

Advanced Placement Courses:

Students enrolled in the Advanced Placement (AP) level are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

Fine Arts Honors Courses:

Fine Arts courses will offer Honors options (or AP options, if applicable) beginning in the third year of the course. Exceptions include directors of Broadcast Production, varsity Debate, students in Honors Theatre Production, and editors of Yearbook.

Graduation Requirements:

Students must complete 27 credits to graduate from FBCA. Students need 4 credits each of English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Theology*. Students need at least 2 credit hours of a World Language, and some students will choose to take three or more years of World Languages to be more competitive for college applications. Students need 1 credit of Fine Arts and 1 credit of Athletics. Additional credits from any discipline, other than Athletics, can complete the remainder of the required credits for graduation to get students to at least 27 credits. *Students who have transferred into FBCA from a high school without Theology courses may substitute other credits to satisfy the requirement.

Dropping or Changing Courses:

Students who are enrolled in a course are expected to remain in that course for the entirety of the course, be it a semester or year-long course. Additionally, because we strive to provide each student the opportunity to take the courses they requested and for which they were approved, we will only change student's schedules based on teacher recommendations.

Course Descriptions

Department of English Language Arts

All English courses require summer reading or pre-course reading for seminar options.

ENGLISH I

Grade 9: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

In this introductory English course, students will compose effective multi-paragraph essays, strengthen knowledge of basic grammar and syntax, expand vocabulary, develop basic oral communication and reference skills, and employ foundational critical thinking skills. Students will read, discuss, and respond to works of literary merit from world literature, with special emphasis on Greek and Roman mythology. To better prepare them for later AP courses, students enrolled in the Honors course are expected to move quickly through application and enrichment activities.

ENGLISH II

Grade 10: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – English I

In this English survey course, students will build upon existing foundations by composing research-based essays, sharpening proofreading and revision skills, utilizing effective vocabulary, strengthening oral communication and reference skills, and deepening critical thinking skills. Students will read, discuss, and respond to works of literary merit from world literature, with special emphasis on short stories and poetry. To better prepare them for later AP courses, students enrolled in the Honors course are expected to move quickly through application and enrichment activities.

AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION

Grade 11 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – English II

This Advanced Placement course is a college-level composition course emphasizing rhetoric, textual analysis, argumentation, diction, syntax, tone, imagery, structure, support, citation, revision, and editing. Through their reading in this course, students discover how writers craft texts effectively; through their writing, students hone their own rhetorical skills. The course meets the objectives laid out for the AP English Language and Composition exam, and students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

Grade 12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – English III

In this college-level course, students will engage in critical analysis of works of literary merit. Through the close reading of selected texts, students will consider how writers use structure, style, and literary devices to explore relevant themes. Students learn to form, justify, and refine their own literary interpretations and explore the techniques and strategies authors use to convey their ideas and elicit emotional responses. Students enrolled in the AP level are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

ENGLISH SEMINAR OPTIONS FOR 11th/12th GRADE

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Prerequisite - English II

All English seminar courses require students to engage in relevant textual analysis, compose well-crafted evidence-based essays, and demonstrate mature critical thinking. These courses provide the foundational elements needed for success at the collegiate level and beyond. Students not enrolled in AP Language or AP Literature must take one seminar course each semester.

ENGLISH SEMINAR: American Cinema (Fall Semester Only)

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Prerequisite – English II

In this elective English Literature course, students will explore the complex world of film in America. The course provides an overview of American film history, production techniques, and critical analysis. Students will explore the Silent Era, compare generations of Romantic Comedies, uncover the elements of Noir, reexamine “B Movies,” and analyze blockbuster films in detail. Students will write multiple film reviews for movies watched in *and out* of the classroom and complete a semester project.

ENGLISH SEMINAR: Comics & Graphic Novels (Spring Semester Only)

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Prerequisite – English II

In this elective English Literature course, students will explore the complex world of comic books. The course provides an overview of the history of sequential art, its methods of production, and its recognition as a literary art form. Topics include: Comic Strips and Pulp Magazines, The Rise of the Superhero, Genre Comics (Western, War, Romance, etc.), Cultural Shifts, Foreign Influences, The Digital Revolution, and Comics on Film. Students will write analytical essays, craft in-depth presentations, engage in class discussions on required readings, and complete a semester project.

ENGLISH SEMINAR: Detective Fiction (Fall Semester Only)

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Prerequisite – English II

In this elective literature course, students will investigate the intriguing world of detective fiction. Students will read from a variety of detective fiction authors to understand the characteristics of the genre. Students will create and craft a detective fiction short story throughout the semester. Students will be expected to participate in discussions over the reading assignments and to develop an understanding of the history and components of the detective fiction genre.

ENGLISH SEMINAR: Journalism (Spring Semester Only)

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Prerequisite—English II

In this seminar course, students will model the processes of professional journalists through inquiry, analysis, and composition. Students will develop expansive research skills, with special emphasis on journalistic interviews. Students will write, edit, and report stories. Additionally, students will explore and examine the role of the professional journalist in today's society. Coursework includes research projects, news writing, and broadcast production.

WORLD HISTORY I

Grade 9: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

World History I is designed to allow students to explore significant aspects of world history through a discussion-based collaborative experience. In addition to learning the global story beginning with the earliest civilizations and concluding in the fifteenth century, the course guides students in developing the ability to analyze and think critically on a variety of historical issues that lay the foundation for future success in History and Social Studies courses. The course will also encourage students to make connections between current and historical events, tracing the impacts of history on the world today. The global nature of this survey course also encourages them to appreciate and evaluate the story of the past from a variety of perspectives. Honors students will possess strong reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills.

WORLD HISTORY II

Grade 10: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – World History I

The course is designed to explore significant aspects of World History starting from the Modern Era (circa 1400), while analyzing the beginnings and ends of political ideologies and social movements. The ultimate goal of this class is to aid students in developing the ability to analyze and think critically on a variety of historical issues such as human rights, war, and genocide. In accomplishing this goal, students will use a variety of sources and outside readings to gain primary and secondary perspectives on the given topic. The course will also encourage students to make connections between current and historical events, tracing the impacts of history on our world today. The honors course focuses on the writing and critical thinking skills needed to be successful in future Honors/AP history courses.

UNITED STATES HISTORY Grade 11 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – World History II

This course is a survey of the history of the United States from the Colonial Period to the present. Students are responsible for individual and group projects, research, outside readings, presentations, and problem-solving activities on historical issues and current events.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY Grade 11 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – World History II

This Advanced Placement course, which is taught at the college level, involves students in a survey of American History from the Colonial period to the present day. Students read extensively from primary and secondary sources as well as three textbooks and are expected to take the College

Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

GOVERNMENT

Grade 12: Academic (1 semester - 0.5 credit)

Fall Semester Only

Prerequisite – United States History

This high school government course provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the principles, structures, and functions of the United States government. Students will explore basic ideas revolving around the Constitution, the three branches of government, civil rights and liberties, the electoral process, and the role of citizens in a democratic society. Through engaging discussions, case studies, and current events analysis, students will develop critical thinking skills and gain an appreciation for civic responsibility. The course focuses mainly on the federal government, public policy, and the impact of political ideologies. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to participate actively and responsibly in the democratic process.

ECONOMICS

Grade 12: Academic (1 semester - 0.5 credit)

Spring Semester Only

Prerequisite – Government

This course provides students with a foundational understanding of economic principles, decision-making, and the role of economies in society. Students will explore key topics such as supply and demand, market structures, the role of government in the economy, personal finance, and global trade. Through interactive discussions, real-world case studies, and hands-on projects, students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills to analyze economic issues. By the end of the course, students will be equipped with the knowledge to make informed financial decisions and understand the impact of economic policies on individuals and nations.

Department of Mathematics

Graphing calculators (TI-84) are required for all math classes.

ALGEBRA I

Grade 9 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Pre-Algebra

This course lays a foundation for higher-level mathematics courses. The main goal of Algebra I is to develop fluency in working with linear equations. Integers and rational numbers, solving equations, operations with polynomials, graphs, and radical expressions are all studied.

GEOMETRY

Grade 9-10: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Algebra I

Geometry includes the study of plane, solid, and coordinate geometry. Concepts covered include: deductive reasoning, congruence, similarity, properties of parallel lines and their angles, properties of triangles, polygons, right triangles and trigonometry, circles, area, and volume. Honors geometry has a heavy emphasis on deductive reasoning, proofs and critical thinking skills. Students enrolled in the Honors level course are expected to grasp concepts quickly so time may be spent on more difficult problems and thinking skills. They are expected to display a level of maturity, discipline, motivation, and responsibility above that of the average student.

ALGEBRA II

Grade 10-11: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Algebra I & Geometry

Included in this course are lessons on quadratic equations, systems of equations, matrices, higher degree polynomials, exponential and log functions, complex fractions, and the complex number system. Students enrolled in the Honors level course are expected to grasp concepts quickly, moving easily into application and enrichment activities involving critical thinking skills. Students in honors level should have been in Honors Geometry to be prepared.

PRECALCULUS

Grade 11-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Algebra II

There are several topics covered in Precalculus: functions and their graphs, logarithmic functions, trigonometry, the utility of trigonometry beyond simple right triangles, analytical trigonometry, and sequences and series. Precalculus is a culmination of all 12 years of mathematics and utilizes many math concepts from previous classes. Honors Precalculus will go into further depth with all concepts and will work with limits in preparation for their use and application in AP Calculus. Students enrolled in the Honors level course are expected to grasp concepts quickly and to be

prepared to use their critical thinking skills. Being in Honors Algebra 2 is a prerequisite for Honors Precalculus.

CALCULUS

Grade 12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Precalculus

Students in this course will be able to work with functions represented in a variety of ways (graphical, numerical, analytical, or verbal), and understand the connections among these representations. They will learn the meaning of the derivative in terms of a rate of change and the meaning of the definite integral. Students will have opportunities to explore Calculus applications in both physics and business contexts.

AP CALCULUS AB

Grade 12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – H Precalculus

This course is comparable to an introductory college calculus course. Students in this course will be able to work with functions represented in a variety of ways (graphical, numerical, analytical, or verbal), and understand the connections among these representations. They will learn the meaning of the derivative in terms of a rate of change and local linear approximation and how to use derivatives to solve a variety of problems. Students will also learn the meaning of the definite integral both as a limit of Riemann sums and as the net accumulation of a rate of change and how to use integrals to solve a variety of problems. Students enrolled in the AP level are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

AP STATISTICS

Grade 12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Algebra 2 or Precalculus

The AP Statistics course is equivalent to an introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. This course introduces students to the concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four major themes in the AP Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding. Students enrolled in the AP level are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

BIOLOGY I

Grade 9: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

This course offers an in-depth exploration of organismal structure and life processes, emphasizing how organisms acquire and utilize energy within their ecological contexts. A thorough examination of biochemistry, cellular structure, and genetics highlights the commonalities among life processes. The curriculum prioritizes the safe handling of laboratory equipment and the practical application of biological concepts to everyday life. A critical component of the course is the study of inheritance patterns and the pivotal role of DNA. The students will do labs that explore enzyme function, osmosis, cellular respiration, and fermentation. The Honors section needs strong analyzing and inferring skills; it progresses at an accelerated pace and delves into topics with greater detail.

CHEMISTRY I

Grade 10 Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Algebra I & Biology I; Honors recommended to be enrolled in Algebra II

This course covers topics such as measurements, matter, atomic structure, periodic trends, bonding and chemical formulas, stoichiometry, classifying reactions, gas laws, acid base reactions and calculations, kinetics, energy, equilibrium, oxidation – reduction reactions, and nuclear chemistry. The purpose of the labs associated with the course is to increase problem solving, analysis, and critical thinking skills. Honors students will cover topics in greater depth and with multi-step, higher order calculations as well as an introduction to reaction stoichiometry, gas law stoichiometry, equilibrium calculations, K_{sp} , and electrochemistry. The Honors level utilizes strong algebra skills and has advanced labs to prepare students for AP Chemistry.

PHYSICS

Grade 11 Academic (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Chemistry I and currently or previously enrolled in Algebra II

This course will cover a conceptual look at physics with a hands-on approach to how the physical world around us works. The topics covered will include: mechanics, work and energy, momentum, waves, electricity and magnetism, and light. Lab activities will focus on exploration of these topics and teach lab safety, data collection, and analysis.

AP PHYSICS I

Grades 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Chemistry I and Algebra II

This course includes topics in classical physics. Knowledge of algebra and basic trigonometry is required. Topics include: Kinematics 1D and 2D, Dynamics, Work, Power, Energy, Impulse,

Momentum, Rotational Motion, Gravitational Motion, Centripetal Motion, Simple Harmonic Motion and Fluid Dynamics. The labs will reflect the topics of the course. Students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

AP PHYSICS C

Grade 12 (2 semesters – 1 credit) Prerequisite – Currently enrolled in or completed Calculus; Physics or AP Physics I

This course will cover the topics of Newtonian Mechanics. Calculus will be utilized in the problem solving of the course. The labs will reflect the topics of the course. Students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

HONORS HUMAN ANATOMY & PHYSIOLOGY

Grade 11-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Biology I

This course offers a comprehensive study of the normal structure and functioning of the human body from the basic components of the cell to the complex organ systems and how those systems interact with each other. The course covers common health problems and diseases that can occur within each system and includes the construction of clay to simulate the muscular system as well as other organ systems and the implementation of other relevant labs involving organ dissections. This Honors class covers concepts in greater depth, with a focus on application using case studies, critical thinking skills, and problem-solving practices through analysis of clinical scenarios. The students also will learn to analyze various scientific research articles from a variety of peer-reviewed science journals and will use these as resources or references when they are being assigned science-based research projects.

AP BIOLOGY

Grade 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Biology I and Chemistry I

This course is an in-depth study of general biological principles. Topics include biochemistry, molecular biology, cellular processes, heredity, evolution, ecology, plants and animals and molecular genetics. Laboratory investigations focus on analysis and interpretation of experimental data, as well as safe manipulation of laboratory and field equipment. Students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition. A laptop computer is required for this course.

AP CHEMISTRY

Grade 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Chemistry I and Algebra II

Building upon the concepts presented in Honors Chemistry I, students will investigate topics such as atomic and molecular structure, PES and spectroscopy, reaction chemistry, complex stoichiometry, bonding, equilibria, kinetics, gas laws, acids, bases, and buffers, electrochemistry, thermochemistry, nuclear chemistry and organic chemistry. The mathematics component is rigorous. There is also a greater emphasis on laboratory investigations and data interpretation, as well as accurate record keeping. Students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

COMPUTER SCIENCE I

Grades 9-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite: None, designed for beginners with no previous background in computer science
This year-long course begins with the foundations of computer science and Python programming, emphasizing logical thinking and problem-solving skills. In the first semester, students master Python fundamentals, including variables, control structures, functions, and basic data structures. The second semester applies these programming skills to real-world examples, including AI topics and the exciting field of drone technology, where students learn to program Tello drones using Python. Students write code to control drone flight patterns, create autonomous navigation sequences, and program drones to complete obstacle courses using both autonomous and user-controlled flight modes. By course completion, students will have gained both a solid foundation in Python programming and practical experience in applying these skills to real-world robotics applications.

Windows or Mac computers (Chrome, Firefox, or Safari 10 or higher). Chromebooks, Ipads and mobile devices are not acceptable.

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES

Grades 10-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite: Algebra I

This course introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. It is a rigorous, engaging, and approachable project-based course that explores many of the foundational ideas of computing so students understand how these concepts are transforming the world in which we live. Topics include the Internet, Big Data and Privacy, and Programming and Algorithms. Students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition. *Laptop minimum requirements: Windows or Mac computers (Chrome, Firefox, or Safari 10 or higher). Chromebooks, Ipads and mobile devices are not acceptable.*

AP COMPUTER SCIENCE A

Grades 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite: AP Computer Science Principles

This course introduces students to computer science through programming and helps students master the basics of Java. Fundamental topics in this course include the design of solutions to

problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. The course emphasizes object-oriented programming and design using the Java programming language. Students are expected to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition. *Laptop minimum requirements: Windows or Mac computers (Chrome, Firefox, or Safari 10 or higher). Chromebooks, Ipads and mobile devices are not acceptable.*

INTRODUCTION TO CYBERSECURITY

Grades 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite: at least one HS CS course

This is a yearlong course designed to introduce students to basic cybersecurity concepts and inspire interest in cybersecurity careers. Students will focus on the implementation and monitoring of security on networks and computer systems, investigate strategies to identify and protect against security threats, and learn the basics of cryptography and logic reasoning. *Laptop minimum requirements: Windows or Mac computers (Chrome, Firefox, or Safari 10 or higher). Chromebooks, Ipads and mobile devices are not acceptable.*

Department of Theology

Students who join FBCA in 10th-12th grades will begin their study of theology with the Old & New Testament Survey classes and then progress in the order below.

Grade 9 – OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Fall semester

Students examine God's revelation of theological truths as revealed through the biblical metanarrative. Students will learn the unfolding of God's redemptive plan for the people of Israel, and ultimately the world, as they systematically explore the contents of the Old Testament books from Genesis to Malachi.

Grade 9 – NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Spring semester

Students continue to discover the nature of God and man's relationship through the metanarrative of the Bible in this survey of the New Testament. Students will learn the culmination of God's redemptive plan through Jesus and the formation of the Church as they systematically explore the contents of the New Testament books from Matthew to Revelation.

Grade 10 – CHURCH HISTORY (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Fall semester

Students trace the development of the Church from its foundations, throughout history, and into present day. Topics include: The importance of the Church, orthodoxy/heresy, the reliability of Scripture, councils, creeds, Irenaeus, Athanasius, The Great Schism, Augustine, Luther, Protestant Reformation and more.

Grade 10 – WORLD RELIGIONS (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Spring semester

Students participate in an overview of the five major world religions and various Christian cults. Development and history, major doctrines, methods of worship, and various other elements will be covered for each religion. Students will also learn about truth and relativism, as well as studying various cultural backgrounds to these religions, learning how to have insightful, compassionate, truth-filled conversations with people of different faiths.

Grade 11 – BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Fall semester

This course takes students through the process of biblical interpretation and application, learning skills that are essential to deep, significant study of Scripture. By studying the Bible through its immediate, remote, and historical contexts, students will be able to read and understand Scripture canonically- as a single, unified story.

Grade 11 – HONORS BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION (1 semester - 0.5 credit) Fall semester

Prerequisite – Grade of 90 or higher in all theology classes, teacher recommendations, and an application process

Honors Biblical Interpretation will go beyond equipping students with the tools to better read, interpret, and apply Scripture by preparing them to rightly divide the Word of God for the sake of public proclamation. The students will collectively walk through the step-by-step process of biblical exposition and will individually share those messages in class before their peers.

Grade 11 – SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Spring semester

This course covers the doctrines of Christianity. Students study the nature, sources, and scope of/for Systematic Theology which includes a biblical and historical survey of each doctrine. Students are encouraged to engage in critical thinking skills, identifying historical and contemporary ideologies that seek to diminish Christian doctrines, and seek to make connections between doctrines and practical living. Finally, a high view of Scripture is encouraged, as it, along with Jesus Christ, is a final authority on the doctrines of Christianity.

Grade 12 – APOLOGETICS (1 semester - 0.5 credit) Fall semester

In this philosophical course, students will discover, analyze, and defend proofs for the existence of God, Christ's resurrection, and answer the problem of evil. Students will master logical and rhetorical strategies as they discuss ways to engage their culture with the truth.

Grade 12 – HONORS APOLOGETICS (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Fall semester

Prerequisite – Grade of 90 or higher in all theology classes, teacher recommendations, and an application process

This advanced course gives students an opportunity for further comprehension and mastery in the areas of biblical rhetoric, epistemology, metaphysics, apologetics, Church history, and modern Christian ministry. Students who are ideal candidates for Honors Apologetics should be proficient in writing, excellent time managers, able to conduct meaningful research, comfortable with public speaking, and able to work well independently. Students should have a deeper understanding of theological topics and be willing to go where the research takes them. The semester will culminate in students presenting and defending their thesis in a formal setting.

Grade 12 – CHRISTIAN ETHICS (1 semester – 0.5 credit) Spring semester

This philosophical course is intended to be a comprehensive study of Christian ethics and will include biblical and theological foundations, historical developments, and modern issues of morality as a study of non-Christian ethics is also analyzed. A special emphasis on the effective dialogue between church and culture will be emphasized, as will the necessity of exemplifying authentic Christian praxis.

Department of World Languages

2 credits of World Language are required for graduation, and 3+ years are strongly recommended for some college applications.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE I

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

This language course is appropriate for students who have a specific interest in learning to sign or who may be planning careers that will be enhanced by being able to sign and understand American Sign Language. Receptive, expressive, and interactive communication will be introduced with an emphasis on Deaf culture and language skills. Students will be required to socialize outside the class with people who are Deaf in the community. Signing proficiency is assessed regularly.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE II

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – ASL I

This course is a continuation of the study of American Sign Language I focusing on the fundamental elements of American Sign Language in a cultural context. Emphasis is placed on the progressive development of expressive and receptive skills. Upon completion, the students should be able to comprehend and respond with increasing accuracy to expressive American Sign Language and demonstrate cultural awareness. Signing proficiency will be assessed on a regular basis.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE III

Grade 10-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – ASL II

Everyday conversation is the centerpiece of each lesson. Grammar is taught in context with an emphasis on developing question-and-answer skills. Students learn conversational strategies to help maintain a conversation. Interactive activities, group work, individual work, and storytelling allow students to rehearse what has been learned. Students will be required to participate in Deaf cultural activities. Students will be introduced to interpretation of Scripture, songs, prayers and community events.

HONORS ASL IV/V

Grade 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – ASL III and teacher recommendations

This course focuses on a deeper understanding and use of facial expressions/mouth morphemes, greater emphasis on proper grammar, increased use of classifiers, and increased speeds of fingerspelling and signing. Glossing, memorizing, and interpreting are important elements of this course. These skills will be refined through performance-based learning/real life application; i.e. providing theatre for the Deaf through a shadow show, participating in the Junior Theater Festival, and offering opportunities for the Deaf to enjoy entertainment in their own language such as music

videos and performing in chapel. Live performances are emphasized; therefore, some after school rehearsals will be required.

SPANISH I

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

First year Spanish students will develop cultural knowledge and skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Connections will be constructed by developing relationships with other subjects and by participating in cultural events. Reading will be introduced at the level of beginner books. Using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills, students will acquire vocabulary, fundamental grammar, and communication skills predominantly in the present tense.

SPANISH II

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Spanish I

This course builds on the foundation of Spanish I and continues using listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Vocabulary, grammatical structures, and verb tenses are taught while studying the culture of various Spanish speaking countries. Students will augment their knowledge in skills in familiar topics such as the weather, time, family, age, school, home, travel, health, sports, clothes, and foods. Students will foster a deeper appreciation of cultures by gaining greater knowledge and understanding of other cultures.

SPANISH III

Grade 10-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Spanish II

Students develop advanced complex grammar skills and vocabulary usage. Oral proficiency, reading, and writing skills are emphasized as students communicate using eleven verb tenses. When dealing with everyday topics, the students will intensify their knowledge and skills in communication, cultures and communities. Literature will be introduced, reading in Spanish will be emphasized, and grammar will be stressed and studied. The Spanish community will be integrated through activities, cultural events, and technology to promote lifelong learning.

HONORS SPANISH IV

Grade 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Spanish III

Students are expected to engage in oral and written exchanges to socialize, provide and obtain information, and interpret and demonstrate understanding of announcements, reports, conversations, and literature. Students are expected to use the language both within and beyond the school setting through activities such as participating in cultural events and using technology to communicate. Ideally, students at this level will show evidence of becoming lifelong learners by using the language for personal enrichment and career development. Students may opt to take the College Board Advanced Placement exam in May. Exam fees and study materials are not covered by tuition.

HONORS SPANISH V

Grade 11-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Honors Spanish IV

The Spanish V course is comparable to a high-level intermediate or advanced low-level college or university Spanish language course. Emphasizing the use of Spanish for active communication in real-life tasks, it focuses on developing abilities in the three modes of communication (Interpretive, Interpersonal, and Presentational) and from a variety of authentic resources. Students are expected to understand Spanish spoken by native speakers at a natural pace, with a variety of regional pronunciations. Students should be able to engage in active two-way conversations in Spanish using appropriate communication strategies while strengthening cultural competencies through theme-based instruction.

Department of Fine Arts

1 credit of Fine Arts is required for graduation. See Course Selection Information on Page 4 for Fine Arts Honors Courses.

FINE ARTS HONORS REQUIREMENTS: *Fine Arts Honors courses demand a higher level of artistic commitment, leadership, and reflective practice. Students must join their discipline's honors society, pay dues, and complete 10 annual service hours. Each semester, students will complete an advanced creative project - such as a capstone, portfolio, or performance with reflective analysis - in place of a midterm and final exam. Additional requirements include participation in a teacher-designated event and a written review of professional-level performances or exhibitions. Some courses fulfill honors requirements through leadership roles or competitive participation. Full details are in the course syllabus. Students may not revert to academic credit mid-term.*

ART I

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters - 1 credit)

This is the prerequisite and foundation course for all studio courses in art. The course explores the elements and principles of design through painting, drawing, printmaking, and electronic media. Students explore artworks of diverse styles, cultures, and historic periods.

ART II Drawing, Painting and Printmaking I

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art I

This course is designed to be an intermediate study of drawing and painting, stressing individual projects and experimental approaches. There will be varied approaches to drawing that incorporate experience with still life, landscape, composition, and analytical and expressive drawing. Students will use intermediate drawing media and various relief printmaking techniques with concentrated work in the processes of woodcut, linoleum cut, and screen printing. Painting includes both perceptually based study as well as more conceptual and experimental approaches to the medium.

ART II - Ceramics I

Grade 10-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art I

This beginning-level ceramics course includes coil and slab construction, wheel-throwing techniques, glazing processes, and kiln-firing methods. Emphasis is on the creation of both functional and non-functional forms together with exposure to appropriate aesthetic and informational support materials. Students will demonstrate an understanding of key concepts and

components of ceramics through written and verbal means, including evaluations and formal critiques.

ART II - Sculpture I

Grade 10-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art I

This course offers instruction in a variety of media and techniques, including subtractive and additive sculptural processes in wood and metal as well as welding. Students explore various methods and materials for creating models for casting in bronze or silver, including wax carving, wax modeling, and the use of natural and synthetic materials as models. Students gain experience in three-dimensional design and beginning levels of laminated wood sculpture. Students learn techniques of welding, jewelry making, forming metals, and carving wood. All projects will focus on advanced techniques.

ART III - Drawing, Painting, Printmaking II

Grade 10-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art II Drawing I

Students are encouraged to explore the development of individual style and personal vision, preparing them for continued growth and excellence in a professional context. Students work with advanced drawing, oils, acrylics, watercolors, and mixed media. An advanced printmaking section includes intaglio, linoleum cuts and screen printing.

ART III - Sculpture II

Grade 10-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art II Sculpture I

Students are invested in the making of objects and the transformation of space. For material investigation, students work in metal, wood, exotic hardwoods, and casting while considering the expanded field, which includes site specificity, CAD, welding, jewelry making, forming metals, plasma cutting, laminated wood, and carving wood. The program provides resources to explore process and material as a way to think critically about the production and reception of contemporary sculpture. This exploration is further supported by a discussion of skill application and current professional practices. The Sculpture area creates an environment of sustained investigation as well as encourages experimentation in new and emerging media.

ART III - Ceramics II

Grade 11-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art II Ceramics I

In this course, students will continue to explore and deepen their understanding of ceramic techniques, with an emphasis on developing proficiency in a variety of methods. Students will gain

hands-on experience in forming methods, glazing, surface treatments, potter's wheel, hand-building, and finishing processes. Firing methods, including electric and raku kiln techniques, will also be covered. Through the design and execution of studio assignments, students will build on foundational skills while developing their creative voice in ceramics.

ART IV – Studio 2D Drawing, Painting, and Printmaking III

Grade 11-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art III Drawing II

This course is designed to advance approaches in 2D art, develop students' analytical understanding of art history, and give more exposure to contemporary art. Students continue to express themselves visually in an independent study of drawing, painting and printmaking. This course will offer an intensive year in which the students will strengthen studio art skills and build a portfolio of artwork.

ART IV – Studio 3D Sculpture, Jewelry, and Ceramics III

Grade 11-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art III Ceramics II or Art III Sculpture II

This course is designed to advance approaches in 3D art, develop students' analytical understanding of art history, and give more exposure to contemporary art. Students continue to express themselves visually in an independent study of sculpture, jewelry and ceramics. This course will offer an intensive year in which the students will strengthen studio art skills and build a portfolio of artwork.

AP 2D ART

Grade 11-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art I, II; Teacher approval for AP.

This course enables highly motivated advanced art students to do college-level work using a variety of two-dimensional methods. The course is designed to address a very broad interpretation of 2D issues, which will include purposeful decision-making about how to use the elements and principles of design in an integrative manner. Students must demonstrate mastery by developing an extensive portfolio to be submitted to the College Board.

AP 3D ART

Grade 11-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art I, II; Teacher approval for AP.

This college-level course encourages creative and systematic investigation of formal and conceptual issues in 3D design and demonstrates abilities and versatility with techniques, problem-solving, and ideation. This course enables highly motivated advanced art students to do college-level work using a variety of three-dimensional methods. The course is designed to address a very broad interpretation of 3D issues, which will include purposeful decision-making about how to use the elements and principles of design in an integrative manner. Students must demonstrate mastery by developing an extensive portfolio to be submitted to the College Board.

AP DRAWING

Grade 11-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Art I, II; Teacher approval for AP.

This course enables highly motivated advanced art students to do college-level work in drawing. It is designed to address a very broad interpretation of drawing issues, which involves purposeful decision-making about how to use the elements and principles of design in an integrative manner. Students must demonstrate mastery by developing an extensive portfolio to be submitted to the College Board.

BROADCAST PRODUCTION

Grade 9-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Broadcast production prepares students for decision-making and technical responsibilities in the production of live events and alternative video making. Students interested in careers in broadcasting, technology applications, and event management will benefit from the course. This hands-on class allows students to build abilities in the pre-production, live production, and post-production of live events at FBCA, such as athletic events, chapel services, and other special events. In conjunction with the Eagles On The Air program, students create productions as anchors, reporters, producers, and writers. Directors are selected through application and will receive Honors credit.

DEBATE

Grade 9-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

This course teaches debate theory, research skills, logical argumentation, and critical thinking skills. Students prepare debate cases on the national debate resolutions in either Lincoln Douglas or Public Forum debate styles. They also learn various styles of public speaking, such as Extemp, Impromptu and Oratory to compete in interscholastic debate and speech tournaments at the local and regional level. It is a performance-based course; therefore, students will participate in at least 4 tournaments to practice their skills.

HONORS DEBATE

Grade 10-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Debate I

Varsity debate students continue to build on the foundation of logical argumentation and debate theory in LD or PF debate and help create briefs for Novice debaters. As speakers, they are beginning to craft their own pieces for Informative, Oratory, Poetry or Prose events while staying informed on current events for Extemp topics. Honors students will participate in at least 6 tournaments, complete the required research papers and projects, and be inducted into the National Speech & Debate Honors Society. They will also have an opportunity to serve as judges for local Middle School tournaments and compete in Moot Court competitions with Fort Bend County.

PHOTOGRAPHY I

Grade 10-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

The Photography course teaches students the exploration of technology, mediums of expression, creative practices, Photoshop tools, techniques, and aesthetics of digital photography. Students learn the creative use of DSLR camera controls, exposure, in-depth digital imaging software, professional lighting equipment, studio lighting techniques, and an awareness of the critical issues in contemporary photography. Students examine various aesthetic and historical approaches to photography. Students gain an understanding of digital printing techniques, controlled lighting possibilities, aspects of studio/commercial portraiture, basic business practices, and career possibilities. Students will create and complete a body of work for their portfolio and participate in a gallery showing in the spring.

AP PHOTOGRAPHY

Grade 11-12: (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Teacher approval required

This course enables highly motivated students to do college-level work using a variety of digital two-dimensional methods. The course is designed to address a very broad interpretation of 2-D photography issues, which will include purposeful decision-making about how to use the elements and principles of design in an integrative manner. Students must demonstrate mastery by developing an extensive portfolio of digitally produced designs to be submitted to the College Board.

SYMPHONIC BAND - Brass, Woodwinds & Percussion

Grade 9-12: (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Intermediate level of playing, previous band experience, or successful audition with the band director.

Symphonic Band is open to students who play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument at an intermediate to advanced ability level. Content will include technical facility, tone and intonation development, and music theory content. The band performs at winter and spring concerts, athletic events, and school assemblies. The band also participates in band competitions for groups and individuals. This class performs as a pep band at football games and pep rallies and as a concert band for contests, festivals, and concerts. Students participate in band camp during the summer. Students in their 3rd year of Symphonic Band are eligible to take the Honors course.

THEATRE ARTS I

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters - 1 credit)

This course introduces foundational acting skills and some aspects of technical theater. Play interpretation, stage directions and acting elements, theatre history and genres, acting techniques, and characterization skills are presented in this course. Development of characters, blocking, and script writing are also introduced. Students will work solo, with partners, and with small groups to

create productions all year in class. Memorization and improvisation are important elements in this course. Stage performances are required.

THEATRE ARTS II

Grade 10-12: (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Theatre Arts I

This course gives instruction and development in acting techniques and styles and scriptwriting. It includes an in-depth study of characters' emotions, motivations, and relationships. Students have opportunities to audition for class performances. Select students can attend tournaments for monologues, duet-acting, prose, and poetry. Live theatre is emphasized and required. Playwriting is explored more in depth. Memorization and improvisation are important elements in this course. Stage performances are required.

THEATRE ARTS III- IV

Grade 11-12: Academic or Honors (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Theatre Arts II; Teacher recommendation for Honors

This course gives instruction and development in acting techniques and styles, as well as scriptwriting. It includes an in-depth study of characters' emotions, motivations, and relationships. Students have opportunities to audition and direct performances. Select students attend tournaments for monologues, duet acting, and prose and poetry. Live theatre is emphasized and required. Playwriting is explored more in depth. Memorization and improvisation are important elements in this course. Stage performances are required.

HONORS THEATRE PRODUCTION

Grade 10-12: Honors Only (2 semesters - 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Theatre Arts I and acceptance by audition only

This course gives instruction and development in acting techniques and styles. It includes an in-depth study of characters' emotions, motivations, and relationships. All students are required to perform in main stage productions. Opportunities for student directing plays are given. Select students attend tournaments for monologues, duet acting, and prose and poetry. All students participate in Junior Theatre Festival (JTF) competition in Atlanta, Georgia each January. Live theatre is emphasized and required. Memorization and improvisation are important elements in this course. Stage performances are required. Coursework will include additional assignments, including performances in other classes, research papers, and attendance of professional theatre for critique.

STAGECRAFT

Grade 10-12: (1 semester – 0.5 credit); can be taken Fall and/or Spring

Stagecraft explores the technologies, terminology, and techniques used in technical theatre and offers hands-on stagecraft experience. This course examines physical theatre and scenic construction techniques, stage equipment uses and safety, scene shop equipment uses and safety,

technical theatre design methods including use of scale and drawings, stage lighting techniques and practices, stage sound techniques and practices including use of wireless microphones and sound effects, and backstage crew practices and safety. Students in this course will be active in the development of several FBCA productions throughout the year, including constructing physical set pieces and props, programming lights and sound, and participating in other visual and audio production needs.

COSTUME DESIGN

Grade 10-12: (1 semester – 0.5 credit); can be taken Fall and/or Spring or both

This is a practical course that will help students become familiar with the basics of hand and machine sewing and develop a range of related sewing skills. Students study the process from the initial design concept through the first sample. This studio course introduces students to the qualities and properties of fashion fabrics. Students learn the basics of fabric identification and specific uses in the fashion industry. The course requires studio projects and provides demonstrations of basic methods of textile design development, pattern reading, material selection, and design creation. All designs are fit to the body.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Grade 9-12: (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Acceptance by audition only

This course is designed to further develop vocal, musical, and performance skills of students. This is done through classroom instruction and actual performances at chapel services in the Upper School with the possibility to perform at Lower and Middle school campuses also. Students will work as a team to set up the sound system for performances, learn how to run the sound system, and how to utilize and program within ProPresenter. Students will have a focus on leadership, creative expression, different music styles, evaluation of other philosophies of worship, and learn to develop their own biblical convictions in order to make them nimble and adaptable in the Body of Christ. Students in their 3rd year of Praise and Worship are eligible to take the Honors course.

YEARBOOK

Grade 9-12 (2 semesters – 1 credit)

Prerequisite – Acceptance by application only

In class, students compose, construct, and edit all elements of computerized text layout, graphic art, and digital photography. Students work on many clerical operations, make announcements, maintain signs, conduct student polls, take photos, and write articles. Students must cooperatively work with others, be hardworking, and be eager to be creative. Out of class and after school, students will shoot digital photos and sell and design advertising. This course also examines legal and ethical issues of media law and copyright. Editors are selected through application and will receive Honors credit.

Department of Physical Education

1 credit of Physical Education is required for graduation.

ATHLETICS

Grade 9-12 (0.5 credits for each sport completed)

Students sign up or try out for a sport through the Athletics Department. See the Athletic Credit page in the Student Handbook for sports offered at FBCA. Practices and games are held before or after school hours. Only one credit (2 semesters) may be earned per year, with a maximum of one credit earned in high school. One credit (2 sports) will satisfy the Physical Education requirement. Options include: Athletic Trainer, Baseball, Basketball, Cheer, Cross Country, Dance, Football, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Track, Volleyball or Team Manager.

INDEPENDENT P.E.

Grade 9-12 (0.5 credits for each semester completed)

Students may apply to earn credit for pre-approved athletic programs outside FBCA with appropriate documentation. See the Athletic Credit page in the Student Handbook for requirements, and see the Registrar for the application. Only one credit (2 semesters) may be earned per year, with a maximum of one credit earned in high school.

FOUNDATIONS OF LEADERSHIP

Grade 10-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Spring Semester Only

This elective course aims to develop each student's leadership practice and philosophy through seminar-style lessons, leadership development application, and guest speakers. During the semester, students will work through case studies and dissect current events to gain an understanding of leadership styles and practices. Through reading and discussion, there will be an emphasis on real-world leadership that they can immediately apply. The course will address the topics of ethics in leadership, the Enneagram system, receiving constructive feedback, and recognizing leadership styles and strengths.

SOCIOLOGY

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.5 credit)

Fall Semester Only

This one-semester Sociology course introduces high school students to the foundational concepts, theories, and methods of sociology while exploring how social forces shape everyday life. Students will examine topics such as culture, identity, socialization, groups, social institutions, inequality, media, and social change, connecting classic sociological ideas to current issues that impact teens today. Through discussions, case studies, and real-world applications, students will analyze topics such as social media influence, peer relationships, education, family dynamics, diversity, and community engagement. The course encourages critical thinking, respectful dialogue, and a deeper understanding of how individuals both shape and are shaped by society.

STUDY HALL FALL/SPRING

Grade 9-12 (1 semester – 0.0 credit)

This course gives students additional time to complete homework assignments while at school. Students must ensure they have enough credits to take a non-credit class in their schedule.

TEACHER AIDE FALL/SPRING

Grade 11-12 (1 semester – 0.0 credit)

Prerequisite – Teacher and Administrative Approval

Students assist teachers by copying worksheets, preparing packets, organizing the classroom, and setting up/cleaning up after labs or projects.