VALOR™

CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

ACADEMIC CURRICULUM GUIDE
2026 - 2027

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VALOR™
CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

2026 - 2027 Elective Options

($) Additional Fee Required. Please note fees may not be finalized until Fall 2026..

Semester Long Art Electives (.5 credits)

Introduction to Dance
Dance Conditioning (Audition)
Introduction to Beat Production ($)
Introduction to Ceramics ($)
Introduction to Drawing and Painting ($)
Introduction to Content Creation ($)
Introduction to Design ($)
Introduction to Guitar (Guitar Required)
Introduction to Music Theory
Podcasting
Introduction to Theatre Arts
Introduction to Photography ($)
Introduction to Piano
Intermediate Piano (Spring Only)

Yearlong Art Electives: (1.0 credits)

All courses beyond Level I require successful completion of the previous level of instruction

Intermediate Ceramics ($)
Advanced Ceramics ($)
Chamber Orchestra (Audition and Instrument Required)
Intrmediate Dance
Advanced Conservatory Dance (Audition)
Intermediate Drawing and Painting ($)
Advanced Drawing and Painting ($)
Intermediate Content Creation ($)
Advanced Content Creation ($)
Intermediate Design ($)
Advanced Design ($)
Intemediate Guitar (Guitar Required)
Advanced Guitar (Guitar Required)
Jazz Band (Audition and Instrument Required)
Intermediate Photography ($)
Advanced Photography($)
Introduction to Song Writing
Intermediate Song Writing
Advanced Song Writing
Advanced AP Music Theory ($)
Intermediate Studio Production ($)
Intermediate Acting for Stage and Film
Musical Theatre Performance
Advanced Acting: Audition and Directing
Valor Voice (Audition Required)
Visual Arts Junior Conservatory
AP Art and Design: Senior Capstone ($)
Worship Band (Audition Required)
Yearbook

World Languages (Yearlong 1.0 credits)

(Additional material|equipment fees apply to yearlong world language)

Chinese
Chinese Novice I or Novice II
Chinese Intermediate I or Intermediate II
Chinese Advanced I or Advanced II
Honors Chinese Language and Culture
AP Chinese Language and Culture ($)

Spanish
Spanish Novice I or Novice II
Spanish Intermediate I or Intermediate II
Spanish Advanced I or Advanced II
DC Spanish Language & Culture
AP Spanish Language and Culture ($)

French
French Novice I or Novice II
French Intermediate I or Intermediate II
French Advanced I or Advanced II
DC French Language & Culture
AP French Language & Culture ($)

Latin
Latin Novice I or Novice II
Latin Intermediate I or Intermediate II
Latin Advanced I
DC Latin Language & Literature
AP Latin ($)

STEM Electives (Semester and Year Long)

Biotechnology (0.5) (Science Elective) ($)
Intro to Engineering Design (0.5) (Science elective) ($)
Engineering Design II (0.5) (Science elective) ($)
Intro to Computer Technologies (0.5)
Intro to Game Design (0.5)
Game Design II (1.0)
Robotics and Engineering (0.5) (Science elective) ($)
AP Computer Science A (1.0) (Science elective) ($)
Honors STEM Capstone (1.0) (Science elective) ($)

Leadership Electives (Application/Interview):
Sophomore Student Leadership
Junior Student Leadership
Senior Student Leadership

Communication Electives
Public Speaking (0.5)
DC Public Speaking (0.5)

Academic Support (Semester and Year Long)
Academic Management ($/Semester)
Private Tutoring ($/Hour)
Peer Tutoring ($/Hour)

Business (Semester and Year Long)

Introduction to Business (0.5)
Personal Finance (0.5)

The following course require Intro to Business as a prerequisite:

Accounting and Corporate Finance (0.5) ($)
Entrepreneurship (0.5) ($)
Fundamentals of Investing (0.5) ($)
Marketing (1.0) ($)
DC Advanced Business Strategies (1.0)

2026-2027 Core Course Options

Please note that all students must take the following core courses in order to meet graduation requirements at Valor:

Bible (3.0 credits required, beginning with the class of 2030, 3.5 credits required) - The Life of Christ, In the Steps of Paul, Senior Bible
English (4.0 credits required) - 1 credit in each of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grades
Foreign Language (2.0 credits required) - 2 credits of the same foreign language, showing progression
History (3.0 credits required) - The World & the West, United States History, Economics, Government
Math (4.0 credits required) - Including a minimum of Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II/Trig, plus 1 additional credit
Science (3.0 credits required) - Biology, Chemistry and 1 additional full credit of science

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Bible (3.0 credits required in 9th, 10th and 12th grades, 3.5 required beginning with class of 2030)
The Life of Christ (9th/Transfer) (1.0)
In the Steps of Paul (10th) (1.0)
In the Steps of Paul: Biblical Leadership (10th - Endorsement Only) (1.0)
Honors Humanities II (1.0) (Honors Humanities Only) ($)
DC Old Testament (0.5) (Elective)
DC New Testament (0.5) (Elective)
Biblical Greek^ (0.5) (Elective)
Apologetics (0.5) (Elective)
Senior Bible (12th) (1.0)
Senior Bible: Endorsement Capstone (12th - Biblical Leadership Only) (1.0)
Senior Bible: Humanities Capstone (12th - Honors Humanities Only) (1.0)

English (4.0 credits required)
English 9 (1.0)
Honors English 9 (1.0)
Honors Humanities I (1.0)
English 10 (1.0)
Honors English 10 (1.0)
Honors Humanities II (1.0)
English 11 (1.0)
AP English Language & Composition (1.0)
DC Rhetoric (1.0, Honors Humanties Track) ($)
English Seminar: Creative Writing (12) (1.0)
English 12 (1.0)
DC English 12 (1.0) ($)
AP English Literature & Composition (1.0) ($)

History (3.0 credits required)
The World and the West (1.0)
Honors World and the West (1.0)
Honors Humanities I (1.0)
United States History (1.0)
AP United States History (1.0) ($)
Honors Humanities II (1.0, Honors Humanities Track)
Economics (0.5)
AP Micro/Macro-Economics (1.0) ($)
United States Government (0.5)
DC United States Government (0.5)
Controversial America (0.5)
DC European History (1.0)
Intro to Law (0.5)

Math (4.0 credits required)
(Seek input from current teacher)
Algebra I (1.0)
Geometry (1.0) ($)
Honors Geometry (1.0) ($)
Algebra II/Trigonometry (1.0)
Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry (1.0)
Pre-Calculus (1.0)
DC Pre-Calculus (1.0)
AP Calculus A/B (1.0) ($)
AP Calculus B/C (1.0) ($)
Probability and Statistics (1.0)
Calculus (1.0)
AP Statistics (1.0) ($)
College Algebra (By Placement Only) (1.0)
DC Multivariable Calculus (1.0)* Depending upon student need.

Science (3.0 credits required)
Biology (1.0)
Honors Biology (1.0)
Chemistry (1.0)
Honors Chemistry (1.0)
Physics (1.0)
Honors Physics (1.0)
Anatomy and Physiology (1.0) ($)
Marine Biology (0.5) ($)
Biotechnology (0.5) ($)
Forensic Science (0.5) ($)
AP Physics 1 (1.0) ($)
AP Physics C (1.0) ($)
AP Computer Science (1.0) ($)
AP Biology (1.0) ($)
AP Chemistry (1.0) ($)
DC Anatomy and Physiology (1.0) ($)
Honors STEM Capstone (1.0) ($)
Intro to Engineering Design (0.5) ($)
Engineering Design II (0.5) ($)
Robotics and Engineering (0.5) ($)

For all Honors/AP/DC Courses, please see the Academic Curriculum Guide for a full list of requirements and prerequisites.
^This course is only offered in the summer and may be subject to availability.

Contents

Graduation Requirements....9
Programs and Course Descriptions....10
Arts+Media....12
- Performing Arts Course Descriptions....12
  - Introduction to Dance....12
  - Intermediate Dance....13
  - Dance Conditioning....13
  - Advanced Conservatory Dance....13
  - Chamber Orchestra....14
  - Valor Voice....14
  - Introduction to Guitar....14
  - Intermediate Guitar....14
  - Advanced Guitar....15
  - Worship Band....15
  - Introduction to Song Writing....15
  - Intermediate Song Writing....16
  - Advanced Song Writing....16
  - Introduction to Piano....16
  - Intermediate Piano....17
  - Introduction to Music Business....17
  - Introduction to Music Theory....17
  - Advanced AP Music Theory....18
  - Jazz Combo....18
  - Introduction to Beat Production....18
  - Intermediate Music Production....18
  - Introduction to Acting....19
  - Technical Theatre Arts....19
  - Technical Theatre II....19
  - Intermediate Acting for Stage and Film....19
  - Advanced Acting: Audition Techniques and Directing....20
  - Musical Theatre Performance....20
- Visual Arts Course Descriptions....21
  - Introduction to Ceramics....21
  - Intemediate Ceramics....21
  - Advanced Ceramics....21
  - Introduction to Drawing and Painting....22
  - Intermediate Drawing and Painting....22
  - Advanced Drawing and Painting....22
  - Introduction to Design....22
  - Intermediate Graphic Design....23
  - Advanced Design....23
  - Yearbook....23
  - Introduction to Photography....23
  - Intermediate Photography....24
  - Advanced Photography....24
  - Visual Arts Junior Conservatory....24
  - AP Art and Design: Senior Conservatory....25
- Media Arts Course Descriptions....25
  - Podcasting....25
  - Introduction to Content Creation....25
  - Intermediate Content Creation....25
  - Advanced Content Creation....26

Bible....28
- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ....28
- In the Steps of Paul....28
- In the Steps of Paul: Biblical Leadership....29
- Heroes of the Faith....29
- Apologetics: Defending the Faith....29
- DC New Testament....29
- DC Old Testament....30

Senior Bible 30
Senior Bible: Honors Humanities Capstone 30
Senior Bible: Endorsement Capstone 30
Business 32
Introduction to Business Studies 32
Personal Finance 32
Marketing 33
Entrepreneurship 33
Fundamentals of Investing 33
Accounting and Corporate Finance 33
Dual Credit Advanced Business Strategies 33
Communication 36
Public Speaking 36
DC Public Speaking 36
English 38
English 9 39
Honors English 9 39
English 10 39
Honors English 10 40
English 11 40
AP English Language and Composition 40
DC Rhetoric 41
English Seminar: Creative Writing 41
English 12 41
DC English 12 41
AP English Literature and Composition 42
Honors Humanities I 42
Honors Humanities II 42
History 44
The World and the West 44
Honors the World and the West 45
United States History 45
AP United States History 45
United States Government 45
Economics 46
Controversial America 46
The “ME” Generation: The 1970s and 1980s in America 46
DC United States Government and Politics 46
AP Microeconomics 47
AP Macroeconomics 47
DC European History 47
Intro to Law 47
Humanities 49
Senior Bible: Honors Humanities Capstone 49
DC Rhetoric 49
Honors Humanities I 50
Honors Humanities II 50
Leadership 51
Sophomore Student Leadership 51
Junior Student Leadership 51
Senior Student Leadership 51
Math 53
Math Lab Elective I (Algebra I) 53
Math Lab Elective II (Geometry I) 54
Math Lab Elective III (Algebra II/ Trigonometry) 54
Algebra I 54
Geometry 54
Honors Geometry 55
Algebra II/Trigonometry 55
Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry 55
College Algebra 56
Pre-Calculus 56
DC Pre-Calculus 56

Probability and Statistics 57
Calculus 57
AP Statistics 57
AP Calculus A/B 58
AP Calculus B/C 58
DC Multivariable Calculus 58
Science 60
Biology 60
Honors Biology 61
Chemistry 61
Honors Chemistry 61
Marine Science 61
Physics 62
Honors Physics 62
Forensic Science 62
Anatomy and Physiology 62
Robotics and Engineering 63
Robotics and Engineering II 63
Introduction to Engineering Design 63
Engineering Design II 64
AP Physics I 64
AP Biology 64
AP Chemistry 65
AP Physics C: Mechanics/Electricity and Magnetism 65
DC Anatomy and Physiology 65
Honors STEM Capstone 65
AP Computer Science A 66
Seminar 67
9th Grade Seminar 67
Engineering and Technology 68
Robotics and Engineering 68
Robotics and Engineering II 68
Introduction to Engineering Design 68
Engineering Design II 69
Honors STEM Capstone 69
Introduction to Computer Technologies 69
Introduction to Game Design 69
AP Computer Science A 70
World Languages 72
Chinese Novice I/II 73
Chinese Intermediate I/II 73
Chinese Advanced I/II 73
Honors Chinese Language and Culture 74
AP Chinese Language and Culture 74
French Novice I/II 74
French Intermediate I/II 75
French Advanced I/II 75
DC French Language and Culture 75
AP French Language and Culture 76
Latin Novice I/II 76
Latin Intermediate I/II 76
Latin Advanced I/II 77
DC Latin Language & Literature 77
AP Latin 77
Spanish Novice I/II 77
Spanish Summer Immersion 78
Spanish Intermediate I/II 78
Spanish Advanced I/II 78
DC Spanish Language & Culture 79
AP Spanish Language and Culture 79

Graduation Requirements

Students may select from a vast array of course offerings based on interests, abilities, and learning styles. With eight classes per year, there are opportunities to explore a variety of elective offerings in addition to required core courses. Valor encourages ongoing dialogue between students, teachers, counselors and family members in order to align course selection with the student's higher education goals.

Valor Christian High School has established minimum graduation requirements to allow each student the opportunity to explore their giftedness whether that potential lies in academics, athletics or the arts. In order to graduate, each Valor student must complete 21 total credits, including the following:

English = 4 credits

Math = 4 credits

Science = 3 credits

Social Studies/History = 3 credits

World Language = 2 credits

Bible/Theology = 3.0 credits (Beginning with the class of 2030, 3.5 Credits Required)

Fine Arts = 1 credit (All Arts electives)

Ninth Grade Seminar = 1 credit

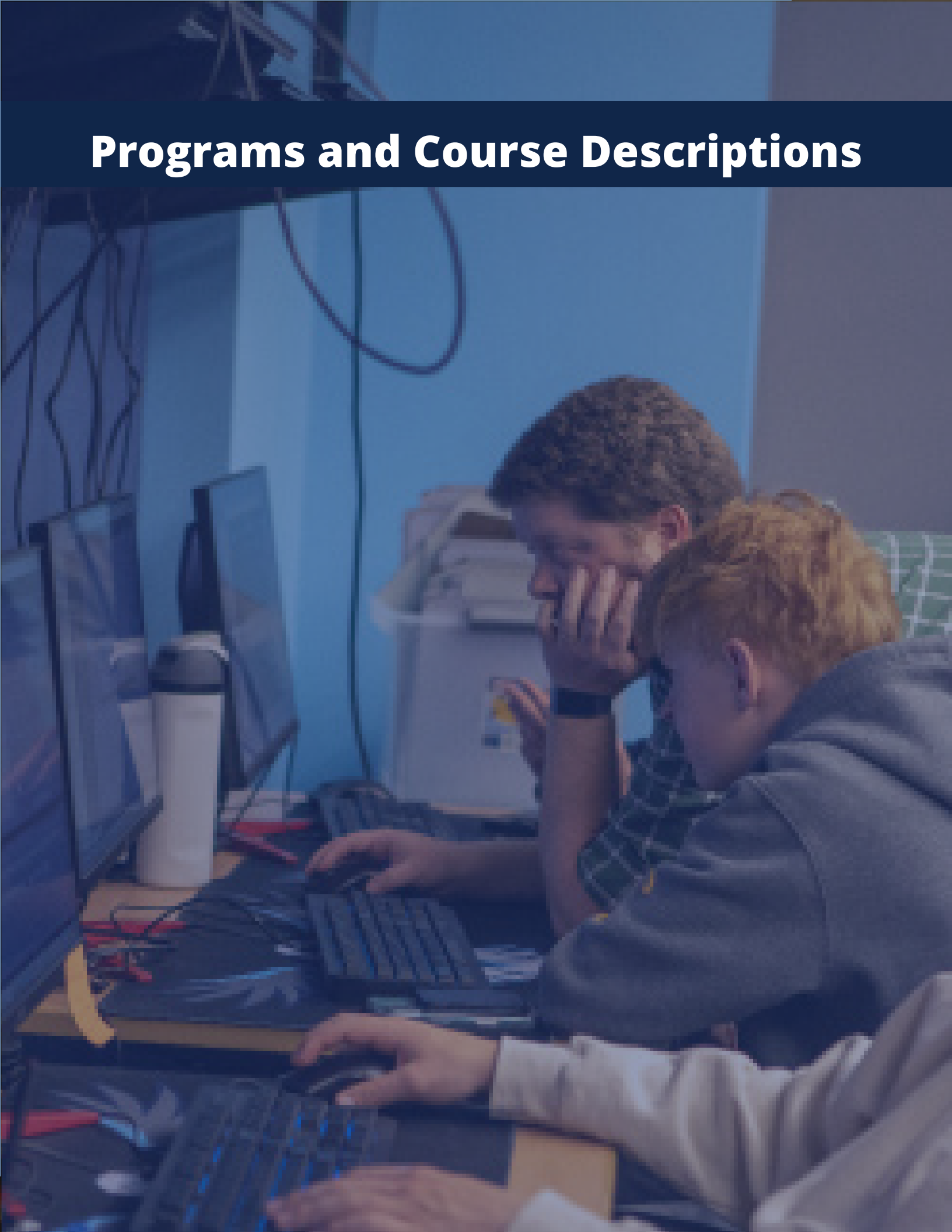
* Note: 1 credit = 1 year; 0.5 credit = semester

* Note: Exceptions/exemptions may be made for some of the above requirements upon family application where there is solid/logical justification. Families should speak directly with their Academic and College Counselor.

Additional Graduation requirements include:

Valor Discovery Service Hours = 25 approved service hours per enrolled year

Programs and Course Descriptions



Arts+Media

Program Overview

The Valor Christian High School Arts Department is committed to reclaiming the arts for Christ, equipping students with the knowledge and inspiration required to express the Christian heart in a relevant, artistic and authentic manner. The faculty is actively doing, as well as teaching, their respective disciplines, and is able, therefore, to combine theory with professional viability, knowledge with inspiration.

Conservatory

Valor offers specialized Arts majors in the Valor Conservatory for both performing and visual arts students. Additional information about the Arts Conservatory can be found on the Valor Conservatory Website.

Department Outcomes

1. Graduates are able to demonstrate a mastery and ownership of their craft and engage in expression outside of the classroom.
2. Graduates are able to use constructive feedback to improve their craft.
3. Graduates are leaders in the classroom and the community in their respective artistic endeavors.
4. Graduates are able to articulate their artistic purpose, specifically the "why" behind what they do.
5. Graduates understand and are able to explain their own role and contribution to the creative community.
6. Graduates are able to discuss how individual creativity is a reflection of being formed in the image of a Creative God.
7. Graduates are able to explain their talents in terms of a calling versus a career and understand how their talents can be used to further the Kingdom of God.
8. Graduates are able to present themselves and their work in an accomplished manner in interactions with others outside of the Valor Community, including but not limited to colleges and universities and professionals in their industry.

Performing Arts Course Descriptions

Introduction to Dance

DAN 135

Prerequisites: None

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Term: Semester

Credit: 0.5

Introduction to Dance invites students of all experience levels to explore the foundations of ballet, jazz, and modern dance in a supportive and energetic environment. Students build strength, coordination, flexibility, and musicality while learning essential technique and terminology from each style. Through guided exercises, center work, and beginner combinations, dancers gain confidence in their movement and develop strong physical awareness.

Creative assignments and small-group choreography allow students to express themselves artistically while learning how to work as part of a collaborative ensemble. The class focuses on helping dancers understand their unique abilities and how movement can be used to glorify God and bring joy and beauty to others.

By the end of the semester, students will have a solid technical foundation and a broader understanding of the dance world, preparing them for intermediate study in any style that inspires them.

Intermediate Dance

DAN 230 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

- Introduction to Dance Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Dance builds on the foundational skills established in Introduction to Dance and challenges students to grow in strength, technique, and artistic expression. Students refine alignment, flexibility, balance, and control while learning more complex combinations in ballet, jazz, and modern dance. Classwork includes barre, center exercises, traveling phrases, and stylized choreography that encourage musicality and precision.

Creative assignments help dancers explore storytelling through movement and develop confidence performing both individually and in groups. Collaboration, discipline, and positive ensemble work are emphasized as students deepen their understanding of how technique and artistry work together.

Throughout the course, dancers reflect on how movement can honor God and use their developing gifts to bring joy and beauty to others. This class prepares students for Advanced Dance Technique and Performance or continued study in any dance style.

Dance Conditioning

DAN 250 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Dance or Teacher Approval Credit: 0.5

This course is designed for students involved in dance and other athletic activities (including, but not limited to poms and cheer) who want to enhance their strength, endurance, flexibility, technique, and overall performance. Students will develop the physical control, agility, balance, and coordination necessary for executing dynamic movement with precision and confidence, on stage, on the field, or in competition, while recognizing their gifts as expressions of worship and stewardship.

Emphasis is placed on conditioning principles specific to athletic and artistic performance, including core stability, injury prevention, flexibility training, major muscle group conditioning, and recovery strategies. Through targeted exercises and movement analysis, students will explore how the elements of dance (time, space, and energy) improve synchronization, technique, and expressive performance across all styles. This class will place an emphasis on caring for the whole student (physically, mentally, and spiritually) and will leave them empowered to create healthy lifelong habits.

Drawing from Progressive Ballet Technique, Pilates, and dance and exercise science, this course bridges artistry and athleticism through a Christ-centered perspective as student will explore how caring for the body is part of living out their faith, practicing discipline, gratitude, and perseverance. By the end of the year, students in dance, poms, cheer, and other athletics will have developed greater body awareness, strength, and resilience to sustain high-level performance while growing in character, humility, and confidence in their God-given abilities.

Advanced Conservatory Dance

DAN 350 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Acceptance into the Valor Arts Conservatory or Teacher Approval Credit: 1.0

Advanced Conservatory Dance is the capstone course for upper-level dancers seeking intensive technical growth and elevated performance experience. Conservatory students complete this course as part of their program requirements.

Weekly training emphasizes advanced ballet technique supported by modern, contemporary, jazz, and a dedicated aerial/silks unit for strength, artistry, and extended movement vocabulary. Dancers strengthen alignment, control, and expressive performance through challenging combinations, choreography labs, and ensemble work. Conservatory students complete a capstone project demonstrating technical and creative mastery.

Students perform in concerts, chapels, and Vespers while exploring how their gifts and artistry can be used to glorify God. By year's end, dancers will have significantly advanced their technique, confidence, and artistic voice, preparing them for higher-level study or continued artistic pursuit.

Chamber Orchestra

MUS 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Successful audition with the instructor prior to start of school year..

Term: Year

Credit: 1.0

This year-long ensemble course is designed to meet each instrumentalist where they are and guide them toward greater technical skill, musical maturity, and artistic confidence. Students rehearse and perform orchestral and band literature across a variety of musical genres, learning to listen, collaborate, and respond together as a unified ensemble. A key focus of the course is developing the ability to work effectively under a conductor, learning how to follow direction, adjust to the group, communicate musically, and contribute to a cohesive sound. Through this cooperative rehearsal process, students strengthen ensemble techniques, tone production, rhythmic precision, and musical interpretation. Students also explore the concepts of truth, beauty, and virtuosity in music and consider how their God-given gifts can be cultivated and used to glorify Him. By the end of the year, students will have grown significantly in musicianship, developed strong ensemble skills, and gained meaningful performance experience.

Valor Voice

MUS 130

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Successful audition with instructor prior to the start of the school year.

Credit: 1.0

Valor Voice is the school's premier vocal ensemble, made up of singers who successfully audition and are invited to join the group. Performing a dynamic repertoire that blends a cappella, choral, pop, and jazz styles, the ensemble requires members to demonstrate strong pitch accuracy, harmonic awareness, and foundational music-reading skills. Throughout the year, students receive advanced vocal pedagogy, including sight-reading, harmony work, vocal technique, blend, stage presence, and movement. The group performs at major Valor events such as Vespers and the Fall and Spring concerts, as well as athletic games and selected public or private events. Ensemble work emphasizes musical excellence, teamwork, and the discipline of performing under a director. Students also engage in discussions about how their gifts and potential can be used to glorify God through music and service. Auditions for prospective members are held each May and August..

Introduction to Guitar

MUS 105

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Students need to bring their own guitar

Credit: 0.5

Whether brand new to guitar or already familiar with basic skills, Introduction to Guitar develops the foundation needed to play with confidence. Students build acoustic guitar technique, focusing on proper hand positioning, efficient finger movement, and smooth chord transitions. Students learn to read chord charts, tablature, and basic notation while applying music theory through popular and worship selections. Instruction emphasizes musicianship, creativity, and playing as an expression of excellence and worship. By the end of the semester, students confidently perform a set of songs, accompany themselves or others, and view music-making as an opportunity to glorify God, serve others, and pursue further musical growth.

Intermediate Guitar

MUS 210

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Guitar or Teacher Approval
- Students need to bring their own guitar

Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Guitar is designed for students who already know their way around open chords, basic strumming, and tablature and are ready to take their playing to the next level. This course expands essential guitar skills through a deeper focus on technique, including barre chords, scales, fingerpicking patterns, and expressive tools like bends, slides, hammer-ons, and pull-offs.

Students will explore a variety of playing styles, such as blues, worship, rock, jazz, and country, while learning how to apply the roman numeral system, strengthen their ear-training, and begin crafting their own musical ideas. Listening and discussion play an important role as students examine the meaning and intent behind music and consider how it aligns with a biblical worldview. By the end of the course, students will have broadened their technical skills, repertoire, and stylistic versatility, preparing them for Advanced Guitar or other upper-level music opportunities.

Advanced Guitar

MUS 310

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Guitar or Teacher Approval,

Credit: 1.0

- Students need to bring their own guitar

Advanced Guitar is designed for experienced players ready to refine their technique, expand their musical vocabulary, and take greater ownership of their artistic development. Students strengthen their understanding of chord structure, scales, and expressive techniques while learning how these concepts function in real musical contexts. This foundation makes the course especially helpful for students planning to take Music Theory, where strong chord awareness provides a natural advantage. A significant portion of the course emphasizes independent growth. Students develop a personalized practice routine, pursue an individual research study on a guitarist, artist, genre, or style of their choice, and learn repertoire that reflects their musical interests. Class time includes performance workshops, peer feedback, and discussions that help students analyze the meaning and message of music and how it aligns with a biblical worldview. By the end of the course, students will demonstrate strong technical command, stylistic versatility, and the maturity to shape their own musical voice, preparing them for advanced study, worship leadership, or lifelong musicianship.

Worship Band

MUS 150

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Successful audition with the instructor prior to start of school year.

Credit: 1.0

- This course may be repeated for credit.

Worship Band is a year-long, performance-based course for students with existing skills in vocals, guitar, bass, drums, or keys. The ensemble functions as a working band, rehearsing weekly and leading worship regularly in chapel and at select school or community events. Because the course may be taken multiple years, instruction is tailored to each student's growth. Newer members focus on strengthening musicianship, ensemble skills, and foundational worship leadership. Returning students assume greater roles in arranging, building worship sets, mentoring peers, and collaborating with the teacher and chaplain in planning services. Students develop strong performance technique, teamwork, and stage presence while exploring how their musical gifts can be used to glorify God. Over time, members gain the musical excellence and spiritual maturity needed for future worship ministry or continued leadership in worship settings. Auditions are required for entry into the band.

Introduction to Song Writing

MUS 161

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1.0

Introduction to Song Writing gives students the opportunity to explore the art and craft of creating original songs. Whether students are seasoned vocalists or instrumentalists or brand-new to songwriting, this course provides a supportive environment to learn the fundamentals of lyric writing, melodic development, chord progressions, and basic song structure. Through guided exercises, listening analysis, and hands-on writing workshops, students experiment with generating musical ideas, shaping meaningful lyrics, and expressing stories and emotions through music. Those with experience in piano, guitar, or voice will be able to apply their skills directly, while beginners will learn simple techniques to support their creative process. Class discussions and reflective practices encourage students to consider how their artistic gifts can be used to honor and glorify God through the songs they write. By the end of the course, each student will have developed a small portfolio of original work and gained confidence in their creative voice.

Intermediate Song Writing

MUS 261 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Song Writing OR Teacher Approval Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Songwriting is designed for students who want to take their creative work to the next level and deepen their understanding of the craft of writing original music. Building on the foundations of Introduction to Music Writing, this course explores the tools and techniques that make songs emotionally compelling and artistically refined. Students study advanced songwriting elements such as rhyme schemes, repetition, metaphor, symbolism, paradox, and form structure learning how each device strengthens meaning and enhances the listener's experience. Through writing workshops, peer feedback, and analysis of influential songs across genres, students refine their lyric-writing, melodic shaping, and compositional choices Those with existing musical or songwriting experience will be challenged to stretch their technique, while all students receive guided support to develop a stronger artistic voice. Throughout the course, students also consider how their creative gifts can be used to honor and glorify God and how thoughtful songwriting can communicate truth with beauty and purpose. By the end of the course, students will have produced more sophisticated original work and will be equipped for advanced songwriting study or personal artistic development.

Advanced Song Writing

MUS 361 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Song Writing or Teacher Approval Credit: 1.0

Advanced Songwriting is designed for experienced student writers ready to refine their craft and develop a distinct artistic voice. Through targeted workshops, individual coaching, and focused creative projects, students expand their skills in lyric writing, melodic development, harmonic choices, and thoughtful arrangement. Students study influential songwriters, analyze advanced techniques across genres, and apply these tools to create a polished portfolio of original work. Throughout the course, they also reflect on how their creative gifts and message align with a biblical worldview. By the end of the course, students will have produced a cohesive body of music and will be well prepared for college-level study, worship leadership, or independent artistry.

Introduction to Piano

MUS 115 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None Credit: .5

Introduction to Piano is designed for students with little or no prior experience in music or keyboard playing. Working in a state-of-the-art piano lab, each student learns on an individual digital keyboard connected to the instructor through headsets, allowing for focused guidance, private practice, and a comfortable environment to explore new skills. Students learn the essential building blocks of music: reading notes, understanding rhythm, building coordination between hands, and developing proper piano technique. The class blends group instruction with personalized, one-on-one support so students can progress at a pace that matches their learning style. By the end of the semester, students will be able to play a selection of beginning piano pieces, read basic music notation with confidence, and recognize how their musical abilities can be used to honor and glorify God. The goal of this course is to spark a lifelong enjoyment of music and equip students with the foundational skills needed for continued study.

Intermediate Piano

MUS 215

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Piano or Teacher Approval

Credit: .5, Spring Only

Intermediate Piano is designed for students who already have foundational keyboard skills, whether gained through Introduction to Piano or private lessons. Working in a state-of-the-art piano lab, each student practices and receives instruction on an individual keyboard connected to the teacher through headsets, allowing for focused guidance and personalized feedback. Because students enter with varying levels of experience, each learner works on repertoire chosen specifically for their skill level and musical interests. Throughout the semester, students participate in playing assessments where they prepare a complete piece or a section of a more challenging piece, with expectations tailored to their ability and growth goals. Group instruction is combined with meaningful one-on-one coaching to support technique, music reading fluency, and confident performance. The course encourages students to recognize how their musical talents can honor and glorify God while developing the discipline and joy of continued musical study. By the end of the course, students will have expanded their repertoire, improved their technical proficiency, and strengthened the skills needed for advanced piano work or lifelong musicianship.

Introduction to Music Business

MUS 185

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Semester

- None

Credit: .5

Introduction to Music Business is an important class for students pursuing Music Industry-related tracks (Artist Development, Songwriting, Production, Performance, Audio Engineering, and Musical Theater). Typically only offered in college, students will learn the basics of industry-related themes in terms of commerce, publishing, copyright/admin., royalties, song infringement laws, streaming & distribution infrastructure, and other cutting-edge aspects of pursuing this as a career. The course will further Valor's pursuits in college preparatory relevance, giving these hopefuls a rare advantage, not to mention the potential career opportunities that could surface. Students will also have the opportunity to discover how to use their talents to the glory of God.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

Introduction to Music Theory

MUS 245

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 0.5

A strong understanding of music theory is one of the most important tools a musician can have. Introduction to Music Theory gives students the foundational knowledge that supports every area of musical artistry, whether they're vocalists, instrumentalists, songwriters, worship leaders, musical theater performers, or aspiring producers. Students learn how to read music notation, count and understand rhythm, identify key signatures, recognize common chord progressions, and write music accurately using standard conventions. These skills not only strengthen performance but also open the door to composing, arranging, and communicating effectively with other musicians. The course also offers opportunities to explore how music and its structure reflect a biblical worldview, encouraging students to think deeply about creativity, meaning, and purpose. While open to all students, this course is especially valuable for those who plan to make music an ongoing part of their education, worship involvement, or future career, and provides an excellent foundation for advanced music study.

Advanced AP Music Theory

MUS 245 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Teacher Approval and/or Participation in Ensemble class or Introduction to Music Theory Credit: 1.0

AP Music Theory is an advanced, college-level course for students who want a deeper understanding of how music is structured, analyzed, and created. Through written theory, ear-training, sight-singing, and score study, students develop strong skills in harmony, melody, rhythm, form, and musical dictation. The course prepares students for the AP Music Theory Exam and helps them apply theoretical concepts to both performance and composition. Students also explore how musical order and creativity reflect a biblical worldview, gaining insight into the purpose and meaning behind the art they study. By the end of the year, students will have the advanced musicianship and analytical skills needed for college music programs, worship leadership, composition, or continued artistic study.

Jazz Band

MUS 270 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Successful audition with the instructor Credit: 1.0

This year-long course will explore instrumental jazz improvisation and ensemble techniques including blues, swing, Latin and funk styles. Through ensemble rehearsal, individual practice, solo transcription and a variety of performance opportunities, students will gain understanding and appreciation for this great art form, as well as how their own abilities can be used to glorify God. The Jazz Combo is open to students with an ability to read music and play their instrument at a basic level of competency. Audition and/or interview with the instructor is required prior to enrolling.

Introduction to Beat Production

STU 115 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None Credit: 0.5
- Course Fee

Introduction to Beat Production gives students a foundational understanding of how modern beats and tracks are created. Through hands-on work in digital audio workstations (DAWs), students learn essential skills in sequencing, sampling, MIDI programming, sound selection, and basic mixing. They also gain experience using recording equipment to capture clean vocals and live instrument layers. Students complete several beat-making projects throughout the semester, experimenting with rhythm, texture, melody, and arrangement while developing their own creative style. Class discussions encourage students to think intentionally about how music influences culture and how their creativity can be used to honor God. By the end of the course, students will feel confident navigating industry-standard tools and will have the core skills needed for advanced beat production, audio engineering, or other music technology courses.

Intermediate Music Production

STU 220 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Beat Production Credit: 1.0
- Course Fee

Intermediate Music Production expands on the beat-making skills learned in Introduction to Beat Production and guides students into more advanced music creation and audio engineering techniques. Students work extensively in digital audio workstations to deepen their understanding of sequencing, sampling, synthesis, effects processing, and multitrack recording Projects challenge students to combine programmed beats with recorded vocals, live instruments, and layered arrangements. Students learn techniques used in modern production styles, from hip-hop and pop to electronic and cinematic music, while also gaining experience in sound design, editing, and intermediate mixing. Throughout the course, students explore how music communicates emotion, story, and culture, and reflect on how their skills can be used to serve and honor God. By the end of the course, students will have produced polished tracks that demonstrate growth in creativity, technical skill, and musical expression, preparing them for advanced music or audio courses..

Introduction to Acting

THE 125

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 0.5, may be repeated for credit

Introduction to Acting is a dynamic, hands-on course that welcomes students into the exciting world of live performance and theatrical storytelling. Through creative games, improvisation, and ensemble activities, students learn the fundamentals of acting, voice, movement, and character development while gaining an understanding of stage terminology and basic production roles. Working individually and in groups, students build confidence, creativity, and communication skills as they explore how stories come to life through collaboration and performance. The semester concludes with in-class scenes or a short showcase that celebrates student growth. Throughout the course, students are encouraged to use their unique gifts to glorify God and contribute positively to the ensemble.

Technical Theatre Arts

THE 115

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Open to all students, Technical Theatre I is designed for all levels, including those who have enjoyed tech theatre at the production level, as well as those with little or no technical experience. All participants will have the opportunity to study technical elements of theatre and production by working through the process, from reading scripts to final production, engaging in both theory and actual design elements. This learning will be supplemented with discussions regarding how a biblical worldview impacts their work in the arts. Although there is some flexibility in the following description due to the needs of our productions and their varying nature semester to semester, throughout the first semester we will start with scenic design theory and safety concepts, then go hands-on by actually building a set for the fall show! During the second semester we will study theory and design elements of the following: lights, sound, props, makeup, costumes and fly system rigging principles. Near the end of the semester, students will get the opportunity to choose one of those areas to focus on and design a play from that perspective. There may be occasional field trips to visit and study other performing arts centers. All students will participate in or attend three theatrical productions per semester.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

Technical Theatre II

THE 215

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Term: Year

Credit: 1.0

Building on the skills obtained in the first-year class, Technical Theatre Arts II takes an advanced approach by building on essential skills and includes a more complex repertoire, placing more experienced technicians in leadership positions in class and productions – the latter is defined between the instructor and student on a case-by-case basis. All participants will have the opportunity to study technical elements of theatre by working through the process, from reading scripts to final production, engaging in both theory and actual design elements, supplemented by discussions around the application of a biblical worldview. Although there is some flexibility in the following description due to the needs of our productions and their varying nature semester to semester, throughout the first semester we will start with scenic design theory and safety concepts, then go hands-on by actually building a set for the fall show! During the second semester we will study theory and design elements of the following: lights, sound, props, makeup, costumes and fly system rigging principles. Near the end of the semester, students will get the opportunity to choose one of those areas to focus on and design a play from that perspective. There may be occasional field trips to visit and study other performing arts centers. All students will participate in or attend three theatrical productions per semester.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

Intermediate Acting for Stage and Film

THE 230

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Acting

Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Acting for Stage and Film builds on foundational acting skills and guides students deeper into the craft of performance across both live theatre and on-camera work, including how to utilize each student's individual abilities and giftings to glorify God. Students strengthen vocal projection, physical expression, characterization, and emotional truth through improvisation, monologues, and scene study. Script analysis, ensemble rehearsal, and movement work help students understand how to bring stories to life with clarity and authenticity. Throughout the year, students explore classic and contemporary plays while studying professional acting methods such as Stanislavski, Meisner, Viewpoints, and Laban-based techniques. They also train in the fundamentals of on-camera performance, learning how to deliver grounded, subtle work that reads well on screen. Technical skills such as hitting marks, understanding framing, and collaborating with directors and crews are introduced through filmed exercises and playback critiques. Students complete both a live performance and an on-camera project that demonstrate their growth as actors and communicators. The course fosters confidence, creativity, discipline, and teamwork, preparing students for advanced theatre or film study and building skills that extend far beyond the stage and set.

Advanced Acting: Audition Techniques and Directing

THE 340

Grade: 10,11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Acting

Credit: 1.0

Advanced Acting, Audition Technique, and Directing is a year-long course for students ready to refine their craft as both performers and emerging directors. Students deepen their acting skills through challenging scenes, monologues, and ensemble work that emphasize character development, emotional truth, and strong storytelling. The course prepares students for college and professional auditions by developing polished audition material, practicing cold reads, learning self-taping techniques, and building a personal audition portfolio. Students grow in confidence and professionalism as they rehearse, present, and refine their work. Alongside performance training, students learn the fundamentals of directing, including script interpretation, rehearsal leadership, blocking, and effective communication with actors. Students apply these skills through hands-on directing projects and in-class scene work. By the end of the year, students will have completed both performance and directing pieces that demonstrate artistic growth, collaboration, and readiness for advanced theatre and film opportunities. Conversations will also be extended regarding helping students to continue to develop their artistic identities as a reflection of the Divine Artist.

Musical Theatre Performance

THE 260

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- One year of a Theatre Course OR Teacher Approval

Credit: 1.0

TMusical Theatre Performance is designed for students ready to grow as well-rounded performers by integrating acting, singing, and dance. Through workshop-style rehearsals, students strengthen dance technique, refine vocal and acting skills, and learn to interpret musical theatre repertoire with confidence and expressive storytelling. Training includes solo pieces, ensemble numbers, and choreography that challenges students to blend technique with character development. Throughout the year, students receive personalized feedback, practice audition skills, and gain experience performing in both group and individual contexts. Emphasis is placed on stage presence, collaboration, and the discipline required to excel as a "triple threat. Students are encouraged to use their artistic gifts to glorify God, developing both their creative voice and the confidence to perform with excellence in a variety of musical theatre settings..

Visual Arts Course Descriptions

Introduction to Ceramics

CER 115

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

This introductory course invites students to explore three-dimensional form while gaining foundational skills in the medium of clay. Students learn core ceramic techniques including wheel throwing, slab construction, coil building, and basic modeling. They also develop an understanding of glazing methods and the firing process, experiencing the full journey of a ceramic piece from raw clay to finished work.

Creative exploration is supported through regular critiques, where students reflect on their own work and engage with the work of peers. These conversations help students grow as artists and consider how their creative identity reflects the image of a Creator God.

By the end of the semester, students will have produced a variety of ceramic pieces and built a strong foundation for continued study in ceramics or other three-dimensional art forms. Isaiah 64:8 "We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand."

Intemediate Ceramics

CER 220

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Ceramics
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Ceramics builds on the techniques learned in Introduction to Ceramics, allowing students to develop stronger skills in wheel throwing, hand-building, and surface design. Students explore more advanced processes such as armature building, alternative firing, and glaze formulation while creating both functional and sculptural work. Projects encourage personal expression and thoughtful craftsmanship, including opportunities for narrative or character-based pieces. Regular critiques help students refine their artistic voice and understand their identity as creators made in the image of a Creative God. Throughout the semester, students prepare selected works for display in campus art shows and may contribute to community-focused ceramic projects. By the end of the course, students will demonstrate increased technical proficiency and artistic intention, preparing them for advanced ceramics study.

Advanced Ceramics

CER 320

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Ceramics
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Advanced Ceramics challenges students to deepen their technical skill, artistic voice, and conceptual thinking in the medium of clay. Building on prior experience in wheel throwing and hand-building, students take on more ambitious forms, explore alternative and experimental firing methods, and learn advanced glaze formulation. Projects are both technical and expressive, ranging from sculptural work and functional sets to conceptual or mixed-media pieces. Students may engage in community-based ceramic projects and create personal narrative work, such as self-portrait studies rooted in identity and character. Regular critiques help students refine craftsmanship, articulate artistic intention, and reflect on their identity as creators made in the image of a Creative God. Throughout the semester, students prepare selected works for display in campus art shows and other exhibition opportunities. By the end of the course, students will demonstrate advanced proficiency and the confidence to pursue higher-level ceramic or studio art studies.

Introduction to Drawing and Painting

DRA 115

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

This is an introductory course to drawing and painting that focuses on helping students step into their identity as creators while enhancing their drawing and painting skills. Students will explore new techniques, materials, and surfaces as well as methods for developing original ideas. The class will encourage strong conceptual planning and practice and students will be exposed to various artists, styles, and art-making processes. Materials will be varied, subject matter will be student directed, and students will celebrate their work through display. Throughout the class, students will consider creativity in light of a biblical perspective and draw inspiration from verses and biblical themes.

Intermediate Drawing and Painting

DRA 220

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Drawing and Painting or Instructor Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Drawing and Painting strengthens the technical and creative skills developed in the introductory course. Students refine observational drawing, acrylic and mixed media painting, and compositional planning while studying both historical and contemporary artists for inspiration. Sketchbook work remains central, supported by digital processes such as Adobe Fresco and Adobe Creative Suite for idea development and finished pieces. Projects guide students toward a more personal visual style and intentional artistic voice. Regular critiques help students analyze their choices and understand how technique, concept, and process shape meaning. Students also explore how creativity reflects the character of a Divine Creator and consider how their work communicates truth and beauty. By the end of the course, students will have produced a varied body of work and will be prepared for advanced study in drawing, painting, or portfolio development.

Advanced Drawing and Painting

DRA 320

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Drawing and Painting or Instructor Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

Advanced Drawing and Painting invites students to take their artistic skills and creative voice to the next level in a supportive and challenging studio environment. Building on previous coursework, students refine their technique while exploring personal expression through complex, concept-driven projects. Media options include acrylic, graphite, charcoal, mixed media, experimental materials, and digital tools such as the Adobe Creative Suite. Students study influential artists and art movements to inform their decision-making and inspire new approaches. Regular critiques encourage thoughtful reflection, confidence, and growth as students learn to communicate meaning through visual ideas. Projects may expand into large-scale work, mixed media, or alternative surfaces, giving students room to push boundaries at their own pace. Throughout the course, students consider how their creativity reflects God's truth and beauty as image-bearers of a Creative God. By the end of the semester, students will have built a compelling portfolio that demonstrates technical mastery, personal voice, and readiness for collegiate or advanced studio art experiences.

Introduction to Design

GRA 105

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee

Credit: .5

Introduction to Graphic Design gives students a solid starting point in the design world by introducing them to the key tools, skills, and creative processes that modern graphic designers use. Students learn the basics of Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and Adobe Express while completing projects like logo design, social media graphics, posters, collage layouts, T-shirt graphics, and simple motion design. Throughout the course, students explore the foundations of visual communication, typography, color, layout, and composition. Critiques, discussions, and creative problem solving help students gain confidence in digital design and start developing their own design instincts. Students also examine how design can impact culture, serve people, and reflect the creativity of a God who creates with intention and purpose. By the end of the semester, students will have built a small portfolio of digital work and will be ready for Intermediate Design.

Intermediate Graphic Design

GRA 220

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Design or Teacher Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Intermediate Design builds on the digital and creative foundations from Introduction to Graphic Design while shifting students into more hands-on, practical design work. Students refine their skills in Illustrator and Photoshop, explore more advanced visual communication, and continue strengthening their understanding of typography, layout, and branding. They also start using iPads with Adobe mobile apps like Fresco, expanding their drawing, illustration, and concept-sketching skills more naturally and intuitively. A major focus of this course is moving beyond the computer to building, making, and printing. Students learn to translate their digital ideas into physical pieces through screen printing, production work, three-dimensional builds, and other hands-on processes. This blend of digital and physical design helps students grasp how real designers create for both screens and the physical world. Collaboration, critiques, and project-based problem solving resemble real design studios and help students improve their communication and adaptability. Throughout the course, students consider how their creativity can serve others and reflect the thoughtful, purposeful nature of God's design.

By the end of the year, students will have created work ready for their portfolios and will be prepared for Advanced Design.

Advanced Design

GRA 320

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Design or Teacher Approval
- Course Fee

Credit: 1

Advanced Design focuses on collaboration and entrepreneurship as students apply their skills to real-world creative work. Projects are a culmination of their technical, artistic, and collaborative skills. They take on large-scale projects that involve branding, marketing, storytelling, and problem-solving for clients. Students learn to manage timelines, pitch ideas, build campaigns, and create professional, cohesive design solutions. Early in the year, the class explores what healthy collaboration looks like in the creative industry, practicing habits such as giving effective feedback, communicating clearly, and building on one another's strengths. As the year progresses, collaboration develops into full team-based design work where students experience the benefits of working with other creatives and community partners. This prepares them for the culminating project of the course: creating and launching a public-facing pop-up shop that integrates branding, product design, marketing, and narrative storytelling. Ongoing critiques, check-ins, and presentations guide students as they refine their design voice and think strategically about audience, purpose, and impact. Students consider how design can communicate truth, offer hope, and reflect the creativity of a God who calls us to build with excellence. By the end of the course, students will have developed strong portfolio pieces and practical experience that prepare them for future creative opportunities.

Yearbook

JOU 110

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1

Yearbook is a dynamic, hands-on course where students take on the challenge of documenting the life and spirit of Valor Christian High School. Through writing, photography, and design, students create a visually compelling and meaningful record of the school year. Along the way, they develop real-world skills in layout design, journalism, photography, and Adobe Creative Suite while learning to manage deadlines and work collaboratively as part of a professional team.

More than just a design class, Yearbook is an opportunity to serve the student body and the larger Valor community. Students take on the responsibility of capturing stories, preserving memories, and creating a book that reflects the heart of the school. The course fosters commitment, problem-solving, and teamwork—essential skills for college and future careers. Above all, students learn to use their God-given talents to create something lasting, meaningful, and impactful for their peers and school.

Introduction to Photography

PH0115

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee
- A working digital camera with manual functions is required

Credit: .5

Introduction to Photography gives students a foundation in both the artistic and technical sides of image making. Through hands-on practice, students learn essential camera skills including exposure, manual settings, composition, and the use of light. They study influential photographers, explore creative techniques such as light painting and high-speed photography, and gain experience editing and presenting their work. The course encourages students to develop a personal artistic vision while also understanding how photographs communicate intention, story, and emotion. Regular critiques help students analyze images, strengthen visual literacy, and grow in confidence as developing artists. Throughout the semester, students consider creativity from a biblical perspective, reflecting on how photography can reveal truth, beauty, and the character of a Creative God. By the end of the course, students will have created a portfolio of images that demonstrates skill, experimentation, and artistic growth.

Intermediate Photography

PHO 220 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Photography or Teacher Approval; A working digital camera with manual functions is required Credit: 1
- Course Fee

Intermediate Photography is designed for students ready to expand their technical skills and develop a more intentional artistic voice. Students work in Valor's professional lighting studio, practice advanced portrait and lighting techniques, and refine digital workflow skills using Adobe Lightroom with a focus on RAW image processing and efficient cataloging. Students are introduced to analogue processes in the Valor darkroom, gaining a deeper understanding of exposure and traditional photographic craft. Creative assignments encourage students to think about the meaning behind their images and to develop conceptual ideas that reflect both personal vision and artistic purpose. Regular critiques support growth in visual communication, and students reflect on how their creativity can mirror the character of a Divine Artist.

Advanced Photography

PHO 320 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate Photography or Teacher Approval, A working digital camera with manual functions is required Credit: 1
- Course Fee

Advanced Photography is designed for students who want to refine their craft and explore photography with greater artistic and technical depth. Students work extensively with analogue photography in the Valor darkroom, gaining hands-on experience with film, chemistry, and traditional printing methods. In the light studio, students create professional-quality images using model sets, the studio's infinity wall, and learn to control lighting with precision and intention. Students study historical photographers and make connections with working photographers in the classroom as professional guests. They are introduced to Design Thinking to plan and execute independent projects that express personal voice and creative purpose. Each student develops a final project that may include a series, installation, or conceptual body of work. Regular critiques help students strengthen visual communication, refine processes, and confidently articulate artistic choices. Throughout the course, students explore how photography can reveal truth, beauty, and the character of a Divine Artist.

Visual Arts Junior Conservatory

VIS 320 Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

- Acceptance into the Visual Arts Conservatory Credit: 1

This class is designed to stretch the student who wants a creative advantage for college, career and life. Conservatory is meant to be in partnership with other arts classes a student is taking their Junior year. Junior Conservatory is a unique class setting where students, from their concentration of choice, will gather for personal guidance from instructors, unique showcase opportunities, collaborative experiencers with their peers, discussion around identity as artists and influence of a biblical worldview. The goal is to create space to begin generating a meaningful body of work. By means of prompts, critiques and outside exposure from professional artists, students will begin equipping themselves to present their portfolio at a professional level. Students will leave this class with a physical and digital portfolio. Additionally, students will develop a capstone video that will create a visual narrative of their creative problem-solving skills.

AP Art and Design: Senior Conservatory

VIS 430 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- Acceptance into the Visual Arts Conservatory Credit: 1.0

One of the most unique arts programs in the nation, AP Senior Arts Conservatory focuses on holistically equipping students through thoughtful and varied experiences. Students must work with unfamiliar materials to learn assemblage and wearable art. We believe that iron sharpens iron here. There is a strong emphasis on healthy collaboration to experience "1+1=3", when people join forces in a healthy way. All work is made to point to a Divine Creator. Scheduled showcases are also a part of the Conservatory experience where students learn how to talk about their work and present themselves in a public space. These experiences are woven throughout the student building a 5 piece portfolio to submit to the AP board. Students have unprecedented access to teachers/advisors, all studio spaces, and abundance of materials as they navigate the rigorous AP format. Successful completion earns a weighted GPA and college credit.

Media Arts Course Descriptions

Podcasting

JOU 135 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee Credit: 0.5

Podcasting introduces students to the creative and technical process of producing meaningful audio content while developing skills that grow each semester a student returns. Through hands-on practice, students learn storytelling, interviewing, script-writing, recording techniques, and digital editing using industry software. They explore how podcasts can communicate clearly, thoughtfully, and in ways that reflect Christian truth and values. Students take part in real production work by recording, editing, and shaping Valor's chapel series into podcast episodes. Returning students progress into leadership roles by helping with planning, directing segments, managing production workflows, or mentoring new team members. Throughout the course, students reflect on how audio storytelling can serve others, build community, and glorify God. By the end of each semester, students will have produced publishable content and gained valuable communication, technical, and creative skills that apply to media, ministry, and everyday li

Introduction to Content Creation

JOU 125 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None Credit: 0.5

Introduction to Content Creation teaches students the core skills needed to produce high-quality digital media. Through hands-on practice, students learn the basics of camera operation, composition, lighting, audio, and editing in Adobe Premiere Pro. They explore how creators use visuals and storytelling to communicate clearly and connect with an audience. Students complete short projects that develop practical skills in filming, sound recording, and simple studio setups. They also reflect on how meaningful, responsible content can honor God and positively influence others. Enrichment opportunities, such as attending the Denver or New York Film Festival, may be available. By the end of the course, students will have a solid foundation in video production and the confidence to create purposeful, visually engaging content.

Intermediate Content Creation

JOU 240 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction Content Creation or Teacher Approval Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Content Creation builds on foundational production skills and introduces students to more advanced tools and workflows used in professional digital media. Students work with higher-level cameras, lighting setups, audio gear, and studio environments while learning the roles and responsibilities of a production team. Through hands-on projects, students practice creating short films, documentaries, scene recreations, and multi-camera content. They strengthen their storytelling and editing skills and may explore compositing, sound design, or studio-based production work. Students also gain real-world experience by supporting video needs for Chapel or Valor Arts events. Throughout the course, students consider how meaningful visual storytelling can honor God and positively influence an audience. By the end of the semester, students will have completed polished work and be ready for advanced filmmaking and content creation opportunities.

Advanced Content Creation

JOU 320 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intermediate content creation, or Podcasting, or teacher approval Credit: 1.0

Intermediate Content Creation builds on foundational production skills and introduces students to more advanced tools and workflows used in professional digital media. Students work with higher-level cameras, lighting setups, audio gear, and studio environments while learning the roles and responsibilities of a production team. Through hands-on projects, students practice creating short films, documentaries, scene recreations, and multi-camera content. They strengthen their storytelling and editing skills and may explore compositing, sound design, or studio-based production work. Students also gain real-world experience by supporting video needs for Chapel or Valor Arts events. Throughout the course, students consider how meaningful visual storytelling can honor God and positively influence an audience. By the end of the semester, students will have completed polished work and be ready for advanced filmmaking and content creation opportunities.

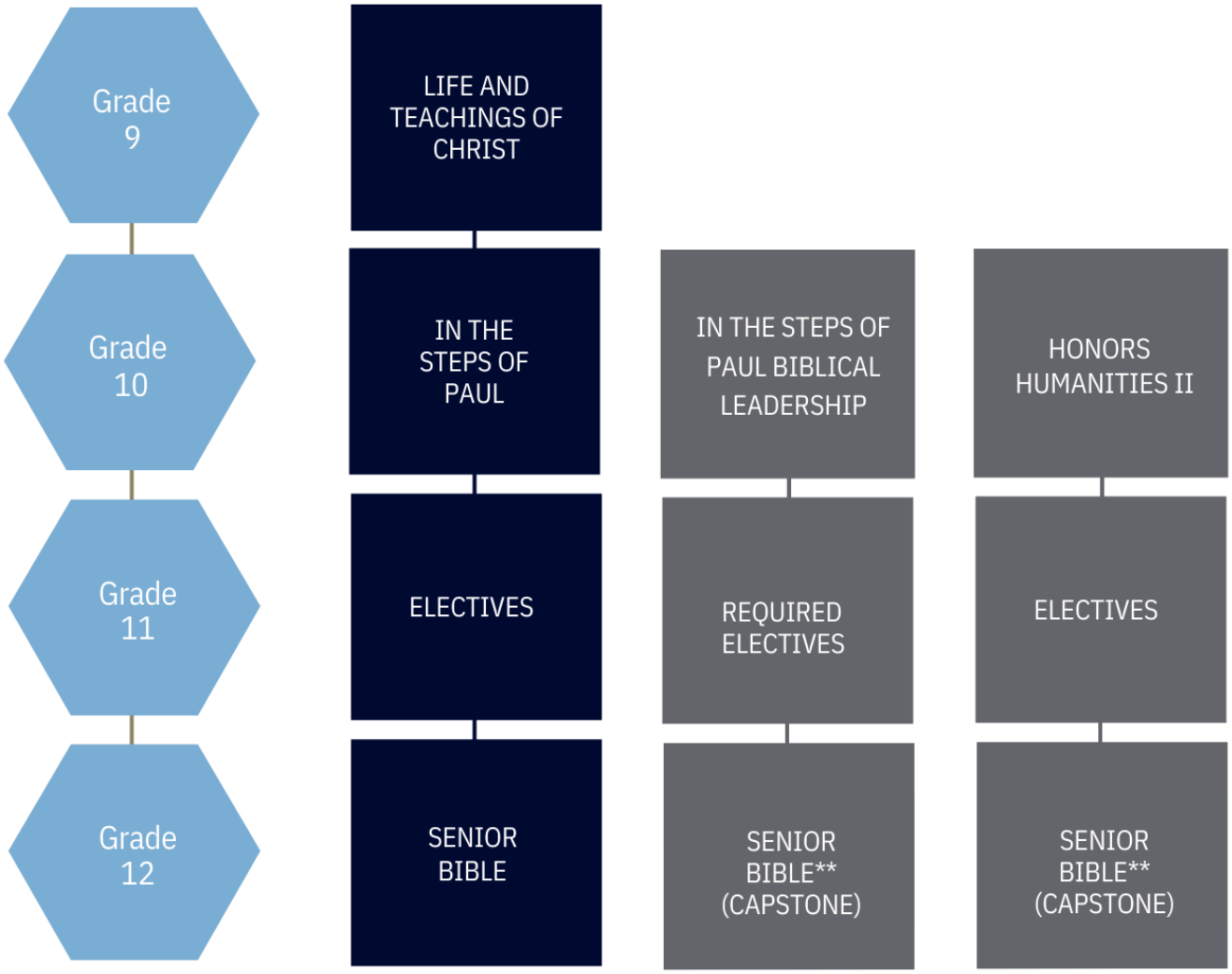
Course Mapping

Bible

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 3 YEARS



BIBLE ELECTIVES

Apologetics (0.5 credit)
Christian Living: Life to the Full (0.5 credit)
Biblical Greek (0.5 credit)*
DC Old Testament (0.5 credit)*
DC New Testament (0.5 credit)*

Note: All incoming students are required to take Life and Teachings of Christ. Senior Bible is required for all Seniors.
**Elective may not be offered every year. ** Endorsement Program Specific Senior Bible Sections.*

Bible

Program Description

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus Christ proclaims his final command to 'Go into the world and make disciples of all nations". In obedience to this Great commission, the Bible Department exists to provide an educational and relational experience, and through the work of the Holy Spirit, will help lead students to be fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ, and who are prepared as leaders to transform the world for Jesus Christ. This goal will be accomplished through a combination of excellent instruction, modeling Christ likeness, and an authentic relational connection with the students.

Department Student Outcomes

1. Graduates possess a fundamental knowledge of the grand story of the Bible, life and gospel of Jesus Christ, and Christian theology and worldview.
2. Graduates possess an understanding of the development of the Church and orthodox doctrine from Pentecost to the modern age of Christianity.
3. Graduates possess a critical knowledge of different world religions and contemporary worldviews.
4. Graduates are able to apply an understanding of the biblical view of contemporary issues in a postmodern world
5. Graduates can articulate and defend their worldview in intelligent and respectful discourse while evaluating and refuting the arguments of opposing viewpoints.

Course Descriptions

The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

BIB 110/116

Grade: 9, Transfer Students

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1.0

All the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever sailed, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as this "one solitary life." (Dr. James Allan Francis) This course is a study of the birth, ministry, suffering, death, resurrection and exaltation of our Lord as revealed in the Gospels. Special attention is given to a detailed study of Jesus' teaching, parables, miracles, and passion history, together with an evaluation of the historical view of Jesus, his life, ministry and the world in which he lived.

In the Steps of Paul

BIB 215

Grade: 10, 11

Prerequisites:

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 1.0

This course is anchored in the following truth: "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name given under heaven by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). As the disciples continue to preach the gospel, the Kingdom of God spreads, as promised by Jesus, from Jerusalem to the "ends of the earth." This course will continue the story of Jesus from his resurrection to the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire until the Apostle Paul's death. The focus of this course is to show the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the growth of the early Church. The purpose of the course is to present the basic theological tenets of the Christian faith as explained by the Apostles in the book of Acts and Paul's letters to the Christians in Galatia and Thessalonica. The hope of this course is that students will own for themselves the gracious gift of God's grace and love, which he has "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5)."

In the Steps of Paul: Biblical Leadership

BIB 230 Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ
- Enrollment in the Biblical Leadership Endorsement

Credit: 1.0

This course is anchored in the following truth: "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us" (Romans 5:1-5).

This course will continue the story of Jesus from his resurrection to the spread of Christianity throughout the Roman Empire and beyond. The focus of this course is to give a chronological account of the spread of the Gospel as told in the book of Acts and selected New Testament Epistles. The purpose of the course is to present the basic theological tenets of the Christian faith and explore the scriptural foundations while equipping students with both the understanding and the tools to engage in their own in-depth Bible study. Students in this cohorted class will engage in a deeper exploration of leadership and spiritual growth in the lives of the early church fathers, as well as in their own faith journeys. The hope of this course is that students will own for themselves the gracious gift of God's grace and love, which he has "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit."

Heroes of the Faith

BIB 305 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 0.5

Heroes of the Faith is a dynamic course of biblical exploration, biographical information gathering, introspection, reflection, and ultimately, action. Students will be challenged with defining the shared qualification of "heroes" and explore what it really means to "have faith". Throughout the course of the semester, students will investigate the lives of these "Heroes" from the Old Testament, understand the convergence of these historical situations and the individuals' giftedness, research a theme connecting two or more individuals' life works, and articulate and develop an action plan to that demonstrates an understanding of what lessons they can apply from these men and women to their own lives in order to fully know what it takes to become a "hero of the faith" themselves.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

Apologetics: Defending the Faith

BIB 335 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ

Credit: 0.5

The course title "Defending Your Faith" is taken from Peter's exhortation: "Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence" (1 Peter 3:15). It has been the task of Christ followers in every generation to be not only a witness to but also a defender of the biblical worldview. This defense must be done with gentleness and reverence, reflecting true godliness through the power of the Holy Spirit. Defending the Faith will help equip one to respond to the honest questions and doubts which believers and unbelievers have about the Christian faith. The course will introduce students to logic and reasoning skills, key topics in apologetics and provide the foundation for a confident defense of the Christian faith that will help encourage thinkers to believe and believers to think.

DC New Testament

BIB 395 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, In the Steps of Paul

Credit: 0.5

The Grand Story narrative hinges upon the idea of the Messiah coming to the Earth, bringing about God's redemption for Israel and the whole world and restoring all nations unto Himself. The whole of the New Testament is the good news of this Messiah (Jesus of Nazareth), coming to Earth, born of a virgin, living a sinless life, dying a substitutionary death, rising from the grave and inviting all of humanity to be redeemed to the Father. In this Dual Credit course, students will take a deep dive into the whole of the Gospels, understand a greater level of depth of the Acts of the Apostles, explore all of the writings of the Apostle Paul, and unpack the writings of the other Apostles.

DC Old Testament

BIB 405 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- The Life and Teachings of Jesus Christ, In the Steps of Paul Credit: 0.5

The Grand Story narrative begins with the God of the Universe creating perfection, to live in Harmony with the created order. When one choice by man and woman, unveils the Grand Story of Redemption that is put forth to the Nation of Israel for all the world. The whole of the Old Testament is made up of three parts: the Torah, the Nevi'im, and the Ketuvim. The Torah (the five books of Moses), reveal this narrative and how the Law is responsible to keep God's People in covenant. The Nevi'im (books of Prophets), reveal the fore-telling and forth-telling nature of God as the world prepares for the Messiah. The Ketuvim (books of writings), reveal a vast array of God's poetry, prose, private prayer, wisdom, national tragedy and love. In this unweighted Dual Credit course, students will explore the whole of the Old Testament, the Redemptive Hermeneutic of the Triune God, identify the genres of the text and memorize key elements in an understanding of the Shema and the Coming Messiah.

Senior Bible

BIB 420 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- None, this required class is limited to senior students. Credit: 1.0

Senior Bible is a dynamic final year course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection and preparation for the next chapter of life. Students will be challenged with defining and understanding the Grand Story, exploring the connection between biblical text and life application, and finally articulating their own faith. Throughout the full year, students will investigate these hermeneutical concepts throughout the Bible, understand the convergence of the Grand Story and their individual giftedness, research theological concepts and reflect on their own beliefs in light of what was learned over their years at Valor Christian High School, in order to fully know that God has a plan for their life – to know Him and make Him known to others.

Senior Bible: Honors Humanities Capstone

BIB 430 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- Must be in the Honors Humanities Program Credit: 1.0

Senior Bible: Humanities Capstone is a dynamic culmination course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection, and preparation for the next chapter of life. It also serves as the capstone course for the Humanities endorsement program. Seniors will have the opportunity to develop spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, relationally, and academically. As Seniors approach a critical point of transition, they will deepen their understanding of what it means to form, foster, and live out one's "worldview" by exploring both gospel-based orthodoxy (theology proper) and orthopraxy (theology in practice). Through the study of hermeneutics, students will become more confident in how to humbly read, understand, and apply the biblical text across the existing barriers of language, history, and culture. By exploring both theology proper (Fall) and theology in practice (Spring), students will be able to better articulate what they believe, why they believe it, and how their beliefs affect their life and the lives of others. Significantly, students will learn how to discuss and live out their worldview with a posture like that of Christ - truth, humility, grace, and love to all. Through this holistic approach, we hope that students will see how their unique stories fit within God's grand, redemptive Story and that they desire to be a part of cultivating the Kingdom "on earth as it is in heaven."

Senior Bible: Endorsement Capstone

BIB 431 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- Must be in the Biblical Leadership Endorsement Credit: 1.0

Senior Bible: Endorsements is a dynamic final year course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection and preparation for the next chapter of life. Students will be challenged with defining and understanding the Grand Story, exploring the connection between Biblical text and life application, and finally articulating their own faith in their Endorsement Capstone. Throughout the full year, students will become better prepared for the next stage of life (college, military, gap year), investigate hermeneutical concepts throughout the Bible, understand the convergence of the Grand Story and their individual giftedness, research theological concepts and reflect on their own beliefs in light of what was learned over their years at Valor Christian High School, in order to fully know that God has a plan for their life – to know Him and make Him known to others.

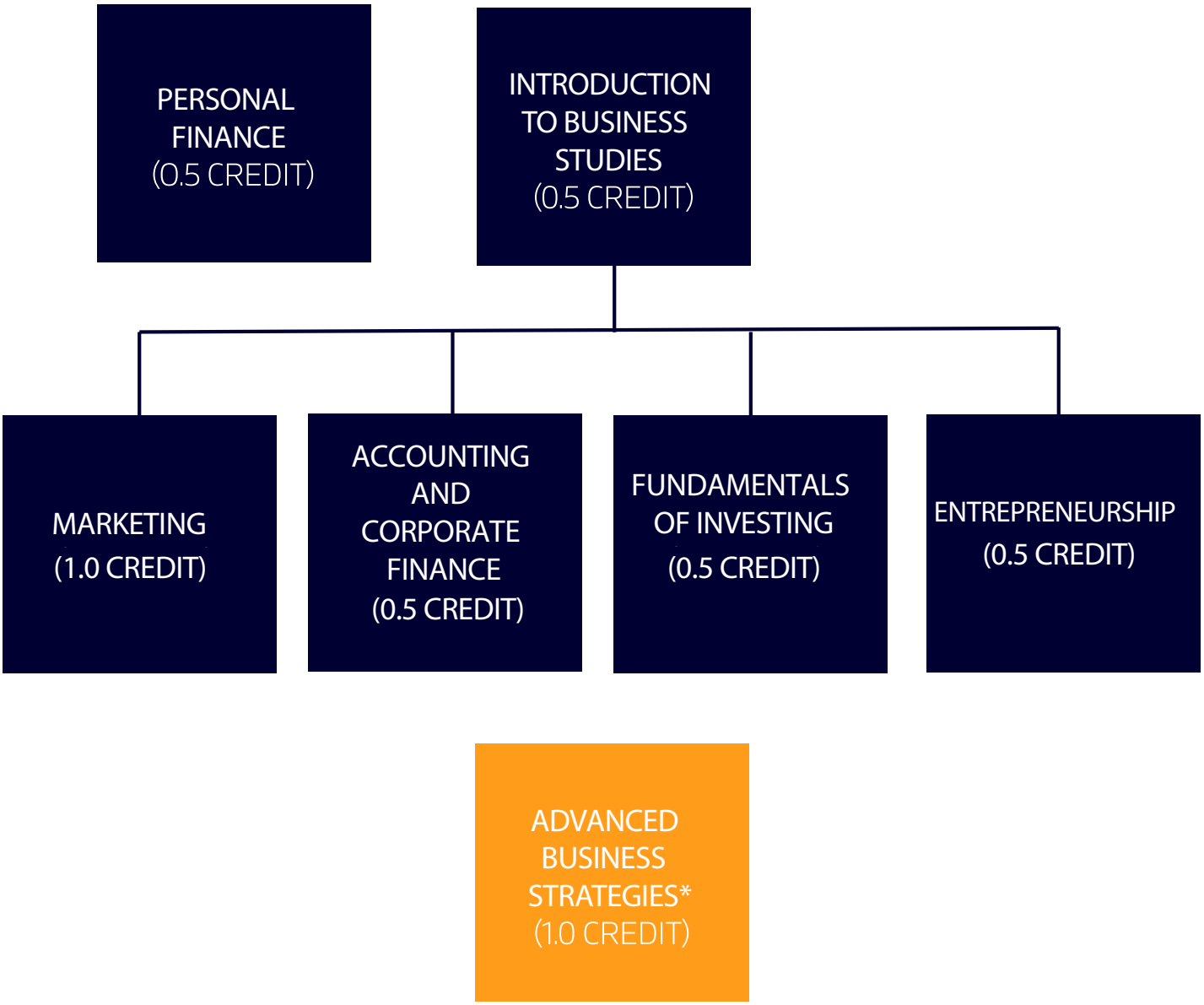
Course Mapping

Business

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

ELECTIVES



Business

Program Description

The Business Department hosts a variety of relevant and rigorous business and marketing classes that will prepare a student to continue to pursue excellence in their academic and professional pursuits. Skills that students develop in the courses offered by the Business Department will ensure they possess the competence and knowledge for future university studies in Business.

Department Outcomes

1. Graduates are able to discern ethical business behavior and can recognize ways to appropriately treat consumers, employees, creditors and society from a Christian worldview.
2. Graduates are equipped to communicate and engage with businessmen and women in an appropriate, professional manner.
3. Graduates exhibit clear, logical thinking through engaging business simulations, case studies, data analysis and the examination of business practices.
4. Graduates utilize a variety of technologies to explore, solve and communicate in the 21st century business world.
5. Graduates possess a thorough working knowledge of a Free-Market Enterprise and understand the role of the consumer when it comes to businesses decisions.
6. Graduates understand the importance of financial operations on a micro and macro level and develop a strategic working plan for saving, and investing.
7. Graduates recognize the important role of entrepreneurship in our global society, and are eager to innovate and therein further the economy by creating jobs.
8. Graduates analyze ways that businesses best meet the needs of target consumers through the development, pricing, promotion, and distribution of products.
9. Graduates are equipped to use fundamental business procedures leading to sound business practices and decision making surrounding financial reporting.

Course Descriptions

Introduction to Business Studies

BUS 105

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 0.5

Introduction to Business is a course designed to provide students with basic but essential knowledge of economics, business types, ethics, management, investments, role of the consumer, and career exploration. Areas of business fundamentals covered include the Free Enterprise System, entrepreneurship, marketing, accounting, businesses ownership, profit motive, career preparation, and general operational concepts. This content is also covered in light of how biblical principles apply to business.

Personal Finance

BUS 225

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 0.5

This course will help students develop guidelines for effectively managing their money, the one thing that every student must learn about as they prepare for college and life after learning. Savings, investments, financial discipline and goal setting for college planning and life, will be learned through an analytical and practical process. Credit and debt, budgeting, bargain shopping, college, costs, risk management, investing, and consumer awareness will be some essential units covered in the personal finance course. In addition, students will learn to utilize Excel and to understand how to read and understand paychecks as well as checking accounts. A Christian perspective, including being a wise steward of God's money, will be central to learning about debt, credit and money management in this course.

Marketing

BUS 235 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Business

Credit: 1.0

Marketing is a fast-paced and energetic class which prepares students for their future using many real business examples and practical applications. Marketing introduces students to marketing practices, principles, and related careers. Units of study will include The Marketing Concept, the Strategic Planning, Selling, Promotion, Product Distribution, Price Decisions, and Market Segmentations. Students will engage in many hands-on activities to demonstrate their understanding of learned concepts, as well as an understanding of how biblical principles apply in marketing.

Entrepreneurship

BUS 305 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Business and/or Marketing

Credit: 0.5

This course is designed to introduce students to the role of small business in our free enterprise system. In addition to understanding the role of entrepreneurship in our current society, students will research and understand various entrepreneurs and their characteristics. Students will understand the process of researching consumer needs and implementing ideas that meet those needs through the development of a new business, and through the development of a business plan. Students will participate in a project that includes business planning and management. Additional consideration will also be given to how biblical principles apply in entrepreneurship.

Fundamentals of Investing

BUS 315 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Business and/or Marketing

Credit: 0.5

This course introduces students to the fundamentals of investing. Students will begin by considering what money actually is. Building on this understanding, they learn about the time value of money, equity and debt instruments, and the various financial markets and investment sectors. Once students have established this basic understanding, they will take a deeper dive into particular kinds of investments, learning to analyze them from both a fundamental and technical approach, as well as making decisions in order to build a portfolio. All of this is considered within the framework of wise stewardship of financial resources according to Biblical Principles.

Accounting and Corporate Finance

BUS 335 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Business

Credit: 0.5

This course introduces the students to the fundamentals of accounting practice that underlie basic accounting procedures. The objective of the course is to learn basic accounting fundamentals leading to sound business decision-making. The course is intended for students with no previous exposure to financial accounting. The course focuses on basic accounting procedures to include: accounting cycle, journals, ledgers, internal control principles and how to apply in a business setting. This course is recommended for potential business majors in college and/or those interested in business as a career. Furthermore, the accounting content and practices will be viewed from the Christian worldview and how to apply in a meaningful manner.

Dual Credit Advanced Business Strategies

BUS 350 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Introduction to Business

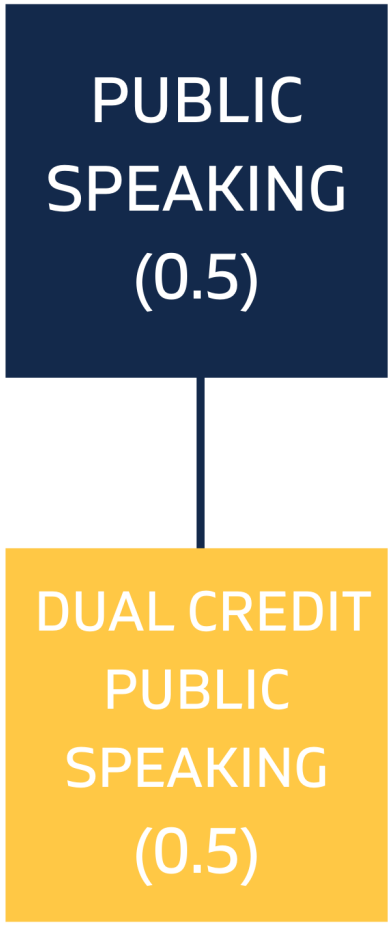
Credit: 1.0

Advanced Business Strategies is designed for the serious-minded business student interested in advanced level business concepts. This is a capstone project-based course covering the following concepts: marketing research, management, international business, college-level terminology, sports marketing, hospitality, and advanced economics. Students will be expected to complete, either individually or in a group, a written business plan after intense research and development. Business computer simulations and Harvard Business Review case studies will be utilized. Additional consideration will include further study of the application of biblical principles in business. Students enrolled in will be encouraged to compete in Valor's DECA program.

Course Mapping

Communication Department

VALOR ACADEMICS



Communication

Program Description

The study of speech communications is essential in our increasingly global world. Effective communication is a vital skill that will enable our students to flourish in their professional lives. The purpose of studying speech and debate is to equip students to be able to think critically, reason rationally and present their ideas eloquently.

Course Descriptions

Public Speaking

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 0 .5

This course lays the foundation for students on how to speak effectively in front of others and teaches them how to both construct and perform a speech. Students will examine Biblical texts concerning Christian communication found in the Bible and examine them as a guide for contemporary communication. Students give prepared and extemporaneous speeches on a variety of topics and learn proper research, structure, style, and technique.

DC Public Speaking

COM 315

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Public Speaking

Credit: 0.5

This course builds upon students' basic speaking and research skills that they have developed throughout their education, including opportunities to consider and discuss weighty topics from a biblical framework. This course is an introduction to the principles of public speaking. Students will study aspects of verbal and nonverbal delivery, speech organization, and the effective use of supporting material and presentational aids. Students will deliver several speeches in various genres, designed to better equip them for future speaking endeavors. Students will demonstrate their ability to speak clearly and effectively by constructing and presenting a substantive, persuasive message. Strong communication skills are essential and valuable for all professions and life relationships. Thus, this course will prepare Valor Christian students for their post-secondary and post-collegiate roles as speakers and citizens.

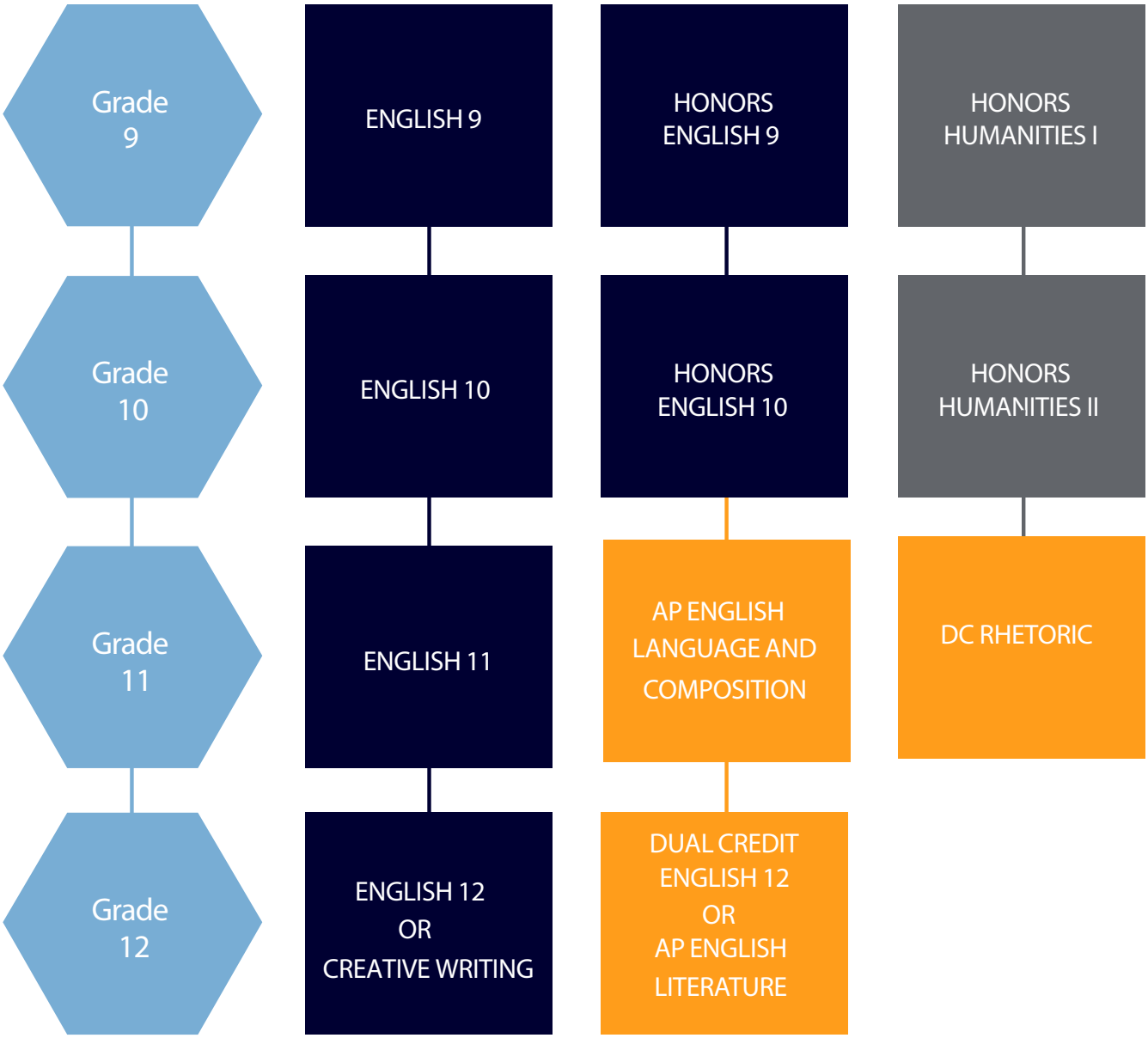
Course Mapping

English

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 4 YEARS



English

Program Overview

The English Department will cultivate an environment which fosters intellectual curiosity, delight in learning, and a desire to become more Christ-like in thoughts and actions. This is done primarily through reading, writing, and telling stories. As students engage with worthy texts, they will participate in a timeless conversation about the great thoughts and ideas of people and their relationship with themselves, each other, and their Maker. In doing so, Valor strives to refine students' abilities to think clearly, communicate capably, interpret text accurately, but perhaps most importantly, to appreciate beauty. Further, there is a deliberate plan to create a culture of reading and encourage students to read avidly for pleasure. The writing program stresses frequency, coherence, and style, ensuring that graduates are prepared to face the diversity and volume of college writing. As well, Valor encourages students in their own authorship, to see themselves as artists and creators bearing the image of God. For stories are of utmost importance, and as they are shared, students are able to discover what it is to be human and what it means to truly live.

Department Outcomes

Language:

1. Graduates possess a thorough working knowledge of the conventions, grammar, vocabulary, and literary devices of the English language.

Writing:

2. Graduates are persistent writers who construct clear sentences that serve fitting purposes within coherent paragraphs for essays which strategically advance a rhetorical and artistic purpose.
3. Graduates express their individual voice as authors as they move from argumentative to creative writing.

Reading:

4. Graduates are regular, active, and thoughtful readers who approach each text with an understanding of genre, purpose, style, and worldview.

Speaking Up:

5. Graduates are eager discussion participants who clearly and thoughtfully articulate and support their own ideas, ask meaningful questions, and reflectively listen to the ideas of others.

Research:

6. Graduates are discerning researchers with familiarity in both primary and secondary, both electronic and print sources—they carry the importance of academic integrity at heart and bear the conventions of MLA citation in mind.

Biblical Worldview Integration:

7. Graduates are able to identify and discuss how biblical themes and principles reflected in selected texts contribute to a deeper understanding of the Grand Christian story or narrative.

Course Descriptions

English 9

ENG 110 Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1.0

The core theme of the English 9 curriculum stems from the Bible verse Micah 6:8: "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Through this lens of scripture, students will explore how this biblical truth manifests itself in the lives of characters from works of fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. They will also reflect on how this calling applies to and can be lived out in their own lives. Students will memorize this verse and other verses throughout the year. As a foundational year, the English 9 curriculum seeks to grow students' appreciation and ability in the following areas: to read well and abundantly, to think reflectively and critically, and to express themselves articulately and accurately. Students will build a foundation in grammar, vocabulary, oratory, Harkness discussions, argumentative writing, literary analysis, and research. They will also have opportunities to explore themes and ideas through creative writing. Our hope is that students will finish the year with confidence, joy, curiosity, and ownership in their learning.

Honors English 9

ENG 120 Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- Incoming standardized and placement test scores.

Credit: 1.0

The team of English 9 and English 9H teachers expects students to internalize and employ the grammar, vocabulary, punctuation, and writing process introduced. Our philosophy in regard to the volume of literature we cover is that "less is more" when less provides for depth of thought not attainable by breadth of material. We seek to grow students who read well, think well, and express themselves articulately. As such, we read almost continuously, we think, reflect, debate, and discuss what we read regularly, and we practice grammar, vocabulary, and writing weekly. With each unit, students will understand that all truth is God's truth, and as such, where it is seamless and appropriate, Biblical passages, theodicies, apologetics, and Jesus' teachings will be infused to complement the texts and inform discussions. Most of our work happens in the classroom, which requires students to do some preparation outside of class. In general, this advanced preparation takes the form of reading from our literature, but may include practice in grammar, vocabulary, or generating written work. Students earn grades that reflect their level of mastery for each concept; in no way is their grade dependent on, compared to, or generated based on other students' grades. We expect students to come to class prepared to learn, and leave class better writers, thinkers, and communicators.

English 10

ENG 210 Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- English 9

Credit: 1.0

English 10 enhances and expands on the reading and writing skills established in English 9, moving toward more complex texts and greater emphasis on textual analysis. Students will refine grammatical skills and acquire knowledge of literary devices, and learn to apply them in their analysis of texts as well as their own writing. Discussions of the literature will play a significant role in developing critical thinking skills. Students will expand and develop their vocabulary base and improve written technique and style, with an emphasis on organizing multi-paragraph compositions by composing arguable thesis statements, supporting thesis statements with claim sentences, supporting claims with concrete evidence, and warranting evidence to produce sound arguments. Students will author their own creative work, exercising the God-given faculty of making and delighting in things that are beautiful and true. Students will learn MLA style guidelines and learn the revision process in both creative and formal writing. Students will engage in consistent independent reading, with regular class time provided to foster healthy reading habits.

Honors English 10

ENG 220

Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Honors English 9, Grade of 93% or better in English 9

Credit: 1.0

Honors English 10 enhances and expands on the reading and writing skills established in English 9, moving toward more complex texts and greater emphasis on textual analysis. Students will refine grammatical skills and acquire knowledge of literary devices, and learn to apply them in their analysis of texts as well as their own writing. Discussions of the literature will play a significant role in developing critical thinking skills. Students will expand and develop their vocabulary base and improve written technique and style, with an emphasis on organizing multi-paragraph compositions by composing arguable thesis statements, supporting thesis statements with claim sentences, supporting claims with concrete evidence, and warranting evidence to produce sound arguments. Students will author their own creative work, exercising the God-given faculty of making and delighting in things that are beautiful and true. Students will learn MLA style guidelines and learn the revision process in both creative and formal writing.

English 11

ENG 310

Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- English 10

Credit: 1

This course will continue to develop students into becoming critical thinkers, writers, and readers by improving their written, verbal, and research skills. Students will closely read great literary classics and a wide selection of non-fiction. Class discussions will explore what ideas and beliefs formed these texts, who has supported or challenged them, and how these ideas are still ingrained in our culture today. Particular attention will be paid to the mode of argumentation: in the analysis of a text, in the crafting of an essay, and in the expression of a viewpoint through debate or discussion. Students will build upon this skill by adding layers of evidence—textual analysis, personal experiences, and observations, and outside research—to provide a convincing defense for their claims. This course also involves skill development in advanced syntax and grammar. Students will develop rhetorical and literary analysis skills with a depth of logical inquiry and a greater sense of style. Special attention is given to advanced grammar, spelling, and vocabulary enrichment. These skills will prepare them for the ACT and SAT exams and the expectations for their studies at the college level. Lastly but most importantly, this class will prepare students to be discerning Christian readers who are equipped with the rhetorical skills to defend themselves and positively influence others.

AP English Language and Composition

ENG 350

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- Grade of 87% or better in Honors English 10, Grade of 93% or better in English 10
- Review of the Academic & College Counselor.
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.

Credit: 1

This introductory college-level course, which complies with the guidelines stated in the AP English Course Description, has three main objectives. First, this course develops students into strong, confident writers who recognize the value of revision in their writing. This course functions as a portfolio-based writing course that requires students to write several essays through the steps of the writing process, meet regularly in peer and teacher conferences and revise and edit select essays for a final portfolio. Second, this course works to develop critical reading skills by sharpening students' awareness of the rhetorical strategies used by the author of a text. The course content will emphasize works of American literature and works of nonfiction from a variety of authors and time periods. By becoming better readers, students glean ideas that contribute to the content of their writing, sharpen critical thinking skills, and apply rhetorical strategies in their own writing. Complementary to the first two objectives, this course further prepares students for the AP English: Language and Composition exam. To practice and assess their writing and critical reading skills, students complete several timed essays and multiple-choice segments, taken directly from released AP exams. By the end of the course, students will have prepared for the exam, but more importantly, they will have developed critical reading and writing skills that they will use in college and beyond. Ultimately, this course will guide students toward examining literature and life critically through a biblical worldview and toward equipping them to inform, serve, convince, and inspire others through their writing.

DC Rhetoric

ENG 360 Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

- Review from Academic and College Counselors. Credit: 1.0
- Must be in the Humanities Endorsement, Course Fee

This class will focus on both moral formation and a broadened understanding of virtue—through reading classical works of Rhetoric, both Greco-Roman and Christian—and also hone the student's ability to speak (and write) well. Spanning from the Sophists of ancient Greece, through the Roman greats—Quintilian, Horace, and Cicero—to the Christian giants—Augustine and Aquinas—this course will give students a comprehensive sense of the tools and aims of classical Rhetoric while teaching them the subject's relevance to modern communication. They will immediately apply Rhetorical concepts within the classroom, in both written and oral communication. The course will culminate with a substantial speech and companion essay that prepares Humanities students for the senior Thesis/Capstone course. In the second semester, the course will look at the contemporary use of rhetoric and read texts that display this shift. The focus here will be on how rhetoric has shifted from its ancient ideals and what ought to be fought for and retained and what can be safely adapted to a modern context. (Also listed under Humanities)

English Seminar: Creative Writing

ENG 401 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- English 11 Credit: 1.0
- Teacher Approval and Review from Academic and College Counselor.

This advanced creative writing course explores the art and craft of a variety of writing formats: personal narrative, poetry, scriptwriting, the novel, and more. With a focus on incorporating a Biblical worldview and the grand story of redemption into the writing process, we will build on previously developed writing skills. Students will learn the basic structures and formatting of a wide array of writing, as well as techniques for developing compelling characters, storylines, and the skill of editing. The course also explores the role of conflict and stories in general in particular in shaping cultural conversations and influencing society through our writing. Students have the opportunity to enter writing competitions and finish this course with a portfolio of their writing.

English 12

ENG 410 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- English 11 Credit: 1.0

Throughout the year, we will analyze characters who are broken and characters who have found redemption and live in the light. Through these stories, students will reflect on their own lives, their own hardships, and how they can find beauty from the ashes. They will wrestle with questions like, Who am I? Who are we? by reading literature in various genres including poetry, plays, novels, and non-fiction. We'll analyze how these works espouse and diverge from the biblical view of who we were made to be, striving to prepare students to move on from Valor with a stronger sense of who they are and who they want to become. This course is also designed to improve students' written, verbal, and research skills. Students will develop literary analysis skills and a depth of logical inquiry, along with a greater sense of style. Special attention also is given to advanced grammar, oratory, and vocabulary enrichment. Ultimately, we will guide students toward examining literature and life critically through a Biblical worldview and toward equipping them to inform, serve, convince, and inspire others through their writing.

DC English 12

ENG 430 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- English 11 or AP English Language and Composition Credit: 1.0
- Review by Academic & College Counselor.

As the capstone of the Valor Christian English Curriculum, this course follows the injunction in Philippians 4:8 to "think on whatever is pure, whatever is admirable…excellent or praiseworthy." Informed by this verse, this class provides an opportunity for students to read rich, redemptive, ennobling texts and deliberately uses these texts to challenge students' views and expectations of life. In addition to our academic goals, this course examines the way we shape our affections, how our emotions and our reason function together, and how our actions reflect our character. We will "fix our eyes" on exemplary characters and stories, hoping to learn from and be shaped by them. We will explore the problem of suffering, we will learn about what it looks like to truly love and be loved, and we will ultimately strive to become more like Christ. t.

AP English Literature and Composition

ENG 450 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- AP Language and Composition, DC Rhetoric, or English 11
- Review of Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Credit: 1

This course engages students in careful reading, critical analysis, and writing about imaginative literature (prose fiction, drama, and poetry). In literature studies, students consider a work's cultural background, worldview, and message, as well as its aesthetic value and literary merits. To enhance cultural and artistic literacy, students read influential works from the Classical through the Post-Modern periods. AP English Literature and Composition prepares the student for the College Board AP test with reading comprehension and writing skills development. Composition assignments, based upon the literature, are designed to strengthen students' skills in reading, analysis, research, and writing. Oratory skills are honed through discussions, writers' workshops, and debate, as well as memorization and recitation of selected poetry and scripture. Vocabulary development and grammar proficiency are enhanced through regular review and assessments. Ongoing class devotions help students to a deeper understanding of biblical truths, hermeneutical skills, and life application. The instructor's aim in everything is to honor Christ and advance His kingdom.

Honors Humanities I

HUM 120 Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- By invitation only and based on incoming test scores.

Credit: 2 [History and English]

Honors Humanities I is a rigorous course designed to give students an exposure to Western Civilization through a Biblical Worldview. It combines the stories of Ancient Israel, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome and examines the differences and similarities between the cultures. In addition, this course provides students with a comprehensive survey of the Old Testament and an exhaustive study of the Book of Matthew. Finally, students also learn the rudiments of grammar and parts of speech, punctuation, figurative tropes and language precision in order to become better writers. By combining these elements of Ancient History, Biblical Foundations, and Literary Understanding, students emerge from this class as better thinkers, confident writers, and as individuals more informed of their faith and beliefs.

Honors Humanities II

HUM 220 Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- Honors Humanities I or Instructor Recommendation

Credit: 2 [Bible and English]

Picking up where Honors Humanities I left off, Honors Humanities II will move forward in time through the period of the early church and the epistles of Paul, to the Desert Fathers, through to the Medieval world and church, and culminate with the Protestant Reformation. Alongside church history and the history of western civilization, students will read a variety of texts from this era—philosophical treatises, theological works and the unifying creeds of the church, imaginative literature, works of history, and epic poetry. While the focus in writing will still be argumentative and persuasive in purpose, synthesis of texts and ideas will become increasingly important. Critical thinking will be honed through regular small group discussion, both Socratically led by the instructor and Harkness discussions that are entirely student led. Grammar and language instruction will continue and be reinforced. *Also listed under Humanities.*

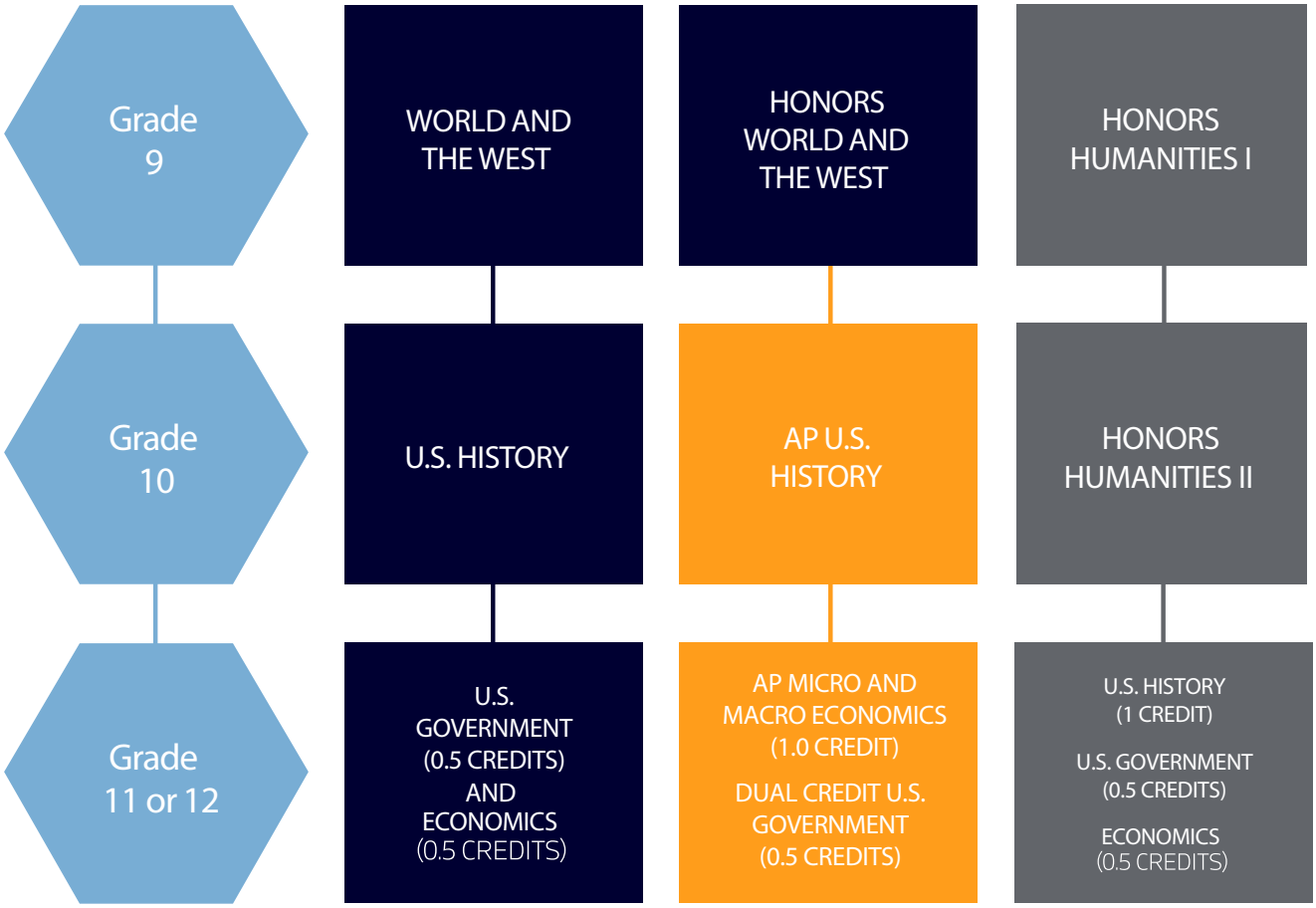
Course Mapping

History

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 3 YEARS



HISTORY ELECTIVES

Controversial America (0.5 credits)

The "Me" Generation (0.5 credits)*

DC European History (1 credit)*

Introduction to Law (0.5 credits)

* These courses are not offered every year.

History

Program Description

The Valor Christian High School History Department exists to equip our students with the ability to critically examine multiple perspectives of history, articulating how each of them would be analyzed within a biblical worldview. We seek to address this goal by providing lessons that facilitate skill building in the areas including, but not limited to identifying major events and their major players, analyzing cause and effect for each, and interpreting primary and secondary source documents.

Department Outcomes

Christian Worldview and Application:

1. Identify and explain historical trends, while making connections and articulating comparisons with biblical trends throughout human history.
2. Critically consider how an understanding of diverse cultures and shared human history supports Christ-like engagement with those cultures.
3. Consider historical events and themes from a biblical understanding of God's continuing work in the world.

Contextual Understanding:

4. Evaluate the historical significance of key people, places, and events.
5. Identify and explain differing social opinions on historical events and contexts, with academic evidence, while acknowledging, identifying, understanding, and categorizing social bias.
6. Examine the impact of classical liberalism, its placement and contributions in history.

Communication and Presentation Skills:

7. Use verbal, written and technological skills for effective communication with peers.

Historical Research:

8. Evaluate different primary and secondary sources to analyze, argue and defend various philosophical and biblical trends seen in the Western World, to include governmental, economic, and cultural outcomes.

Synthesize Historical Concepts:

9. Create an articulate summary and argument regarding historical themes and ideas in both written and verbal form.
10. Research and understand the primacy of being historically empathetic to the era, social, economic, and political trends of the time period evaluated through presentation, papers, and other types of assessments.

Course Descriptions

The World and the West

HIS 110

Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1.0

This college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of ancient, medieval and modern world cultures. The World and the West gives various glimpses of the vast panorama of European civilization from the Greeks to post-war Europe. The first semester of this year-long course will focus on a study of Greek and Roman civilization, the Renaissance, Reformation, and the Enlightenment. The second semester will focus on the Industrial Revolution, the growth of nationalism and imperialism, World War I, the rise of totalitarianism, World War II and the post-war years. Each unit will contain analysis of how a Christian worldview applies to the respective eras. Primary and secondary source documents will be utilized as well.

Honors the World and the West

HIS 120

Grade: 9

- Prerequisites: Review by the Academic and College Counseling team, determined through a review of admissions testing data and middle school grades.

Credit: 1.0

This college preparatory course is designed to explore and analyze major historical events and intellectual movements of Western civilization. Honors World and the West gives various glimpses into the vast panorama of Western civilization from the Greeks to post-war Europe, seeking to analyze and evaluate history through a Christian worldview. The first semester of this year-long course will focus on ancient Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Protestant Reformation, with particular attention on political and social conflicts. During the second semester, students will study the French Revolution, as well as the major conflicts of the twentieth century with an emphasis on imperialism, decolonization, and post-war Europe. Throughout the course, students will explore historiography and the sociology of revolutions, applying these concepts to contemporary movements where applicable. Student choice is emphasized in assessments to encourage each student to develop their individual historical voice. This Honors course goes beyond the regular college preparatory World and the West course by including rigorous primary source readings, independent research essays, and college-level simulations.

United States History

HIS 210

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1.0

This course explores the major events that have shaped United States history along with the role of Christian values in its development. Students learn to recognize cause and effect related to history, identify major historical turning points, and develop the ability to evaluate historical interpretations. Students will also interpret history in relation to the five ideals as established in the Declaration of Independence: equality, liberty, representation, rights, and opportunity.

AP United States History

HIS 250

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- 83% or above in Honors World and the West
- 93% in The World and the West and review of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Credit: 1.0

This one-year course is designed to provide a comprehensive and chronological approach to the American experience from the New World beginnings to the present. Since the course is the equivalent of a college freshman level history course, the requirements are quite demanding. Considerable time must be devoted to reading the material, reviewing content, building writing and analytical skills, and interpreting documents. The course goal is to establish mastery of major trends, themes, critical concepts, and essay writing and demonstrate a proficiency of that information on a three-hour examination in May. Further emphasis is also placed on developing a student's historical understanding in light of a biblical worldview.

United States Government

HIS 305

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- World and the West OR Honors World and the West
- United States History OR AP United States History

Credit: 0.5

This college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the American story, focusing on the purposes of, functions of and challenges faced by our domestic governing bodies. The Valor U.S. Government course equips students with a utilitarian body of knowledge intended to inspire their generation to take a more active role in both local and national politics and encourages a deeper respect for and understanding of the issues which divide and unite our society. Further, students are given opportunities to consider how a biblical worldview influences civic behavior. Emphasis will also be placed on improvement of writing skills, oral presentation skills, and technology skills.

Economics

HIS 315 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- World and the West OR Honors World and the West Credit: 0.5
- United States History or AP United States History

This college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the global story, focusing on the central questions about how mankind attempts to meet unlimited needs and wants with scarce resources. The Valor economics course equips students with a utilitarian body of knowledge intended to inspire the next generation to take sincere ownership over their choices and resources, and encourages deeper respect for and understanding of the issues which divide and unite our society, as well as how biblical themes and principles apply to an economic understanding. Emphasis will also be placed on the improvement of writing skills, oral presentation skills, and technology skills.

Controversial America

HIS 325 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None Credit: 0.5

This college preparatory course is offered as an elective option within the history department. Students will explore the basics of the 1960s, as well as complete an in-depth study of the Vietnam War, the Civil Rights Movement, and the cultural and political traditions in the United States and around the world. This course will focus on events and ideas that shaped the outlook of the American populous during the 1960s and will offer the climate to parallel those thoughts to the America that we know today. Emphasis will be placed on the war in Vietnam, political assassinations, civil rights, generational conflict and the "counterculture", the women's rights movement, and the rise for the "new right" in American politics. Further, students will have the opportunity to explore how the events of this period aligned with or were counter to biblical principles. The course will combine knowledge gained through readings, lectures, and film.

The "ME" Generation: The 1970s and 1980s in America

HIS 335 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None Credit: 0.5

This college preparatory course is offered as an elective option within the history department. Students will explore the basics of the 1970's and 1980's, as well as the complete in-depth study of ego-centric societal desires. Emphasis will be placed on the impact the "Me" generation has on today's politics, economy, family structure, and how an individual relates to the Lord. Sample topics for the course include, the continuing Cold War, political corruption, War in the Middle East, popular culture, America's "War on Drugs", "yuppies" vs "hippies", and the nuclear arms race. The course will combine knowledge gained through readings, some lecture, video series and articles. Readings will include, but are not limited to, William J. Bennett's "*America the Last Best Hope, Vol II*".

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

DC United States Government and Politics

HIS 355 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Review of the student's Academic & College Counselor Credit: 0.5
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

This college course is designed to deepen an understanding of the American story while equipping students with advanced academic skills in the fields of writing, analysis and synthesis. DC U.S. Government provides a detailed examination of the American systems of government, ranging from municipal to federal. Further, students are given opportunities to consider how a biblical worldview influences civic behavior. This semester-long course will focus on political philosophies, socialization, the structure and functioning of our federal government, historical interpretations of the Constitution. Each unit will be illustrated with primary sources and supplementary secondary sources. Emphasis will be placed on equipping the student with tools necessary both to exceed the standards of a college-level government class as well as developing necessary skills as required by future professors/employers.

AP Microeconomics

HIS 365 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Review of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- 73% or higher in AP Macroeconomics

Credit: 0.5, Spring only

This AP college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the global story, focusing on the central questions about how mankind attempts to meet unlimited needs and wants with scarce resources. This course will cover how the individual interacts within the economy as with a semester dedicated to the topic. Time will also be dedicated to understanding what biblical themes are applicable in the study of microeconomics. The course will give the student a thorough understanding of decision making both on the individual side, as well as on the producer side, within economic systems. This part of the course will also focus on the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equality within the economy.

AP Macroeconomics

HIS 375 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Review of the student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration

Credit: 0 .5, Fall only

This AP college preparatory course is designed to deepen an understanding of the global story, focusing on the central questions about how mankind attempts to meet unlimited needs and wants with scarce resources. This course will cover how economic systems interact with the economy as a whole as a semester dedicated to the topic. Macroeconomics will give the student a thorough understanding of economics that apply to economic systems. This part of the course will focus on national income, price- level determination, economic performance measures, the financial sector, stabilization policies, economic growth, and international economics. This course promotes the understanding of aggregate economic activity; the utilization of resources within and across countries; and the critical evaluation of determinants of economic progress and economic decisions made by policymakers, as well as key biblical themes and ideas.

DC European History

HIS 380 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Review of the Academic & College Counselor.

Credit: 1.0

This course familiarizes students with European development from 1450 to the present. This college-level course explores historical events and movements through intellectual and cultural, political and diplomatic, and social and economic perspectives. Students learn to analyze historical documents and express their historical understanding. In addition, students spend time considering historical applications of a biblical worldview.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

Intro to Law

LAW 115 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- United States History

Credit: 0.5

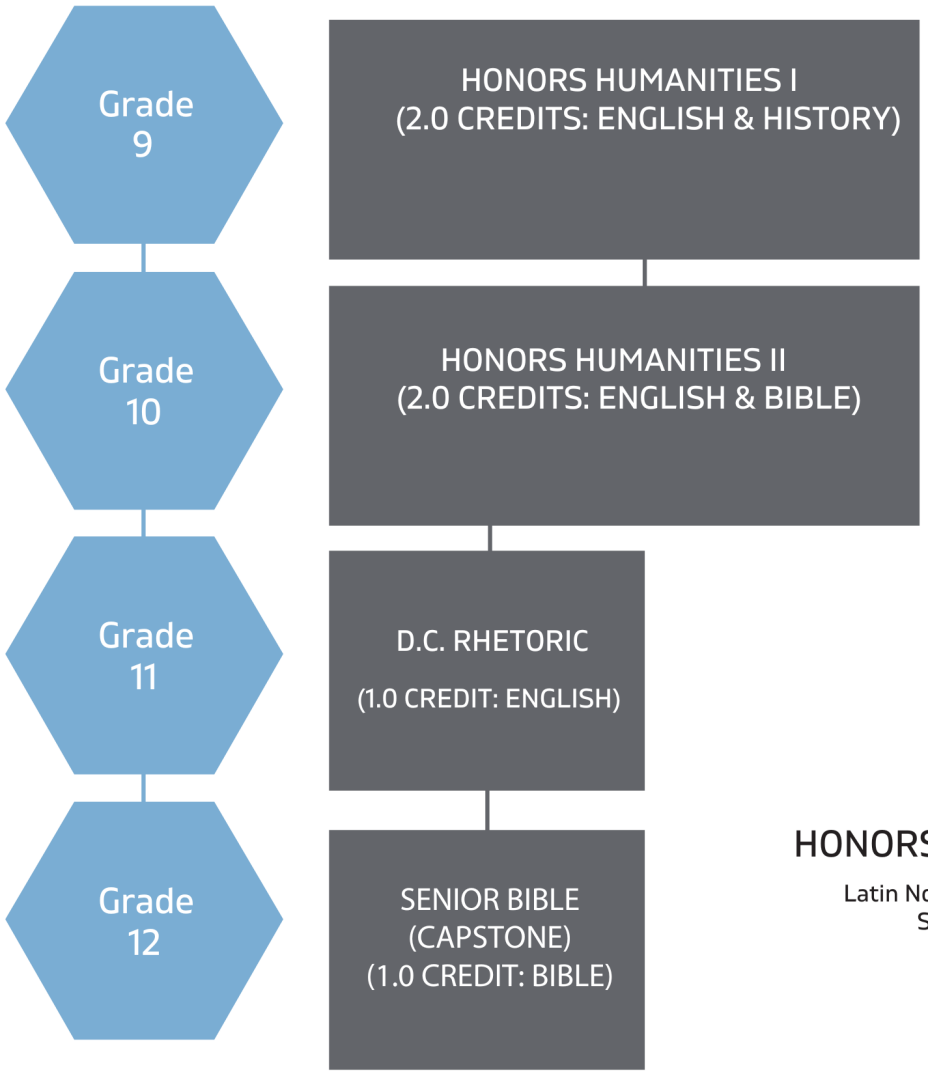
This survey course is designed to introduce students to the study and practice of law. It will include both an examination of American jurisprudence as well as a study of the practical side of the law. The course will address both civil and criminal laws. Students will have the opportunity to explore how the the law aligns with or is counter to Biblical principles.

Course Mapping

Honors Humanities

Endorsement

VALOR ACADEMICS



HONORS HUMANITIES ELECTIVES

Latin Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, AP, DC
Speech and Debate I, II, III, IV
DC Old Testament
DC New Testament

*In addition to completing the above listed courses, students enrolled in the Honors Humanities Endorsement must take the following courses to ful ll the academic requirments for graduation from Valor Christian High School:

Life and Teachings of Christ (1.0 Credit) (Grade 9)
U.S. History OR AP U.S. History (1.0 Credit) (Grade 10, 11, or 12)
Economics (0.5 Credit) OR AP Macro|Microecomics (1.0 Credit) (Grade 11 or 12)
United States Govenment OR D.C. United States Government (0.5 Credts) (Grade 11 or 12)
D.C. English 12 OR AP English Literature (1.0 Credt) (Grade 12)

Humanities

The Roman educator and orator Quintilian described rhetoric as "a good person speaking well." This dual aim—good person and good communicator—is the goal of Valor's endorsement program in Humanities. This program is designed to complete the K-8 preparation that a number of incoming students have had in the classical model and to complete their training in the Trivium with the Rhetoric stage. It is also open to incoming students interested in a classical education, either through taking coursework in the program or completing the endorsement for graduate distinction.

Please contact student's Academic and College Counselor for more information.

Course Descriptions

Senior Bible: Honors Humanities Capstone

BIB 430 — Grade: 12

Prerequisites: — Term: Year

- Must be in the Honors Humanities Program — Credit: 1

Senior Bible: Humanities Capstone is a dynamic culmination course in biblical exploration, introspection, reflection, and preparation for the next chapter of life. It also serves as the capstone course for the Humanities endorsement program. Seniors will have the opportunity to develop spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, relationally, and academically. As Seniors approach a critical point of transition, they will deepen their understanding of what it means to form, foster, and live out one's "worldview" by exploring both gospel-based orthodoxy (theology proper) and orthopraxy (theology in practice). Through the study of hermeneutics, students will become more confident in how to humbly read, understand, and apply the biblical text across the existing barriers of language, history, and culture. By exploring both theology proper (Fall) and theology in practice (Spring), students will be able to better articulate what they believe, why they believe it, and how their beliefs affect their life and the lives of others. Significantly, students will learn how to discuss and live out their worldview with a posture like that of Christ - truth, humility, grace, and love to all. Through this holistic approach, we hope that students will see how their unique stories fit within God's grand, redemptive Story and that they desire to be a part of cultivating the Kingdom "on earth as it is in heaven."

DC Rhetoric

ENG 360 — Grade: 11

Prerequisites: — Term: Year

- Review from Academic and College Counselors. — Credit: 1
- Must be in the Humanities Endorsement, Course Fee

This class will focus on both moral formation and a broadened understanding of virtue—through reading classical works of Rhetoric, both Greco-Roman and Christian—and also hone the student's ability to speak (and write) well. Spanning from the Sophists of ancient Greece, through the Roman greats—Quintilian, Horace, and Cicero—to the Christian giants—Augustine and Aquinas—this course will give students a comprehensive sense of the tools and aims of classical Rhetoric while teaching them the subject's relevance to modern communication. They will immediately apply Rhetorical concepts within the classroom, in both written and oral communication. The course will culminate with a substantial speech and companion essay that prepares Humanities students for the senior Thesis/Capstone course. In the second semester, the course will look at the contemporary use of rhetoric and read texts that display this shift. The focus here will be on how rhetoric has shifted from its ancient ideals and what ought to be fought for and retained and what can be safely adapted to a modern context. (Also listed under Humanities)

Honors Humanities I

HUM 120 Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- By invitation only and based on incoming test scores.

Credit: 2 [English and History]

Honors Humanities I is a rigorous course designed to give students an exposure to Western Civilization through a Biblical Worldview. It combines the stories of Ancient Israel, Ancient Greece, and Ancient Rome and examines the differences and similarities between the cultures. In addition, this course provides students with a comprehensive survey of the Old Testament and an exhaustive study of the Book of Matthew. Finally, students also learn the rudiments of grammar and parts of speech, punctuation, figurative tropes and language precision in order to become better writers. By combining these elements of Ancient History, Biblical Foundations, and Literary Understanding, students emerge from this class as better thinkers, confident writers, and as individuals more informed of their faith and beliefs.

Honors Humanities II

HUM 220 Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- Honors Humanities I or Teacher Approval

Credit: 2 [English and Bible]

Picking up where Honors Humanities I left off, Honors Humanities II will move forward in time through the period of the early church and the epistles of Paul, to the Desert Fathers, through to the Medieval world and church, and culminate with the Protestant Reformation. Alongside church history and the history of western civilization, students will read a variety of texts from this era—philosophical treatises, theological works and the unifying creeds of the church, imaginative literature, works of history, and epic poetry. While the focus in writing will still be argumentative and persuasive in purpose, synthesis of texts and ideas will become increasingly important. Critical thinking will be honed through regular small group discussion, both Socratically led by the instructor and Harkness discussions that are entirely student led. Grammar and language instruction will continue and be reinforced. *Also listed under Humanities.*

Leadership

Sophomore Student Leadership

LED 210 Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- Application and Interview Credit: 1

Valor Christian High School's Sophomore Student Leadership course is required for all students selected for membership to the Student Leadership Board. This class focuses on preparing students for leadership by providing opportunities to study, practice, and develop a comprehensive set of practical skills and tools, supporting Valor's vision of preparing tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ. Students will examine contemporary leadership models and principles, including the example provided by Jesus Christ. Through lab-oriented experiential learning and supported by direct instruction, guided interaction, and mentoring, students will hone their skills by planning, executing, and evaluating school and community events and activities.

Junior Student Leadership

LED 310 Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

- Application and Interview Credit: 1

Valor Christian High School's Junior Student Leadership course is required for all students selected for membership to the Student Leadership Board. This class focuses on preparing students for leadership by providing opportunities to study, practice, and develop a comprehensive set of practical skills and tools, supporting Valor's vision of preparing tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ. Students will examine contemporary leadership models and principles, including the example provided by Jesus Christ. Through lab-oriented experiential learning and supported by direct instruction, guided interaction, and mentoring, students will hone their skills by planning, executing, and evaluating school and community events and activities. In this junior-level class, students will continue to learn the skills required to be lead and to lead within the community.

Senior Student Leadership

LED 410 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- Application and interview Credit: 1

Valor Christian High School's Senior Student Leadership course is required for all students selected for membership to the Student Leadership Board. This class focuses on preparing students for leadership by providing opportunities to study, practice, and develop a comprehensive set of practical skills and tools, supporting Valor's vision of preparing tomorrow's leaders to transform the world for Christ. Students will examine contemporary leadership models and principles, including the example provided by Jesus Christ. Through lab-oriented experiential learning and supported by direct instruction, guided interaction, and mentoring, students will hone their skills by planning, executing, and evaluating school and community events and activities. In this senior -level class, students will have the opportunity to take on key leadership positions within the school.

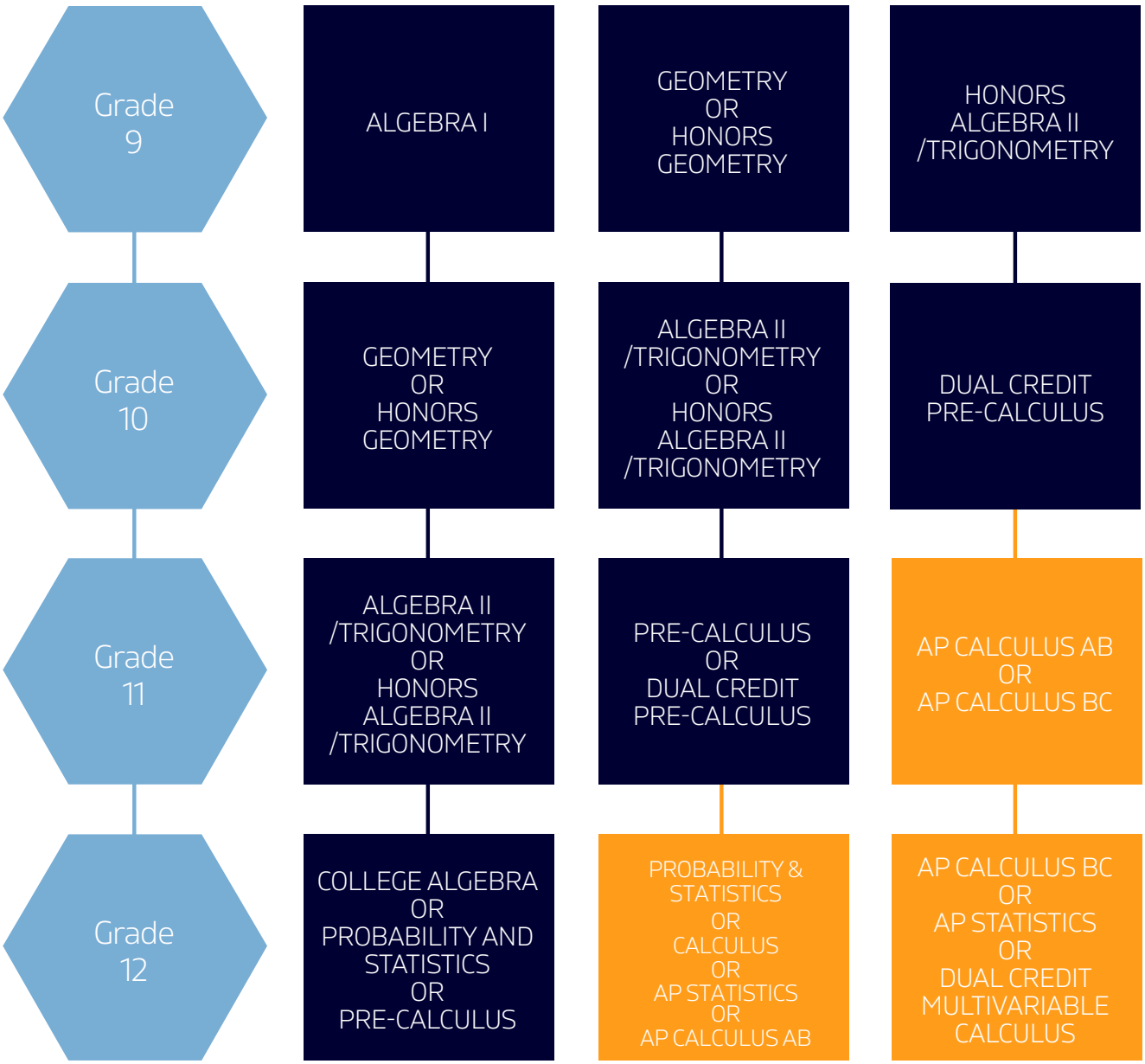
Course Mapping

Math

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 4 YEARS



Note: Placement testing is required for all incoming freshmen desiring a course above Algebra I.

Math

Program Description

The Valor Math Program offers a differentiated mathematics instruction that engages students in interactive experiences supported by the use of manipulatives, models, textbooks, and technology. Students will move from the concrete foundational stage to the investigative stage and finally to the project-based stage of contextual application. Frequent and ongoing assessment, in a variety of forms, guides the instructional decisions made by teachers. Assessments include the opportunities for demonstrating mastery and high-level thinking.

Department Outcomes

Number Sense: Number Systems, Quantities, Properties, and Operations

1. Graduates will recognize mathematical relationships and demonstrate procedural fluency.

Algebraic and Functional Relationships: Arithmetic/Polynomial/Rational Expressions, Equations and Inequalities, Linear/Quadratic/Exponential Functions

2. Graduates will identify, analyze, and solve functions through graphical, algebraic, verbal, and numerical representation.

Geometric Concepts: Shape, Triangles, Measurement, Dimension

3. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of geometric relationships as well as modeling logical reasoning through proofs.

Data Analysis: Statistics, Probability, Graphical Interpretation

4. Graduates will analyze and synthesize data as a means to make predictions.

Communication and Modeling: Critical Thinking

5. Graduates will exhibit clear, logical thinking through engaging math challenges, prescribing an appropriate strategy, and providing a conclusive summary.

Technology: Devices, Programs, and Calculators

6. Utilize a variety of technologies to help explore, solve, and communicate mathematical problems and solutions.

The Infinite Nature of God's Love

7. Demonstrate basic knowledge of how the Christian worldview has contributed to the study of mathematics

Course Descriptions

Math Lab Elective I (Algebra I)

ELE 115 Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- Placement will be determined based on admissions testing and middle school math performance. This is a Pass/Fail Course

Credit: 1.0

Algebra I Math Lab is a specialized supplemental course used to support students through Algebra I. The course is designed to identify gaps in student knowledge and aid in fortifying student skills. Math Lab provides a consistent opportunity for additional assistance on assessment preparation, course assignments, homework, and practice. Math Lab provides a more individualized opportunity as the math lab instructor works directly with the student's Algebra I teacher to offer the best possible support. An emphasis is placed on showing students how perseverance can be used to glorify the Lord.

Math Lab Elective II (Geometry I)

ELE 116 Grade: 10

Prerequisites:

- Recommendation from student's Algebra I teacher. This is a Pass/Fail Course

Credit: 1.0

Geometry Math Lab is a specialized supplemental course used to support students through their Geometry course. The course is designed to identify gaps in student knowledge and aid in fortifying student skills. Math Lab provides a consistent opportunity for additional assistance on assessment preparation, course assignments, homework, and practice. Math Lab provides a more individualized opportunity as the instructor works directly with the student's Geometry teacher to offer the best possible support. An emphasis is placed on showing students how perseverance can be used to glorify the Lord.

Math Lab Elective III (Algebra II/ Trigonometry)

ELE 117 Grade: 11

Prerequisites:

- Recommendation from student's Geometry teacher. This is a Pass/Fail Course

Credit: 1.0

Algebra II Math Lab is a specialized supplemental course used to support students through Algebra II. The course is designed to identify gaps in student knowledge and aid in fortifying student skills. Math Lab provides a consistent opportunity for additional assistance on assessment preparation, course assignments, homework, and practice. Math Lab provides a more individualized opportunity as the instructor works directly with the student's Algebra II teacher to offer the best possible support. An emphasis is placed on showing students how perseverance can be used to glorify the Lord.

Algebra I

MAT 110 Grade: 9

Prerequisites:

- None
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator

Credit: 1.0

Algebra I introduces students to the fundamentals of algebra. This course will encourage foundational understanding, procedural fluency, and analytical reasoning and aims to introduce the idea of a divine loving creator who is revealed through order and design. Topics include operations with real numbers and variable expressions, including exponential expressions, solving and graphing linear equations, inequalities, and systems, factoring polynomials, solving and graphing quadratic equations, solving rational equations, solving radical equations and simplifying expressions. Algebra I stresses a systematic approach to problem-solving while reinforcing critical thinking skills. This course will encourage analysis through real-world applications and provide students the opportunity to build the necessary reasoning and communication skills to be successful in future math courses.

Geometry

MAT 210 Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Algebra I
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9th graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Credit: 1.0

Geometry applies the skills gleaned in Algebra I to study geometric figures in two and three dimensions. The course is designed to increase students' understanding of spatial relationships, mathematical analysis, and communication as well as how to use logic and reasoning to better understand and articulate biblical truths. Topics include points, lines, planes, angles and segments as applied to parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, similar figures, right triangle trigonometry, quadrilaterals, circles, areas, transformations, and proofs. This course includes writing formal proofs to develop logical reasoning skills and clear mathematical communication. Emphasis is placed on applying the basic terminology and concepts of geometry in a logical and organized manner. This course, as well as Algebra I, provides a solid foundation for success in Algebra II.

Honors Geometry

MAT 220

Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 93% or better in Algebra I
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9th graders
- Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 Calculator.

Credit: 1.0

Honors Geometry covers an accelerated Geometry course expanding on many of the concepts of Algebra I as well as the introduction to the study of geometric figures in two and three dimensions. This course will focus on the development of higher-level critical thinking skills through a variety of applications and projects as well as logic and reasoning skills which will be applied to examine biblical truths. Topics include points, lines, planes, angles and segments as applied to parallel and perpendicular lines, triangles, similar figures, right triangle trigonometry, quadrilaterals, circles, areas, transformations, and proofs. This course includes writing formal proofs to develop logical reasoning skills and clear mathematical communication. In addition, the Honors Geometry course also introduces deductive reasoning, laws of logic, projects applying laws of logic to scripture, trigonometry--law of sines, law of cosines, as well as a more extensive coverage of the conic sections. The course includes assignments, applications, and exams at a greater depth and difficulty level to adequately prepare students for Honors Algebra II.

Algebra II/Trigonometry

MAT 310

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Algebra I and Geometry
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9th graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI 84 Calculator.

Credit: 1.0

Algebra II & Trigonometry expands on the foundational concepts taught in Algebra I and Geometry. This course uses a systematic approach to problem-solving as well as periodic exploratory investigations to help develop critical thinking skills as well as the idea of a loving and divine creator who is revealed through order and design. Topics include polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, powers, roots, and radicals and an introduction to probability and statistics. In addition, this course provides numerical, algebraic, and graphical analysis using both the TI graphing calculator and spreadsheets. Emphasis is placed on written expression in the form of well-structured algebraic communication that documents a logical thought process and support for a correct response. This course provides the necessary foundation for advanced mathematical study in upper-level courses as well as a foundation for standardized test preparation.

Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry

MAT 320

Grade: 9, 10, 11

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 93% or better in Geometry or 83% or better in Honors Geometry
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9th graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-83 or TI-84 Calculator.

Credit: 1.0

Honors Algebra II & Trigonometry covers an accelerated Algebra II & Trigonometry curriculum. This course expands the concepts of Algebra I and Geometry with a focus on higher level critical thinking skills and applications as well as the idea of a loving and divine creator who is revealed through order and design. This course maintains a high level of rigor and will present the topics covered in Algebra II including polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, powers, roots, and radicals and an introduction to probability. In addition, this course includes an in depth study of the composition and graphs of polynomial, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as the addition of linear programming, sequences and series. This course also teaches basic spreadsheet skills through application as well as integrates programming on a graphing calculator. The course maintains a quick pace as new concepts are introduced each day and is designed to prepare students for Dual Credit Pre-Calculus.

College Algebra

MAT 400 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra II/Trigonometry and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor. Credit: 1.0
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

College Algebra expands on the topics and concepts of Algebra II with a focus on going deeper with fewer topics in an effort to secure mastery of all algebra topics. This course combines direct instruction with topical projects designed to broaden students' understanding of each concept and to reveal God's divine power through order and design. This course also utilizes mastery-based learning strategies to ensure students gain a solid foundation of basic concepts. Topics include identifying, solving and graphing algebraic functions of all forms, solving systems of equations and inequalities, mathematical modeling, polynomial manipulation, trigonometry, rational functions, conic sections, trigonometric functions, and matrices. This course is designed to prepare students for upper-level math courses. For each of the projects in this course there will be Biblical worldview integration.

Pre-Calculus

MAT 410 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Algebra II/Trigonometry or a 73% in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry Credit: 1.0
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Pre-Calculus extends the concepts covered in Algebra II & Trigonometry and strengthens students' understanding of the elementary functions and mathematical reasoning. An emphasis is placed on both a systematic approach to problem-solving as well as exploratory investigation to deepen students' knowledge and to reveal God's divine power through order and design. Topics expanded on from Algebra II and Trigonometry include polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, powers, roots, and radicals and an introduction to probability and statistics. New topics introduced include the study of vectors, sequences and series, conic sections, and polar coordinates. Additionally, the calculus ideas of limits and slopes of curves are introduced in preparation for the study of calculus. This course is designed to prepare students for college-level math courses including calculus.

DC Pre-Calculus

MAT 420 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Honors Algebra II/ Trigonometry or 93% in CP Algebra II/Trigonometry and teacher approval. Credit: 1.0
- Admissions and placement examination and approval by the student's Academic & College Counselor required for incoming 9th graders.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Dual Credit Precalculus is a college level course that will extend on the topics covered in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry. This course covers an accelerated Precalculus curriculum with a focus on higher-level critical thinking skills and an emphasis on synthesis of concepts which highlights God's divine power through order and design. The course emphasizes application of concepts and derivation of theorems. In addition to the expansion of topics covered in Honors Algebra II/Trigonometry including polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, quadratic, rational, and trigonometric functions, as well as systems of equations and inequalities, matrices, powers, roots, and radicals, probability, linear programming, sequences and series, and conics. In addition, this course will also cover parametric equations, polar equations, inductive proof, and a formal introduction to calculus. The pace of DC Precalculus is very brisk with new, and often complex, material being introduced daily. The course has proven to be beneficial students' academic growth and success in AP Calculus AB and BC.

Probability and Statistics

MAT 430 Grade: 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 73% or better in Algebra II/Trigonometry, or completion of Pre-Calculus. Credit: 1.0
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.

Probability and Statistics expands on the probability and statistics concepts introduced in Algebra II. This course presents students with the foundational concepts and applications of probability theory and statistics as well as the ethical implications embodied in statistics through a Christian worldview lens. This course will provide students with a basic ability to collect, analyze, and interpret data through descriptive and inferential statistics. Topics include collecting data, frequency distributions and graphs, data description, measures of central tendency, measures of variation, probability and counting rules, commonly used discrete probability distributions, the normal distribution, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, comparing two populations, correlation and regression, and inference for distributions of categorical data. Emphasis will be placed on the relevance statistics plays in examining, analyzing, and solving real-world problems and is designed to prepare students for college-level probability and statistics courses.

Calculus

MAT 500 Grade: 11-12

Prerequisites:

- 75% or higher or Teacher Recommendation in Precalculus Credit: 1.0

This course expands upon the concepts taught in Precalculus in order to expose students to the foundational concepts of single variable calculus. This course emphasizes foundational knowledge and applications of calculus in order to prepare students for introductory college level Calculus. The idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God will be presented through the calculus concepts. Topics include introductions to limits, derivatives, integrals, and the applications of derivatives and integrals, with an emphasis on conceptual understanding.

AP Statistics

MAT 510 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Probability and Statistics or Precalculus, and approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor. Credit: 1.0
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.
- Course Fee

In preparation for the AP Statistics exam, this course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data. The course makes use of key mathematical concepts taught in algebra with a broader emphasis on clearly defining questions to be investigated, gathering and organizing data, producing informative graphical and numerical summaries, modeling relationships, making decisions while accounting for uncertainty in the data, and clearly communicating results in the context of a study. This course will also present the ethical implications of statistics through a Christian worldview perspective. Topics include; I Exploring data: describing patterns and departures from patterns. II Sampling and experimentation: planning and conducting a study. III Anticipating patterns: exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation. IV Statistical inference: estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Students learn to synthesize their mathematics acumen with critical thinking and writing skills to create a framework for evaluating and supporting hypotheses in most disciplines.

AP Calculus A/B

MAT 530 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 90% or higher in Algebra II or 80% or higher in Honors Algebra II. Credit: 1
- Grade of 80% or higher in Pre-Calculus or completion of DC Pre-Calculus and approval of the Academic & College Counselor.
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator.
- Course Fee

AP Calculus AB expands upon the concepts taught in Precalculus In preparation for the AP Calculus AB exam. This course emphasizes conceptual understanding as well as contextual application of single variable Calculus and presents the idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God. The AP Calculus AB framework involves the following concepts: limits, derivatives, antiderivatives, and definite integrals. Central to the course is the connection of these concepts to each other as well as to practical situations. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to Calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally. A rigorous review for the AP Calculus AB exam is included. This course will prepare students for the Calculus AB exam and college level math courses.

AP Calculus B/C

MAT 520 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Completion of Calculus 1 or AP Calculus AB and approval of the Academic & College Counselor Credit: 1.0
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator
- Course Fee

AP Calculus BC expands upon the concepts taught in DC Precalculus and AP Calculus AB In preparation for the AP Calculus BC exam. This course emphasizes conceptual understanding as well as contextual application of single variable Calculus and presents the idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God. The AP Calculus BC framework involves the following foundational concepts: limits, derivatives, antiderivatives, and definite integrals. Additional topics included in AP Calculus BC are: Euler's method, advanced integration techniques, power series, and calculus applied to parametric equations, polar equations, and vectors in two dimensions. Central to the course is the connection of these concepts to each other as well as to practical situations. This course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally. This course includes a rigorous review for the AP Calculus BC examination and prepares students for college-level math courses.

DC Multivariable Calculus

MAT 610 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Completion of AP Calculus BC and approval of the student's Academic & College Counselor. Credit: 1.0
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration.
- Students are required to have a TI-84 Calculator
- Course Fee

Dual Credit Multivariable Calculus extends the concepts covered in AP Calculus AB and BC. The course analyzes functions of two and three variables as well as use calculus to evaluate surfaces and curves in three-dimensional space. An emphasis is placed on both a systematic approach to problem-solving as well as exploratory investigation and presents the idea of a patterned orderly universe created by a sovereign God. Topics include vectors, vector-values functions, partial derivatives, analytic geometry, multiple integrals, and line integrals. This course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems, being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically and verbally through organized and articulate solutions to theoretical and application problems. This course will prepare students for additional college-level math courses such as linear algebra or vector calculus.

Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic & College Counseling if there is interest.

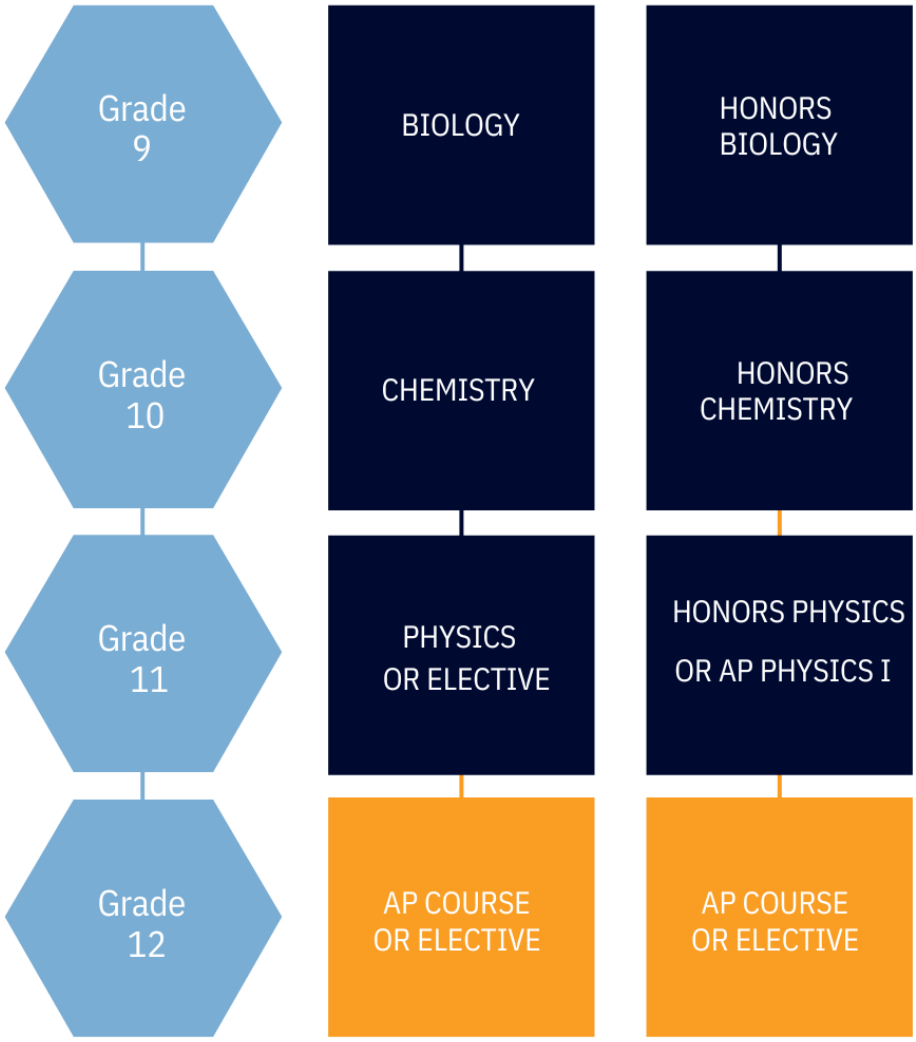
Course Mapping

Science

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 3 YEARS



SCIENCE ELECTIVES

Forensic Science (0.5 credits)
Human Anatomy & Physiology (1 credit)
Marine Biology (0.5 credits)
Robotics & Engineering (0.5 credits)
Biotechnology-Principles and Practice (0.5 credits)
Introduction to Engineering (0.5 credits)
Engineering Design II (0.5 credits)
Honors STEM Capstone (1 credit) [Required for STEM Endorsees]

AP COURSES/CONCURRENT COLLEGE CREDIT

AP Biology (1 credit)
AP Chemistry (1 credit)
AP Physics 1 (1 credit)
AP Physics C: Mechanics, Electricity and Magnetism (1 credit)
Dual Credit Human Anatomy & Physiology (1credit)

Science

Program Description

The science program at Valor provides contextual knowledge and skills from which students can become scientifically literate in order to make godly, responsible decisions. Each course actively involves students in problem-solving, qualitative and quantitative analysis, hands-on minds-on learning, and verbal and written communication. Students will develop an appreciation of God's creation and use science as a process to investigate and discover the natural relationships in our world.

Department Outcomes

Scientific Knowledge

1. Graduates will know the characteristics, structure, and function of living things and how living things interact with each other and the environment.
2. Graduates will analyze the relationship between structure and function of living systems at a variety of organizational levels.
3. Graduates will apply an understanding of atomic and molecular structure to explain the properties of matter and predict outcomes of chemical reactions.
4. Graduates will apply an understanding that energy exists in various forms, and its transformation and conversion occur in processes that are predictable and measurable.

Investigation and Analysis

5. Graduates will gather, organize, and interpret data and graphs in order to be prepared for college-level work in the sciences.
6. Graduates will compose detailed, thoughtful conclusions and responses, tied to evidence, through technical writing and discussion.
7. Graduates will demonstrate an understanding of how the study of science directly applies to the physical and biological world by analyzing and creating models and examining real-world connections.
8. Graduates will work together during learning, problem solving and lab experiences, in order to enhance understanding of the physical and biological world.

Biblical Worldview Integration

9. Graduates will evaluate the role that worldview and scripture plays in the scientific disciplines.
10. Graduates will observe, question, and examine the beauty, majesty, and orderliness of God's creation.

Course Descriptions

Biology

SCI 110

Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 1.0

Biology is a course dedicated to helping students explore God's creation by engaging with the broad spectrum represented in all life on Earth. Students will gain a deeper understanding and awe of their Creator and His attention to detail, beauty, and order in all of His creation. Topics include ecology and ecosystems, humans and our responsibilities as "good stewards', cell structure and function, energy in living systems, genetics, DNA and protein synthesis, and plant and animal anatomy and physiology. Laboratory investigations emphasizing the scientific process include microscopy, explorations in genetics, environmental testing, and dissection.

Honors Biology

SCI 120 Grade: 9, 10

Prerequisites:

- Appropriate admission testing scores and recommendation of the student's Academic & College Counselor. Credit: 1.0

Explore the glory of God's creation through biology, the study of life. Topics include biochemistry, cell structure and function, energy in living systems, DNA and protein synthesis, genetics, and plant and animal anatomy and physiology. Laboratory investigations emphasizing the scientific process include microscopy, simulations and models, observation of living organisms, and dissection. Students will engage in the broad spectrum represented in biology, from cells to humans, and stand in awe of their Creator--His attention to detail, beauty, and order. Honors biology students will find coursework more challenging in critical thinking, laboratory skills, reading, and writing requirements.

Chemistry

SCI 210 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 73% or better in Biology/Honors Biology and Algebra I Credit: 1.0

Any study of God's creation inevitably leads to an investigation of the basic components that He made and used to form the universe. Chemistry is the study of these components—atoms—and what makes them different, how they bond together, and the special properties that result. Students will discover the signature of God through their study of the atom, the interaction of matter and energy, thermodynamics, and the periodic table.

Honors Chemistry

SCI 220 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 93% or better in Biology and Algebra I or 83% in Honors Biology Credit: 1.0
- Previous performance in advanced courses will be taken into consideration.

Any study of God's creation inevitably leads to an investigation of the basic components that He made and used to form the universe. Chemistry is the study of these components—atoms—and what makes them different, how they bond together, and the special properties that result. Students will discover the signature of God through their study of the atom, the interaction of matter and energy, thermodynamics, and the periodic table. Honors Chemistry students will find coursework to be at a heightened pace as well as the use of problem solving requiring higher level algebra skills.

Marine Science

SCI 305 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 73% or better in Biology and Chemistry.
- Priority is given to Seniors who require a science course to meet graduation requirements or those on Discovery Cozumel. Credit: 0.5
- Course Fee

Students will be learning about God's creation in the marine environment by completing two major projects: 1) a saltwater aquarium project emphasizing ocean chemistry, the importance of chemical cycles, marine ecology, and species compatibility and 2) a classification project emphasizing mastery of one marine group in the areas of classification, anatomy and physiology, behavior, symbiosis, and ethical issues as they pertain to Christian worldview. Students will also learn about physical oceanography through the study of waves and tides, plate tectonics, marine biomes, and gas/pressure relationships. Dissections include squid and dogfish shark.

Physics

SCI 310 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Biology and Chemistry

Credit: 1.0

College-prep Physics is a full year class highly recommended as an introduction to a more mathematically rigorous AP Physics course. This course is well suited for students seeking a liberal arts or non-science-based degree at a competitive college. This course requires an understanding of algebra and trigonometry and is designed to help students fully appreciate our world and the laws of nature, especially in light of how order reflects the nature of God in our world. This course covers Newtonian mechanics, sound, electricity, magnetism and light.

Honors Physics

SCI 320 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- A grade of 83% or better in Biology/Honors Biology, Chemistry/ Honors Chemistry.

Credit: 1.0

- Concurrent enrollment in Algebra II or higher.

Honors Physics is a full year class highly recommended as an introduction to a more mathematically rigorous AP Physics course. This course is well suited for students seeking a liberal arts or science-based degree at a competitive college. This course requires an understanding of algebra and trigonometry and is designed to help students fully appreciate our work and the laws of nature, especially in light of how order reflects the nature of God in our world. This course covers Newtonian Mechanics, Sound, Electricity, Magnetism, and Light.

Forensic Science

SCI 335 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Priority is given to Seniors who require a Science course to meet graduation requirements

Credit: 0.5

Forensics is a field of science dedicated to the methodical gathering of evidence through crime scene investigation and analysis of evidence to establish facts that can be presented in a legal proceeding. The goal is to use scientific analysis to determine sequence of events that occur during a crime in order to link suspect(s) to the crime scene and to the victim. The ultimate goal is to expose truth and to seek justice, attributes expressing God's heart and character.

Anatomy and Physiology

SCI 340 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- 73% or higher in Biology and Chemistry
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This college-preparatory course provides an overview of God's intricate design of the human body through an introduction to human anatomy and physiology. The course includes lectures, in-class activities, videos depicting specific topics, projects/presentations, in-class organ dissections, and other lab-based experiences. Subject matter includes a review of general cell structure, medical terminology, and the eleven human body organ systems. There will be a 3-hour human donor experience at Colorado Christian University in the Spring Semester.

Biotechnology – Principles and Practice

SCI 345 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Semester

- Grade of 83% or better in Biology or Honors Biology, and Algebra I. Student must also have successfully completed or be concurrently enrolled in Chemistry/Honors Chemistry

Credit: .5

- Priority is given to Seniors who require a science course to meet graduation requirements
- Course Fee

This course is inquiry based, actively hands-on, and designed to provide students with a foundational understanding of biotechnology, as well as the actual laboratory processes used in its study and application. Students will get direct experience using the same equipment that would be found in a research lab or production facility. Exploration of the complex interaction between science and society inherent in this field will be a regular feature of this course. Students will regularly engage with the legal and ethical issues this technology presents, explore examples of biotechnology as it is used in the real world, and investigate possible careers in biotechnology. The course curriculum begins with a brief look at the current state of biotechnology and includes an exploration of the underlying genetic concepts directly involved. From here, the curriculum progresses to basic laboratory knowledge and skills, DNA structure and analysis, bacterial transformation, PCR reactions, protein structure and analysis, and immunological applications

Robotics and Engineering

SCI 370

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

Robotics and Engineering is a semester science elective where students explore the amazing world of robotics. This course predominantly focuses on the hands-on creation of robots that meet both remote and autonomous control requirements. Through the process of discovery, students will inherently learn product development life-cycle principles from an engineering perspective. Integrated software development will be encapsulated within a V-Model development framework. The product and software development processes will be learned via creation of robots that meet specified user criteria. Students will research formal development approaches and the current and future role of robotics in society.

All robots will be built using the Vex Robotics and Vex V5 block programming platform. A combination of both direct control and autonomous behavior utilizing a wide variety of feedback sensors will be integrated into the design requirements. Students will also integrate design and build of 3-D objects using Blender software and a MakerBot 3-D printer. Students will also take time to reflect on how engineering reflects God's Creation

Robotics and Engineering II

SCI 371

Grade: 10, 11,12

Prerequisites:

- Robotics and Engineering
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

Robotics II is a continuation of Robotics I in which students further their exploration of robotics theory and prototyping, and the principles of design from a biblical perspective. Students will continue using Vex V5 Kits and Vexcode V5 from the previous course to build more complex and elaborate devices and programs. Students will be trained in the use of the CAD program Fusion 360 and use this and 3D printers to create customized components for their prototypes.

*Note: This course is not offered every year. Please speak with Academic and College Counseling if there is interest.

Introduction to Engineering Design

SCI 375

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

This course is designed to provide an overview of how technology is impacting the world, the leading innovation trends, the need for Christian leaders in tech, problem-solving with a formal design process, popular engineering fields, and tech entrepreneurship. This is a starting point for students who have had limited exposure to solving problems by working with their hands. The classroom environment is designed to replicate the feel of an engineering workplace with students treated as new hires in a tech company. Classwork is structured in a way that encourages students to research and seek answers rather than being given step-by-step instructions. The intent is to draw out of students' character traits that are important to the STEM fields such as curiosity, attention to detail, and perseverance. Students learn to identify and define problems, work in teams, and work through the design process. If the desired results are not attained students are taught to review and refine the process. Students are made aware of the broad scope of engineering and scientific careers and then introduced to a few popular fields through videos, guest speakers, and discussions. If hands-on technical work does not appeal to the student they learn they can still work in the STEM fields through sales, law, finance, and more. The primary goal of the course is to help students determine if a STEM career could be their passion and God's purpose for them.

Engineering Design II

SCI 385

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intro to Engineering Design
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

The purpose of this course is to build on the Introduction to Engineering Design class. The student has determined that they want to seek a career in a STEM field. The character traits of a person who thrives in a STEM field are curiosity, initiative, attention to detail, and perseverance. The course uses real-world projects to introduce students to the complexities of working with real materials and regulations. Students will learn to solve problems that are important to the Christian mission of serving others. The STEM fields need servant leaders who use their technical skills to transform the world for Christ. Students will develop "just-in-time" learning skills instead of memorizing a fixed curriculum. In the working world students will be presented with a challenge. They will have to have the skills to define the objective, do research, and learn the things necessary to achieve the objective. They will have to collaborate and work with others in teams with well-defined roles. The course also develops Christ-centered leadership skills where students are encouraged to develop projects with the heart as well as the mind.

Note: This course is also listed under Technology.

AP Physics I

SCI 430

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or higher in H Biology and H Chemistry OR teacher approval;
- Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or higher, approval by Student's Academic & College Counselor
- Performance in previous advanced courses will be taken into consideration
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This is a rigorous physics course covering the topics of one- and two-dimensional kinematics, forces, circular motion, gravitation, work, energy, power, momentum, rotation, and oscillations. Physics-based concepts, understanding, and both conceptual and quantitative problem solving will be emphasized throughout the course. Labs will enhance understanding and application of related physics topics. God's hand in creation is clearly seen in the forces that govern the universe as revealed in the study of physics. The course culminates with the required AP Physics 1 exam.

From the College Board: AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study, in-class activity, and hands-on, inquiry-based laboratory work as they explore these topics: kinematics; dynamics; circular motion and gravitation; energy; momentum; simple harmonic motion; torque and rotational motion; systems, fields, force interactions, change, and conservation.

AP Biology

SCI 510

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or better in Biology and Chemistry
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

AP Biology is a one-year college level class that will engage students in high levels of critical thinking, inquiry, analysis, and evaluation. It encompasses scientific method, biochemistry, cell structure & function, biotechnology, genetics, evolution & origins, anatomy & physiology, taxonomy, behavior, and ecology. There are four big ideas, each with a variety of enduring understandings, and learning objectives. Students will focus on content as a way to provide examples for each of the big ideas and enduring understandings. The laboratory component includes 8 investigative labs that are specifically related to topics on the AP exam. Students are expected to take the AP Biology exam.

From the College Board: AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics: evolution, cellular processes- energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions.

AP Chemistry

SCI 520

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Grade of 83% or higher in Biology, Chemistry, and Algebra II/Trigonometry
- Concurrent enrollment in Pre-Calculus or higher and approval by Student's Academic & College Counselor required.
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

AP Chemistry is a second-year, advanced study of the interactions between matter and energy, how chemical bonds are created, atoms are rearranged, properties of substances are altered, and energy is transferred through chemical reactions. Rigorous laboratory experiments will emphasize critical thinking, utilization of computer-based sensors and probes, and designing inquiry-based experiments stemming from proposed problems. God's creative majesty will be revealed as the intricacy, orderliness, and implicit laws of nature point to our Creator in an unmistakable manner. The course culminates with the required AP Chemistry exam.

From the College Board: The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. Students are expected to take the AP Exam to receive college credit or placement at the student's college of choice. Students may be able to undertake second-year work in the chemistry sequence at their institution or take courses for which general chemistry is a prerequisite. For other students, this course fulfills the laboratory science requirement and frees time for other courses.

AP Physics C: Mechanics/Electricity and Magnetism

SCI 550

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus AB or higher;
- Completion of Honors Physics or AP Physics 1
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

AP Physics C is a rigorous, second-year Physics course designed for students who are hoping to enter the fields such as Physics or Engineering in college. This course is equivalent to the first two semesters of college-level, calculus-based Physics. In addition to advanced physics curriculum, students will deepen their understanding of a Biblical worldview via learning about God's creation in the realm of physics. The first semester covers topics in Mechanics, such as kinematics, forces, energy, momentum, oscillatory motion, and gravitation. The second semester covers topics in Electricity and Magnetism ("E&M"), such as electrostatics, capacitance, simple and complex circuits, magnetic fields, and electromagnetism. The course culminates in two AP tests: one for each semester's content.

DC Anatomy and Physiology

SCI 610

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

Term: Year

- 90% of higher in Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry OR teacher approval.
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

This is a dual credit, year-long, college level course intended for the student with an in-depth interest in Human Anatomy and Physiology. The course includes lectures, in-class activities, videos depicting specific topics, videos of surgical procedures, in-class organ dissections and other lab-based experiences. Students are given the opportunity to do in-depth study on topics of their choice, culminating in a project due at the end of the first semester. Subject matter includes basics of the cell and some of the 11 organ systems. Common health problems will be introduced corresponding to in-class subject matter and various healthcare careers are mentioned where appropriate. There will be an optional 3-hour human cadaver workshop in late Spring replacing the semester project in the Fall.

Honors STEM Capstone

SCI 460

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Must be in the STEM Endorsement
- Course Fee

Credit: 1.0

The STEM Capstone course is the culmination of the student's STEM education at Valor Christian. Building on prior knowledge and experience, the course includes hands-on deep dive into several specific areas of STEM, including case studies of issues in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Framed through the lens of a Christian worldview, instruction is tailored to equip and empower students with the necessary skills and insight to identify needs in the world, using their gifts and talents to create, test, and evaluate solutions to them. Students will be guided in selecting a capstone project and determining an appropriate mentor. Students will should expect to spend at least 40 hours working on their capstone projects and complete a corresponding 4,000 word research paper. Students will present their projects to faculty, industry experts, and their peers at STEM Night.

AP Computer Science A

TEC 410

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite:

- Completion of Intro to Computer Technology or Game Design
- Approval by the student's Academic and College Counselor.
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

AP Computer Science is a one-year course that covers an introduction to fundamental topics in computer science using the Java programming language. This course emphasizes Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) methodology, procedural abstraction, algorithms, data structures, data abstractions, as well as using Objects and Classes for problem-solving and algorithm development. In addition, students will consider how a biblical worldview and biblical principles interact with the social and ethical implications of technology use. The course is intended to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement Test in AP Computer Science A.

Note: This course is also listed under Technology.

Seminar

9th Grade Seminar and Curriculum

In order to ensure all students are set up for success, incoming 9th grade students take the 9th Grade Seminar class. This class is designed to help students develop skills that are essential for academic and personal success at Valor. Students have the opportunity to apply these techniques to the tasks they face as high school students. The emphasis is on learning and academic growth. Two class periods a week are dedicated to helping students produce high quality, excellent work in their core classes. The other two classes a week are dedicated to building identity, culture, and vision. At the end of the year students present a "My Anthem" speech that relates to what they have learned about themselves, how it applies to learning, and how it might apply to their future. Topics include Strengths/Weaknesses, Importance of the brain, personality, temperament, communication, grit, and personal gifts/talents/interests that might shed light on their direction and purpose in life. Additionally, students learn that their story and life is not isolated but fits into a larger story.

The 9th grade teachers in the core disciplines meet regularly to stay aware of each other's curricular goals and student outcomes. The philosophy is to support and push students so that they feel safe to take challenges and risks academically. By the time they start the sophomore year, Valor desires that students are well prepared in their thinking, reading, writing, research and presentation skills. Ultimately, Valor believes that students will be more effective in their passions and areas of interest if they have their foundational skills in place.

9th Grade Seminar

ELE 133

Grade: 9

Prerequisites: None

Term: Year

Credit: 1.0

The 9th Grade year is a crucial, transitional year for students. Each incoming 9th Grade class represents students from more than 70 area middle schools, which means students often come with varying readiness levels. It is Valor's goal to be intentional with teaching foundational skills necessary for being a successful Valor student during their 9th Grade year. This class is designed to help students develop skills that are essential for academic and personal success at Valor.

Engineering and Technology

Program Description

The Technology Department provides all students with the foundation of knowledge necessary to become technologically literate. This includes a focus on working in a team environment using problem solving and critical thinking skills. Students will be exposed to a wide variety of hands-on computer experiences including design and programming of software, configuration of computer hardware and networks, the software development process, and working with applications and subject area software.

Course Descriptions

Robotics and Engineering

SCI 370

Grade: 9, 10, 11,12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

Robotics and Engineering is a semester science elective where students explore the amazing world of robotics. This course predominantly focuses on the hands-on creation of robots that meet both remote and autonomous control requirements. Through the process of discovery, students will inherently learn product development life-cycle principles from an engineering perspective. Integrated software development will be encapsulated within a V-Model development framework. The product and software development processes will be learned via creation of robots that meet specified user criteria. Students will research formal development approaches and the current and future role of robotics in society. In addition, explore ideas of how the engineering process reflects God the great designer.

Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

Robotics and Engineering II

SCI 371

Grade: 10, 11,12

Prerequisites:

- Robotics and Engineering
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

Robotics II is a continuation of Robotics I in which students further their exploration of robotics theory and prototyping. Students will continue using Vex V5 Kits and Vexcode V5 from the previous course to build more complex and elaborate devices and programs.Students will continue to pursue robotics outside of the VEX ecosystem. Students will be trained in the use of the 3D modeling software and use this and 3D printers to create customized components for their prototypes. In addition, explore Arduino and Raspberry Pi components to continue learning and control different devices including servos and other output and input devices. In addition, the course will provide students the opportunity to articulate the significant role Christian faith plays in the engineering workplace.

Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective. It is not listed every year, so please speak with Academic and College Counseling if there is interest.

Introduction to Engineering Design

SCI 375

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

This course is an introduction to engineering and a formal design process. It starts with the various ways that engineers find projects to work on, with a specific focus on identifying those projects that serve others. In addition, the course investigates the myriad of fields and careers in engineering and emphasizes Christ-centered leadership where students are encouraged to develop projects with the heart as well as the mind. Once students have learned the basic fundamentals of design and engineering, the majority of the class will be spent working hands-on to solve various problems. Students will engage with aerospace, structural, materials, and electrical engineering principles through various experiential engineering projects. Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

Engineering Design II

SCI 385

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intro to Engineering Design
- Course Fee

Credit: 0.5

The purpose of this course is to build on the Introduction to Engineering Design class for students who want to continue investigating a career in a STEM field. The course uses real-world projects to introduce students to the complexities of working with real materials and regulations. Students will learn to solve problems with the goal of building their skills to further the Christian mission of serving others and develop Christ-centered leadership skills. Through project-based learning, students will have to collaborate and work with others in teams through well-defined roles. Students will be presented with real-world engineering and design challenges. They will learn the skills to define the objective, conduct research, and then solve the engineering problem through a design-build process. In addition, students will understand the relationships between all stakeholders (engineers, scientists, business, production/technicians, suppliers, customers, etc.) related to the practice of engineering Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

Honors STEM Capstone

SCI 460

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Course Fee
- Must be in the STEM Endorsement

Credit: 1.0

The STEM Capstone course is the culmination of the student's STEM education at Valor Christian. Building on prior knowledge and experience, the course includes hands-on deep dive into several specific areas of STEM, including case studies of issues in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Framed through the lens of a Christian worldview, instruction is tailored to equip and empower students with the necessary skills and insight to identify needs in the world, using their gifts and talents to create, test, and evaluate solutions to them. Students will be guided in selecting a capstone project and determining an appropriate mentor. Students will should expect to spend at least 40 hours working on their capstone projects and complete a corresponding 4,000 word research paper. Students will present their projects to faculty, industry experts, and their peers at STEM Night.

Introduction to Computer Technologies

TEC 165

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Algebra I.

Credit: 0.5

Introduction to Computer Technologies is a semester course designed to provide exposure to the breadth of the field of computer science. The class will foundationally be built on projects that build problem solving and technology literacy skills, as well as a consideration of how biblical principles apply. This course contains a wealth of topics beyond coding which is covered in AP Computer Science. The course will cover the hardware components of computer systems, how to assemble a simple computer system, intro to programming, foundations of operating systems, installing operating systems, App Development, navigating an operating system console, foundations of designing a database, how to use SQL to add to and search databases, how to setup a server, using a router, and foundations of internet security and ports. Students will be encouraged to develop skills to further their learning in computer technology on their own and to explore at their own pace.

Introduction to Game Design

TEC 195

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Credit: 0.5

Throughout this extensive training series students will learn beginner to expert level techniques in the areas of 3D game development (Unity), computer animation, digital painting, and programming. Students will learn expert techniques and workflows from veterans who have been working in the game industry for over 15 years and have a passion for making great games. There will be extensively trained on programs like Unity, Maya, 3DS Max, Mudbox, and Photoshop. Learning powerful tools like these are made easy with fun projects that are designed to take the fear out of learning such advanced software like Unity3D.

Game Design II

TEC 215

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Intro to Game Design OR AP Computer Science

Credit: .5

Game Design 2 builds on critical skills with Unity, Github, and AGILE Methodology. Additionally students have more freedom to pursue a platform and game style of choice including 3D design, console design, or VR. Students will need to build or find robust assets that they can implement to make a well developed game. Students will work to build beyond just basic affordances and focus on tension and release concepts as they work to develop a natural flow to their game. Students will also reflect on games that already exist in their genre in order to reflect on how those games can affect their design concepts. In addition, the class will explore the parallels between God being a creator and making a fictional world.

Note: This course is not offered every semester. Please speak with Academic and College Counseling if there is interest.

AP Computer Science A

TEC 410

Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisite:

Term: Semester

- Completion of Intro to Computer Technology or Game Design and Approval by the student's Academic and College Counselor.

Credit: 1

- Course Fee

AP Computer Science is a one-year course that covers an introduction to fundamental topics in computer science using the Java programming language. This course emphasizes Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) methodology, procedural abstraction, algorithms, data structures, data abstractions, as well as using Objects and Classes for problem-solving and algorithm development. In addition, students will consider how a biblical worldview and biblical principles interact with the social and ethical implications of technology use. The course is intended to prepare students for the College Board Advanced Placement Test in AP Computer Science A..

Note: This course is also listed as a Science elective.

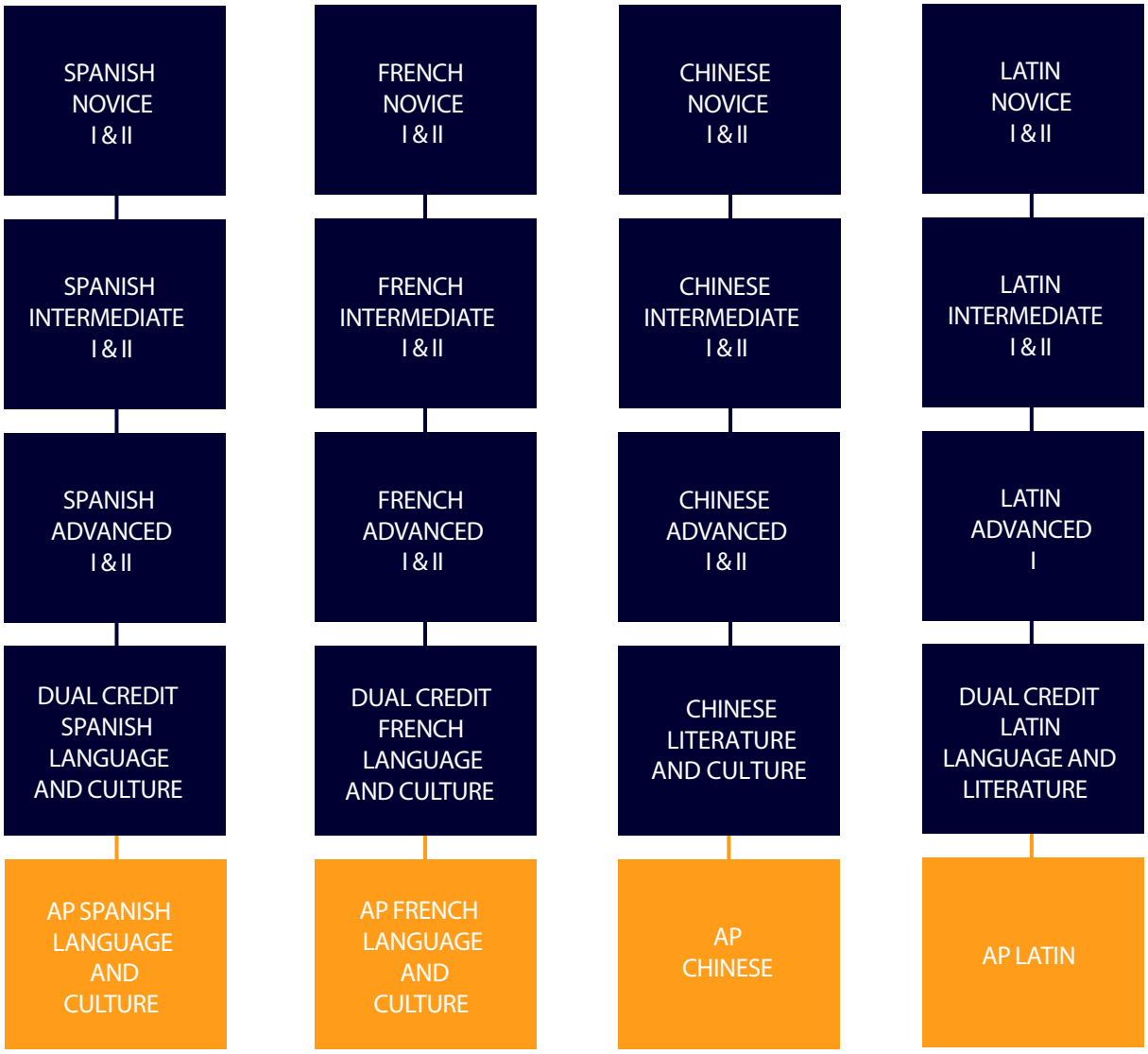
Course Mapping

World Languages

Department

VALOR ACADEMICS

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT: 2 YEARS



Note: Placement testing is required for all incoming students desiring a course above Novice I

World Languages

Program Description

The Valor World Language Department strongly believes that it is essential for us as Christians to reach out in the name of Christ to other peoples of the world through their own languages and their own cultures. The primary aim of the World Languages Department is that Valor students be functionally fluent in their language of choice by the conclusion of their four years of study, and that they are equipped to interact with the ideas of people in different nations, cultures, and times, allowing them to fellowship with, serve, and love God and his people in new and better ways. In order to accomplish this, students will be immersed in their language of choice, and will participate in varied activities that focus on both the structure and use of their target language.

Department Outcomes

Speaking

1. Graduates acquire the ability to begin and carry on an unrehearsed conversation.
2. Graduates possess a developing knowledge of conventions, grammar and vocabulary, cultural knowledge of the target language consistent with their years of study in the target language.

Reading

3. Graduates are regular and active readers who can understand the main idea and many details in written texts of varied formats and genres that contain familiar vocabulary and can get the gist of written texts that contain limited unfamiliar vocabulary.

Listening

4. Graduates are eager discussion participants who can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters expressed through a series of sentences, conversations, and forms of media.

Writing

5. Graduates can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar, or of a personal nature.
6. Graduates can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes, and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.

Cultural Savoir Faire:

7. Graduates are enthusiastic travelers who are eager to connect with non-English speaking people groups and who can navigate most situations likely to arise while traveling or residing in an area where the target language is spoken.
8. Graduates understand how fluency can be used to engage with a culture different from one's own and be used to glorify God.

World Language Student Placement

Incoming students will take a language placement exam which will dictate their placement in a specific course level. In subsequent years, placement will be dictated by student proficiency in the language as well as teacher recommendation for advancement. Students may be required to take the second year of a particular level if they have not demonstrated adequate proficiency.

Chinese Novice I/II

CHI 130 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 1.0

Chinese Novice I offers students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of Chinese language and culture. Chinese Novice I is an interactive, story-based introduction to the language. Chinese courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Chinese Novice I is designed for students who have never studied the language. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the first year, students will have significant guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students become familiar with the pinyin phonetic system for pronouncing and typing Mandarin and read in simplified script characters as used in Singapore and Mainland China with some reference to traditional script.

Chinese Intermediate I/II

CHI 230 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Chinese Novice I/II or instructor approval

Credit: 1.0

Chinese Intermediate offers students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of Chinese language and culture. Like Chinese Novice level courses, Chinese Intermediate I is an interactive, story-based curriculum. Chinese courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language very comprehensible. Chinese Intermediate I is designed for students who have one year or more of high school Chinese language study. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the second year, students have ample guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more confidence with the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students use the pinyin phonetic system for pronouncing and typing Mandarin and read in simplified script characters as used in Singapore and Mainland China with reference to traditional script.

Chinese Advanced I/II

CHI 330 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Chinese Intermediate I/II or instructor approval

Credit: 1.0

Chinese Advanced I offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Chinese language and culture. Chinese Advanced I is a cumulative and energetic curriculum that expands students' competence with Chinese language and culture. Chinese courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. Chinese Advanced I is designed for students who have two years or more of high school Chinese language study. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the third year, students will have necessary guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more advanced and colloquial structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students use the pinyin phonetic system to type and read in simplified script characters as used in Singapore and Mainland China with reference to traditional script.

Honors Chinese Language and Culture

CHI 420 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Chinese Advanced or instructor approval Credit: 1

Honors Chinese Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Chinese language and the Chinese culture. Chinese Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Chinese language and culture. Chinese language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Chinese Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Advanced I or II. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Honors Chinese Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

AP Chinese Language and Culture

CHI 610 Grade: 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Honors Chinese Language or instructor approval Credit: 1

AP Chinese Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Chinese language and the Chinese culture, preparing students to sit for the AP Chinese Language and Culture . Chinese Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Chinese language and culture. Chinese language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Chinese Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Honors AP Language and Culture. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In AP Chinese Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Chinese culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

French Novice I/II

FRE 130 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None Term: Year

Credit: 1

French Novice offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the French language and culture. French Novice I is an energetic, story-based introduction to the language. French language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. French Novice I is designed for students who have never studied the language. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the first year, students will have significant guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

French Intermediate I/II

FRE 230 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of French Novice I/II or instructor approval Credit: 1

This course is for students who have completed at least one year of French. It is designed to encourage students to continue to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the diversity of cultures and language. It is taught almost exclusively in the target language but rendered comprehensible to students as needed. Emphasis is placed on proficiency as students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills. This is accomplished through stimulating class content including culture, art, storytelling, scripture, faith-based stories, novels, mini-stories, music and grammar study, with ample guidance from the teacher.

French Advanced I/II

FRE 330 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of French Intermediate I/II or instructor approval Credit: 1

French Advanced provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of French language and culture. French Advanced is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that expands students' competence with French language and culture. French language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. French Advanced is designed for students who have taken a minimum of two years of French and who have hit the Intermediate level proficiency benchmarks. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In this course, students will have necessary guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more advanced structures, more colloquial structures, and more precise syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

DC French Language and Culture

FRE 430 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of French Advanced I/II or instructor approval Credit: 1

French Language and Culture provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of French language and culture. French Literature and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that expands students' competence with French language and culture and specifically readies students for college-level language study. French language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. French Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken a minimum of three years of French and who have hit the Intermediate level proficiency benchmarks. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In this course, students will rely less on substantial guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students will interact with more authentic materials and student fluency skills will set the pace. Students continue to acquire more advanced structures, more colloquial structures, and more precise syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework with greater ease and independence. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

AP French Language and Culture

FRE 510

Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- DC French Language and Culture or instructor approval

Term: Year

Credit: 1

AP French Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the French language and the French culture. This AP course prepares students to excel on the AP French Language and Culture examination. AP French is designed for students who have taken four years of French. Students acquire advanced, colloquial structures, and literary syntax of the language in context. The AP course expects that students are self-guided, yet guidance is available from the teacher in order to accomplish the desired proficiency goals. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes: Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers combined in a 21st century framework. Francophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum. Students seek to achieve "B1", or "intermediate low" level fluency skills in speaking, reading, writing, and listening. This course prepares students to perform the communicative, and written tasks present on the AP test in both the presentational and interpersonal modalities.

Latin Novice I/II

LAT 130

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- None

Term: Year

Credit: 1

Latin Novice I provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Latin language and Roman culture, and which fosters an understanding of the importance of the interaction of Christian thought with both throughout history. Novice Latin is a story-based approach to acquiring proficiency in reading, hearing, speaking and writing Latin. Latin language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Roman culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

Latin Intermediate I/II

LAT 230

Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Latin Novice I/II or instructor approval

Credit: 1.0

Latin Intermediate provides students with an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Latin language and Roman culture. Latin Intermediate I is an energetic, story-based continuation of the learning begun in Novice. Latin language courses are partially taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Latin Intermediate I is designed for students who have begun to study the language in Latin I. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Romantic culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

Latin Advanced I/II

LAT330 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Latin Intermediate I/II or instructor approval.

Credit: 1.0

Latin Advanced provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation and actions through the study of the Roman language, culture, and the writings of well-known Roman authors as well as Latin-speaking Christians in early church history. The Latin Advanced curriculum is designed to expand students' abilities to read, write, listen and speak in the target language, with special attention given to the reading and discussion of the genres of theology, philosophy, (auto)biography, history, and poetry. Latin language courses are taught in the target language as much as possible, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language comprehensible. Latin Advanced I is designed for students who have taken a minimum of two years of Latin and who have hit the Intermediate level proficiency benchmarks. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency in reading Latin texts, and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. Students will acquire more advanced and colloquial structures and a more precise understanding of syntax. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to faith-based materials, Scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Roman culture and history will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

DC Latin Language & Literature

LAT430 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of Latin Advanced I/II or instructor approval.

Credit: 1.0

Latin Language and Literature provides students an environment in which to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation and actions through the study of the Roman language, culture, and the writings of well-known Roman authors as well as Latin speaking Christians in early church history. The Latin Language and Literature curriculum is designed to expand students' abilities to read, write, listen and speak in the target language, with special attention given to the reading and discussion of the genres of theology, philosophy, (auto)biography, history and poetry. The course builds on concepts and literature studied at the Advanced levels and is for students who wish to deepen their Latin ability and knowledge of Latin literature, as well as prepare for the AP Latin course. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency in reading Latin texts, and for students to ameliorate listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. Students will acquire more advanced and colloquial structures and a more precise understanding of syntax. Roman culture and history will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

AP Latin

LAT610 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites:

- Mastery of DC Latin Language & Literature or instructor approval.

Credit: 1.0

AP Latin is designed to provide advanced students with a rich and rigorous Latin course. Students who successfully complete the course are able to read, understand, translate, and analyze Latin poetry and prose. Throughout the course, students develop their language skills through various activities including precise translation, reading comprehension, and written analysis. Linguistic competence, important as it is, does not exhaust the goals of studying Latin. The Latin language is also the best route to learning about the history, literature, and culture of the ancient Romans. Texts have been chosen that will allow students to encounter some of the important people, events, and literary genres of Roman times, focusing on the core periods of the late Republic and the early Principate.

Spanish Novice I/II

SPA130 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: None

Credit: 1

Spanish Novice I offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and culture. Spanish Novice is an energetic, story-based introduction to the language. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices in order to render the target language completely comprehensible. Spanish Novice is designed for students who have never studied the language. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students begin to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In the first year, students will have significant guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

Spanish Summer Immersion

SPA135 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: SPA230/240 or Instructor Approval

Credit: 1

This immersive language and culture experience in Guatemala will challenge students to grow in faith, language skills and cross-cultural understanding through a 23-day study abroad and service experience in Guatemala and Honduras. During the first 10 days of the course, students will live with Guatemalan families in the beautiful city of Antigua, Guatemala. During the day, students will attend the Christian Spanish Academy where they will study Spanish 1 on 1 with a certified Guatemalan teacher for up to 6 hours/day (a total of 50 hours). Next, students will travel east to the towns of Zacapa, Guatemala and Copán Ruinas, Honduras, and will use their language skills in various service projects with children, teenagers and families. In particular, our team will serve the poor and marginalized in the community surrounding the city garbage dump in Zacapa, Guatemala. A significant emphasis will be placed on spiritual growth and reflection as students process how God is speaking to them and challenging them to grow in their walk with Him.

*Note: This class is only offered in the summer. To be eligible, you must also be accepted on the Guatemala Summer Discovery Trip.

Spanish Intermediate I/II

SPA 230 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of Spanish Novice I/II or instructor permission Credit: 1

Spanish Intermediate offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and culture. Like Novice, Intermediate is an energetic, story-based curriculum. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language very comprehensible. Spanish Intermediate I is designed for students who have already taken Novice I or II (or an equivalent). The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Intermediate I, students will have ample guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more confidence with the basic structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

Spanish Advanced I/II

SPA 330 Grade: 9, 10, 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of Intermediate Spanish I/II or instructor permission Credit: 1

Spanish Advanced 1 offers students an environment to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and culture. Like Intermediate 1 and 2, Advanced 1 is an energetic, story-based curriculum. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language very comprehensible. Spanish Advanced 1 is designed for students who have already taken Intermediate 1 or 2 at Valor (or an equivalent), or who have tested into Advanced 1 via a placement test. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to develop listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Advanced 1, students will continue to have ample guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students acquire more confidence with the structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to: Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

DC Spanish Language & Culture

SPA 430 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of Spanish Advanced I/II or instructor permission Credit: 1
- Course Fee

Spanish Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and the Spanish culture. Spanish Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Spanish language and culture. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Spanish Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Advanced I or II. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Spanish Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.

AP Spanish Language and Culture

SPA 430 Grade: 11, 12

Prerequisites: Term: Year

- Mastery of DC Spanish Language and Culture or instructor permission Credit: 1
- Course Fee

Spanish Language and Culture offers students a means to develop a worldview that appreciates God's creation through the study of the Spanish language and the Spanish culture. Spanish Language and Culture is a cumulative and energetic, curriculum that deepens students' competence with Spanish language and culture. Spanish language courses are taught in the target language, yet instructors rely on best teaching practices, in order to render the target language comprehensible. Spanish Language and Culture is designed for students who have taken Advanced I or II. The chief goals are fluency and proficiency; students continue to improve and deepen listening, reading, speaking and writing skills in context. In Spanish Language and Culture, students will have diminished guidance from the teacher in order to accomplish these goals. Students begin to cultivate a higher level of independence in their interpersonal and presentational communication and writing skills. Students acquire more advanced, colloquial, and literary structures and syntax of the language via a rich and varied content within a 21st-century framework. All instruction will be delivered in a creative, comprehensible format that includes, but is not limited to Faith-based materials, scripture, level-appropriate novels, mini-stories, drama, and personalized questions and answers. Hispanophone culture, history, customs, art, and geography will be integrated throughout the curriculum.