



Christian High School Academic Catalog 2024-25



Our mission is to assist Christian families in equipping students with a Christ-centered education, empowering them to impact the world for the glory of God.





It is our firm belief that the Word of God and its message of redeeming grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the necessary and only adequate foundation upon which any educational program can be built. We believe that the educational institution should provide a distinctly Christian atmosphere and include classes in biblical studies as a regular part of its curriculum. This is necessary to obtain a well-balanced and properly oriented education that views all secular knowledge in the light of biblical truth.

At *CHRISTIAN*, we believe students need more than facts and figures to grow. They need values. Our curriculum is designed to educate and transform the whole student - spiritually, mentally, socially, emotionally, and physically. We desire to provide academic excellence while integrating a biblical worldview into every unit of study.

The classroom environment echoes the same message. Our teachers take the time to mentor individuals. Students learn not only academics, but also how to deliver assignments with integrity. They gain knowledge of the world but with an understanding of how it fits into the story of God.

The faculty and staff are not just meant to be a conduit through which information is delivered, but more importantly, they are the “living curriculum.” All classes are taught by Christ-centered individuals who bring their faith and insight into the classroom. Our teachers teach and assess for exposure, understanding, and mastery.

We invite you to take time to peruse the pages that follow. We would be happy to speak with you and your student about the academic programs here and the college requirements and programs that interest your son or daughter.

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GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Registration and Scheduling

In the spring, parents and students will select student courses using the Registration Form. We will begin to use the requests to aid us in establishing the high school schedule. Once the schedule has been established, we will then distribute the schedules to each student. If there are discrepancies or problems, we will strive to complete the schedule before the end of the school year. Course requests always include alternatives so that if a first choice can't be met on the schedule, the second or third choice is a strong possibility. The Dean of Students will address questions, concerns, and special course requests made by parents and students.

Assuming that deadlines have been met, registration and scheduling will be done on a first come/first serve basis. However, priority will be given in the scheduling process to seniors, then to juniors, etc. as it relates to courses needed for graduation requirements. Students register for the entire upcoming year in the spring.

Schedule Changes

Full year courses may not be changed at the end of the semester unless there are extenuating circumstances. These circumstances must be reviewed by the administration and assessed as viable conditions for dropping or changing a course.

Serious consideration should be taken when selecting courses for each year. Requests for scheduling changes after the deadline are not considered unless new and unexpected conditions occur. To request a change, a student must obtain a Change of Schedule form from the Dean of Students. This form requires approval from the following individuals: teacher, parent, Dean of Students, and principal, and must include an explanation for the request.

Advanced Class Information

Advanced Placement Information

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are designed to be a college level course with distinctive "AP" designation on a transcript. This course will provide the student with intellectual challenges and workload consistent with a typical undergraduate university course. At the culmination of this course, students are given the option to take the AP Test® associated with the course. A student who earns a grade of 3 or above on this exam will be granted college credit at most colleges and universities in the United States. An AP testing fee will be applied to all students taking the exam.

Dual Credit Information

Dual Credit courses are college level courses taught by our staff through Missouri Baptist University, University of Missouri-St. Louis, and Missouri Southern State University. Thus, the rigor and expectations match accordingly. Upon completion of the course, students will receive both high school credit and college credit. An additional fee and the purchase of any class books is required. Universities also have a GPA requirement for acceptance into the university in order to enroll in the course.

Honors Classes

Honors classes are more in-depth on a subject and usually move at a faster pace. Additionally, they can be more demanding in terms of preparation, time, and studying. We offer honors classes in English and Science.

Grading and Requirements

Enrollment in AP/DC/Honors classes is dependent on several factors including past academic performance, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendation. AP/DC/Honors classes are graded on a 5-point scale.

GENERAL ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Grading/GPA Scale

Letter	Average	Pts	AP/DC/H Pts
A+	100-98	4.0	5.0
A	97-93	4.0	5.0
A-	92-90	4.0	5.0
B+	89-87	3.0	4.0
B	86-83	3.0	4.0
B-	82-80	3.0	4.0
C+	79-77	2.0	3.0
C	76-73	2.0	3.0
C-	72-70	2.0	3.0
D+	69-67	1.0	2.0
D	66-63	1.0	2.0
D-	62-60	1.0	2.0
F	>60	0	0

Grade Reports

- There are two grading periods.
- Report cards are available at the end of each grading period.
- Semester grades are comprised of an average of the semester grade (80%) plus one semester exam grade (20%), where applicable.

Academic Standing

To be eligible for:

Grade 9

- Must have passed and completed grade eight.

Grade 10

- Must have accumulated 6 credits in high school at the beginning of the fall semester.

Grade 11

- Must have accumulated 12 credits in high school at the beginning of the fall semester.

Grade 12

- Must have accumulated 19 credits and have plans to graduate within the year at the beginning of the fall semester.

Standardized Testing

Standardized Testing by Grade

The following standardized tests are administered annually in the fall:

Freshmen/Sophomores: Pre-ACT - These tests serve as a tool for assessment of the student's progress and a predictor of the ACT score. These are practice tests for the ACT College Entrance Exam and are taken each year.

Juniors: PSAT-NMSQT - This test serves as a tool for assessment of the student's progress. It is a practice test for the SAT College Board Exam and is the qualifying test for the National Merit Scholarship competition. Select Sophomores may also be invited to sit this test.

RECOMMENDED 4-YEAR COURSE PLAN

FRESHMAN

Bible 9
English I or English I Honors
Algebra I or Geometry*
Physical Science or Biology**
US History
Fine Art or Foreign Language
Health (semester)
PE (semester) or PE Waiver
25 Hours Community Service

SOPHOMORE

Bible 10
English II or English II Honors
Geometry or Algebra II
Biology or other science
World History
Foreign Language
PE (semester) or PE Waiver
Fine or Practical Art
25 Hours Community Service

JUNIOR

World Religions 11
English III or DC English
Algebra II or another Math
Science of choice
Civics***
Personal Finance (semester)***
Speech (semester)
Fine or Practical Art
40 Hours Community Service

SENIOR

World Religions 12
English IV or DC English
Math of choice
Science of Choice
Fine or Practical Art
Remaining Electives
40 Hours Community Service

*If Algebra I was taken in 8th grade

**If Physical Science was taken in 8th grade

***May be deferred until senior year

Note: The recommendation above is a guideline only. Students have the freedom and opportunity to build their course plan in a manner that best suits their future goals and desires, as long as it meets the requirements of the state of Missouri and Christian High School.

ELECTIVES

Elective (see course descriptions for more information)	9 TH	10 TH	11 TH	12 TH
Bible – The Study of Worship		✓	✓	✓
English - Creative Writing		✓	✓	✓
English - Journalism		✓	✓	✓
Mathematics - Intro to Statistics			✓	✓
Social Studies - Economics			✓	✓
Social Studies – Psychology I			✓	✓
Social Studies – Psychology II			✓	✓
Social Studies – Sociology I			✓	✓
Social Studies – Sociology II			✓	✓
PLTW – Computer Science Essentials	✓	✓	✓	✓
PLTW – Computer Science Principles	✓	✓	✓	✓
PLTW – Intro to Engineering Design (Science credit class)	✓	✓	✓	✓
PLTW – Principles of Engineering (Prerequisite: Intro to Eng Design)		✓	✓	✓
PLTW – Principles of Biomedical Science (Science credit class)	✓	✓	✓	✓
PLTW – Human Body Systems (Prerequisite: Biomedical Science)		✓	✓	✓
Foreign Language - Spanish I	✓	✓	✓	✓
Foreign Language - Spanish II (Prerequisite: Spanish I)		✓	✓	✓
Foreign Language - French I	✓	✓	✓	✓
Foreign Language - French II (Prerequisite: French I)		✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts – Intro to Art	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts – Ceramics I (Prerequisite: Intro to Art)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts – Ceramics II (Prerequisite: Ceramics I)		✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Drawing (Prerequisite: Intro to Art)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Painting (Prerequisite: Intro to Art)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Studio Art (Prerequisite: Painting and Drawing)			✓	✓
Fine Arts - Concert Choir	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Voces Vitae Acapella		✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Orchestra	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Symphonic Band	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - High School Drama	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Acting I (Prerequisite: High School Drama)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Acting II (Prerequisite: Acting I)		✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Acting III (Prerequisite: Acting II)		✓	✓	✓
Fine Arts - Independent Directing (Prerequisite: Acting III)			✓	✓
Fine Arts - Dual Credit Theatre Appreciation			✓	✓
Other – Learning Lab (Principal Approval)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other – Study Hall	✓	✓	✓	✓
Other – Teacher’s Aide (student must ask teacher and fill out form)				✓
Practical Arts - Beginning Computer Applications	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Child Development	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Digital Design	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Entrepreneurship	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Foods I		✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Foods II (Prerequisite: Foods I)		✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Interior Design	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Intro to Technical Theatre	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Marketing	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Sewing I	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Sewing II (Prerequisite: Sewing I)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Practical Arts - Yearbook	✓	✓	✓	✓
Physical Education - Strength and Conditioning	✓	✓	✓	✓

GRADUATION AND COLLEGE

Transcripts

Official transcripts must be requested through Naviance, our college planning portal. All students have a Naviance account and can research colleges, request teacher recommendations, request transcripts, etc. through this portal. We do not put ACT or SAT scores on transcripts unless a student requests it.

Unofficial transcripts can only be obtained in person from the registrar. These transcripts cannot be sent to colleges and universities. They will only accept transcripts from an education institution.

Transcripts for dual credit courses must be obtained from the university from which the course was taken. Transcript requests can be found on the university website.

College Visits

Juniors and seniors are encouraged to visit several colleges prior to making their final college placement decision. In order to effectively determine which college is appropriate, it is wise to visit the school, spend time in the college classroom, and meet with faculty, administration, and students of the college. Students in their junior year are permitted up to four college visitation days, and seniors are permitted up to five college visitation days.

Juniors and seniors who plan to make a college visit will comply with the following policies:

- Prior to the visit, the student will turn in a completed Planned Absence Form.
- The student is expected to have completed all assignments upon returning.

Subject	Graduation Credit Required
Bible	4
English*	4
Speech	.5
Math*	3
Science (must include Physical Science and Biology) *	3
Social Studies*	3
Fine Arts*	1
Personal Finance*	.5
Practical Arts*	.5
Health/Physical Education*	1.5
Electives*	5
Total Credits	26

*Required by the State of Missouri

COLLEGE AND MILITARY TIMELINES

College Timeline – 9th Grade

- Create a four-year plan that includes courses you might need to follow a degree path that interests you.
- Start thinking about your career interests. Think about what you like and don't like. Talk to someone in a career that interests you to see what it is really like.
- Meet with your counselor to discuss possible career paths and what might help you get there.
- Participate in extracurricular activities. Colleges like well-rounded students.
- Start saving for college. It's never too early.
- Take the ACT 8/9.

College Timeline – 10th Grade

- Meet with your counselor to make sure your schedule and four-year plan are preparing you for college.
- Check into any prerequisites needed for AP or dual credit courses and add them to your schedule.
- Take the ACT 10.
- Begin researching financial aid opportunities.
- Attend college fairs.
- Tour a college campus or two.

College Timeline – 11th Grade

Fall

- Meet with your counselor to make sure your schedule and courses are putting you on the right track for college admission.
- Take the PSAT-NMSQT.
- Sign up for the ACT or SAT for college admission.
- Develop a resumé of your honors, activities, work experiences, etc.

Winter

- Check your transcript to make sure you are on track to graduate.
- Use course requests to set your senior schedule.
- Sign up for the ACT or SAT for college admission.

Spring

- Attend college fairs or go on college visits. Look online to learn about the colleges and degrees you are interested in.
- Develop a list of colleges that interest you.
- Begin looking at college applications to see what they require and to begin lining up recommendations for your applications.

Summer

- Schedule some college visits.
- Begin thinking about your college and scholarship essays and what you might like to write about.
- Get ready to apply – many colleges open their applications in August.

College Timeline – 12th Grade

Fall

- Meet with your counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and fulfill college admission requirements.
- Request initial transcripts in Naviance once you've applied to a college.
- Sign up for the ACT or SAT for college admission test.
- Continue compiling information for your application.
- Meet with college reps that visit our school.
- Create a calendar of important dates such as application deadlines, test dates, financial aid deadlines, etc.
- File the FAFSA beginning October 1.
- Finalize recommendations from teachers.
- Begin researching scholarships and apply, apply, apply. Put in the work for all scholarships you can find.

Winter

- Send in early decision or early action applications.
- Request mid-year transcripts in Naviance to be sent to colleges.
- Pay attention to deadlines – many are December 1 or January 1.
- Take the ACT or SAT for one final time.

Spring

- Review acceptance letters.
- Keep working – your senior GPA still counts.
- May 1 is your final deadline for a commitment and deposits.
- Final transcripts will be automatically sent to your final college choice.

Military Timeline

- Do your research on the branch that interests you.
- Visit a recruiter.
- You must be 17 years old to enlist in the military.
- Visit a MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station).
- Take and pass the ASVAB (Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery).
- Take and pass the physical exam.
- Meet with your MEPS counselor and determine a career.
- Take the oath of enlistment.

NCAA DIVISION I AND II INFORMATION

NCAA Eligibility Steps

Grade 9

- Ask the Dean of Students for a list of your high school's NCAA core courses to make sure you take the right classes.

Grade 10

- Register with the NCAA Eligibility Center at [NCAA Eligibility Center](https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/).
- <https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/>

Grade 11

- Check with the Dean of Students to make sure you will graduate on time with the required number of NCAA core courses.
- Take the ACT or SAT and submit your scores to the NCAA using code 9999.
- At the end of the year, ask the Dean of Students to upload your official transcript to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Grade 12

- Finish your last NCAA core courses.
- Take the ACT or SAT again, if necessary, and submit your scores to the NCAA using code 9999.
- Complete all academic and amateurism questions in your NCAA Eligibility Center account at [NCAA Eligibility Center](https://web3.ncaa.org/ecwr3/).

Division I and II Requirements

Division I

To be eligible to compete in NCAA sports during your first year at a Division I school, you must graduate high school and meet ALL the following requirements:

1. Complete 16 core courses:
 - Four years of English
 - Three years of Math (Algebra I or higher)
 - Two years of Natural/Physical Science (including one year of lab science if your high school offers it)
 - One additional year of English, Math or Natural/Physical science
 - Two years of Social Studies
 - Four additional years of English, Math, Natural/Physical Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language, Comparative Religion or Philosophy
2. Complete 10 core courses, including seven in English, Math or Natural/Physical Science, before your seventh semester. Once you begin your seventh semester, you may not repeat or replace any of those 10 courses to improve your core-course GPA.
3. Earn at least a 2.3 GPA in your core courses.
4. Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

Division II

College-bound student athletes enrolling at an NCAA Division II school need to meet these academic requirements to practice, compete and receive an athletics scholarship in their first year of full-time enrollment.

- Complete 16 core courses in the appropriate areas.
- Earn a core-course GPA of at least 2.200.
- Submit proof of graduation to the Eligibility Center.

BIBLE

Required Credits: 4¹

Bible 9 - 9th grade - 1 Credit

Bible 9 is designed to help students grow to maturity in their faith while emphasizing in-depth Bible study covering both the Old and New Testaments. Through study of Scripture, students will learn Biblical history including the life and writings of Paul, Old Testament wisdom literature and Old Testament prophetic texts, as well as Biblical application in topics of sex, conflict, stewardship, conflict, and spiritual disciplines. The goal of this course is to educate and equip student as they grow in maturity as believers in Christ.

Bible 10 – 10th grade – 1 credit

In Bible class, Sophomores will learn how to use and apply a tool called “The Three Circles”, a diagram that will aid in being able to clearly understand and effectively communicate the gospel as a means for their salvation as well as their sanctification. They will also learn the essential doctrines of the Christian faith and analyze why they are fundamental to all Christians regardless of denomination. We also discuss diversity in how different denominations apply these core doctrines and beliefs, giving students a broader scope of the body of Christ so that we may grow in grace toward all believers. Sophomores will also study a New Testament Epistle in its entirety. Throughout the year, students will implement two different methods of Bible Study for Bible journaling, as well as memorization work which will involve weekly scripture memory and the names of God with their meanings throughout the Bible.

World Religions – 11th grade – 1 Credit

World Religions is a required, full-year course. It presents a survey of the biblical story in its progressive unfolding, emphasizing the history of redemption against the backdrop of creation and sin.

Attention is given to the literary, historical, cultural, and theological dimensions of Scripture as it offers a meta-narrative or “worldview-story.” Emphasis is placed on the unity of Scripture as it reaches its fullness and fulfillment in Christ.

World Religions – 12th grade – 1 credit

Our Bible goal for seniors is to solidify their worldview as they grow in their relationship with Christ. Senior Bible students will examine and analyze essential truths about biblical apologetics as a defense of the faith and to equip them to articulate the Gospel clearly, accurately, and seasoned with love and grace toward an unbelieving audience. We desire for our Seniors to be infused with confident hope as they grow in their understanding that the gospel is not just part of the solution to the brokenness in this world, but it is the only answer. Students will learn and implement the Discovery Bible Study method for their weekly journaling work, which also provides and equips them with a simple method to lead out in making disciples for Jesus in their sphere of influence. In addition, they will be committing to memory how Jesus is seen in all 66 books of the Bible, along with their weekly scripture memory work.

The Study of Worship - .5 credit 10th-12th grade

This course will delve into the reasons we worship by discussing Biblical principles found in the Old and New Testaments. We will discuss the relationship between music and worship in the context of historical and modern music. In addition, we will explore how worship can be used in promoting the gospel.

¹Students are required to take in-person Bible class while enrolled.

ENGLISH

Required Credits: 4

English I - 9th grade – 1 credit

English I is a full-year course focused on the study and analysis of literature, encouragement of critical thinking, reinforcing grammar, and building vocabulary. Writing skills are improved through paragraph development, and expository essays with a focus on the research process.

English I Honors⁴ - 9th grade – 1 credit

In addition to what is covered in English I Standard, English I Honors is taught at an increased pace requiring additional reading and writing with a focus on advanced writing skills.

English II - 10th grade – 1 credit

English II is a full-year course focused on literary analysis, logical argumentation, close reading, and critical thinking. Composition, vocabulary, and grammar skills are developed through paragraph development, narrative creative essays, and persuasive essays with a focus on the research

English II Honors⁴ - 10th grade–1 credit

In addition to what is covered in English II Standard, English II Honors is taught at an increased pace requiring additional reading and writing with a focus on advanced writing skills.

English III - 11th grade – 1 credit

English III is a full-year course emphasizing the study and analysis of American Literature through various genres and authors. Composition skills are developed through the analysis of the various works studied.

English IV - 12th grade – 1 credit

English IV is a full-year course that explores the global landscape of classic and contemporary texts. Students will concentrate on enhancing their reading comprehension and writing skills.

Additionally, students will engage with film adaptations to dissect texts as they scrutinize narrative structure, technical and artistic components, historical and cultural context, as well as the director's creative decisions.

Dual Credit Introduction to Literature – 11th and 12th grade – 1 credit

This course focuses on texts, including novels, short stories, poems, and plays that have been selected for literary quality and interest. Students learn how to read literature for the purpose of interpretation and analysis. They will continue perfecting their academic writing as they work through the steps for completing a literary analysis essay. DC English Literature is offered every other year when the fall semester is an odd year.

Dual Credit First Year Writing – 11th and 12th grade – 1 credit

Students will learn to use elements of critical reading and evaluation in addition to methods of academic writing. Students will learn to organize and produce writing that follows the rules of specific genres, purposes, and audiences. Class discussions and small group workshops focus on problems of invention, organization, development, and revision in essay writing. Students will also read and analyze a variety of non-fiction writings and whole-class novels. DC Writing is offered every other year when the fall semester is an even year.

⁴ *Enrollment in Honors/DC English is dependent on several factors, including past academic performance (85% or above), standardized test scores (at benchmark or above), and teacher recommendation.*

ENGLISH

Speech⁵ – .5 credit

Speech is a semester course required for graduation. It focuses on the process of effective interpersonal communication and public speaking. Students will present the following type of speeches: informative, persuasive, and debates. Students will deliver speeches by the following methods: extemporaneous, impromptu, and manuscript.

Creative Writing⁵ – .5 credit

Creative Writing is a semester course dedicated to exploring the craft of creative writing while glorifying God through written language. The class will explore the following topics: the writing of a personal narrative/memoir, short story fiction writing, poetry, the creation and presentation of a children's short story, script/play writing, and the creation of a board game suitable for playing.

Journalism⁵ – .5 credit

Journalism is a semester course dedicated to exploring the basic tenets of journalism with a Christian worldview. This includes exploration of the following topics: the history of journalism, the role and impact of the media in today's society, the power of images, the ethics of journalism, objectivity and bias in the media, interviewing basics, and techniques of news, features, opinions, and sports writing.

⁵Speech, Creative Writing, and Journalism are English electives and are not used to meet the Missouri graduation requirements for English courses.

MATHEMATICS

Required Credits: 3

Algebra I - 1 credit

Algebra I is a full-year course designed to furnish students with the algebraic skills needed to progress to higher courses in the mathematics sequence. Emphasis is placed on the power algebra provides to generalize mathematical ideas as well as to translate mathematical ideas into expressions, equations, and inequalities.

Algebra IA - 1 credit

Algebra IA develops an understanding of algebraic concepts. Students will learn to think logically and symbolically. Using experimentation and reasoning, students will develop the knowledge necessary to create and manipulate symbolic rules. Some topics covered will include: patterns, ratios and proportions, and linear equations and inequalities. This course is equivalent to the first semester of Algebra I and is not offered every year.

Algebra IB - 1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra IA

This course continues to develop an understanding of algebraic concepts. Students will learn to think logically and symbolically. Using experimentation and reasoning, students will develop the knowledge necessary to create and manipulate symbolic rules. Topics covered will include, but are not limited to: patterns, ratios and proportions, linear equations and inequalities, and quadratic and exponential models. This course is equivalent to the second semester of Algebra I and is not offered every year.

Introduction to Statistics⁵ – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Standing

Intro to Stats is a semester course dedicated to elementary statistics. The course will cover a wide variety of applications and will enable students to collect, analyze, and draw conclusions from data.

Geometry – 1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra 1 with a passing grade

Geometry is a full-year course introducing students to the concept of reasoning and proofs. The relationship that points, lines, and planes have to one other, is studied in depth. Right triangle trigonometry and a final study of measurement (perimeter, area, surface area, and volume) is completed. Using geometric ideas, the algebra learned in previous years is reinforced, further preparing the student for the Algebra II course.

Intermediate Algebra - 1 credit

Prerequisite: Geometry, Counselor or Teacher Recommendation

Intermediate Algebra is a full year course designed to strengthen the students' skill level and prepare them for success in Algebra II. Within a smaller class environment, this course will cover numerous topics including linear equations and inequalities, factoring, linear, polynomial, exponential and rational functions, and systems of two and three equations with applications. This course is not offered every year.

Algebra II – 1 credit

Prerequisite: Geometry with a passing grade

Algebra II is a full-year course designed to provide the student with concepts and skills of more complex functions including polynomial, rational, logarithmic, and exponential functions. Emphasis is placed on exploring methods for solving various types of mathematical problems. Practical application to business and industry is also pursued.

⁵*Intro to Statistics is a Math elective and is not used to meet the Missouri graduation requirements for Math courses.*

MATHEMATICS

Required Credits: 3

College Algebra Dual Credit⁶ - 1 credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II

College Algebra is a full-year course focusing on a detailed study of functions and their graphs. Graphing calculators are used extensively. Topics covered include linear and quadratic equations, inequalities, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic equations, and systems of equations.

AP/DC Precalculus⁶ - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Algebra II with a B or above

Pre-Calculus is a full-year course preparing students to take Calculus. It is commensurate with College Algebra and College Trigonometry. It also can be used to fulfill various program requirements. This is a course that uses a calculator from the TI-84 family (a requirement) as a learning tool. Topics covered include: triangle and real variable trigonometry, properties of algebraic, logarithmic, and exponential functions to include solving systems of equations and inequalities.

AP/DC Calculus AB⁶ – 1 credit

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus

AP Calculus is a full-year, college level course having many applications in engineering and the sciences. Topics include limits, derivatives, and integration of a wide variety of functions, and applications of differentiation and integration. This is an Advanced Placement course that prepares the student to take the AP Calculus AB® exam.

AP/DC Calculus BC⁶ – 1 credit

Prerequisite: AP Calculus A/B

AP Calculus is a full-year, college level course having many applications in engineering and the sciences. Topics include limits, derivatives, and integration of a wide variety of functions, and applications of differentiation and integration. This is an Advanced Placement course that prepares the student to take the AP Calculus AB® exam.

⁶Enrollment in Dual Credit or AP Mathematics is based on past academic performance, standardized test scores (85th percentile or above in Mathematics), and teacher recommendation. Universities granting dual credit have a high school GPA requirement and it varies depending on

NOTE: *Calculators will be used as a learning tool throughout all mathematics courses. As students progress through higher levels of mathematics, these tools will become more advanced. A scientific calculator is initially sufficient, but a graphing calculator from the TI-84 family will be a requirement for Dual Credit and Advanced Placement courses.*

SCIENCE

Required Credits: 3

Physical Science - 1 Credit

Prerequisite/Co-requisite: Algebra

Physical Science is a full-year required course presenting a comprehensive survey of the physical sciences that covers the basic concepts of both physics and chemistry. The scientific method and the mathematical concepts of conversions, significant figures, and scientific notation are taught early in the year. Fundamental concepts of the physical and chemical properties of matter are presented in a practical approach including hands-on laboratory activities.

Biology - 1 Credit

Biology is a full-year required laboratory science course providing a study of characteristic structures and functions especially in microorganisms, plants, animals, and man. The importance of each living organism as well as the importance and uniqueness of man is emphasized. Fundamental concepts covered include cytology, taxonomy, ecology, Certain chemical and physiological processes occurring in cells and living organisms are studied with opportunities for biological investigations, research, and life application. Discussion and observations of creation vs. evolution are covered as well.

Anatomy & Physiology - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Biology

Anatomy & Physiology is a full-year laboratory science course in which students study the fundamentals of human anatomy, physiology, and pathology. Understanding of terminology and concepts foundational for careers in healthcare and medical fields, as well as the study of advanced cellular biology, histology, and the human body systems is provided. This includes both the macrostructure and microstructure of the body. The course also includes the study of common illnesses and treatments. Students have the opportunity for biological investigations, research, and life applications.

Zoology - 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Biology

Zoology is a full-year laboratory science course in which students will learn the fundamental concepts of Zoology: principles of taxonomy, characteristic structures, and functions, as well as certain chemical and physiological processes that occur in their bodies. The importance of both man and animals and the connection to the creation vs. evolution debate is studied. Students will have the opportunity for biological investigations, research, and life applications.

Chemistry – 1 credit

Prerequisites: Physical Science, Biology, and Algebra I

Chemistry is a full-year laboratory course emphasizing the chemical make-up of all matter and the physical and chemical properties of matter. The scientific method is stressed as a proper approach to the investigation of both physical and chemical properties. Topics include energy and matter, measurement and calculation in chemistry, atomic theory, the periodic table, types of substances, chemical bonding, nomenclature, chemical equations and reactions, stoichiometry, intermolecular forces, kinetic theory, gases, and solutions. Laboratory experiments are included to reinforce theoretical concepts and good laboratory practices.

Honors Chemistry – 1 credit

Prerequisites: Physical Science, Algebra I, Sophomore or Junior standing.

Honors Chemistry is a full-year laboratory course emphasizing the chemical make-up of all matter and the physical and chemical properties of matter. Topics covered include the basic chemistry course plus an introduction to thermodynamics, kinetics, equilibrium, acid/base chemistry, electrochemistry, and a survey of both organic and nuclear chemistry. Laboratory experiments are included to reinforce theoretical concepts and good laboratory practices. There is also a focus on developing advanced critical thinking and math skills. This course is recommended for those taking AP Chemistry.

SCIENCE

Required Credits: 3

AP Physics⁷ - 2 Credits

Prerequisites: Physical Science, Algebra II

AP Physics is equivalent to a 1st semester, college level, algebra-based physics course. Students will develop their ability to analyze and understand physical phenomena of motion. They will learn multiple ways to represent motion through illustration, diagramming, graphical analysis, and mathematical analysis. Heavy emphasis is placed on laboratory activities designed to help students discover causal relationships. Topics included in the course are Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion), work, energy, power, mechanical waves and sound, electric charge, electric force, and DC circuits. The AP Physics test® is offered at the end of the course. AP Physics is offered every other year when the fall semester is an even year. Students enrolled in this course use two of the seven school-day hours.

AP Chemistry⁷ – 2 credits

Prerequisites: Chemistry, Algebra I. (Algebra II and Honors Chemistry are highly recommended)

AP Chemistry is a full-year course designed around six Big Ideas as defined by College Board. It covers all basic chemistry content areas including the structure and states of matter, reactions, descriptive chemistry, and laboratory. Much of the lab program is inquiry based. Students will learn to understand creation and the interactions of matter at the molecular/atomic level. At the end of the course, the AP Chemistry® exam is offered. AP Chemistry is offered every other year when the fall semester is an odd year. Students enrolled in this course use two of the seven school-day hours.

⁷*Enrollment in AP Sciences is based on past academic performance, standardized test scores (85th percentile or above in Science and Mathematics), and teacher recommendation.*

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

Principles of Biomedical Science⁸ - 1 Credit

Principles of Biomedical Science is a full-year course that may be taken concurrently with other science courses. Students will explore concepts of biology and medicine to determine factors leading to the death of a fictional person. While investigating the case, students examine autopsy reports, investigate medical history, and explore medical treatments that might have prolonged the person's life. The activities and projects introduce concepts of human physiology, basic biology, medicine, and research processes while allowing the design of individual experiments to solve problems.

Human Body Systems⁸ – 1 credit

Prerequisites: Principles of Biomedical Science

In the Human Body Systems (HBS) course, students examine the interactions of body systems as they explore identity, communication, power, movement, protection, and homeostasis. Students design experiments, investigate the structures and functions of the human body, and use data acquisition software to monitor body functions such as muscle movement, reflex and voluntary action, and respiration. Exploring science in action, students build organs and tissues on a skeletal manikin, work through interesting real-world cases, and often play the role of biomedical professionals to solve medical mysteries.

Intro to Engineering Design⁸ – 1 credit

Students dig deep into the engineering design process, applying math, science, and engineering standards to hands-on projects. They work both individually and in teams to design solutions to a variety of problems using 3-D modeling software and use an engineering notebook to document their work.

⁸Enrollment in Project Lead the Way courses is based on past academic performance, standardized test scores (85th percentile or above in Science and Mathematics), and teacher recommendation. All PLTW courses are at the honors level.

Principles of Engineering⁸ - 1 Credit

Prerequisites: Intro to Engineering Design

Through problems that engage and challenge, students explore a broad range of engineering topics, including mechanisms, the strength of structures and materials, and automation. Students develop skills in problem solving, research, and design while learning strategies for design process documentation, collaboration, and presentation.

Computer Science Essentials⁸ – 1 credit

Computer Science Essentials will expose students to a diverse set of computational thinking concepts, fundamentals, and tools, allowing them to gain understanding and build confidence.

In Computer Science Essentials, students will use visual, block-based programming and seamlessly transition to text-based programming with languages such as Python to create apps and develop websites and learn how to make computers work together to put their design into practice. They'll apply computational thinking practices, build their vocabulary, and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address topics and problems important to them.

Computer Science Principles⁸ - 1 Credit

Students work in teams to develop computational thinking and solve problems. The course does not aim to teach mastery of a single programming language, but aims instead to develop computational thinking, to generate excitement about the field of computing, and to introduce computational tools that foster creativity. The course also aims to build students' awareness of the tremendous demand for computer specialists and for professionals in all fields who have computational skills. Each unit focuses on one or more computationally intensive career paths. The course also aims to engage students to consider issues raised by the present and future societal impact of computing.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Required Credits: 3

US History – 1 credit

U.S. History I is a full-year survey course emphasizing a chronological approach starting with America's colonization to the Reconstruction. Emphasis will be placed on the democratic advances made by the American people as well as Christianity's impact on the development of the United States. This course will include an exploration of the U.S. Constitution and the Missouri Constitution, which are both graduation requirements for the state of Missouri.

World History – 1 credit

World History is a full-year course providing a historical survey of the world from early civilizations to modern times with special consideration given to the impact of Christianity on world history. Emphasis is placed on religious, social, cultural, and political history.

Civics – 1 credit

Prerequisite: Junior standing; In-person only

Civics is a full-year course intent on increasing awareness and understanding of the responsibility and duties of citizens in a democratic society and how, as citizens, they can influence the decisions of government. The focus will be on the nature of the American political system and its development over the last two hundred years. Students will examine the principle processes and institutions through which the political system works, as well as some of the public policies these institutions established, and how they are implemented. The course will also address many important current issues that are part of the political debate in this nation.

Intro to Economics⁹ – .5 credit

Economics is about decisions related to the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Students will learn fundamental economic concepts like scarcity, supply and demand, costs and benefits, trade-offs, and incentives. Then students will learn how an economy grows, what causes unemployment and inflation, and what policies can be used to promote a strong national economy.

Sociology I⁹ – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Junior/senior standing

Sociology is an elective course designed to familiarize students with various cultures and the problems resulting from people living in groups. This course covers such topics as culture, subcultures, social institutions, collective behavior, social change, social deviation, the family, religion, racial and ethnic minorities, poverty, and crime. The latter portion of this course deals specifically with the pressing problems of our society, their causes, and possible solutions.

Sociology II⁹ – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Sociology I

Sociology II will be a continuation of the Sociology survey course in preparation for Sociology 100 at the college level. This course builds upon the introduction, history, and development of the scientific discipline and looks at society's behaviors, relationships (internal and external), and more advanced principals to expand students base of knowledge.

Psychology I⁹ – .5 credit

Prerequisites: Junior/Senior standing

Psychology is a semester course introducing the study of human behavior from a Christian perspective. Students will examine how humans learn, think, and remember. The focus will be on God's design for human growth and development from infancy through old age.

Psychology II⁹ – .5 credit

Prerequisites: Psychology I

Psychology II will be a continuation of the Psychology survey course in preparation for Psychology 101 at the college level. This course builds upon the topics of the workings of the brain and nervous system and history to introduce interplay of psychology within the individual and society. The course surveys the definitions, diagnoses, and treatment of psychological pathologies through counseling.

⁹*Sociology, Economics, and Psychology are Social Studies electives and do not meet the Missouri graduation requirements for Social Studies courses.*

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Recommended Credits: 2²

Spanish I - 1 Credit

Spanish I is a full-year elective focusing on proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing through grammatical and vocabulary studies. The students will also learn about various Hispanic cultures & communities including Spain, Mexico, Florida, and Ecuador.

Spanish II – 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Spanish II is a full-year elective providing students with additional experience in listening, speaking, reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar. Students will also learn about Hispanic cultures including Spain, Mexico, Texas, and the countries of the Caribbean.

Spanish III and IV – 1 Credit

Prerequisite: Spanish II and III, respectively

Online opportunities may exist for students wishing to pursue additional foreign language learning for the 2024-25 school year.

French I – 1 Credit

French I is a full-year course which introduces students to the study of French language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. Aspects of the culture of French-speaking people will be introduced and discussed.

French II – 1 Credit

Prerequisite: French I

French II is a full-year course, which continues the study of French language and culture. The basic skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing will be taught and practiced with the emphasis on student performance in both grammar and vocabulary. More reading and writing is included than in French I and the course will move at a faster pace than the previous year. Various aspects of the culture of French-speaking people will be introduced and discussed. This will also include some components of geography and history of various francophone countries.

²Foreign Language is not a graduation requirement but is highly recommended. Many universities require a minimum of two years in the same language for admittance.

FINE ARTS

Required Credits: 1

Intro to Art – .5 credit

Intro to Art (formerly Art I) is a studio-based class. Students will explore 2-Dimensional art using the Elements of Art and Principles of Design. They will demonstrate effective use of various art media and tools in design, color theory, drawing with graphite, watercolors, and acrylics. This is a hands-on course and students are expected to participate and create art daily. This is a prerequisite for all other classes.

Ceramics I – .5 credit each

Prerequisite: Intro to Art or Art I

Ceramics I is an in-depth introduction to working with clay. Students will demonstrate an effective use of design by creating a pinch pot, coil pot and slab-built project. Students will also be introduced to glazing pottery as well.

Ceramics II – .5 credit each

Prerequisite: Ceramics I

Ceramics II is a continuation of Ceramics I for the student that likes creating 3Dimensional works of art. The projects in this class will be student designed and built upon prior knowledge from Ceramics I, but will include building more complex structures.

Drawing – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Intro to Art or Art I

Drawing is a continuation of techniques learned in Intro to Art. This class will dive deeper into different drawing mediums including graphite, colored pencil, charcoal, soft pastel, marker, and ink. Drawing is a hands-on studio-based course. Students are expected to participate and create art daily.

Painting – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Intro to Art or Art I

Painting is a continuation of techniques learned in Intro to Art. This class will dive deeper into different painting mediums, including watercolors, acrylics, and oils. Painting is a hands-on studio-based course. Students are expected to participate and create art daily.

Studio Art – 1 credit

Prerequisite: Painting or Drawing and instructor approval

Independent Art is a full-year class. This course is for the student who is motivated to work independently. Studio Art is a course filled with projects and creativity and will allow the student to continue their art career.

Concert Choir – 1 credit

Concert Choir is a full-year class. No previous choral experience or auditioning is required. Students will learn various musical concepts, explore sight-singing, sing a variety of genres, and be encouraged to pursue excellence in their musicality. Concert Choir will expose students to singing and performing while continuing to build musical skills and confidence. Concert Choir participates in various competitions as a part of the class.

Voces Vitae – 1 credit

Prerequisite: Concert Choir or approval from choir instructor

Voces Vitae is a full-year course that requires: prior choral experience of at least one year, an audition process, and an interview with the director. This class will emphasize sight-reading and ear-training. Voces Vitae participates in various district and state competitions every year (in large and small ensembles) and has the potential to tour the St. Louis area and/or regionally, as well.

FINE ARTS

Required Credits: 1

Orchestra – 1 credit

Students in High School Orchestra will build upon the skills learned in middle school orchestra. Students can choose from violin, viola, cello, or bass. Beginners are welcome, but should take private lessons to gain proficiency. This class is a year-long commitment and meets every day. The orchestra will perform in two concerts: one at Christmas and one in the spring, in addition to performing for school events throughout the year. They will participate in the MSHSAA Large Ensemble Festival, plus an adjudicated competition/theme park trip in the spring. Interested students will also have the option to participate in the MSHSAA Solo and Small Ensemble Festival, and audition for the Metro 8 Honors Orchestra, as well as the Missouri All State Orchestra.

Symphonic Band - 1 credit

Symphonic Band is a full-year, performance-based class teaching various musical styles. This upper dimension band performs high school level literature. The band has a minimum of five performances per year. Musical opportunities for the Symphonic Band include solo/ensemble festival, large ensemble festival, winter, and spring concerts, and Veterans Chapel. The Pep Band is formed from the Symphonic Band and performs at pep assemblies and selected athletic events. This ensemble also rehearses and performs music from the jazz genre.

High School Drama – .5 credit

Drama is a one semester, introductory course. It is a survey of the theatre. Students will learn about theatre history, theatre production, and acting. This course is activity-based and requires no outside performance time.

Acting I, II, III – .5 credit each

Prerequisite: High School Drama or approval from instructor

Acting I, II, and III are semester courses that train actors using the Konstantin Stanislavski, Uta Hagen, Lee Strasberg, Peter Brook, Stella Adler, Sanford Meisner, and Jerzy Grotowski acting methods. These methods will assist the actor in improving stage movement/presence, delivery/speaking skills, and improvisation skills. In addition, the class will explore the relationship between Christianity and the media, specifically the film industry. These classes require performances in front of the class such as monologues, duet scenes, and a one-act play.

Independent Directing – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Acting III, Junior or Senior Standing

Independent Directing is a semester course applying all the skills learned in the previous acting classes to direct a one-act play. Throughout the semester, the director will explore different theatre genres, script analysis and leadership skills. Students will participate in drama productions presented outside the classroom.

DC Theatre Appreciation – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Junior or Senior Standing

Theatre Appreciation is a semester course through Missouri Southern State University. It provides an introduction to theatre as a communicative and fine art emphasizing collaborative efforts of playwright, artistic director, designer, actor, and crew. Activities include the interpretation and evaluation of plays through scripts, live, and recorded performances.

PRACTICAL ARTS

Required Credits: 1

Beginning Computer Applications - .5 Credit

Beginning Computer Applications is a semester course teaching students to become advanced users of technology such as Microsoft Office and online applications. This technology class is critical for college and workplace readiness. Technology will be utilized to solve problems and complete tasks efficiently and effectively regardless of previous experience. This is a project-based class where students receive an in-depth knowledge of advanced word processing, spreadsheets, database management, presentations, and desktop publishing. Other technology concepts are explored including, but not limited to, web design, email communication, Internet, and social media etiquette.

Child Development – .5 credit

Child Development is a semester course designed to help the student understand how to work with and care for children. The student will learn how children develop physically, socially, and emotionally. The course is designed to help the student know how to meet children's needs whether they are working in an occupation with children or just want to be great parents. This is a semester course.

Digital Design - .5 Credit

Digital Design is a semester course developing foundational skills for visual communications and artistic design. Adobe Photoshop, video editing, and other digital media will be used for graphic design principles, photo editing, and color theory. Application to school publications, announcements, and social media graphics will be made as well.

Entrepreneurship – .5 credit

Entrepreneurship (formerly Intro to Business) is a semester course that gives practical applications for students to learn about the business world and how to make business decisions in the global economy. This course covers the economic environment, business operations, and small-business management. This class will plan how to start and operate a school store and implement an online simulation business startup.

Foods I – .5 credit

Foods I is a semester course that encourages students to follow good nutrition guidelines which will lead to a lifestyle of wellness. It includes the selection, storage, and preparation skills necessary to meet the food needs of self, family, and community. Good management techniques will be emphasized to make the best use of available resources.

Foods II – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Foods I

Foods II builds on and expands the knowledge and skills learned in Foods I. Students will prepare and taste various foods from around the world. This course is designed to give students an understanding of the ingredients, flavors, spices, and techniques of the world's cuisines. Students will investigate how climate, culture, religion, and social customs impact a particular cuisine. Studying other countries enables us to be more appreciative of the diversity of God's creation.

Interior Design - .5 credit

Interior Design is a semester course teaching students the basics of design theory through learning about the elements and principles of design, the role of color in design, space planning, lighting, and housing, and furniture styles.

PRACTICAL ARTS

Required Credits: 1

Intro to Technical Theater - .5 credit

Introduction to Technical Theater is a semester course teaching students the responsibilities of technical personnel needed for a theater performance. Students will also gain hands-on experience in set construction. There is no extra-curricular commitment when taking this class.

Marketing - .5 Credit

Marketing is a semester course building from the skills in Entrepreneurship. Students will learn how products are developed, branded, and sold to businesses and consumers, as well as gain hands-on experience in the marketing of goods, services, and ideas as they continue to apply technology to the promotion of school digital media. Topics will include product planning and positioning, promotion, pricing, selling, economic issues, and the impact of technology on the marketplace.

Personal Finance – .5 credit

Prerequisite: Junior Standing; In-person only

Personal Finance is a semester course required for graduation by the state of Missouri. Using Biblical principles, students will learn how to maximize their earnings, create a budget, plan for major expenditures, save for the future, invest wisely, and keep financial records. Students will also learn about banking, taxes, credit, insurance, the stock market, and retirement accounts. This class uses the Dave Ramsey curriculum.

Sewing I – .5 credit

Sewing I is a semester course providing students the opportunity to learn basic sewing skills. Machine operation and general maintenance skills will be presented. Emphasis will be given to clothing construction with other hands-on projects.

Sewing II - .5 credit

Prerequisite: Sewing I

Sewing II is a semester course building on the skills learned in Sewing I. The student will take on more challenging projects which will include, but not be limited to, sewing for someone else, sewing with knits, and redesigning a garment.

Yearbook - 1 credit

Prerequisite: An A average in English, teacher recommendation, and completion of application process

Yearbook is a full-year course offering students the opportunity to help create a tastefully designed, excellent reference book capturing the story of a complete school year. Students will develop competent skills in organization, time management, copy writing, layout design, photography, and teamwork. Students will keep actively abreast of all school facets and activities, plan an appropriate photography strategy, and record accurately the details and people involved during the production of this hardbound, professional yearbook.

**This class has a limited size.*

HEALTH AND PE

Required Credits: 1.5

Physical Education – .5 Credit

Physical Education is a semester course designed to practice and develop skills in activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. Fitness activities designed to improve all areas of fitness will be explored. Students will also be introduced to life-long activities designed to increase their likelihood of exercising in the future.

Strength and Conditioning – .5 credit

Strength and Conditioning is a semester course designed to assist students who look to increase their athletic performance. Students will learn basic concepts of strength training and athletic development while looking to increase maximal strength, power output, speed, and agility. The training will include weight training, plyometrics, calisthenics, sprinting, change of direction, and landing mechanics. Students will be graded on competency and completion.

Physical Education Waiver

Students who document hours of participation in a sports activity, such as a school sport or an extracurricular activity (through an organization), may apply for a Physical Education Waiver. 45 hours equals one semester and 90 hours equals two semesters of a waiver. Students must fill out the form (available on Resource Documents) and turn it in to the Registrar to have the credit added to their transcript. Students will receive a Pass grade that will not be calculated into their cumulative GPA. It is advised that all students complete the waiver and the required hours by the end of their sophomore year, to stay on track for graduation. If the activity happens outside of school, a waiver application should be completed and approved before an extracurricular activity is begun to assure proper credit. Students may earn a maximum of one full year of P.E. credit using the P.E. Waiver.

Health – .5 credit

Health is a semester course providing students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of how their bodies normally function. Topics will include units addressing social, mental, and physical health, communicable diseases, first aid, and reproduction. This course is required by the state of Missouri for graduation.

LEARNING LAB AND ESL

Additional Courses

Academic Learning Lab -1 Credit

The Learning Lab is available to students who require additional assistance in their learning. Accommodations and modifications will be made for each student to best fit their needs. A student action plan is required for admittance into this course. Please contact the guidance office if you believe this to be a need. This course operates on a pass/fail basis and is not calculated into the GPA.

English as a Second Language - 1 Credit

ESL is a full-year course required for all international students. This class will assist students in their classes as they continue to improve upon their English skills. ESL students will have an action plan based on their needs.



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