

PRAISE

CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



High School Course Descriptions

High School Bible Course Descriptions

The philosophy of Bible is to empower students through a deeper understanding of the Scriptures. Any study of the Word of God must begin with Christ. We know that by Him all things were made and in Him, all things consist. In studying Christ, we learn that it is not what we do that determines who we are, but who we are that determines what we do. Our identity and worth are revealed as our knowledge of Christ expands. His truth gives us the freedom to apply who we are to our education, our relationships, and in every moment of all of life's situations. The Bible is the starting point, the foundation, of all learning and growth, thus it becomes the cornerstone of all academics.

Old Testament and New Testament Survey

This first semester OT course is designed to expose students to the major themes, characters, events, and places that are found in the Old Testament. Students will witness the sovereignty of God in the unfolding and interaction of these characters and events. Relevance will be found in the application of truth for today's students. Units of study will include creation, the Patriarchs, the Judges, the Kings as well as the single and divided kingdoms.

The second semester will focus on a chronological survey of New Testament people, places, and events, this course highlights the basic message of the New Testament books, their contribution to God's redemptive storyline, and their significance for Christian thought and practice.

Life of Christ

The humanity of Jesus is the inexhaustible treasure entrusted to us by the Father. The eternal Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us and thus every facet of His life speaks to us of His heart. Life of Christ will examine the life of Christ from the Incarnation to the Ascension as recorded in the Gospel of John. Students will receive a survey of the historical context as well as gain confidence in the inspiration and reliability of the Gospel accounts in light of modern scholarship. Specific attention will be paid throughout the course to teaching style, culture and the world of the first century Israel.

Spiritual Leadership

This class will enable students to answer questions through the leadership vision of Jesus. It provides both a spiritual and strategic framework that is needed to develop the leadership skills necessary in today's ever-changing world.

Understanding the Times

Understanding the Times serves to help open the eyes of the learner to the war of ideas competing for the heart and mind. It is an overview of worldviews and cultural paradigms that students face in today's world. It is designed to help the student better understand the

philosophies of the world through a biblical lens and equip them to approach those philosophies from a biblical worldview and a Christ-like perspective.

High School English Course Description

God blessed us with language as a means of communication with Him and fellow man. The written Word of God informs us about God, His creation, His plan for our redemption, and how we should live. Proficient use of language enables students to positively impact the world for Christ, express themselves, and achieve excellence as they pursue their God-given destiny. Genres of literature are universal. We are introduced to narratives, poetry, parables, proverbs, and informational literature in the Bible. Jesus shared teachings through stories. Reading a variety of literature, learning to understand and analyze literary techniques, recognizing world-views, and postulating research and arguments are all techniques that enable students to ponder and think critically about God's Word, their relationship with God and His Creation. These skills also enable students to communicate effectively, share the love and hope of Jesus, and glorify God.

Collective ideas about beliefs, morals, virtues, and ethics are found in the literature. Depending on the author these themes may express godliness or sinfulness. Students will learn to recognize an author's intent and purpose and evaluate it based on scriptural truth.

Biblical foundations of this philosophy include:

- God instructed His people to keep accurate records in story form so people would know Him (I Kings 11:41; 14:19; 15:7, 23).
- God keeps accurate records for Himself in books (Malachi 3:16; Revelation 20:12).
- Books record and recall great events (Exodus 17:14).
- God's Word helps us evaluate the work of human authors (Proverbs 2:1-22; 3:21-26)

Literature and Composition (9th)

This course provides integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness. Students explore various literary genres, including novels, plays, poetry, essays, and short stories. Essential composition skills and techniques are practiced in conjunction with close readings of classic and contemporary literature selected to encourage critical thinking and character development. This course develops the writing process, reading comprehension, and vocabulary. Students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on course content.

World Literature (10th)

This course introduces students to different cultures through the lens of diverse literary works. Students examine cultural aspects of worldview, history, and customs while reading various literary genres, including novels, plays, poetry, essays, short stories, and primary documents.

Students practice essential composition skills and techniques in conjunction with close readings of classic and contemporary literature selections. Students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on course content. This course provides integrated language arts study in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and language for college and career preparation and readiness.

American Literature (11th Grade)

This survey course introduces students to significant American writers and literary works from major eras of United States history, beginning with Native American myths and legends and continuing to contemporary literature. Students read and study various types of literature, including novels, drama, short stories, poetry, and foundational documents in U.S. history. Students explore correlations between American literature and socio-economics, culture, religion, and movements in American history. Students practice essential composition skills and techniques in conjunction with close readings of classic and contemporary literature selections. This course develops the writing process, reading comprehension, and vocabulary. Students are challenged to think and collaborate critically on course content.

British Literature (12th Grade)

This survey course introduces the student to classic British literature. Students will thematically interact with major works and periods of British literature. Grammatical structure, rules and application, style techniques, and composition strategies are also taught and practiced in conjunction with students writing numerous essays, critiques, and summaries, and a research paper.

Dual Enrollment/ ENG 101*

A writing course focusing on essays in the various patterns of exposition and including some grammar and usage review. One major goal of the course is to prepare the student to complete state-mandated exams at the third-year level. Students must complete English 101 with a grade of C or better to enroll in any higher-numbered English course.

*prerequisite American History

High School Mathematics Course Descriptions

Mathematics is not only a study of numbers, patterns, and shapes, it is also a language that describes the order of the universe. Through mathematics, students explore the nature of God by studying the purposeful order of God's creation. Mathematics fosters the discovery of God's nature - His orderliness, trustworthiness, omniscience, and omnipotence – while developing important character qualities in the student, such as patience, perseverance, resourcefulness, discernment, alertness, and creativity. Through the study of mathematics, students begin to develop problem-solving skills, analytical thinking skills, attention to detail, and a logical

thought process that can aid them well beyond the math classroom. Math practice encourages the development of sound reasoning techniques and rewards diligent work habits. Our Mathematics program is designed to stimulate students' intellectual curiosity and prepare them for the next step in their life after high school.

Algebra I

This comprehensive program allows students to develop a solid foundation in basic Algebra skills. Students will explore families of functions; specifically, linear, quadratic and exponential functions. They will learn to represent functions as verbal descriptions, equations, tables, and graphs. Students will also learn to model real-world situations using functions to solve problems. Students will also explore radical expressions, as well as units in data analysis and probability. Through learning these concepts, students are taught to appreciate the orderliness and precision that God has made and ordained.

Geometry

Students learn definitions and/or facts to solve problems involving geometric figures, congruent triangles, similar triangles, parallel lines, circumference, area, volume, and right triangle trigonometry. They are introduced to formal logic and mathematical proofs, and they will study probability and data analysis. They will investigate the consistency of mathematical truths in the world around them and learn practical applications of algebraic concepts to geometric models. Throughout the course, students will explore the consistency of mathematical truths that demonstrate the orderliness and precision of God.

Algebra II

This course reviews and extends concepts and skills from both Algebra I and geometry. Students apply methods of probability and data analysis to advanced statistics topics and expand their understanding of functions to polynomials, rationals, radicals, and quadratics. In addition, conic sections, logarithms, and complex numbers are also introduced, which gives students a solid foundation to understand principles in science-related fields and business. Through learning these concepts, students are taught to appreciate the orderliness and precision that God has made and ordained.

Pre-Calculus

The purpose of this course is to prepare students for college-level mathematics or Calculus. The fall semester of this course is primarily dedicated to the study of Trigonometry beyond right triangles. Students study the Unit circle, trigonometric functions, trigonometric identities, and trigonometric function applications. In the second semester, students learn advanced algebra-based topics that commonly occur in physics, statistics, and college-level math courses. These topics include matrices, conic sections, vectors, and statistical reasoning. Throughout the course,

students will explore the consistency of mathematical truths that demonstrate the orderliness and precision of God. This class is a prerequisite to college algebra.

Dual Enrollment/ (College Algebra) 12th grade*

A study of algebra including absolute values, equations and inequalities, complex numbers, systems of equations, relations, functions, and the transformations of their graphs. Emphasis is also given to polynomial and rational functions and the Fundamental Theorem of Algebra.

***Pre-Requisite: Pre-Calculus**

College Readiness Math

This fourth math course option is for students who have completed Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II but are still struggling with high school mathematics standards essential for success in first-year post-secondary mathematics courses required for non-STEM majors. The course will revisit and expand the understanding of content standards introduced in earlier mathematics courses and will emphasize numeracy, algebra and functions, geometry, and statistics in a variety of contexts.

Science High School Course Descriptions

The philosophy of Science is to empower students through the comprehension of scientific facts and concepts that exists as a part of God's perfect creation. Students will understand that God's word determines the laws of science (Job 9). An understanding of science will aid in the quality of mankind. Students will also be able to identify the purpose of exploring science to fulfill God's will for healing (Matt. 26:11) through the materials He has provided (Gen. 1:28). As a result, they will gain self-worth through the uplifting of His kingdom (Gen. 1:27). Finally, with Christ first and a sense of self-regard, students will take pride in their academic excellence in science. They will understand all tasks are possible with the help of God and God's power is clearly shown through scientific achievements.

Biology

This course is a study of living organisms, emphasizing structure, functions, and mechanisms, which unify the living world; and a survey of phylogenetic distinctions which diversify the living world. A comparative analysis of origins is conducted utilizing resources supporting creation and evolution science; the philosophical foundation of each is evaluated. Extensive lab work and dissection of plant and animal life accompany this course. The position of the school and the personal belief of the instructor maintain the reliability of the Biblical account of origins as the foundation for all biological studies.

Physical Science

Physical Science is the study of matter and energy and their interactions. This course incorporates extensive laboratory experiences to demonstrate the principles taught. One semester introduces basic chemistry; the other is an introduction to physics.

***Pre-Requisite: Algebra 1**

Chemistry

This course is a study of matter and its interaction at the atomic and molecular level. Problem solving using chemical formulas is emphasized and modern atomic theory is covered in depth. Chemistry labs are conducted regularly to apply the theories discussed in the lecture and to further develop critical thinking skills.

Anatomy

This course is a detailed study providing knowledge of anatomical terms and understanding of physiological processes. Structure and function at each level (cell-tissue-organ-system) are studied. The integration of systems is emphasized. Careers in the medical and allied health fields are explored.

High School History Course Description

Philosophy Statement: The philosophy of History is to empower students with a Biblical worldview of God's interaction with mankind. History is a systematic study, and a careful report, of some portion of human experience, in which an attempt is made to understand the inter-relationships and relative significance of the components of that experience, all with a view to a better understanding of human behavior, character, and destiny. The study of history should include a comprehensive and intensive interaction with major events, developments, patterns, and themes throughout the period, culture, or location at hand, keeping ever before the student both the change and the continuity to be evaluated in said study. As an educational discipline within the framework of a Biblical worldview, historical study rests upon the premise of a three-fold nature of history; namely, that it is intelligible, that it is meaningful, and that it is teleological. Understanding such, the student should be both challenged and encouraged to make the greatest personal contribution to the playing out of history possible.

Cultural Geography (9th Grade)

The primary goal of this course is to instill in students a biblically-based appreciation for all the people and places on earth. It combines all the varied elements of physical and human geography to help the students learn how geography affects the socio-economic and political aspects of both peoples and places. Students will grow to have a biblical view of stewardship over the resources

God has provided for all peoples on the earth and to think biblically about their responsibility to exercise dominion over all of God's creation.

World History (10th Grade)

The primary goal of this course is to instill in students an appreciation and understanding of the Biblical principles of authority, law, development of nations, consequences of national policies, and the role of history in the unfolding process of God's plan. To achieve this goal, students will read, write, articulate, and think critically about vital issues in a global experience in the context of a Christian worldview. Students will learn the pivotal events, key personalities, great movements, and important developments in world history.

U.S. History

The U.S. History course begins with the exploration and discovery of the New World and continues through the key themes of freedom, growth, equality, and global leadership. Students develop college preparatory skills in critical reading, writing, and speaking while also developing a sense of biblically based discernment.

American History /Dual Enrollment (11th Grade)

A survey of the development of the American nation from the Age of Discovery to 1877. Featured in this course will be the history of Georgia and the state's role in the life of the nation.

Economics (12th grade)

This one-semester course is designed to provide students with an introduction to both microeconomics (the study of economics applied to individuals and organizations) and macroeconomics (the study of economics applied to nations). This course presents the basic concepts of economics effectively through numerous real-life applications and case studies, exposing students to both the theory and practice of economics.

US Government (12th grade, One Semester)

This senior-level one-semester course will survey key aspects of the U.S. government, including the roots of the American government, the Constitution, the three branches of government, and citizenship issues. Emphasis will be given to the analysis and application of the information so that students may have a better understanding of current events and become more competent and active citizens

Dual Enrollment/American National Government

A survey of the United States Constitution and the federal government which is created and the relation of the branches and institutions of that government with states such as Georgia, with local government, and with the people. The ideas about human behavior and government that

have shaped political practice in America are emphasized. Topics include current political issues and debate.

Dual Enrollment/ Principles of Microeconomics

An introduction to the basic concepts of microeconomic theory. Topics include supply and demand, defining and evaluating various market structures, income distribution and poverty, corporate mergers and antitrust, and international trade.

High School Spanish Course Descriptions

The purpose of this course is to help students achieve the basic skills to understand and communicate in the Spanish language and to develop an interest and appreciation of the Hispanic culture that has become such an important, integral part of American life. Learning a language goes hand in hand with learning about the culture that speaks it. It helps open our minds to new ideas and different ways of looking at the world and different people in it. Understanding other cultures also make us more tolerant, understanding, and more accepting. We know that Christ came to us in a way that we can understand. The Word (notice the reference to language here) became flesh. If He loved us in this way, as Christians we are called to love others in a way that they can understand us best. This is especially important if we live in a community in which people speak different languages, this is an application of loving our neighbor. The goal is to create a positive, challenging, fun and energetic classroom environment that will motivate and help students succeed at becoming proficient in the language. A learning environment where there is mutual respect, where students can be themselves and feel comfortable using the language

Spanish I

One of the main goals of this course is to give students a positive and confident attitude towards learning a foreign language. The content of Spanish I focuses on teaching and understanding the culture of the target language by applying the fundamentals of the language, including proper pronunciation, building a vocabulary base, and mastering the patterns of commonly used present and past verb tenses, including commonly used irregular verbs, and verbs that have special uses. Students are not only expected to learn to understand the language but more importantly, to produce the language, both orally and in writing, daily. Foreign language is a skill class, and, therefore, must be put into practice regularly to achieve any degree of fluency. A relaxed and accepting atmosphere helps students overcome anxiety about beginning to use unfamiliar language.

Spanish II

This course is designed to give students novice-mid to novice-high level proficiency in Spanish through a comprehensive approach to language. The course is a continuation of first-year studies.

Instruction will be skill-based and focused on the acquisition of language through speaking, reading, writing, listening and culture. Students in Spanish II add new vocabulary and review and build upon grammar learned in Spanish I.

Spanish III

The Spanish III course is a challenging class that stretches the student's vocabulary, grammar and usage of the language through more complex reading, writing, listening, speaking and cultural exploration in a scaffold progression. The culture of Spanish speaking countries is explored through literature, media, research projects, technology, and presentations.

Other required courses

Personal Fitness

In Personal Fitness, students are empowered with the knowledge and skills necessary for developing lifetime fitness and healthy habits. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 urges us to honor God with our bodies, which are temples of the Holy Spirit. As God has blessed us with life and bodies to glorify Him and do His will, we should do our part in taking care of our bodies, so that we can fulfill our purpose. 1 Corinthians 10:31 reminds us that "whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." Therefore, when we eat, drink, and go about life, we must remember that our ultimate purpose is to glorify God and represent Him. One step towards this is eating well and living a healthy lifestyle, doing our part in keeping ourselves ready and able to serve and glorify Him.

Introduces instruction in methods to attain a healthy level of physical fitness; implements a lifetime fitness program based on a personal fitness assessment and stresses strength, muscular endurance, flexibility, body composition, and cardiovascular endurance; includes instruction in fitness principles, nutrition, fad diets, weight control, stress management, adherence strategies, and consumer information; and promotes self-awareness and responsibility for fitness.

The state of Georgia requires each high school student to complete one semester of physical education and one semester of health. PCA students complete this requirement during their freshman year.

Foundations of Personal Finance

Philosophy Statement: The philosophy of Personal Finance is to empower students with a Biblical worldview of God's view of stewardship. Personal Finance is a systematic study, and a careful report, of our responsibility to be good stewards of the gifts, abilities, and resources God has given us. The study of Personal Finance should include a comprehensive and intensive interaction with major financial subjects including debt, savings, investment, insurance, giving, etc. As an educational discipline within the framework of a Biblical worldview, Personal Finance rests upon the premise that the world and all that is in it belongs to the Lord. Understanding such,

the student should be both challenged and encouraged to make the greatest personal contribution to godly stewardship of his gifts, abilities, and resources.

The course is designed to help students develop that understanding by describing, analyzing, and evaluating many financial topics that most students will directly experience. The standards in the course are consistent with nationally recognized concepts that are important to healthy financial literacy.

Speech

This introductory high school course is designed to give students the opportunities to gain poise, develop personal interests, and share responsibilities for group projects. Students will have opportunities to acquire listening skills, to learn fundamentals of oral presentation, to increase their vocabularies through word study and oral presentations, to increase their vocabularies to word studies as it relates to speech, to prepare and present various types of speeches, to participate in group discussions, to experience platform reading and speaking, to receive an introduction to debate, to meet some of the challenges of performing through mass media, and to develop interpersonal communications skills and poise.