

Des Moines Christian School

# JH & HS Course Guides

These course guides are based on the current offerings at Des Moines Christian School as of fall 2015. Course offerings are subject to change based on annual policy review by the Board of Directors and curriculum review by the Educational Program Committee. Curriculum reviews may add/delete programs or update course objectives, resources, and descriptions.

This information can be used each winter/spring as students/parents plan for the upcoming school year with the Academic Advisor. The planning is based on our best estimate for course offerings. When changes occur, families will be notified in a timely manner to consider other course options.

Early Bird courses, currently Fitness P.E., Victory and Jazz Band, earn 0.5 credits per year, which is based on the number of instructional hours. All other courses earn 1 credit per semester.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS .. from Board Policy 605.4

In order to receive a high school diploma from DMCS a student must earn a total of 57 credits. Unless otherwise stated, classes at DMCS earn 1 credit per semester.

### **Graduation requirements approved by the Board are as follows:**

English .....	8 credits
Social Studies/History/Civics..... <i>(American Government and Economics are required)</i>	6 credits
Science.....	6 credits
Mathematics .....	6 credits
Physical Education .....	2 credits
Health .....	2 credits
Speech .....	1 credit
Fine Arts .....	1 credit
Technology .....	2 credits
Bible .....	8 credits
<i>(one course for each semester in attendance at DMCS)</i>	
Electives .....	15 credits

# HIGH SCHOOL COURSE GUIDE

This guide is organized alphabetically by department:

Bible	Fine Arts	Physical Education	Special Programs
Business	Foreign Language	Science	Technology
English	Mathematics	Social Studies	

**BIBLE** (8 credits required to graduate) .. 1 credit each semester enrolled

## **Bible 9 - Bible Doctrines/Study Methods**

This course will acquaint the students with basic Bible doctrines. They will learn what doctrines are, their importance and value. They will develop scriptural support for each doctrine; God - Jesus Christ- Holy Spirit- Scripture- Salvation- End Times- Church- Creation- Nature of Man/Sin- Angels/Satan. Students will be taught in harmony with the DMCS Statement of Faith. We will discuss difficult issues without indoctrinating.

Students will learn about the development of the Bible and the formation of the canon of scripture, how we got what we have and use today. The second aspect of this course is for the students to learn and apply principles and methods of studying the Bible. As we learn a variety of Bible study methods we will be using them to dig into the riches and depth of scripture. And as a Bible study method we will be memorizing select passages of the Bible.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> grade

## **Bible 10 – Christian World View/Ethics**

Students will be trained in understanding world views. They will formulate and integrate into their lives a Christian World View, which will apply to all areas of learning and life. Students will also develop an ability to understand ethical systems, the difference between Christian ethics and other ethical systems, and to give students a method of determining the ethical, Christian choice for dilemmas facing the world today. Students will, through class discussion, worksheets, and papers, give practical demonstration of applying Biblical principles.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> grade

**Bible 11 – Apologetics/Church History**

The students will study scripture concerning the defense of our faith, grounding each student in his/her Biblical beliefs. These students will become knowledgeable in current philosophies and demonstrate an ability to give reasoned Biblical answers to the philosophies and issues in our world today. They will come to an understanding of various counterfeit religions (mainly Islam) and false world philosophies as they relate to Biblical Christianity. Through readings, projects, videos, lectures, assignments and discussion they will develop Biblical apologetic skills. The students will deepen their knowledge and understanding of the doctrines of Heaven, Hell, and the Holy Spirit while defending those Biblical and orthodox views.

The students will study the major roles, influences, and movements of the church from the martyrdom of Stephen to the English Reformation. A major emphasis will be placed upon the individuals that God has called to carry forth His mission and the dramatic events that have changed the faith and understanding of Christianity.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> grade

**Bible 12 – Romans/Senior Seminar**

The students will study the major themes, doctrines, messages, and directives of the book of Romans chapters one through fourteen. The students will also study the life of Paul as an introduction to the book of Romans along with the historical context of the Roman culture to which Paul writes.

The senior seminar class is designed as the culminating experience in the Bible department. Students have taken multiple years of Bible content leading up to the senior year and now will have an opportunity to apply what they have learned. There is no additional content provided in this class. Students will have opportunities to create experiences in which to apply their Bible knowledge. Examples include logging community service hours, writing and illustrating a children's book which outlines the gospel message, writing their personal theology statement, creating a project of their own choosing, and doing a book study on a Christian book. Students may benefit from a flexible schedule for this class as they will need time to work on these various projects throughout the semester. The final project for this class will be presented publicly to a mixed group of peers, faculty and school board members.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	12 <sup>th</sup> grade

## **BUSINESS** (0 credits required to graduate)

### **Accounting**

Accounting is for students with a variety of career objectives. Some students desire beginning vocational preparation for accounting careers while others look forward to careers in related business fields for which mastery of some accounting knowledge, understanding, and application is needed. Students have an opportunity to enter accounting data into automated programs like those found in the workplace. This course provides a firm foundation for any student entering a business field.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Introduction to Business**

This course is for those students who are considering pursuing some type of business interest in college or who have an interest in learning more about the business world. Topics to be discussed will include: business organization, marketing, and management. Throughout the semester students will be creating a business plan which will be presented to local business people at the end of the semester.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Personal Finance**

This course is designed to help students learn about various financial decisions they will be faced with in life. Some of the topics to be covered include: budgeting, savings, investments, insurance, and debt. This course will be built around Dave Ramsey's Foundations in Personal Finance high school curriculum.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

**ENGLISH** (8 credits required to graduate) + **SPEECH** (1 credit required to graduate)

### **English 9**

This course provides a thorough review of basic grammar, usage, and vocabulary, as well as an introduction to advanced grammar concepts such as clauses, phrases, and sentence structure. Students will go through the steps of the writing process and write a variety of pieces ranging from paragraphs to essays, including an original short story. Students will learn to go beyond simple reading comprehension and will begin to practice literary interpretation and analysis. Students will read a variety of works including poems, short stories, plays, Scripture, and novels. Larger works include *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Crucible*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **English 10**

This course provides a thorough review of advanced grammar concepts such as clauses, phrases, and sentence structure. Students will also continue to broaden their vocabulary through the learning of etymology. Students will continue to strengthen their writing skills by writing a variety of pieces ranging from paragraphs to essays, including an in-depth literary analysis of a worship song. Students will continue to practice literary analysis of pieces including poems, short stories, plays, Scripture, and novels. Larger works include the book of Genesis, Greek Mythology, *Antigone* by Sophocles, and Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **American Literature**

This course is a study of American literature, from the histories, biographies, and journals of the earliest colonists to the poetry and prose of our modern writers. Students will analyze fiction and non-fiction through the lens of history, literary criticism, and thematic ideas that appear over and again throughout American literature. Socratic discussions will be the principal approach to literary analysis. Students will increase their understanding of formal grammar usage through their written work (i.e. answers to study/essay questions, vocabulary study, and formal compositions). Students will also gain proficiency in their oral communication through interaction in Socratic discussions and oral presentations.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **British Literature**

This course surveys the literature of England from the Anglo-Saxon period to the modern era. The emphasis is on developing better critical thinking and writing skills through analyzing, discussing, and writing about literature. Students will learn and apply various literary terms to their related genres of literature, for the purpose of discussion and literary analysis. Students will enhance their understanding of formal grammar usage and apply it to their written work (i.e., answers to study/essay questions, vocabulary sentences, and essays). Students will gain proficiency in their oral communication skills through various oral presentations.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	12 <sup>th</sup> grade	English 9 & 10

### **AP Literature and Composition**

This class focuses on the critical reading of the various genres of literature. Students will develop their abilities to read, analyze, and interpret a variety of short stories, novels, poems, and plays (mostly British and American) written over a period of time that dates from the Renaissance to the modern era. The main objective is to prepare students to take the AP exam in May, for which students may earn up to six hours of college credit (one semester each of a general writing and literature course).

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	12 <sup>th</sup> grade; 11 <sup>th</sup> grade by invitation	American Lit (waived for JRs), summer reading and 3.5 GPA

### **Composition I** .. can be taken for dual credit through DMACC (3 credit hours each class)

This course introduces students to college writing and is designed to help students read and write effectively. Students will construct and revise a series of writings; primarily expository but not excluding persuasive. In addition, the class includes effective reading and research techniques that may include library and computer-based skills. This course is taught from a Biblical worldview perspective but is equivalent to English 105 at DMACC.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	English 9 & 10

### **Composition II:** can be taken for dual credit through DMACC (3 credit hours each class)

Expository and persuasive writing developed through critical reading. The course explores structure, style, research and documentation. This course is taught from a Biblical worldview perspective but is equivalent to English 106 at DMACC.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Comp I

### **Creative Writing** .. can be taken for dual credit through DMACC (3 credit hours)

This course gives students the chance to create other forms of written work, which are creative and not expository in nature. Students examine a selection from each of the major areas of study and then seek to pattern their work after the “masters.” Areas of study include the short story, playwriting and dramatic production, poetry, and the novelette. This course is offered on an every other year basis.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	English 10

### **Speech**

This course will survey the various types/aspects of communication (i.e., listening, verbal, nonverbal, intra-personal, interpersonal, small group, public, mass, and intercultural), with an emphasis on developing public speaking skills. Students will learn the basic elements of the communication process, and the role each of these elements plays in communication effectiveness. Students will also develop their skills in speech preparation and performance competency as they prepare a variety of speeches and present them before a live audience.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	English 9 & 10

## **FINE ARTS** (1 credit required to graduate)

### **Art I**

This beginning high school art class is designed to assist students in developing a sense of visual design and self-expression. Within the areas included are art history, art criticism, aesthetics, and the product of artwork. Creative behaviors are encouraged, such as divergent thinking, problem solving, and craftsmanship. Specific media students work with include: painting, ceramics, printmaking, fibers, lettering, drawing, crafts, advertising & design, and mixed media.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Art 2, 3 and 4**

Continuing Art students will focus on medias of interest while working in a studio atmosphere with the freedom to select their creative challenges. They must complete 8 large projects each semester and produce artwork ready to enter in art competitions and shows.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Art 1

### **Senior Art**

Senior Art students will focus on medias of interest while working in a studio atmosphere with the freedom to select their creative challenges. They must complete 8 large projects each semester and produce artwork ready to enter in art competitions. With the work produced (along with previous work) the student will create a collection of work for display at the All School Art Show.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year; 2 days/wk (1 reg + 1 block)	1	12 <sup>th</sup> grade – SRs wanting to participate in Senior Art Show.	Art 1

### **Digital Photography** – *Can be used to satisfy the Fine Arts credit **or** a Technology credit.*

Students will learn the basic of digital photography in conjunction with the elements and principles of art. Topics will include basic camera operation, composition, light, computer editing, and presentation along with a brief history of photography and careers in the field. The camera along with the computer will become instruments to explore visual communication effectively. This course requires a digital camera with manual shooting modes.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 semester (offered once each year)	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Concert Band**

This course is designed to develop a student's basic working knowledge of instrumental music fundamentals. It is open to all students with previous instruction on wind or percussion instruments. Students learn basic, intermediate and advanced theory. To receive a solid music education, students are expected to participate the entire year in marching band, concert band and pep band. Students are asked to perform outside of the regular school day three times a year for concert band, and 3-4 times a year for concerts. Additional fees may come with concert band that are not covered by the activity fee.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade



### **Concert Choir**

Concert Choir is open to all students in grades \*9-12. Students learn sight-reading and some basic theory along with developing a healthy singing technique through individual and small group voice lessons throughout the school year. We also introduce some major choral works. Students are tested each semester on sight reading, identifying some major and minor keys, and singing selected repertoire from memory. Students will perform outside of the regular school day approximately two times a year.

\*Choir 9 is a separate class for freshman. Performances will be with the full Concert Choir.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Jazz Band**

Jazz Ensemble is an auditioned group that plays a wide variety of “jazz” music from swing, Latin, funk and the blues. Students commit to extra rehearsals, competitions and other engagements outside the regular school day. Additional fees may come with jazz band that are not covered by the activity fee. Concert Band membership is required of all jazz band members. Jazz Band meets during the Early Bird class period. See teacher syllabus for details.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Audition

### **Music Theory**

Music Theory deals with the mechanics of music and is designed to provide a thorough understanding of everything on the musical written page. It will include all major + minor keys and scales, all phases of rhythm, sight-reading, interval + chord reading, melodic + rhythmic dictation and the beginnings of analysis in 4 part writing. Students will develop the ability to recognize, understand and describe the basic materials and processes of music that are heard or presented in a score through ear training, sight singing, analysis, composition and rhythmic studies. The course is designed to cover the scope of work that would be equivalent to that of first year college courses in music theory.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Previous music instruction or experience preferred

### **Victory**

Victory is a select vocal ensemble which sings a wide variety of music. Students commit to extra rehearsals, performance and ministry engagements. Additional fees come with special group outings. Students are tested on sight-reading, basic theory, as well as singing selected repertoire from memory. Victory meets during the Early Bird class period. See teacher syllabus for details.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	audition

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE** (0 credits required to graduate)

Many four-year colleges and universities require two years of a single foreign language for admission. Some may require students to complete four years of a foreign language to graduate. This requirement is often waived if a student has completed four years of one language in high school with a C- average.

**Spanish I**

Students will be introduced to the basics of the Spanish language and culture. They will develop novice level skills in listening, speaking, reading, and writing the Spanish language. They will learn basic vocabulary such as telling time, basic nouns, greetings, numbers, colors, everyday verbs and objects. They will develop some awareness of and appreciation for the Hispanic culture as found around the world.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

**Spanish II**

This course is a continuation of basic Spanish with emphasis on developing better language skills. Students will learn more advanced grammar. More vocabulary will be introduced covering such topics as daily routines, giving advice, hobbies, entertainment, household chores, health, and eating in restaurants. Cultural studies will also continue.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 1

**Spanish III**

This course is for the student who wants to continue study of the Spanish language. A wider vocabulary is developed and there is more emphasis on language structure. Students do more reading and complete a video unit consisting of a familiar movie presented in Spanish with activities involving vocabulary, speaking skills, and writing skills.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 2

**Spanish IV**

For the student who wants to study more Spanish, this course is a continuation of the Spanish III material with increased language development. More advanced reading and cultural material will be covered.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Spanish 3

## **HEALTH** (2 credits required to graduate)

### **Health 1**

Students will examine their lifestyles, select goals, and make plans to achieve and maintain optimum health. Students will be encouraged to choose behaviors that help prevent illness and accidents, promote health or improve the quality of the environment. Health provides current facts in areas of mental health, family and social health, nutrition, exercise and fitness, drugs, safety and first aid, and community and environmental health.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Health 2**

This course is a continuation of Health I, to be taken the student's junior or senior year. Students will continue to look at issues of their physical, mental/emotional, and social health related to the use of tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Child development topics are also discussed.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

## **MATHEMATICS** (6 credits required to graduate)

Many four year colleges and universities want to see a 4th year, higher level math class on an admissions application.

### **Algebra I**

This course sets a strong, solid foundation in working with negative numbers and proceeds to introduce algebraic concepts of variables, functions, relations, polynomials, systems of equations and inequalities, rational exponents, and quadratic equations.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	8 <sup>th</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> or 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	Pre-Algebra

### **Geometry**

This course covers plane geometry. Both deductive and inductive reasoning is emphasized. Proofs are written after first developing reasoning and logic skills.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 1

### **Algebra II**

This course completes the automation of the fundamental skills of algebra and is designed to meet the needs of college-bound students. It is the springboard to advanced math concepts.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Geometry

### **Pre-Calculus/Trig**

This is a mathematical problem-solving course. The precalculus involves but is not limited to functions (polynomial, rational, exponential and logarithmic), systems of equations and inequalities, and sequences and series. The trigonometry sections use both the right triangle and unit circle approach. Polar coordinates and vectors are also studied.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Algebra 2

### **AP Calculus AB** .. can be taken for dual credit through DMACC (3 credit hours)

This is a rigorous college level course covering all topics required for the AB Advanced Placement calculus exam plus all required DMACC competencies for Calculus I. The areas of study include graph analysis, limits of functions, continuity of functions, derivatives at a point and as a function, integration and techniques of anti-differentiation. *Students may receive college credit upon successful completion of the AP Exam or by opting to take this course as a dual credit course.*

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Pre-Calc & Instructor

## **PHYSICAL EDUCATION** (2 credits required to graduate)

### **Fitness P.E.**

**EB Fitness:** Involves mainly anaerobic conditioning using weights and one's body weight. Multiple weight training regimens will be used. The instructor will tailor a program for each student taking into consideration their fitness goals

**Fitness P.E.:** Involves both anaerobic and aerobic conditioning. Weights, fitness videos, calisthenics, and running regimens will be used.

<b>EB:</b> M/W/F..7:25-8:05	LENGTH 1 semester	CREDITS .5	OPTIONAL 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
<b>1<sup>st</sup> PERIOD:</b> M/T/W/F	1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Physical Education**

The high school physical education program is designed to encourage maximum participation in physical activity and also to prepare students for activities they can use for a lifetime of physical fitness.

The activities currently offered in PE are softball, flag football, indoor and outdoor soccer, basketball, volleyball, indoor floor hockey, badminton, pickle ball, eclipse ball, archery, lacrosse, weight lifting and other fitness activities as deemed appropriate and beneficial by the instructor.

LENGTH 1 semester	CREDITS 1	OPTIONAL 9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade
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## **SCIENCE** (6 credits required to graduate)

### **Physical Science**

Physical Science is the study of matter and energy and includes chemistry and physics. It is a basis for the further study of chemistry and physics. Labs or investigations are used to give students hands on learning and practical applications as well as to teach the material. Math is very important to science students and calculators should be brought and used in class. Topics that will be studied include: matter, the periodic table, elements, mixtures, compounds, chemical reactions, light and electromagnetic spectrum, energy, heat, motion, Newton's laws and momentum.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade

### **Biology**

This is a general introductory biology course. Topics that will be studied include: cells, genetics and heredity, botany, zoology, ecosystems, microorganisms, basic anatomy and physiology, and creations/evolution. Labs or investigations are used. Students will be able to look at any aspect of Biology that we have studied and determine how that subject is related to the Bible.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade

### **Chemistry**

This is a general introductory chemistry course. The students will become familiar with the following areas of study: Introduction to Chemistry and Matter, Organization of Matter, Language of Chemistry, and Phases of Chemistry. Labs or investigations are used. The successful completion of this course will allow the student to have the groundwork necessary to be prepared for their first year college chemistry course. The student will be given the opportunity to see the amazing design of our universe that should give them a desire to seek out the Creator

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Physical Sci & Algebra 1

### **Anatomy/Physiology**

During the 2015-2016 school year, we will utilize the online A & P class through Iowa Learning Online.

Anatomy/Physiology is designed for students planning to enter the medical field. This class will study in depth the human body systems and how they interact with each other. This is an upper level course.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Biology

### **AP Chemistry**

This is a rigorous academic program built on the commitment, passion and hard work of students and educators from both secondary schools and higher education. This course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year. For some students, this course enables them to take second-year chemistry work their freshman year in college. For other students, the AP Chemistry course fulfills the laboratory science requirements and frees time for other courses. *Students **may** receive college credit upon successful completion of the AP Exam. The exam is optional, but highly encouraged as the exam and exam preparation are an integral aspect of the course goals and design*

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Chemistry

### **Physics**

This is a general introductory physics course. Students will become familiar with the following areas of study: Introduction and Mathematical Concepts, Linear and Rotational Kinematics, Forces and Work, Energy and Motion, and Electric Forces. This course will assist students to develop their critical thinking skills, including but not limited to general problem solving, the break down of complex problems into workable parts, the use of math to solve problems, and working with other students to solve complex problems. Labs or investigations are used. The student will be given the opportunity to see the amazing design of our universe that should give them a desire to seek out the Creator.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Physical Sci & Algebra 2

**SOCIAL STUDIES** (6 credits required to graduate; includes 1 credit each of American Government and Economics)

**United States History**

This course surveys nearly 500 years of American history and emphasizes the Judeo-Christian foundations and influence on the American nation. Beginning with exploration and colonization, students will explore the major events and trends in American history through the most recent times. The approach is conceptual, emphasizing cause and effect relationships in history and utilizing evaluation and decision-making skills.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	9 <sup>th</sup> grade

**World History**

This course provides students with a broad background in the history of mankind from creation to the present. Emphasis will be placed on cultures up through the Middle Ages in the first semester and continue with post-Middle ages in the second semester. The main theme running through the course is the effect on history by people created in God's image who are also sinful. A chronological and cultural approach will be used.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 year	2	10 <sup>th</sup> grade

**American Government**

The course is designed to give the student an in-depth view of state and national government. The Constitution and its changes along with the current judicial interpretations will also be included in this study. A special emphasis will be given to the role of a Christian in the current political process.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	US History

**Economics**

This course will give each student a basic knowledge of micro, macro and consumer economics with a Biblically based view. Students will gain an ability to understand current economic events and how they affect our government, international decisions and history. Students will become more Christ centered in their decision making.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade



### **Psychology**

This course will introduce students to the history of psychology and the theoretical knowledge needed to understand psychology. Theories, both secular and Christian, will be analyzed by their relationship to Scripture. A common theme in the course is humanity striving to understand themselves and their relationship to others in God's Kingdom.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Sociology**

Sociology focuses on the study of human relationships and how we interact within our own society, in terms of group relationships, and the roles individuals play within groups. Students will examine society using Biblical principles. The course will prepare students to accept cultures different than their own and understand the cultural relevance of each.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **AP US History**

A thorough study of our country's political, social, diplomatic and economic history will be done, including our founding fathers Christian perspectives and the impact they had. Students will assess historical material, their relevance to a given interpretive problem, their reliability, and importance. They will learn skills necessary to give answers to questions relating to US History in both essay and document based forms. *Students **may** receive college credit upon successful completion of the AP Exam. The exam is optional.*

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 year	2	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	US History, Instructor approval & 3.0 GPA

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS** (0 credits required to graduate) .. Students may receive 1 credit from a Special Program *per semester*.

### **Internship/Work Study**

DMCS may award credit to students who pursue Internships and/or Work Studies. These opportunities must be pre-approved. Please see the Academic Advisor or Principal if you have an opportunity you'd like to discuss.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	3.0 GPA & preapproval

### **Talented & Gifted**

TAG as a class is intended to allow students the opportunity to learn more about themselves and to explore interests which are not available through the traditional school program. This class is significantly individualized. Seventy-five percent of the semester grade is based upon individual project designs. Each class member creates his/her own project topic, format, evaluation and timeline for completion. The instructor provides guidance in the project design, facilitates the completion of the project, and assists the student in assessing whether his/her objectives were fulfilled. In addition to working on their individual projects, students will have the opportunity to participate in group activities on a regular basis. TAG students will prepare for and participate in academic competitions, such as Knowledge Bowl. Group projects will be designed to increase a student's self-awareness, creativity, and high level thinking skills.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Former TAG student or testing

### **Teacher Aide/Office Aide**

Aides will assist either elementary or secondary teachers or office staff in preparing bulletin boards, copying, collating and stapling materials, reading to students, grading papers, or listening to Elementary students practice their reading skills; other tasks as assigned. Students must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher in order to participate in this course. TA's are Pass/Fail. Attendance is taken and factors into earning the credit. (*See separate TA Responsibilities in Student Handbook.*)

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

**Audio Technology** – Assistant to Technology Coach – *Credit can be used to satisfy Tech credit or Elective*

This course is designed to provide students with the technical skills necessary to operate a sound and/or audio visual system. Students will be involved in setting up and coordinating chapels and special events.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Instructor approval

## **TECHNOLOGY** (2 credits required to graduate)

### **Computer Application I**

This introductory course explores the many uses of the personal computer. It provides a hands-on-experience with computer software applications. MS Word and Excel will be utilized.

LENGTH	CREDITS	REQUIRED
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade

### **Computer Application II**

This builds on Computer Applications I. Microsoft Access, Publisher and Power Point will be utilized.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Computer Apps 1

### **Computer Graphics I**

Students will be introduced to Graphic Design as a form of visual communication through the use of type, image, form, color, and visual hierarchy. Students will explore Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and other computer applications to manipulate images and create inventive design solutions for a variety of projects. Students will be required to produce a portfolio of all work completed in the semester.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Art 1 & Comp Apps 1

### **Computer Graphics II ..**

A continuation of CG I. Students will continue building on skills and knowledge of Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop and other computer applications to manipulate images and create inventive design solutions for a variety of tasks. Students will be required to produce a portfolio of work from the semester.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	9 <sup>th</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Comp Graphics 1

### **Computer Graphics III**

Students will build on skills from CG 2, producing a portfolio of all work completed in the semester.

LENGTH	CREDITS	OPTIONAL	PREREQUISITE
1 semester	1	10 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> or 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	Comp Graphics 2

### **Digital Photography** (see Fine Arts)

# JUNIOR HIGH COURSE GUIDE

## JH Electives .. for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders

- Junior High Band
- Junior High Jazz Band - meets two mornings per week during Early Bird (7:25-8:10am)
- Junior High Choir
- Talented and Gifted (TAG) .. Invitation only; based on COGAT scores; replaces exploratories.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Courses

### Bible 7

This course is designed to examine and study the Old Testament books from Genesis to Esther—Creation and early human history; the history of Israel; the covenants; the Exodus; entry into the Promised Land; the time of the Judges; the rule of the Kings; the dispersing and return to Israel; and the thread of Messianic prophecy.

The student will come to have knowledge of Jesus Christ as the promised Messiah and Savior of the World and salvation through His blood and finished work on the Cross. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. The students will also demonstrate an understanding of discipleship.

### Geography

Students will locate the major countries, landforms, water forms, as well as many of the world's landmarks. They will be able to relate history, politics and economics to the development of a culture of both the past and the present. Students will also gain an understanding of events of one region and their affect on other regions of the world. They will also be able to understand how a region's geography affects a people's way of life.

### Language Arts 7

Students study the stories and literary elements of *A Christmas Carol*, *D'Aulaires's Book of Greek Myths*, and *The Magician's Nephew*, as well as a variety of short stories, poems, articles, hymns, and Bible passages. Students will study Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes to strengthen their vocabulary skills, and go through the steps of the writing process to produce informative, persuasive, and creative pieces. Grammar is emphasized as students master the parts of speech and proper punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure.

### Life Science

Students explore and experience scientific classification, cell structure, ecological relationships, origins, and human systems. Through the use of selected readings, research, class and group discussion, group and individual projects, and utilization of scientific inquiry and experimentation.

### Physical Education .. exempt for students enrolled in both Band and Choir.

Meets two or three days per week depending on semester - alternating with study hall on opposite days.

Math – Placement is determined by recommendation of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade math teacher. Each student's individual ability and pace needs will be considered. In most cases, one of the following will be taken:

**Math 7** .. This course sets a strong foundation in working with fractions, decimals, & positive and negative numbers. It will proceed to work on exponents, statistics, equations and inequalities, percents, and geometry. The course will also focus on using different problem solving strategies.

**Pre-Algebra** .. The students will master the foundations for a solid mathematical understanding which will prepare them for a successful experience in high school mathematics. Algebraic and geometric concepts will be integrated in to every unit and meaningful connections will be made to real-world problem solving.

Exploratories .. These courses are designed as brief exposure to different areas of study. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will rotate through:

**Spanish 7** (1 semester)

**Music** (1/2 semester)

**Technology** (1/2 semester)

\*TAG students will replace their exploratories with TAG class.

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Required Courses

### Bible 8

Students will understand an overview of the New Testament. They will understand and be able to name each book, its author and give its basic outline and primary theme. They will know the geography involved in the NT and the missionary journeys of Paul. They will understand the historical context of each book and its impact on our world today. The students will discover the awesome and incredible plan of God through the ages and will memorize selected passages and read sections of the NT.

The students will also be able to understand the divisions of the Old Testament between the books of Poetry, Major and Minor Prophets. They will see the awesome provision of God for His people as well as His Holiness and Sovereignty. They will experience the majestic worship and emotion between God and His people. They will know the historical and geographical context of each book, the author, the intended audience and its purpose. They will be able to state the major divisions and themes of each book. They will understand the dual nature of prophecy, its interpretation and observe the application. They will also memorize passages from this section of scripture as well as reading select books.

### Civics

Students will distinguish between different types of political systems and economic systems found in the world today. They will understand the workings of our United States governmental system and their role as a citizen within it. Students will also understand the Christian heritage behind our government. Students will learn how to engage with current events through a Biblical worldview.

### Earth Science

We study astronomy, geology, meteorology, oceanography, and origins from a Christian perspective.

### Language Arts 8

Students study literary texts such as Shakespeare's *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, and *The 21 Balloons*, as well as a variety of short stories, poems, articles, hymns, and Bible passages. Student continue to learn Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes, and various informative, persuasive, and creative writing pieces lay a foundation for writing at the high school level. Grammar study is more intensive as students review concepts from previous years and continue to broaden their knowledge of the parts of speech and proper mechanics.

### Physical Education .. *exempt for students enrolled in both Band and Choir.*

Meets two or three days per week depending on semester - alternates with study hall on opposite days.

Math .. determined by the level passed in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, one of the following will be taken:

**Pre-Algebra** .. The students will master the foundations for a solid mathematical understanding which will prepare them for a successful experience in high school mathematics. Algebraic and geometric concepts will be integrated in to every unit and meaningful connections will be made to real-world problem solving.

**Algebra I – JH** .. earns 2 high school credits

This course sets a strong, solid foundation in working with negative numbers and proceeds to introduce algebraic concepts of variables, functions, relations, polynomials, systems of equations and inequalities, rational exponents, and quadratic equations.

Exploratories .. These courses are designed as brief exposure to different areas of study. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will rotate through:

**Spanish 8** (1 semester)

**Art** (1/2 semester)

**Transitions** (1/2 semester)

\*TAG students will replace exploratories with TAG class.