



# Course Descriptions

2017 - 2018

48 Bartlett Avenue  
Lexington, MA 02420

# English Courses

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## Overview of middle school language arts program:

The middle school language arts program weaves together four strands of language learning: literature, grammar, vocabulary, and writing. Emphasis is on enjoying the play of words in literature and in everyday speech, on honing self-editing and rewriting skills, and gaining an ever-greater command of the English language for both written and oral communications. Students study a variety of literature including poetry, short stories, novels, non-fiction, and drama.

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## Language & Literature 6

## Grade 6

In Language & Literature 6, students focus on the overarching theme of “The Search for Self. Students will analyze literature by genre including mythology, poetry, and novels with an emphasis on the techniques used by professional writers for communicating effectively. Students are taught a variety of reading strategies to develop greater comprehension of and appreciation for good literature, drawing connections between literature and their lives, while also encouraging the continued development of reading for pleasure. The writing program is a “Writer’s Workshop” approach focusing on the 6 Traits of Writing: organization, idea development, voice, sentence fluency, word choice, and conventions. Writing assignments will often be a response to literature, primarily including paragraph, essay, and creative writing. Major projects may include essays, research and multimedia presentations, and creative visual projects, with an emphasis on the development of both oral and written communication using 21<sup>st</sup> century literacy skills. Assessments are geared to giving students a firm foundation in all of the components required in language arts.

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## Language & Literature 7

## Grade 7

Language and Literature 7 will focus on the overarching theme of “The Search for our Role in Community.” Students analyze literature by genre including non-fiction, short stories, poetry, drama, and novels with an emphasis on the techniques used by professional writers for communicating effectively. Students are taught a variety of reading strategies to develop greater comprehension of and appreciation for good literature, drawing connections between literature and their lives, while also encouraging the continued development of reading for pleasure.

The writing program is a “Writer’s Workshop” approach focusing on the 6 Traits of Writing: organization, idea development, voice, sentence fluency, word choice, and conventions. Writing assignments will often be a response to literature, primarily including essay and creative writing. Major projects may include writing a short story, a screenplay, oral interpretations, multimedia presentations, and creative visual projects.

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**Language & Literature 8****Grade 8**

Language & Literature 8 will focus on the overarching theme of “The Search for Justice and Redemption” by reading a variety of literature from many cultures and places in the world. Students analyze literature by genre including non-fiction, short stories, poetry, drama, and novels with an emphasis on the techniques used by professional writers for communicating effectively. Students are taught a variety of reading strategies to develop greater comprehension of and appreciation for good literature, drawing connections between literature and their lives, while also encouraging the continued development of reading for pleasure.

The writing program is a “Writer’s Workshop” approach focusing on the 6 Traits of Writing: organization, idea development, voice, sentence fluency, word choice, and conventions. Writing assignments will often be a response to literature, primarily including essay and creative writing. Major projects may include a “This I Believe” essay and presentation, multimedia presentations, creative visual projects, and an extensive multi-genre portfolio project on WW II in conjunction with U.S. History. Students will use a variety of technology tools including Interactive Study Guides, WebQuests, and wikis to enhance their knowledge and skills. Assessments will be geared toward preparing students for the rigor of high school English classes.

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**Foundations of Language and Literature****Grade 9  
1 Credit**

Foundations of Language and Literature is a college preparatory course which focuses on communication skills and literature. Literature is taught as a genre study with emphasis on literary forms and techniques. Students will be challenged to apply to their lives the ideas presented in the literature. They will develop their Christian world-and-life-view as they are guided through materials written by both Christian and non-Christian authors. The works have recognized literary merit in the literary canon and address a variety of themes.

Communication skills will be taught through grammar, vocabulary, public speaking, essay and research writing, and creative projects. The emphasis in all areas is on using language Christianly; that is, honestly and effectively to build up other people and to glorify God.

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**World Literature – CP & H****Grade 10  
1 Credit**

World Literature is a survey course in world literature and culture. Students study masterpieces of world literature in translation, analyzing the role of cultural and historical placement, the world- and life-view of the author, and the relationship between literature and their own lives. Students continue to develop their Christian perspective as they are guided through materials by both Christian and non-Christian authors. The works to be studied have status in the literary canon, address a variety of themes, and present various historical periods, cultures, and geographical locations.

Skills will be taught primarily through the writing of essays, research papers, and oral presentations. Students will master language mechanics, diversify sentence structure and build vocabulary to prepare the students for the SAT and other related tests. The emphasis in all areas is on using language Christianly; that is, honestly and effectively in order to edify other people and to glorify God.

Admission to the honors course is by invitation only. Transfer students will be required to submit a writing sample for review by the English department. The pace of the honors course is noticeably faster; more texts are covered; writing is more intensive, with a focus on close, argumentative analysis.

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**American Literature – CP & H****Grade 11  
1 Credit**

American Literature is a survey of American literature and a communication skills course. Students will explore the major epochs in American literary history and develop a comprehensive understanding of American culture and philosophy by studying the literature that each era produced. Students will learn to think critically about the American worldview by reading the works of both Christian and non-Christian authors from each time period, analyzing their works in light of biblical truth. All the works selected have outstanding literary merit, address a variety of themes and represent a wide range of cultural viewpoints.

Students will develop their communication skills in a variety of ways. They will study vocabulary and grammar, design and give oral presentations, write and revise analytical essays and research papers and prepare for the SAT. In addition, honors-level students will begin to prepare for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Test. All writing and language skills assignments are designed to further the student's ability to use the gift of language to the glory of God.

Admission to the honors course is by invitation only. Transfer students will be required to submit a writing sample for review by the English department. The pace of the honors course is noticeably faster; more texts are covered; writing is more intensive, with a focus on close, argumentative analysis. Students will also begin preparation for the Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition Test; however, taking this course does not ensure an invitation into Advanced Placement British Literature.

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**AP English Language & Composition****Grade 11  
1.25 Credit**

The purpose of the AP English Language and Composition course is to enable students to read complex texts with understanding and to write prose of sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers. Students will be encouraged to move beyond an emphasis on writing structure toward an emphasis on content, purpose, and audience, which will guide the organization of their writing. In this class, students will read a significant amount of nonfiction prose and will study the rhetorical devices of these essays and personal narratives. Added to this study of rhetoric and composition is a blend of poetry, short stories, novels and plays, mostly by American authors. Students who take this course are being prepared to take the AP English Language and Composition test and are committed to taking this AP exam in the spring. Students who do not want to prepare for this AP exam, but who want a full survey of American literature should consider the American literature honors course.

The AP English Language and Composition course is distinct from the AP English Literature and Composition course, which is offered in the senior year. The AP English Language and Composition course focuses on the study of nonfiction writing and rhetoric and is meant to emulate a college level introductory composition class. The AP English Literature and Composition course focuses on the analysis of literature and analytical writing, and it is meant to emulate a college level introduction to literature.

Admission to the AP English Language and Composition course is dependent on a number of factors including the student's performance in Honors World Literature.

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**Creative Writing – Elective****Grades 10-12****Prerequisite – Approval by current English teacher****.50 Credit**

Creative Writing is an elective course that functions as an introduction to various forms of creative writing, including short fiction/non-fiction, poetry, and drama. Students will participate in reading and writing assignments focused on developing techniques specific to the many types of creative writing, as well as participate in regular writers' workshops. The emphasis in all areas is on using language Christianly; that is, honestly and effectively in order to edify other people and to glorify God.

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## **12<sup>th</sup> Grade English:**

**Core classes:** all students are enrolled in core classes.

- First semester: all students take a British literature core.
- Second semester: all honors students take Honors English Seminar;
- AP students are enrolled in a full-year course which includes the 2nd semester

### **British Literature Honors**

**Grade 12  
.50 Credit**

English for grade 12 Honors students is a survey of British literature and history during the first semester of their senior year. The class will explore the development of the rich, multi-layered English language and its literature through a historical survey of British culture and literary works. Students will consider how language and society impact each other and how the values of different time periods are reflected in their stories. By studying the writing and ideas of great British writers and thinkers, students will also stretch and develop their own literary, intellectual, and expressive powers. More importantly, students will explore the vast scope and power of the written and spoken word, consider how we have used the gift of language for good and ill throughout history, and discuss how we, as Christians, are called to use language righteously.

Writing, communication, and research skills will be taught through a variety of short analytical essays and creative writing pieces; individual and group presentations on aspects of major works and British history; the interpretation, production, and performance of a scene from Shakespeare; and a formal literary term paper.

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### **Honors English Elective:**

**.50 Credit**

Honors English Seminar is a second semester course for 12<sup>th</sup> grade students who will have the opportunity to create their own curriculum with certain guidelines. The semester will therefore be planned according to each section's interests. The goal of the seminar is to focus on three major ways of story-telling in Post-Modern culture: the cinema, the novel, and the play. Each section will be given choices of texts based on each of these categories, and then the class will democratically vote for the texts they would like to read/view and critically study for the semester.

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## **Advanced Placement English Literature**

**Grade 12  
1.25 Credit**

This course is by invitation only, based on a number of factors which include the student's performance in 11th Grade AP or American Literature. AP English Literature is a challenging college-level survey course of British Literature and its history. Students read many more texts; writing is intensive with a focus on literary technique and in-depth close/argumentative analysis. Students are prepared for the AP exam and are encouraged to commit to taking it in the spring. Students who are selected for this course have demonstrated a higher level of thought, independence, and commitment to the study of literature; they have also demonstrated a significant progression in their writing and critical thinking, as well as promise in this subject area.

Writing and research skills are furthered through timed essay tests, papers, and creative writing pieces while effectively integrating British history, literary genres, and cultural influences. The interpretation, production, and performance of a scene from Shakespeare and a formal literary term paper are also required.

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## **Publications**

**Grades 10-12  
.50 Credit**

Students in this course publish the Lantern, the Academy's yearbook, as well as the Cadence, the school's literary journal published for the Spring Fine Arts Festival. They learn design, layout, copy writing, photo scanning, and cropping, using the Yearbook Publisher's web-based tool. Further, students learn valuable independent project management skills.

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## **Public Speaking**

**Grades 10-12  
.50 Credit**

This course is designed to help students develop the skills necessary to succeed in a variety of public speaking contexts. Students will explore the techniques of verbal and non-verbal communications as they learn how to construct and deliver informative and persuasive speeches. Particular emphasis will be placed on helping students find their voice and learn to express themselves with confidence to groups both small and large.

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## **Math Courses**

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### **Math Course 2**

**Grade 6**

This course uses the Common Core curriculum and an investigative approach to help students learn basic operations on signed integers, decimals and fractions, learn the use of percents, improve their understanding of geometry, and learn the concepts of ratio, rate, and proportion. Students learn the basic topics of algebra (formulas, variables, expressions, equations), work with the coordinate plane, and use scales and conversion factors to solve real-world problems. Throughout the course, applying problem-solving strategies to solve new problems and to analyze data is emphasized. A scientific calculator is used as a tool, though proficiency in computational skills is required.

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### **Pre-Algebra**

**Grades 6 & 7**

**Prerequisite: Course 2**

This course is designed for seventh grade students who have taken Math Course 2 and for sixth graders who qualify based on entrance test scores and teacher recommendations. Using Common Core curriculum and an investigative approach, students improve their ability to perform operations on signed rational numbers by evaluating expressions and solving equations using algebraic manipulation. Their work with variables, expressions, equations including graphing linear equations, inequalities, and polynomials gives students the tools necessary for success in Algebra I. They expand their understanding of ratio and proportion by using similarity in geometry. Students learn to evaluate square roots while using the Pythagorean Theorem. Their knowledge of exponents is used to introduce scientific notation. Development of problem solving skills is stressed and critical thinking is practiced. Students will work with Excel and Google spreadsheets to display and analyze data. A scientific calculator is used as a tool, though proficiency in computational skills is required.

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### **Algebra I**

**Grades 7&8**

This is a complete course of Algebra 1 through the quadratic formula. Students will master algebraic manipulation and will study linear and quadratic relationships, data and real-life situations. The course makes use of graphing calculators, online web resources, and spreadsheets. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required. This course is designed to prepare students for Algebra 2.

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**Geometry****Grade 8****Prerequisite: Algebra I**

This course is designed to provide students with a working knowledge of geometry and to develop their ability to think logically. Geometry involves an exploration of properties that are stated as theorems and the logical process of constructing proofs using these theorems. This course stresses the practical application of geometric principles as well as focusing on some of the more theoretical aspects of the subject. The computer and online apps will be used for additional geometry explorations. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required for this course. This course will move at a faster pace and explore topics in greater depths than the CP Upper School course.

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**Algebra II****Grades 9-11****Prerequisite: Algebra I****1 Credit**

This is a second-year Algebra course designed to prepare students for pre-calculus. This course extends the tools of Algebra I used to solve linear systems and includes quadratic, polynomial and radical functions. Exponential and logarithmic functions are examined with special emphasis on transformations. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required for this course.

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**Algebra II – H****Grades 9 -11****Prerequisite: A grade of 91% or higher in Algebra I****1 Credit**

This is a second-year Algebra course designed to prepare students for a comprehensive pre-calculus course. This course integrates the standard topics of Algebra II with data analysis and graphing calculator technology. Functions (linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational) are explored from algebraic and geometric perspectives. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required for this course.

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**Geometry CP, H**  
**Prerequisite: Algebra I**  
**(an Algebra I grade of 93% or an Algebra II Honors grade of 83% or higher is required for Honors)**

**Grades 9 -11**  
**1 Credit**

This course is designed to provide students with a working knowledge of geometry and to develop their ability to think logically. Geometry involves an exploration of properties which are stated as theorems and the logical process of constructing proofs using these theorems. This course stresses the practical application of geometric principles as well as focusing on some of the more theoretical aspects of the subject. The computer and the Geometer's Sketchpad will be used for additional geometry explorations. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required for this course. Students will work with spreadsheets using Excel. The Honors course will move at a faster pace and explore topics in greater depths than the CP course

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**Precalculus**  
**Prerequisite: Algebra II**

**Grades 11-12**  
**1 Credit**

This course provides an introduction to topics fundamental to Calculus, emphasizing the behavior of functions both analytically and graphically. The TI-89 graphing calculator will be used extensively for this latter purpose. Real world problem solving will be emphasized in this course.

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**Precalculus – H**  
**Grades 11-12**  
**Prerequisite: A grade of 83% or higher in Algebra II - H**

**1 Credit**

This course provides an introduction to topics fundamental to calculus, emphasizing the behavior of functions both analytically and graphically. The TI-89 graphing calculator will be used extensively for this latter purpose. Real-world problem solving will be emphasized in this course. This course will move at a faster pace and go into more depth than the college prep course.

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**Calculus**

**Grade 12**  
**1 Credit**

The purpose of this course is to provide an introduction to the essential topics of calculus. The topics in this course are similar to Advanced Placement Calculus. The goal of this course is to acquaint the student with the fundamental concepts and nomenclature of calculus including limits, differentiation and, as time permits, integration. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required.

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**Advanced Placement Calculus – AB****Grade 12****Prerequisite: A grade of 83 or higher in Precalculus - H****1.25 Credit**

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The purpose of this course is to introduce the student to college-level calculus. The theory of limits, differentiation and integration and their applications are covered. Methods include a correlation with physics. Students are encouraged, but not required, to take the AP exam in May. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required for this course. This course meets 5 times per rotation.

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**Honors Calculus – C****Semester 2****Prerequisite: A grade of 93 or higher in AP Calculus AB****.50 Credit**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the topics of second semester college calculus and to prepare them to take the AP Calculus BC exam in May. Topics will include differentiation and integration of parametric, polar, and vector functions, as well as, infinite series. A TI-89 graphing calculator is required.

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**Advanced Placement Statistics****Grade 12****Prerequisite: Precalculus****1.25 Credit**

AP Statistics is an introductory course in statistics that is equal in content to a collegiate course. The class delves into formal statistical concepts and procedures. The objective is to acquire a deep understanding of statistics and its applications, and to prepare for success on the AP Statistics exam. The emphasis is more on understanding, and ability to communicate this understanding clearly is at least as important as the need to compute accurately. Several projects are done throughout the year.

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**Bible Courses**

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## **Intro to the Old Testament I**

**Grade 6**

The sixth grade Bible course is the first part in a two-year chronological overview of the Old Testament. The first year covers the major events in the Old Testament books from Genesis through Ruth, emphasizing God's revelation of Himself to mankind, His redemptive purposes, and His loving relationship with His people. Students will carefully read the Biblical narrative, delve into the details about key figures in the Bible, learn the geographical context of events, memorize important verses, and understand the vital concepts interwoven throughout the Old Testament. Throughout this course, students will reflect on their own lives and be encouraged to pursue a personal and transforming relationship with God, enabling them to live a dynamic life of faith, hope and love in a broken and sinful world.

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## **Intro to the Old Testament II**

**Grade 7**

The seventh grade Bible course is the second part in a two-year chronological overview of the Old Testament. The second year covers the major events in the Old Testament books from 1 Samuel through Malachi, emphasizing God's revelation of Himself to mankind, His redemptive purposes, and His loving relationship with His people. Students will carefully read the Biblical narrative, delve into the details about key figures in the Bible, learn the geographical context of events, memorize important verses, and understand the vital concepts interwoven throughout the Old Testament. Throughout this course, students will reflect on their own lives and be encouraged to pursue a personal and transforming relationship with God, enabling them to live a dynamic life of faith, hope and love in a broken and sinful world.

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## **Gospel & Acts**

**Grade 8**

The eighth grade Bible course introduces students to the life and times of Jesus as portrayed in the Gospel accounts of His life, death, and resurrection. Students will be introduced to the concept of the synoptic gospels before undertaking a careful examination of the Gospel of Luke. Students will then read the Book of Acts and learn about the spread of Jesus' message through the first apostles as the early church grew (often under intense persecution) throughout the Mediterranean world. Throughout this course, students will reflect on their own lives and be encouraged to pursue a personal and transforming relationship with God, enabling them to live a dynamic life of faith, hope and love in a broken and sinful world.

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## **Upper School Bible Courses**

**.50 Credits each**

Students must complete 6 semesters of Bible (one from each category, plus an additional of their own choosing)

### ***Bible Survey***

This is required for new students to LCA and is a prerequisite for the other Bible classes. The goal is to familiarize students who have little background in the Christian faith with the basic narrative, characters, and reading of the Scripture. For students who are new to LCA but have some knowledge of the Faith, there is an option to test out of the class.

### ***Introduction to Christianity***

All students will be required to take this in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The goal of this class is to familiarize the student to many of the key beliefs and practices of Christianity. To do this, we will walk through the Apostles' Creed and discuss the basic theology of the Christian faith found within. It is here that we will cover topics like, "How important is the Trinity?" and "Who is Jesus?" In this class, the students will learn about the different resources used for basic scholarly interpretation of Scripture that they will encounter in future classes.

**This is required for *all* students.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT**

### ***Old Testament Survey***

Students will get a big picture look at the entire Old Testament through the theological lens of the covenants. The emphasis will be less on the characters and general narrative of the text. Instead, the focus will be more on the continuity of how God relates to his people and how it provides the foundations for Christ work in the New Testament.

### ***Prophets & History***

This class will focus on the history of Israel and the way the prophets fit into this history. Students will study the significant events in the Israel's history and learn about the role of the prophets in God's covenant relationship with his people. Students will also study the unfolding of biblical eschatology, from Deuteronomy to Revelation. The goal is to see the way God interacts with Israel through the prophets and history.

### ***Wisdom Literature***

What does it mean to live the “good life”? Through this class students will engage this question through the wisdom literature of the Old Testament.

Students will examine the books of Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Songs in their Ancient Near Eastern literary, historical, cultural, sociological and geographical context. Students will examine the use of this literature in the life of Israel and the ways this is used in our own lives to draw us toward God and practically to live a “good” life.

## **NEW TESTAMENT**

### ***New Testament Survey***

This is a big picture look at the New Testament. Students hone important interpretive skills and read New Testament texts. Students study the Gospels and the continued interpretation of Jesus through NT books. The class culminates in an in-depth interpretive paper that synthesizes skills and knowledge from the semester.

### ***Paul & His Writings***

The goal of this class is develop an understanding of Paul’s theology and how it has shaped our Christian life, today. Students will examine the life and selected writings of Paul in order to get a sense of his theology. The centerpiece of this class will be an Interpretation paper based on some of his writings.

### ***General Letters***

The Apostle Paul is a towering figure in New Testament studies, but other Apostles and church leaders wrote letters that became part of the New Testament. This course will focus on the rich theology of those other letters that make up the New Testament, from James to Hebrews to Revelation.

## **CHURCH HISTORY**

### ***Early Church History***

Enter into the story of the early church as we explore the community and conflicts that shaped foundation. From the early apostles to Constantine, from monasticism to church councils, we will trace the footsteps of the early apostles through the medieval church period. We will engage the cultures and concepts, both internally and externally, that influenced the development of the church and its theology in the periods of the founding of the church through the 15th century.

### ***Late Church History***

How did the church become what it is today? Through this course students will explore the rise of the contemporary church around the world. We will examine the characters and concepts that shaped the Reformation, colonial expansion, denominational development and modern global issues for the church. This course covers the period of the Protestant Reformation to the present day.

## ***Christian Biographies***

History is made of the stories of people who acted in both normal and heroic manners. This class will seek to understand history by looking at several different figures throughout Church History. These biographies will give students the opportunity to look at the unique challenges and ways of living in each age of history. The goal will be to see what happens when theology & beliefs are lived out by people in their communities.

## **ETHICS, CULTURE, & CHRISTIANITY**

### ***Introduction to Ethics***

*Prerequisite:* Completion of one OT & one NT course

This class is an introduction to Ethics. Students will survey ancient ethical ideas and be challenged to consider broad ethical principles such as right and wrong, justice and moral choices. Students will also be challenged to consider what it means to live as Christians today, interpreting ancient scripture in light of our contemporary ethical context.

### ***Christianity & Social Justice***

*Prerequisite:* Completion of one OT & one NT course

This course will examine theologically and biblically the call to the whole gospel; the gospel that takes care of the fatherless and the widows (James 1:27). We will start by seeking a definition of justice and to understand what Scripture says about doing justice. From this foundation we will examine some examples of social justice from history and then conclude with a look at the role charities and non-profits in working toward justice in the world.

### ***Reason & Apologetics***

*Prerequisite:* Completion of one OT & one NT course

Course description to come

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## **Theological Aesthetic of the Image**

**.50 Credits**

**Prerequisite: Enrolled in Portfolio & have taken a New Testament class.**

Through the study and creation of art in various forms, this course will connect theology, history, philosophy and the arts in order to explore the roles and meanings of images in relation to truth. In this seminar-studio combination course, we will explore the role of images in our human processes of thinking and being as well as the implications of aesthetics on spirituality.

Permission from the instructors required.

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## **Social Studies & History Courses**

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### **World Geography**

**Grade 6**

This is the first year of the two-year world geography program. This course introduces students to the world's people, places, and environments with an emphasis on North America, South America and Asia. Students study the world's landforms, climates, natural resources and natural hazards. Special focus is on the relationship between physical geography and cultural and economic geography. Resources include texts, maps, graphs, pictures, diagrams, charts, the Internet, and guest speakers. The course includes a study of world events, issues, and trends.

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### **World Geography**

**Grade 7**

This course is the second of LCA's two-year geography program. Students entering at grade 7 will only take this second year of the program. The course reinforces the themes, knowledge and understanding of global environments, economies and cultures, and introduces students to an in-depth study of the geography, culture and the history of three world regions. The focus of study is the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Europe. Particular emphasis is placed on world events, issues, and trends. Interpretation of geographical data, map and research skills are important outcomes of this course.

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### **United States History – Twentieth Century**

**Grade 8**

Industrialization, the Gilded Age and the Spanish American War set the stage for this course. A study will be made of American history and the changing role of the USA in the world through the twentieth century. Students will study the social, economic and political conditions in the USA, as well as war and peace at home and abroad. Topics include the Progressive Era, World War I, the twenties, the Great Depression and New Deal, World War II, the Cold War, the civil rights movement and the Vietnam conflict.

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## Foundations of the Modern World

**Grade 9**  
**1 Credit**

The foundations of the modern world were firmly established long ago in times of turmoil that somehow led to a flowering of human creativity and invention. Today's global community of competing civilizations and diverse cultures was shaped by the great innovators of the past. This course will focus on the world's civilizations in the distant past and then explore the roots of Western civilization, East Asian civilization, South Asian civilization, and Islamic civilization. Students will explore what these seemingly disparate patterns have in common and how cultural groups have sought both cooperation and competition. Students will identify the various factors that have provided a civilization with comparative advantage over another. Particular emphasis will be given to the origins of the world religions, classical periods of Greece, Rome, and China, and the clashing of civilizations as demonstrated by the Crusades.

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## Modern World History - CP & H

**Grade 10**  
**1 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Enrollment in the honors section is by invitation after review of past grades, writing sample and teacher recommendation.**

"Modern World History" examines the historical processes by which "modernity" as a way of living and thinking confronted "traditionalism," first in Europe and then, through commercial and colonial expansion, throughout the globe. After a brief review of medieval institutions and concepts, the course traces the rise of modern thought from the Renaissance through the French Revolution, and the modernization of European society from the Age of Exploration and rise of merchant capitalism to the urbanization and mass production of the Industrial Revolution. Finally, the course shows the encounters between modernizing Europe and other parts of the world, through trade, conquest, and cultural interaction. Students will be asked to think comparatively and analytically, addressing essential questions posed by both academic historical inquiry and theological reflection. There will be a special emphasis on development of good reasoning and writing skills.

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**United States History****Grade 11  
1 Credit**

This course provides an overview of United States history from the voyages of exploration to the post-Cold War era. In the first semester instruction focuses on the period of colonization, the revolution and establishment of the new Republic, the rise of sectionalism and the Civil War. In the second semester the course covers the rise of American industry and cities, America as a global power, World War I, the 1920's, the Great Depression and World War II the Cold War, civil rights and the post-Cold War era. United States History is a graduation requirement, generally taken in the junior year.

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**Advanced Placement United States History****Grade 11  
1.25 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Enrollment is by invitation after review of past grades, writing sample and teacher recommendation.)**

Intended to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination, this course provides an overview of United States history from the voyages of exploration to the post-Cold War era. In the first semester instruction focuses on the period of colonization, the revolution and establishment of the new Republic, the rise of sectionalism and the Civil War. In the second semester instruction focus on the rise of American industry and cities, America as a global power World War I, the 1920's, the Great Depression and World War II the Cold War, civil rights and the post-Cold War era. United States History is a graduation requirement, generally taken in the junior year. In the AP section, students explore topics in greater depth, cover additional material and practice the Document-Based-Question format needed for the Advanced Placement test.

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**Advanced Placement European History****Grade 12  
1.25 Credit**

**Prerequisite: Enrollment is by invitation after review of past grades, writing sample and teacher recommendation.**

This course in modern European history is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Examination. The course begins at the dawn of the modern era with the late Middle Ages and the Renaissance. The course covers the Reformation, absolutism, Enlightenment, French Revolution, Napoleon, nineteenth century nationalism and imperialism, World War I, the Russian Revolution, the rise of Fascism, World War II, the Cold War, and the fall of Communism. Students will practice for the AP exam with special emphasis on Document-Based-Questions.

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## **The Holocaust**

**Grades 11-12**  
Fall Semester **.50 Credit**

Adolf Hitler's war against the Jewish people was a crime of unfathomable evil, yet what it reveals about the range of possible human behavior challenges each of us to take a probing look at actors in this horrific chapter and at ourselves. Drawing on the tools of history, psychology, and theology, this course will take three separate journeys through the events, once looking over the shoulders of the perpetrators of the crimes, once over the shoulders of the victims of this genocide, and once over the shoulders of those who had to choose between being bystanders or rescuers.

(This is a disturbing topic, and some limited use of graphic materials is unavoidable.)

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## **Contemporary History**

**Grades 11-12**  
Spring Semester **.50 Credit**

What are the major historical events of your life time? Which of this generation's memories will make it into tomorrow's textbooks? Is it too early to tell? This course will explore the events, people, and inventions that have shaped the contemporary world. It will also examine the feasibility of studying recent events when historical interpretations have not had time to develop and many sources are not yet available. Particular emphasis will be given to September 11th, Iraq War, Steve Jobs, Social Media, and the Global Financial Crisis.

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## **Science Courses**

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### **Life Science**

**Grade 6**

This science course is designed to give students a strong foundation in the scientific method as well as an appreciation of the natural world around them. Whether they are studying unicellular organisms or entire ecosystems, students will be using the main skills of observing, classifying, predicting, inferring, and making models to gather information and answer testable questions. This course makes extensive use of inquiry-based laboratory experiments, hand-on activities, and interdisciplinary projects.

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## **Earth Science**

**Grade 7**

This science course covers topics in earth science, including meteorology, astronomy and geology. It is designed to give a student insight into the earth's position in space and the forces acting on the earth, which help to shape the land, the oceans, and our weather. The course topics lend well to hands-on and explorative activities.

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## **Introduction to Physical Science**

**Grade 8**

The theme of Introductory Physical Science is the atomic theory. Evidence from students' experiments is used to establish methods of separating and identifying substances; the characteristics of mixtures, compounds and elements; the law of constant proportions; and, finally, an atomic model of matter. The goal for this course is for the student to become a sharper observer and a more critical thinker. Students learn to collect and analyze data and draw conclusions from their data. Laboratory work is a major part of this course. Pre-lab and post-lab discussions take place to guide learning.

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## **Physics CP**

**Grade 9  
1.25 Credits**

This inquiry-based, laboratory-centered, science course covers standard topics found in most high school physics courses. There will be a strong emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving. The units found in the course will include graphical analysis, kinematics, forces, momentum, work, power, energy, electrostatics, circuits, waves, sound, and optics. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

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## **Physics H: Prerequisite must have completed Geometry and be co-enrolled in Algebra II H**

**Grade 9  
1.25 Credits**

This inquiry-based, laboratory-centered, science course covers standard topics found in most high school physics courses. There will be a strong emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving. The units found in the course will include graphical analysis, kinematics, vectors, projectiles, forces, momentum, work, power, energy, electrostatics, circuits, waves, sound, and optics. A graphing calculator is required for this course.

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**Chemistry**  
**Prerequisite: Geometry & Physics**

**Grades 10**  
**1.25 Credits**

A lab-centered course, this course covers standard topics found in most high school chemistry courses. There is a strong emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving. Topics covered include atomic theory, stoichiometry, gas laws, the properties of liquids and solids, bonding and intermolecular forces, chemical kinetics, theories of acids and bases and oxidation-reduction. A carbonless paper lab notebook is required for the course.

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**Chemistry - Honors**  
**Prerequisite: Algebra II H & Physics H**

**Grades 10**  
**1.25 Credits**

A lab-centered course, this course covers standard topics found in most high school chemistry courses. There is a strong emphasis on critical thinking and problem-solving. Topics covered include atomic theory, stoichiometry, gas laws, the properties of liquids and solids, bonding and intermolecular forces, chemical kinetics, theories of acids and bases and oxidation-reduction. A carbonless paper lab notebook is required for the course.

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**Biology**  
**Prerequisite: Chemistry**

**Grade 11**  
**1.25 Credits**

This survey course will introduce students to the general areas of biology, including animal behavior and learning, ecology, chemistry of life, cell structures and functions, genetics, human biology, evolution, and diversity of life. The focus will be on real-life applications and hands-on experiments, including dissection, which will provide the foundations for college-level biology courses and prepare students to make decisions as biological issues arise in current events and their lives. Students will need laboratory goggles. A full year of Biology or Biology Honors is required for graduation.

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**Biology - Honors****Prerequisite: 85% or better in Honors Chemistry****Grades 11  
1.25 Credits**

This course covers major topics in biology including evolution and diversity of life, biochemistry, cell biology, plant structures and functions, human body systems, genetics, molecular biology, and ecology, which will be reinforced through a mandatory lab component which includes dissection. The course provides the foundation for college-level biology courses and prepares students to make decisions as biological issues arise in current events and their lives. Students taking this class will have the option of taking the Biology Subject Test (SAT II) in the spring. Students will need laboratory goggles. A full year of Biology or Biology Honors is required for graduation.

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**Advanced Placement Biology****Grade 12  
1.50 Credit****Prerequisite: A minimum grade of 85% in Biology - Honors, Principles of Chemistry – Honors, and instructor's permission.**

This course is equivalent in scope and difficulty to a first-year college class. It is designed both for non-majors who want to complete a college-level science course while in upper school, and for biology majors seeking to strengthen their biology fundamentals. Students prepare for the Advanced Placement test, which they should plan to take in May. Dissection is required. This course meets 6 times per rotation.

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**Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics****Prerequisite: Calculus or concurrent registration****Grade 12  
1.50 Credit**

This inquiry-based, science course covers standard topics found in a first semester college physics course. The units found in the course will cover the following topics: graphical analysis, kinematics (1D, 2D & 3D), forces (1D, 2D & 3D), center of mass, momentum (1D, 2D & 3D), impulse, work, power, energy, rotational kinematics, rotational dynamics, simple harmonic motion, oscillations, gravitation, and planetary motion. This is a calculus-based course and requires a graphing calculator.

This course meets 5 times per rotation.

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**Environmental Science H**  
**Prerequisite: 85% or higher in Biology H**

**Grade 12**  
**1.25 Credit**

Environmental Science is an interdisciplinary field that studies both how organisms interact with and are shaped by their environment, as well as the effects of human impact. There will be a strong field biology component to the course that will involve data collection both on the LCA campus and remotely. In addition to smaller projects, students will be required to maintain an ongoing field journal, as well as contribute their talents (artistic, literary, observational, web-design etc.) to creating and maintaining an LCA specific field-guide. This course is designed for students who are interested in a science that combines an understanding of various physical (geology, meteorology, chemistry) and biological sciences and enjoy spending time outdoors.

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**Introduction to Computer Science**  
**Prerequisite: Algebra I**

**Grade 12**  
**1.25 Credit**

In this course students will learn to solve problems, develop algorithms, and write programs efficiently using different computer languages starting with Scratch, continuing in C++, and ending with exposure to JavaScript and Python. Programming topics will include data types, functions, control structures, arrays, and strings. Most assignments will be hands on development of working programs developed in class or at home. Students will also be introduced to the different areas of computer science and as well as how computer science affects our everyday lives in a variety of disciplines. The course is designed for any student in mind regardless of future interests or course of studies. No prior programming experience needed. Students will need a web accessible laptop (not an iPad).

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## **World Languages**

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**Linguistics: Greek and Latin Roots**

**Grade 6**

Through systematic study of Greek and Latin root words, students will gain understanding into the meaning and history of many English words, sharpen their word attack skills, and deepen their appreciation of the richness of English. Attention will also be given to French and Spanish derivatives.

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## **Intro to World Culture**

**Grade 7**

In this course, students will explore different world cultures including the Middle East, China, Francophone and Hispanic cultures and more. Students will learn the values and norms of cultures around the world as they also explore their own culture. Course activities include discussions, projects and interviews.

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## **French I**

**Grades 8-12  
1 Credit**

This is an introductory course for students with no background in French or minimal exposure to French. It is designed to aid the beginner in acquiring the four skills of language: listening comprehension, reading, writing and speaking; to establish a basic grammatical foundation in preparation for the next level; and to awaken in the student an interest in French culture to widen his/her view of the world.

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## **French II Prerequisite: French I**

**Grades 9-12  
1 Credit**

Building on the foundation laid in French I, French II is designed to increase the student's competence in the four skills of language learning: listening comprehension, reading, writing, and speaking. The basic grammatical foundation begun in French I is furthered. Students will increase their ability to read for comprehension material of greater difficulty, widen their vocabulary, and write accurately within the scope of this acquired vocabulary.

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## **French III Prerequisite: French II**

**Grades 10-12  
1 Credit**

French III continues the balanced-skills approach of French I and II (listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing). This course consists of thematic vocabulary and language development, reading opportunities, varied writing practice, and a wide range of communication activities. Emphasis is placed on developing and expanding effective communication through the use of daily-life themes and developing cultural awareness of France and the French-speaking world

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**French IV – H**  
**Prerequisite: French III**

**Grades 11-12**  
**1 Credit**

This advanced course builds on the foundations taught in the first three years of French language study. Students will have opportunity to develop listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing skills. They will review grammar, learn vocabulary thematically, and read and discuss short stories and a novel.

Students will have practice writing compositions and journals in French. They will learn about various aspects of culture in the Francophone world.

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**French V- H**  
**Prerequisite: French IV**

**Grade 12**  
**1 Credit**

This final course builds on the foundations taught in the first four years of French language study. Oral participation, formal and informal, is required. The course is designed to expand the student's knowledge of vocabulary, grammar and syntax as well as to continue the exploration of the French-speaking world and its culture. Students will have practice writing compositions, journals, and reports in French. Students wishing to take the AP test should consult with the instructor

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**Spanish I-B**  
**Prerequisite: Spanish I-A or equivalent**

**Grade 8**

This is a continuation of Spanish I-A in preparation for Spanish II in grade nine. Conversational skills are emphasized, along with vocabulary and grammar.

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**Spanish I**

**Grades 9-12**  
**1 Credit**

This is an introductory course for students with little or no background in Spanish. It is designed to aid the beginner in acquiring the four basic skills of language: listening comprehension, reading, writing, and speaking. Various aspects of Hispanic culture are also taught.

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**Spanish II**  
**Prerequisite: Spanish I**

**Grades 9-12**  
**1 Credit**

This course begins with a review of the grammar and vocabulary covered in Spanish I and builds on the language fundamentals, emphasizing written and oral communication skills. Five new verb tenses are introduced, as well as topical vocabulary and cultural elements of the Spanish-speaking world.

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**Spanish III**  
**Prerequisite: Spanish II**

**Grades 10-12**  
**1 Credit**

This course consists of a variety of oral, written, comprehension, and listening skills, building upon the skills learned in the first two years of Spanish. There is a focus on knowing all the tenses for use in all these areas. Various works of Hispanic literature will be read and analyzed.

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**Spanish IV – H**  
**Prerequisite: Spanish III**

**Grades 11-12**  
**1 Credit**

This is an advanced course that builds on the foundations taught in the first three years of language study. An emphasis is placed on helping the student build comprehension skills in reading progressively difficult literature leading to “liberated” reading in Spanish. The student is exposed to a wide variety of modern authors and the cultures each represent. A research paper dealing with selected cultural topics of the Hispanic world will help improve the student’s ability to express himself/herself in written format.

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**Spanish V – H**  
**Prerequisite: Spanish IV**

**Grade 12**  
**1 Credit**

This course is offered to students who have demonstrated skills in speaking, writing, reading, and understanding Spanish after four years of lower-level study. The course is conducted in blocks of Spanish, from lecture to conversation. Oral participation, formal and informal, is required. Spanish V has the following objectives:

1. The ability to comprehend formal and informal spoken Spanish;
2. The acquisition of vocabulary and a grasp of structure to allow the easy, accurate reading of newspaper and magazine articles, as well as of modern literature in Spanish;
3. The ability to compose expository passages and to research and compose a term paper on an appropriate cultural topic; and
4. The ability to express ideas orally with accuracy and fluency.

Students wishing to take the AP test should consult with the instructor.

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## **Arts**

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**Exploring Theatre****Grade 6**

Introduction to theatre through games and improvisation culminating in a presentation for Arts Fest. Meets once a rotation for the entire year.

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**Middle School Play Production****Grades 7-8**

Audition-based performance opportunity meeting after school for one third of the year.

**Upper School Festival Production      Grades 9-12**

Audition-based performance and interview-based crew opportunities coinciding with the winter sports season.

**Upper School Spring Production      Grades 9-12**

Audition-based performance and interview-based crew opportunities coinciding with the winter sports season.

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**Introduction to Theatre****Grades 9-12  
.50 Credit**

This course is a comprehensive introduction to theatre. Using the current season of productions, students will learn about the collaborative process of theatrical production and its various roles, including producing, directing, acting, design, tech, stage and house management, and pr. This is a required course for those who want to do further study of theatre at LCA, and it includes a crew requirement for each of the season's productions.

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**Acting (Shakespeare Module)****Grades 10-12****Prerequisite: Intro to Theatre****.50 Credit**

This experiential yearlong course focuses on vocal and physical production of Shakespearean text. Students will do monologue and scene work, as well as improvisational exploration of character and story, gaining vital performance and public speaking skills. When possible, performance venues will be created to allow students to showcase their acting class work for an audience.

**Technical Theatre****Grades 9-12  
.50 Credit**

This hands-on elective course is an introduction to the technical elements of theatre including lighting, sound, set and costume design, and stage management. Students taking this course will grow in their creative problem-solving and group work skills while gaining a richer understanding of theatre design. Students will also have the opportunity to put their learning to immediate practical use through the course's crew requirement. Students have opportunities to help to design, assemble, and run the technical aspects of LCA theatre productions, chapels, and special events.

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**Playwriting****Prerequisite: Intro to Theatre, Acting****Grades 10-12  
.50 Credit**

A yearlong elective course offered to students who have completed Intro to Theatre, which emphasizes the study and practice of play and scene analysis, scene writing, story structure, and improvisation for the goal of script development. By creating new theatre, students are challenged inwardly to find a story worth telling and outwardly to develop adequate storytelling skills to hold a contemporary audience. When possible, performance venues will be created to allow students to showcase their original work for an audience.

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**General Music****Grade 7**

General Music classes meet once a rotation for one semester and are required for grade 7. These classes are designed to be both a historical look at music and a hands-on experience. Major performance works and composers will be studied, and students will be introduced to the basics of reading and writing music through projects incorporating various musical instruments. Homework will be assigned and some tests/quizzes will be given.

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**Middle School Chorus****Grades 6 - 8**

Middle School Chorus is required for Grades 6 & 7, and is an elective in grade 8. Chorus meets twice a rotation (once as a full ensemble and once in separate grades.). Music studied will be from various genres and in a variety of languages. Areas of focus include vocal production, choral technique, musical interpretation, and performance practice. The Middle School Chorus performs at the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Arts Fest, and other school assemblies and functions

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## **Select Chorus**

**Grades 7 - 8**

**Prerequisite: by audition**

Select Chorus is an auditioned ensemble of approximately 25 students. The music which is rehearsed and performed is primarily unaccompanied choral literature for sopranos, altos and baritones (SAB). Areas of focus include vocal production, choral technique, musical interpretation, and performance practice.

Select chorus performs at the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, Arts Fest, and other school assemblies and functions.

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## **Middle School Instrumental Ensembles**

**Grades 6-8**

**Beginning Band** is open to those middle school students interested in beginning a wind or percussion instrument. It is designed for those students who are true beginners although those that have received minimal instruction may be placed in Beginning Band as well. Members will learn the basic skills necessary to play their chosen instruments in an ensemble setting and learn the essential elements of music making. This group will perform at major school concerts and other school functions as appropriate. Members are encouraged to take private lessons outside of school to complement their in-school instruction.

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**Middle School Band** is open to wind and percussion instrumentalists who have attained a basic proficiency on their instrument and music reading. Band members will perform exciting and enjoyable literature from a wide variety of genres and eras, develop their instrumental ability and technique through individual and group exercises, and gain a practical musical literacy – a working knowledge of the basic “building blocks” of music. This group will perform at major school concerts and other school functions as appropriate. Members are encouraged to take private lessons outside of school to complement their large ensemble experience

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## **Wind Ensemble**

**Grades 9-10  
.50 Credit**

The Band is divided into two groups (Middle School and Upper School) which rehearse and perform separately. Advanced Middle School instrumentalists may be invited to join the Upper School Ensemble.

Wind Ensemble is open to wind and percussion instrumentalists who have attained a basic proficiency on their instrument and music reading. Members of instrumental groups are encouraged to take private lessons outside of school to complement their in-school instruction.

Ensemble members will perform exciting and enjoyable literature from a wide variety of genres and eras, develop their instrumental ability and technique through group warm-ups and drills, and gain a practical musical literacy – a working knowledge of the basic “building blocks” of music. This group will perform at major school concerts and other school functions as appropriate.

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## **Chorale**

**Grades 9-12  
.50 Credit**

This course is designed to offer students knowledge of choral literature, an understanding of healthy voice production, an opportunity to develop skills of musicianship, and to provide excellent performing experiences. It is open to all students as an elective (no audition necessary) for the full year. Chorale will perform at the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and Arts Fest, at school chapel services, at various school functions, and by invitation at a variety of other venues off campus.

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## **Chamber Singers** **Prerequisite: Chorale**

**Grades 9-12  
1 Credit**

This is a select performing group. Membership is by audition only and will last the full year. Repertoire will generally be a capella (unaccompanied), more challenging, and will cover all time periods. Chamber Singers will perform at the Christmas Concert, Spring Concert, and Artsfest, local churches, tour, admissions function, and other school functions and shows. This ensemble will take an extended tour to churches, schools, and other performing venues in the second semester. This course meets 4 times per rotation which includes participation in Chorale.

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## **Music Theory and Composition**

**Grades 9-12  
.50 Credit**

In this course, students will their understanding of key signatures, intervals and rhythm, and gain skills necessary for being an effective sight-reader of music. Students will also learn to write four part harmony and to analyze chordal structure. Skills necessary for musical composition will be rigorously developed. Other topics include basic compositional skills, score analysis, melodic organization and developmental procedures, rhythmic/metric organization, rhythmic devices and procedures, texture, aural skills, harmonic organization, tonal organization, meter and rhythmic patterns, instrumentation, texture, formal procedures. While this course is **NOT OFFERED AS AN A.P. COURSE**, this course is designed for students to be able to take the AP Music Theory Test if they with faculty permission if they desire.

This course is recommended to advanced music students who:

- plan to pursue music at the University level and/or
- want to better understand the framework of music and/or
- are interested in composing and/or
- wish to be more competitive in their theory and sight-reading ability.

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## **Music History (Directed Study)**

**Grades 9-12  
.50 Credit**

Students will study western classical music from its origin from 500 AD to the popular music of the present day. We will cover, in depth, the composers of the time, works, society and reception of musical works of each time period (Antiquities, Medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, Romantic and 20th Century). This study is designed for advanced music students to further enhance their knowledge of music history and to help students understand how musical works would have been performed in the time of their creation. Students will be assessed through projects, listening assignments, outside concert attendance, quizzes, tests and papers.

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## **Chamber Orchestra**

**Grades 6-12  
.50 Credit (US)**

This string orchestra will give students the opportunity to supplement their private instruction with a chamber orchestra experience. Proper technique will be emphasized in addition to other skills needed to perform with an ensemble. Music from a variety of historical periods will be studied and performed. This group will perform at major school concerts and other school functions as appropriate.

**Art 6****Grade 6**

The sixth-grade course helps students develop basic skills in several media. Both two- and three-dimensional assignments focus on a variety of media and give opportunity to experiment and grow in artistic discernment and familiarity with the elements of design. Fun and serious artwork go hand-in-hand in this class.

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**Art 7****Grade 7**

In the seventh-grade art course, students work with several mediums in a concentrated effort to develop artistic skills and judgment. A variety of assignments increase the familiarity with the elements of design. The class will develop skills learned in the sixth grade and will introduce design principles through more challenging projects.

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**Art 8****Grade 8**

As an elective, eighth grade art requires a level of dedication to longer projects. Students grow in their ability to respond to the world around them and use multiple mediums, including the iPad, in applying the Elements and Principles of Design in more formal considerations of composition.

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**Art I: Basic Design****Grades 9-12  
.50 Credit**

This survey class is choice-based and designed to provide experience in many mediums with a deliberate focus on the elements and principles of design. Assignments are chosen by students with the goal of exploring and mastering an understanding of the elements and principles of design as well as creative practices. Art Historical connections will be made in each unit, and students will be required to reflect on the work of others consistently. This course will prepare students for all upper level visual art courses.

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**Painting and Drawing  
Prerequisite: Basic Design****Grades 10-12  
.50 Credit**

The focus of this class is the fundamental techniques to drawing and painting and are taught through a series of intensive projects. Students will explore a wide range of media and methodologies to achieve both traditional and more contemporary projects in drawing, painting, and printmaking. First semester will be spent using dry media. Second semester will continue with color and add elements of painting.

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**Advanced Painting**  
**Prerequisite: Painting and Drawing I**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.50 Credit**

The purpose of this class is to allow serious art students to refine their skills and expand their range in painting while engaging with more demanding projects. Students will spend the majority of their year using oil paint and learning a range of methods that will help them discover their own artistic voice.

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**Graphic Design**  
**Prerequisite: Basic Design**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.50 Credit**

This course is designed to introduce students to a range of methods and strategies for digital imaging and design. Students will be introduced to Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign. We will explore typography, layout, print and web design. Assignments will span printed and digital products, marketing and branding strategies, and social justice.

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**Architecture**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.75 Credit**

This course uses the Elements and Principles of Design, the Design Process, design software, and modeling to explore the area of fundamental functional, non functional, existing, and conceptual “forms”. What is architecture in a classical and contemporary approach? Students will sketch, render, plan, and model in a variety of different “environments” including: space with in space, spacial relationships, simple, classical residence and corporate structures, topographical concept designs, the skyscraper city challenge, and thinking to the future. The assignments will reflect social, economic, climate, and political design challenges and conditions. Students will be required to work outside of class.

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**Photography**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.50 Credit**

This course centers on developing the creative eye with the basic technical aspects of the digital camera, not the developing process. Projects will include black-and-white vs. color, still life, formal and informal portraits, special effects, and presentation techniques. Each student is required to have their own digital camera.

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## **Stained Glass**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.75 Credit**

Stained glass is the art of transformation. Color, shape, and construction are brought together in a celebration of design and light. The stained glass techniques used in this course—foil, slumping, and fusing—can be labeled as craft—an art at its basic constructionist form. Students will go through the design process and accumulate an understanding and application experience in the art of colored glass.

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## **Wheel Throwing**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.50 Credit**

Creating the non functional or functional form on the wheel is one of the more challenging techniques or approaches in the medium of ceramics. It is also one of the most captivating. Students will learn the basic techniques in the introduction to the wheel: centering, pulling, and cylinder forms. The basic techniques and process will be applied to create forms like: mugs, tea cups, plates, and bowls. Students will also be challenged to create the larger vessel and serving forms. Hand construction, sculpture, press molds, and stamping will also be applied. Students will be required to work outside of class..

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## **Ceramics**

**Grades 10-12**  
**.75 Credit**

The art and science of making objects in clay is called ceramics. A person who uses clay to produce a form or works in clay is called a ceramist. The art of ceramics has many characteristics. Clay can be: molded, coiled, pressed into a slab, pressed into a mold, poured, sculpted, thrown on the wheel and many more applications. It is a medium that can be pushed and pulled. We do all that in the ceramics course. From functional to sculptural, the students will experience clay in all its characteristics.

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## **AP Studio Art**

**Grades 11-12**  
**1.25 credits**

This elective is a two-year course designed for the student who intends to pursue art in college towards a creative career. This course will be taught in line with the requirements of the AP Portfolio guidelines and will culminate with the submission of a digital and physical portfolio for review by the AP committee. This course will make students eligible for college credit towards introductory art courses.

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**Advanced Portfolio H**  
**Prerequisites: Basic Design + 1 elective**

**Grade 11**  
**1.25 credits**

This elective is year one of a two-year course designed for the student who intends to pursue art in college towards a creative career. This course will be taught in line with the requirements of the AP Portfolio guidelines and will culminate with the submission of a digital and physical portfolio for review by the AP committee. This course will make students eligible for college credit towards introductory art courses.

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**Supplemental Portfolio**

**Grades 11-12**  
**.75 Credits**

This elective is a two-year course designed for the student who is interested in an independent, intensive, in-depth course of artistic study, and who would like to use their artwork as a supplemental aspect of their college application. Students will be required to fulfill certain conceptual assignments towards the goal of producing an individual portfolio of original work to be used for interviews and college/art school portfolio visits. Each student will research the variety of options available in the visual arts as a career opportunity.

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**Advanced Studio Studies (Directed Studies)**

**Grades 11-12**  
**.50 – 1 Credit**

The advanced studio studies, or directed studies, are a time frame within the rotation that students; who have completed the introduction courses, can schedule for advance work within a selected medium. These advanced studies are a minimum of 3 blocks per rotation and require extra dedication in time and concept. Students will be very involved, with the faculty member, in designing their semester and full year curriculum. Assignments are extended with each series ending with an exhibit of the student's work. Students will be required to work outside of class, 4 - 5 hours minimum, per rotation depending on the medium. Students are expected to participate in rotational discussions and critiques. Art I and the medium introduction course are required. This course is required for portfolio students or any student wishing to include a portfolio in their college applications.

**Advanced Stained Glass:**

Prerequisite: Stained Glass

Continued work on classical foil and solder technique with the channeling leading technique added at the marking period. Additional techniques added will be: wire, cut foil, slumping and fusion, drop out molding, and etching. Advanced studies in color theory, textural application, designing around the found object, will round out the advanced student's experience.

**Advanced Ceramics:**

Prerequisite: Ceramics

The advanced ceramic student will use a greater variety and application of the ceramic medium including: wheel throwing, high fire functional work, storytelling, and the sculptural element. They will work in a creative series with each concept or design produced a minimum of three times. A student signing up for the advanced ceramic directed study should expect to spend a minimum of three blocks, class time, and 3 hours per rotation outside of class time. Students will exhibit their work and be involved in critiques on regular rotational bases.

**Advanced Photography:**

Prerequisite: Photography

Advanced photography begins with the discussion of further developing the student's ability to visualize and capture the world around them.

Advanced classical and abstract approaches will be the foundation for their work. This includes: composing formal and abstract portraits, site and time structured series, and the integration of other mediums.

Each student will maintain a portfolio and is expected to participate in group discussions, individual and group exhibits, and several off site photography trips. The course will be scheduled with 1 block review, critic, and presentation per rotation and a minimum of 2 hours per rotation photographing on site.

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## Health & PE Courses

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**Health 6****Grade 6**

This course explores human growth and development from conception through old age. Hazards to growth that can shorten the length and quality of life will be examined, and measures for preserving life will be explored.

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**Health 7****Grade 7**

This course stimulates the student to explore the use of tobacco and alcohol products in different cultures over time. The student will assess the health risks these products pose and will be guided to make personal decisions to refrain from the dangers associated with their use. The second semester of the course explores human behavior. Topics include how to set goals and solve problems, how to communicate clearly with others, and how to live comfortably with self and others.

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## **Health 8**

**Grade 8**

This course provides a detailed study of the endocrine system and the parameters of disease. Students will learn the mechanism of disease and be challenged to make wise personal decisions that lessen the chance of obtaining disease.

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## **Reproductive Health**

**Grade 9  
.25 credit**

This course examines God's plan for intimacy (I Thessalonians 4:3-4) and that of society (practicing "safe" behaviors). God's plan for fulfilling relationships will be contrasted to that of moral people and to those without moral integrity. Students will study sexually transmitted disease and explore the effects on the individual physically and emotionally. Students will be challenged to abstain from sexual immorality (Acts 15:20) and to keep their bodies pure and holy (Romans 12:1).

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## **Health Trends & Issues**

**Grade 10  
.25 Credit**

The student will be challenged to examine current medical technologies and their moral implications. The student will examine the use and misuse of drugs, and will be challenged to think through personal choices to maintain optimal health. The course also provides a detailed study of nutrition, to enable the student to learn lifelong eating habits that promote healthful living.

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## **Middle School Physical Education**

**Grades 6-8**

This course includes a variety of sports (individual and team), activities, and games. There is a great emphasis on participation in class activities and on individual skill improvement. The main objective is for the student to participate in their leisure time in the same activities because of their enjoyment in class

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## **Physical Education**

**Grades 9-12  
.25 Credit**

This course provides the student an opportunity to choose a varied path toward healthful living. The student will participate in classes that teach life sports, team sports and individual activities. The student will be encouraged to improve cardiovascular development and to focus on their strengths to achieve lifelong healthful attitudes.

# Information Literacy Courses

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## Information Literacy

**Grade 6**

Information Literacy teaches skills required to succeed in this information age. This course teaches students:

- information seeking strategies from a variety of sources
- to locate and access information both in the library and over the Internet
- to evaluate information for relevance and reliability
- to organize information in standard bibliographic format
- to use information ethically

*The mission of the library media program is to help students become effective users of ideas and information.*

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## Introduction to Spreadsheets

**Grade 6**

This course is intended for sixth graders and gives an introduction to the setup and use of a Googledocs spreadsheet. Students begin by learning the fundamentals of cell addresses (inserting and formatting text, cell referencing) and then basic spreadsheet skills are added (selecting and filling a range of cells, sorting, using and constructing formulas and functions) as students demonstrate and print hardcopy showing mastery of skills. Lecture, video tutorials and in-class school laptop use are required. Out-of-class school desktops may be required to finish homework. No prior experience is required.

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## Information Navigation

**Grade 8**

Information Navigation teaches skills required to succeed in this information age. This course builds on the skills learned in grade 6 Information Literacy and teaches students:

- information seeking strategies from a variety of sources
- to locate and access information both in the library and over the Internet
- to evaluate information for relevance and reliability
- to organize information in standard bibliographic format
- to use information ethically

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## Information Navigation

Grade 9

Information Navigation teaches skills required to succeed in this information age.

This course teaches newly-admitted ninth grade students:

- information seeking strategies from a variety of sources
- to locate and access information both in the library and over the Internet
- to evaluate information for relevance and reliability
- to organize information in standard bibliographic format
- to use information ethically

This is a required course for all new ninth grade students.

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## College Advising

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### College Advising I: Test Prep and Interview Skills

Grade 11  
.25 Credits

This course is designed to aid students in their standardized test preparation and to prepare them to effectively speak and write about themselves. To that end, the first eight weeks of the class are devoted to preparation for the SAT through both lecture and small group work. Over the course of the remainder of the semester, emphasis will be placed on helping students develop their interview skills. Learning to how speak about oneself through interview practice will help students with both actual college interviews and with crafting their personal college essays.

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### College Advising II: The College Application Process

Grade 11  
.25 Credits

This course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive introduction to the college application process. At the center of that process is the college essay and students will receive extensive instruction in how to write an effective essay. In addition, students will be advised in how to use Naviance and Common Application, two websites central to applying to most colleges. In the process, they will develop the critical building blocks of their college application including both a resume and a list of their activities.

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**College Advising III: Critical Skills****Grade 12  
.25 Credits**

This course is designed to help students develop communications skills central to success in college and in their future professional lives. Utilizing a workshop format that will emphasize frequent mock scenario-based exercises and instant feedback, students will learn how to speak in public and how to improve their presentation techniques. They will also learn how to network effectively both in person and electronically.

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**College Advising IV: College Life****Grade 12  
.25 Credit**

This course addresses the challenges students face as they transition into college and the next phase in their lives. Attention will be given to the difficult issues that confront young adults face today including alcohol and substance abuse, anxiety, interpersonal relationships, harassment, consent, and responsible social media use. In addition, the class will cover a host of practical considerations relevant to living away from home including time management and study skills, diet, exercise, cooking, laundry, personal finance and interaction with roommates.

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***Especially for Seniors*****Grade 12**

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**Senior Internship****.25 Credits**

LCA's Senior Internship provides a unique opportunity for Upper School students. Each senior is required to spend the last three weeks of the school year gaining experience in a "real life" career field of his or her interest. The goal is to help them use the experiences and insights gained while in the work force as a legitimate exploration of a potential career. LCA seniors have interned in corporations, non-profit organizations, small businesses and start-up companies, schools, and hospitals. They have assisted executives, social workers, entrepreneurs, teachers, physicians, nurses, pastors, graphic designers, salespeople, and others. Because no reimbursement is permitted, students are able to spend valuable time observing, assisting, reading, and researching.

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**Advanced Senior Research****1 Credit**

The Senior Project is a research based class where students are paired with a faculty mentor and allowed to pursue an interest in-depth; either academic or service oriented. Students will be required to make presentations throughout the year to the Senior Project Board to report on their progress and learning. The class will take the place of the Senior Internship. The entire project assumes the integration of faith with learning in such a way that acknowledges all pursuits of truth a ultimately pursuing a better understanding of God and his creation. Admission to this course is by application.

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