



Middle School Course Catalogue

Middle School English

7th Grade English

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will read several novels and poems during the course of the year and begin to learn the basics of literary analysis. They will discuss and write about the literature in the light of scripture. Students will continue to refine their knowledge of grammar. A number of writing assignments will be incorporated which will continue to develop their skills of organization and expression.

OBJECTIVES:

- Develop reading and language arts skills through exposure to high-quality children's literature
- Develop the ability to evaluate and analyze literature in the light of scripture
- Develop an appreciation of truth, beauty, and goodness through literature
- Develop confidence and skill in writing, including essays and narratives
- Develop grade-appropriate grammatical skills

TEXT: The Bronze Bow; Crispin: Cross of Lead; Where the Red Fern Grows; The Hiding Place; Grammar 7, BJU Press; IEW World History; Famous Legends (Crommelin)

8th Grade English

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will read several novels and poems during the course of the year and begin to learn the basics of literary analysis. They will discuss and write about the literature in the light of scripture. Students will continue to refine their knowledge of grammar. A number of writing assignments will be incorporated which will continue to develop their skills of organization and expression.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Develop reading and language arts skills through exposure to high-quality children's literature
- Develop the ability to evaluate and analyze literature in the light of scripture
- Develop an appreciation of truth, beauty, and goodness through literature
- Develop confidence and skill in writing, including essays and narratives
- Develop grade-appropriate grammatical skills

TEXT: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer; Treasure Island; The Voyage of the Dawn Treader; The King's Shadow; Grammar 8, BJU Press; IEW American History; Famous Legends (Crommelin)

Middle School Social Sciences

American History

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Using map work, timeline and other student activities, students are instructed on the social and cultural aspects of history, as well as religious developments throughout American history.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Analyze charts, graphs, maps, photographs and timelines
- Analyze current events relevant to American History topics
- View historic events through the eyes of those who were there as shown in their art, writing, music and artifacts
- Compare the relationships among the British, French, Spanish, and Dutch in their struggle for colonization of North America.
- Compare the characteristics of the New England, Middle and Southern colonies
- Identify the impact of key colonial figures on the economic, political, and social development of the colonies
- Discuss the impact of colonial settlement on Native American populations
- Explain major domestic and international economic, military, political, and socio-cultural events of the U.S. Presidents
- Examine the causes, course and consequences of the French and Indian War, American Revolution, Westward Expansion, Civil War
- Examine the course and consequences of the Constitutional Convention (New Jersey Plan, Virginia Plan, Great Compromise, Three-Fifths Compromise, compromises regarding taxation and slave trade, Electoral College, state vs. federal power, empowering a president)
- Examine the structure, content and consequences of the Declaration of Independence
- Recognize the contributions of the Founding Fathers
- Analyze the impact of technological advancements on the agricultural economy and slave labor

- Examine the aspects of slave culture including plantation life, resistance efforts, and the role of the slaves' spiritual system.
- Explain the causes, course, and consequences of the 19th century transportation revolution on the growth of the nation's economy.
- Identify the division (Confederate and Union States, Border states, western territories) of the United States at the outbreak of the Civil War.
- Apply the rights and principles contained the Constitution and Bill of Rights to the lives of citizens today
- Evaluate how Amendments to the Constitution have expanded voting rights
- Evaluate and compare the essential ideals and principles of American constitutional government expressed in primary sources from the colonial period to Reconstruction.

TEXT: *The American Republic*, BJU Press

World History

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course approaches world history as a chronological narrative that reveals the hand of God at work in the nations, beginning with the birth of the Church, the rise of Islam, and a survey of nations around the world from 1000 A.D. to the present. A variety of photos, maps, art and margin notes enhance the text material and spark interest for further study.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Examine world events from 1000 A.D. to the present through a biblical worldview
- Identify the significant events of world history and examine the relationship between nations
- Discuss the impact of the rise and fall of world civilizations
- Identify themes of justice, power, citizenship, environment in major historical events
- Recognize and evaluate historical events from multiple perspectives
- Compare and contrast varying perspectives of historical events

TEXT: *World Studies*, 4th ed. BJU Press

Middle School Math

7th Grade Math

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is an integrated Mathematics program. Concepts are introduced incrementally and are continually practiced throughout the problem sets. Students will continue to develop math skills and understanding.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students will demonstrate understanding of and apply the following mathematics principles:

- measurement
- estimation
- real-world connections
- word-problems
- rate
- powers and roots
- geometric proofs
- scientific notation
- graphing functions
- quantitative comparisons
- balancing equations
- transformation of formulas
- literal equations
- algebraic terms
- irrational numbers
- factoring algebraic expressions
- substitution
- graphing linear equations and inequalities
- geometric construction
- scale factor and indirect measure
- similar and congruent figures
- data collection, display, and analysis
- probability and statistics

TEXT: *Saxon Math 8/7*

Pre-Algebra

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course represents a culmination of pre-algebra mathematics, covering all topics normally taught in pre-algebra, as well as additional topics from geometry and discrete mathematics (used in engineering and computer). Concepts are introduced incrementally and are continually practiced throughout the problem sets.

Each daily lesson consists of the following:

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- demonstrate understanding of integers, square roots, scientific notation and graphing of proportional relationships
- analyze and solve pairs of simultaneous linear equations
- apply Pythagorean Theorem
- know formulas for volumes of cones, cylinders, spheres, and use them to solve real world problems
- demonstrated understanding of the properties of rotations, reflections and translations
- Compare properties of two functions each represented in a different way (algebraically, graphically, numerically in tables, or by verbal descriptions).
- Solve linear equations in one variable.
- Describe qualitatively the functional relationship between two quantities by analyzing a graph (e.g., where the function is increasing or decreasing, linear or nonlinear).

TEXT: *Prentice Hall Pre-Algebra*

Middle School Science

General Science

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to be a student's first systematic introduction to the sciences. The course covers such topics as the scientific method, designing experiments, simple machines, archaeology, geology, paleontology, biology, and human anatomy and physiology. Its scope, therefore, is quite wide. There are many hands-on experiments students complete also.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and describe various earth structures including layers of the earth, patterns within the rock cycle, methods for measuring the age of the earth and its parts
- Explore scientific evidences for intelligent design of the earth
- Identify test variables and outcome variables in an experiment
- Identify many early historical contributors to science and the importance of their discoveries as they relate to scientific study today
- Discuss and apply scientific method to experiments
- Explain the purpose for several simple machines
- Discuss basic structures and systems of human anatomy and physiology
- Understand the general contents of the fossil record and two interpretations of the fossil record
- Define the basic components of life
- Classify plants and living organisms

TEXT: *Exploring Creation with General Science*, 2nd ed., Apologia

Middle School Academic Electives

Study Skills (Semester Course)

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This class will study and develop study skills that will help students improve and succeed in many areas of life. The following topics will be studied in depth:

- Study Time, Place, Habits, and Goals
- Interpreting and Creating Visual Aids
- Graphic Organizers and Charts
- Reading and Taking Notes from Textbooks
- Taking Notes in Class
- Using Reference Sources
- Remembering Information
- Taking Tests
- Building Vocabulary Through Word Meaning Clues

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Students will use various strategies studied in class to improve study practices.

TEXT: *Study Skills & Strategies for Students* (Mangrum/Strichart) 4th Ed; *Do Hard Things*, Alex and Brett Harris

7th grade Logic

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students are introduced to the informal fallacies of relevance, presumption, and clarity. Advertising, popular media and politicians are analyzed through classroom discussion and workbook activities for their use of informal fallacies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Recognition of the informal fallacies of relevance, presumption, and clarity
- Analysis of arguments used in advertising, media and political debate
- Identification of *Ad Fontem* arguments, appeal to emotion, red herring, begging the question, bifurcation, fallacy of moderation, is-ought fallacy fallacies of composition and division, sweeping and hasty generalization, false analogy, false cause, fake precision, equivocation, accent and distinction without a difference

TEXT: *Art of Argument*, Classical Academic Press

8th grade Logic

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Students will learn to build compelling and persuasive arguments. As a blend of logic and rhetoric they will first study the logical structure of good, clear arguments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and present elements of argumentation including analogy, comparison, testimony and statistics
- Create sound and persuasive arguments
- Study fallacies often committed

TEXT: *The Argument Builder*, Classical Academic Press

Latin

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a step beyond exposure to the Latin language. When used as a whole, this series trains students in grammar, vocabulary, and English derivatives.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will acquire a solid base of Latin vocabulary
- Students will apply English grammar rules to Latin
- Students will use Latin vocabulary to determine derivatives of English vocabulary
- Students will practice increasingly complex noun parsing, verb conjugating, and translating

TEXT: *Latin for Children A, B, C*

7th Grade Biblical Worldview

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course compares and contrasts the key tenets of Christianity to Islam, naturalism, and new spirituality. The Bible survey component reviews Romans and 1 & 2 Corinthians. Key topics covered include:

- Atheism, evolution, materialism
- Islam, five pillars of Islam
- Pantheism, reincarnation, karma
- Righteousness, justification
- Redemption, reconciliation, edification

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will define worldview
- Explain biblical Christianity: view of God, man, the universe, moral laws and values
- Contrast biblical Christianity with Islam, Naturalism, and New Age
- Summarize biblical salvation using the writings of Paul including the concepts of justification, redemption and reconciliation

TEXT: *Competing Worldviews*, Summit Ministries

8th Grade Biblical Worldview

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The worldview portion of this curriculum helps students understand how they can live out their Christian worldview in a post-Christian culture. The Bible survey component examines the remaining Epistles not yet covered in previous courses and Revelation. Key topics covered include:

- Apologetics
- Popular culture
- Revelation, truth, knowledge
- Science, relativism, Darwinism
- Marriage and Family
- The resurrection

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Students will formulate an apologetic for the Christian faith
- Apply biblical truths to modern culture
- Explain the biblical view of marriage and family
- Summarize the concept of revelation and its role in understanding truth

TEXT: *Christianity in Action*, Summit Ministries