

Asheville Christian Academy

Upper School Course Description Guide 2023-2024



www.ashevillechristian.org

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BIBLICAL STUDIES

Biblical Literacy / Christology – 9th Grade

Course length is 1 year

No matter what our level of familiarity, the Bible is a challenging book to read, understand, and apply to our lives today. **Biblical Literacy** seeks to answer the core questions, “What exactly is the Bible?”, “How do I understand the Bible’s original meaning?” and “What does the Bible mean for me today?”. Students will learn how the gospel is woven throughout the entire Bible despite dozens of authors and many different genres of writing as well as what questions to ask of each particular genre in order to achieve responsible interpretations of the text. Finally, students will learn and practice a variety of Bible study methods and utilize a variety of Bible study tools that will equip them to not just be hearers of the word, but doers as well. (fall semester)

Christology will seek to answer, Jesus' question: "Who do people say I am?" It will explore some of the of Old Testament expectations along with the New Testament revelation, as well as the writings of the early Fathers of the Church and definitions regarding the Person and Work of Jesus Christ. Moreover, the course will evaluate some early heresies regarding misunderstandings of the person and work of Christ. In studying the New Testament evidence, this course will attempt to survey the material from a scriptural, theological, historical, and creedal basis, giving particular attention to points of interest and debate in our own time on the issue of the uniqueness of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. (spring semester)

Christian Doctrine / Worldviews – 10th Grade

Course length is 1 year

Christian Doctrine is an introduction to the systematic study of the basic doctrines of the Christian faith. Students will learn how to study what the Bible as a whole says about the core beliefs within the Christian tradition. What is the character of God? What is so special about humanity and how do we relate to God? What does the Bible say about how to relate to God and how to live in community with each other? What about eternity? Students will investigate these questions and more using a biblical framework to

better understand what scripture teaches. (fall semester)

Every person has a basic set of beliefs that shapes what they value, influences how they act, and ultimately speaks into the character they form.

Worldviews should have answers to the questions of origin, identity, meaning, morality, and destiny. This class is designed to invite each student to evaluate common worldviews through tests of reason and consistency, as well as to analyze the logical out-workings through the art forms of movies and songs. (spring semester)

Biblical Discernment – 11th Grade

Course length is 0.5 year

This course seeks to answer the following questions:

Who is God?

Who am I?

What does God want for me?

Over the course of the semester, we will ask God to tell us about Himself, His intention in our creation, and His desires for our lives as individuals. We will use the Bible as our primary guide to answer these questions. This is a valuable opportunity to reflect on your core beliefs, consider the implications of these beliefs on the way you live every day, and experience God at work in your life.

Origins of the Bible – 11th Grade

Course length is 0.5 year

The Bible is God's inerrant Word to humankind, the foundation of our Christian faith. However, its authority is being undermined in the public arena and nowhere more so than higher academia. The goal of this course is to equip each student with the knowledge and reasoning skills to not only verbally defend God's holy Word, but to settle in his/her own mind the veracity and reliability of this book. This course will include a brief overview of apologetics, logic, and worldviews, as well as a look at evidences for a Christian worldview in archeology, science, and Biblical manuscripts. The culmination of this course is training in evangelism and hands-on experience talking with people in downtown Asheville.

BIBLICAL STUDIES (continued)

This class is offered through a partnership with Serve To LEAD, an Asheville based non-profit that develops serving leaders through education and global engagement that eliminates poverty: spiritually, socially, and materially.

Ethics and Analysis – 12th Grade

Course length is 1 year

Ethics and Analysis will serve to help seniors make sound decisions with a biblical foundation. The structure of this course will allow time for completing assignments and engaging in discussion in class. The focus of the course will be utilizing a Christian worldview to explore the moral principles and ethics that govern our decisions and behaviors.

ELECTIVES

Advanced Placement Music Theory

Course Length is 1 year

Pre-requisite: Placement Exam

Co-requisite: Enrollment in Symphonic Band or US Choir

Advanced Placement Music Theory is a classroom-setting music course which is driven by textbooks, worksheets, and exercises, online resources, aural training, and listening. Special attention will be given, though not exclusively, to the following topics: rhythm, melody, harmony, texture, form, musical analysis, elementary composition/improvisation and, to some extent, history and style, dictation, sight-singing, and other listening skills, all in preparation for the Advanced Placement Music Theory exam in the spring.

The foundation of knowledge presented in this year-long course provides students with the opportunity to develop, practice, and master music theory skills essential to success in post-secondary music theory course work. It is important that students in music theory continue to develop their ensemble skills in an Asheville Christian Academy ensemble, preferably during the same academic year, that they may apply their knowledge of the course material to the fullest. The student's ability to read and write musical notation is fundamental, and therefore imperative, in such a course. Effort is made to cultivate a love for music of all genres and eras, as it applies to the development of music theory over the course of the history of music. One of the intended byproducts of quality music training is the preparation of musically skilled and literate Christians to serve in the Church of Christ.

Advanced Placement Psychology

Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment option

Course length is 1 year

Pre-requisite: 93% in World History I H and in Ancient Literature H

The Advanced Placement Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key

concepts, and phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatments of psychological disorders, and social psychology. The course is taught in light of a Christian worldview and proposes an integrated framework from which to approach psychology and Christian faith. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Psychology exam in May.

Teacher's Assistant

Course Length is 1 year for 0.5 credit

The purpose of teachers' assistants is to help faculty and staff members with any number of tasks that do not require specialized training. TAs are typically assigned to individual supervisors for the entire school year and may complete jobs such as those related to paperwork, organization, or errands. They are expected to check in with their supervisors at the start of each assigned period. Students will be counted tardy or absent as with any other class. This program is not intended to provide supplemental study hall periods, and supervisors are expected to provide enough work to keep TAs engaged. (May be repeated.)

Yearbook / Journalism College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

Yearbook class is a credit course designed to teach journalism, photography, and graphic arts skills to the students and to produce the school's yearbook, *Reflections*. The book is intended to record the significant events of each school year in an artistically pleasing and journalistically sound fashion.

The advisor facilitates the production of the book by teaching the students how to use photo editing programs and advanced page-making programs while instructing the class in journalistic writing. By exposing students to desktop publishing and graphic arts, the program allows them to explore this discipline as a possible career path. Besides

ELECTIVES (continued)

the production of the book, the staff is expected to sell ads and learn to deal with the public and the businesses they contact in a professional way and to learn integrity in the business arena.

The course encompasses much more than putting out a publication. Students will also learn broadcasting skills, teamwork, diligence, the importance of meeting deadlines, and publishing skills to equip and encourage the future of Christ-centered journalism. Students must get approval from the yearbook advisor to take this course. (May be repeated.)

Yearbook / Journalism Honors

Course Length is 1 year

This class serves as a high-level part of the Reflections Journalism productions. Students will not only be a part of creating the school's yearbook, they will also play a pivotal role in its photography website and future broadcasting endeavors while also developing as Christ-centered journalists. As a key player in photography and coverage of student life, this program is becoming one of the most versatile creators of print and visual student journalism in the area.

As an honors credit course, students will advance in leadership development while training their peers in professional journalism, photography, and digital design aspects. The class is hands-on production and constantly connects to professional outside sources to provide life-skill communication development. Students must get approval from the yearbook advisor to take this course. (May be repeated.)

ENGLISH

Ancient Literature **College Prep / Honors** Course Length is 1 year

The Ancient Literature course examines significant world literature beginning with formative works such as *Gilgamesh* and *The Rubaiyat* and concluding with several Renaissance titles (*Julius Caesar* and Dante's *Inferno*). Because of the pre-eminence of Greek and Roman writing and philosophy in shaping Western culture, the course concentrates on Plato (*The Cave*, *The Republic*, "The Apology") and Aristotle, Greek myth, *The Odyssey*, and *Oedipus Rex*. The study of myth meets philosophy and debate with contemplation of the writing of Joseph Campbell ("The Hero's Journey" and *The Power of Myth*) and Stephen Greenblatt's *The Swerve*. Those recent works help highlight the focus the class places on a student's understanding of classic rhetoric and its elements of ethos, logos, and pathos as students are challenged to understand argumentative writing. Essays move from description and narration to exposition before students write a research-based argument essay late in the year. Central to the argument of the course is the manner in which early and universal themes and motifs reinforce the truths of the Bible: even ideas and mythologies (Plato's Cave, Gilgamesh's search for eternal life ...) ignorant of or hostile to God's Word cannot help but prove His design and echo many Old Testament journeys and stories (those of Joseph and Moses, for two examples) that point to God's perfect plan culminating in the life of Jesus Christ.

World Literature **College Prep / Honors** Course Length is 1 year

The World Literature course is a continuation of the freshman course of Ancient to Renaissance civilization. The course starts in the Renaissance period and continues through the Modern period with a chronological study of literature, prevailing philosophies, and predominant worldviews. Students learn to distinguish various genres of literature and write about them. Students write a literary criticism synthesis paper using scholarly sources and proper documentation. Students

study short stories, drama, novels, poetry and prose from the different periods. A vocabulary program based upon the words most frequently found on the SAT exam is incorporated into the course, along with instruction and practice in essay writing.

American Literature **College Prep / Honors** Course Length is 1 year

The American Literature course is a survey of U.S. literature beginning with works by Native Americans and continuing chronologically through the modern period. Emphasis is placed upon discovering the worldviews of each author and predominant philosophies of each literary period, which are weighed against a biblical worldview. Fundamental literary analysis is taught throughout the course, with a literary synthesis paper based upon publications of literary critics as a capstone. A vocabulary program based upon the most frequently used SAT words or words taken from the literature each week is incorporated into the course, along with instruction and practice in essay and creative writing.

Advanced Placement Language and Composition / American Literature Course Length is 1 year

Advanced Placement Language and Composition also serves as the American Literature Survey course for students enrolled in the class. As such, the course requires that students spend equal amounts of time engaging with the discipline and demands specific to the AP Language and Composition course and with the works representative of essential writers and thinkers who shaped the American political, spiritual, and literary landscapes. The course concentrates on marrying the specific requirements of the AP Language and Composition curriculum with writers and rhetoricians whose works provoke debate, criticism, and synthesis as seen in student discussions and in their writing of both formal and informal expository, analytical, and argumentative essays. Students learn the schools of philosophical and literary thought (Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Realism, Naturalism, Modernism, etc.) prevalent through American history and their influence on our wider culture as we read authors

ENGLISH (continued)

from each era. The Survey comprises Puritan founders, political writers, radical essayists and thinkers such as Emerson and Thoreau, major poets, foundational novelists, artists who sought reform (such as Chopin and Ellison), and short story writers whose works offer a chronicle of changes in subject matter and worldview. The intensive study of these representative American writers, as well as the use of challenging supplemental essays, dovetails well with the specific elements of the AP course. Every assignment and discussion rests on these fundamental questions: what is the author's argument and is this work compatible with the Truth of the Gospel? The culminating evaluative assessment will be the Advanced Placement Language and Composition Examination, which all students will take in May to meet the course requirements.

British Literature College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

The British Literature and Composition class is a chronological survey of British literature beginning with the Anglo-Saxon Period, covering the Middle Ages through the Renaissance, the Restoration and Eighteenth Century, the Romantic Age, the Victorian Age and ending with the Twentieth Century period. Selections from the oral tradition, poetry, drama, essays and novels make up the basic body of literature to be studied. We concentrate on analyzing and interpreting literature by doing "close readings." Additionally, by improving writing skills, such as prewriting, drafting, and editing techniques, and refining English language usage skills, such as learning and using correct grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary, we will have the necessary tools to successfully transition to a college environment. Analysis will be done from a biblical perspective.

British Literature Honors

Course Length is 1 year

The British Literature Honors class is a chronological survey of British literature beginning with the Anglo-Saxon Period, covering the Middle Ages through the Renaissance, the

Restoration and Eighteenth Century, the Romantic Age, the Victorian Age and ending with the Twentieth Century period. Selections from the oral tradition, poetry, drama, essays and novels make up the basic body of literature to be studied. Students are presented with the spiritual, intellectual and philosophical worldviews of the past to the present day to reinforce the idea that literature reflects and influences its society. Students will gain a deeper understanding of their literary heritage with its British influence, will acquire an appreciation of multiple genres, and ultimately, will be challenged to see their privilege and responsibility to become active participants in addressing their world from a Christian perspective. Writing, speech, grammar and vocabulary are integrated with the literature selection.

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition / British Literature

Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment option

Course Length is 1 year

Advanced Placement Literature and Composition is a college level course designed for the self-motivated student who is well read and willing to be challenged in his/her thinking and writing and is ready to accept the responsibility for his/her own learning. In other words, he/she understands the joy of scholarship. The class will cover a wide range of world literary masterpieces and will, whenever possible, follow a chronological parallel with the British Literature class. Students are presented with worldviews of the past to the present day to reinforce the idea that literature reflects and influences its society. Students will gain a deeper understanding of their literary heritage with its British influence, will acquire an appreciation of multiple genres, and, ultimately, will be challenged to see their responsibility to become active participants in addressing/engaging their world from a Christian perspective. Writing, research, speech, grammar and vocabulary are integrated with the literature selections. The culminating evaluative assessment will be the Advanced Placement Literature and Composition Examination, which all students will take in May to meet the course requirements.

ENGLISH (continued)

Senior Integration Project
College Prep or
Honors / Dual Enrollment option
Course Length is 1 year

The Senior Integration Project consists of oral, visual, and written persuasive discourse. Students choose a topic of interest that is arguable, research multiple academic sources, synthesize different conversations, and address their topic from a biblical position. Each student writes a position paper of approximately 10 pages, creates a Power Point presentation which he/she will present at an oral defense for a panel of experts in his/her field, and field questions from the panel. This project is considered the capstone of his/her high school career.

FINE ARTS

Art Fundamentals College Prep / Honors Course Length is 1 year

Art Fundamentals is an entry level elective art course for students in grades 9-12 who want to explore the visual arts. This course combines art history, art appreciation and analysis, and an understanding of the elements and principles of design while engaging students in hands-on creative projects. Studio lessons provide opportunities for drawing, painting, sculpting, ceramics, mixed media and more. Through discussion and group critiques students will learn how to think and speak in a more informed and articulate way about the visual arts in general and specifically to their own work. Gaining an appreciation for, and experience in, the visual arts is a path to deeper understanding of God's truth and beauty in our world and ourselves.

Art Fundamentals Honors holds the additional requirement of participation in one regional art competition per school year.

Intermediate Art College Prep / Honors Course Length is 1 year Prerequisite: Art Fundamentals

Intermediate Art builds upon concepts and skills learned in Art Fundamentals. Within the context of studio lessons students will study art history, art appreciation, analysis, the Elements and Principles of design, and contemporary art. Students will experience different projects from that of Art Fundamentals thereby gaining a broader knowledge of art techniques. In-depth discussion and critiques will be encouraged and exploring original ideas will be emphasized. Intermediate Art students will also design and execute a collaborative visual arts project to be installed or displayed on campus.

Honors students are expected to participate in two regional art competitions per school year.

Advanced Art Honors Course Length is 1 year Prerequisite: Intermediate Art or permission of instructor

Advanced Art is an honors level art course that is designed to motivate art students to become critical thinkers using elegant problems instead of traditional projects. Students will develop and clarify their philosophy of art through in-depth explorations with media, technique, and design. Emphasis will be placed on individual artistic voice, breadth of subject, and symbolic meaning. Exercises in alternative media and non-traditional approaches are explored. This course specifically enforces time management skills needed for lengthy assignments. Students will submit written work using art criticism, formal analysis, and personal artistic statements. Advanced Art students will participate in at least two regional art competitions per school year and one collaborative project.
(May be repeated.)

Advanced Placement Art and Design: 2-D or Drawing Course Length is 1 year Prerequisite: Intermediate Art or permission of instructor

Art is a gift from God. As man is created in God's image, he is given the ability for creative expression. This God-given creativity is intended to be used for God's glory and for man's pleasure.

Advanced Placement 2-D Art and Design is an introductory college-level two-dimensional design course and AP Drawing that aims to explore our God-given creativity. Students refine and apply skills and ideas they develop throughout the course to produce two-dimensional art and design.

Advanced Placement Drawing is an introductory college-level drawing course that aims to explore our God-given creativity. Students refine and apply skills and ideas they develop throughout the course to produce drawings.

Students create a portfolio of work to demonstrate inquiry through art and design and development of materials, processes, and ideas

FINE ARTS (continued)

over the course of a year. Portfolios include works of art and design, process documentation, and written information about the work presented. In May, students submit portfolios for evaluation based on specific criteria, which include skillful synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas and sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision, guided by questions. Students may choose to submit any or all of the Advanced Placement Portfolio Exams.

Ceramics

College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

Ceramics is an introductory studio class designed to expose students to throwing clay on a potter's wheel and learning how to create functional and decorative pieces using hand building techniques. Students are held to a high standard of craftsmanship, while exploring form, surface design, and glazing techniques. This class appeals to any student who enjoys working with clay and does not mind getting dirty.
(May be repeated.)

Digital Design

College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

This course provides entry and intermediate level training in computer graphics and design. Some modules can include advance training and/or specialized curriculums in such areas as animation. Students learn basic computer operating, terminology, peripheral use, and file management/integration. The creative and technical process of project management is taught with an emphasis placed on concept to completion planning. Instruction covers typography, design elements and color management. Students learn software packages covering page layout, illustration, and photo manipulation and scanning with some modules offering instruction in specialized software for web design and animation. Instruction may or may not include hand--drawing techniques.

Symphonic Band

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

The Symphonic Band is an academic performing ensemble. While emphasizing fundamentals of tone, pitch, and rhythm, the band will prepare pieces for concert performances, school events, community involvement, and assessment festivals. Music is a gift from God and therefore worthy of pursuing excellence in it. Performances are the culmination of the process and our goal in striving for excellence. Therefore, performance participation is required.

Honors level will include all requirements of the standard class and the additional individual goal of auditioning for the All-District Band. Successful participation in the All-District Audition or a similar activity is required for successful completion at the honors level.
(May be repeated.)

Upper School Choir

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

The Upper School Choir is an academic performing ensemble. The primary objective of choir rehearsal (class period) is to prepare for performance. This entails not only the technical and musical preparation of choral works but also quality concert etiquette and stage presence as well as a thorough vocal pedagogy. Students will acquire knowledge and skills in the use of the basic music vocabulary including terms (both pedagogical and musicological), signs and symbols of music notation. Acceptable choral discipline is required. The class is open to any student interested in a performance-oriented class in choral music. No audition or prior approval is necessary. The ensemble prepares music for at least three performances during the school year.
Performance participation is required.

We have many performances, both on and off campus – chapel services, concerts, church services, Disney World, travel/performances in various cities, and other amusement parks, etc. We desire to grow in our enjoyment of singing and to advance the public interest in Asheville Christian Academy, as well as further each

FINE ARTS (continued)

member's education through travel, fellowship, and public contact. One of the intended byproducts of quality choral music training is the preparation of musically skilled and literate Christians to serve in the Church of Christ. (May Be Repeated)

MATHEMATICS

Algebra I

College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

Algebra I begins with a review of operations involving signed numbers. Topics introduced in Pre-Algebra are covered in more depth. Discussions and exercises include equations, inequalities, linear equations, functions, polynomial work, factoring, fractional expressions, systems, exponents, rational and irrational numbers, and quadratics. Problem solving and critical thinking skills are emphasized.

Geometry

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisites for Geometry Honors: 83% or higher in Algebra I Honors

Prerequisites for Geometry CP: 70% or higher in Algebra I CP or Honors

Geometry is a comprehensive course of study in which logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills are developed through a variety of teaching and learning methods. The goal is that students be able to solve problems using plane and solid geometry. Honors students will become fluent in performing formal geometric proofs. (Typically taken following Algebra I)

Algebra II

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisites for Algebra II Honors: Algebra I Honors or Algebra II CP

Prerequisites for Algebra II CP: 70% or higher in Algebra I CP or Honors

The Algebra II course is designed to review basic skills taught in the Algebra I course while introducing students to advanced topics that require more complex thinking skills. The use of the graphing calculators for assisting the student in solving problems will be integrated throughout the course. More advanced topics include graphing linear and quadratic equations, analytical geometry, polynomials, matrices, logarithms, sequences and series and conic sections. (Typically taken following Geometry)

Discrete Mathematics

College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisites for Discrete Mathematics: Algebra II

Discrete Mathematics is an advanced, senior-level, non-algebra-based mathematics that introduces mathematics of social choice, management science, growth and symmetry, and statistics to students. There is a focus on making the math accessible and applicable to students as well as to let them see modern mathematical discoveries. The beauty of math will be emphasized in this course because it points back to the creator of the universe.

Pre-Calculus

Honors / Dual Enrollment option

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 83% in Algebra II Honors

Pre-calculus reviews and extends concepts from Algebra and Geometry with a special focus on different types of functions and trigonometry. Other materials covered include conic sections, parametric form, polar form, and vectors. Students will need to be proficient at using their graphing calculators to help analyze and find out properties of pre-calculus as well as to check answers. Students will be prepared to take calculus after completing this course.

Advanced Placement Calculus AB

Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment option

Course Length is 1 semester for 1 credit

Prerequisite: 93% in Pre-Calculus Honors

*Students must enroll in Calculus AB 1st semester and Calculus BC 2nd semester.

All students are expected to conceptually understand the ideas of calculus from derivatives to integrals, whether they are portrayed in graphs, tables or words, and to effectively communicate their ideas in a written and verbal form. Students will need to be proficient at using their graphing calculators to help analyze and find out properties of calculus as well as to check answers. There will be a strong emphasis on investigations and projects in this class where students will be discovering the concepts of calculus and finding the applications they have to the real world.

MATHEMATICS (continued)

Students are expected to work together and help each other understand the material to make sure everybody understands, and to help them become effective communicators.

Advanced Placement Calculus BC

Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment option

Course Length is 1 semester for 1 credit

Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB

*Students must enroll in Calculus AB 1st semester and Calculus BC 2nd semester.

Students will build on their knowledge from calculus AB and will study infinite series, additional methods of integrating, and calculus in parametric and polar form. Students will need to be proficient at using their graphing calculators to help analyze and find out properties of calculus as well as to check answers. There will be a strong emphasis on investigations and projects in this class where students will be discovering the concepts of calculus and finding the applications they have to the real world. Students are expected to work together and help each other understand the material to make sure everybody understands and to help them become effective communicators. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Calculus BC exam in May.

Advanced Placement Statistics

Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment option

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% in Pre-Calculus Honors or permission from previous math instructor

This course examines data production (through observational or experimental studies), data organization and description, probability as a foundation for understanding statistical inference, and statistical inference and hypothesis testing (for population means, proportions, and distributions). Graphing calculators are essential, and students will be expected to become proficient with the use of these calculators for statistical analysis. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Statistics exam in May.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Strength and Conditioning

Course Length is 1 year

This class is designed to enhance athletic performance for the individual athlete. Students will work on various areas of athletic performance including strength, speed, power, flexibility, stability, nutrition, and conditioning. Students will be placed in various training settings to work on overall athletic performance that is demanded by their sports. Students will need to be willing to push themselves every day to be the best possible version of themselves both mentally and physically. This course meets the North Carolina state requirement for health and physical education. (May be repeated.)

SCIENCE

Anatomy and Physiology I Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% in Biology CP or 83% in Biology H

The objective of the course is to provide students with a foundational understanding of the structure and function of the human body with an emphasis on homeostasis. The student will be directed to observe the crowning creation of God (man) as a vastly unique and infinitely more complex organism than any ever previously studied. This course will feature an in-depth study of human systems and allow the students to explore clinical situations where they apply knowledge, draw inferences, and interpret data to correlate to specific maladies with symptoms in order to make correct diagnoses and treat patients with success.

Astronomy

College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

Astronomy is an introductory course for the college bound student interested in taking an experiential, hands on science course. Astronomical concepts will be presented in the class and mathematics will be utilized to further investigate associations between related variables. Students will develop critical thinking, problem solving and reasoning skills through lab work, projects, demonstrations, experiential learning activities, direct instruction, and field trips.

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to describe examples and application of topics divided into the earth, the solar system, and the universe. Earth based topics would include historical astronomy, astronomical instruments, basic astronomical optics, electromagnetic spectrum, basic atomic theory, the earth as a system in space, earth and moon system, the celestial sphere from perspective of earth, comets, auroras, and meteorites. Solar system-based topics would include the sun as a star, satellite motion, universal gravitation, planets with respective moons, space colonization and exploration. The universe-based topics would include origins, creation, special relativity, space

and time, the changing universe, galaxies, solar systems, and stars in other galaxies. Some night observations will be necessary with the course.

Biology

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Biology provides the college-bound student an understanding of life processes. The material is approached by reviewing the great diversity and variety of living organisms; the atomic and molecular structure of living matter; the theories on the origin of life; the structure and processes of cells; the reproduction, development, heredity, physiology and behavior of plants and animals; and the interaction of the organisms in the population's societies and communities. This course will give students a general overview of the biological sciences and show the importance of biology to everyday life, allowing them to better be able to honor and glorify God because of their understanding of His handiwork. Biology fulfills a laboratory science course requirement for some four-year colleges.

Chemistry

College Prep

Prerequisite: Biology

In this course students will investigate basic principles of chemistry characterized by the properties of matter and how it reacts. Laboratory and hands-on experiences will be utilized to collect data and draw conclusions. Topics include, but are not limited to, measurement, properties of matter, atomic theory, periodic table, bonding, types of reactions, stoichiometry, chemical kinetics, acid-base chemistry, and gas laws. Assignments will include weekly homework, quizzes, labs, tests and projects.

Chemistry Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% in Biology CP or 83% in Biology H

Students in chemistry gain insight into current theories describing the structure of created matter. Attention is given at the beginning of the year to the mathematical and laboratory methods of investigation and the inherent limitations in these methods. Students will reflect these

SCIENCE (continued)

limitations in their calculations of uncertainty and percent error in their lab work. Laboratory work and reports are an integral part of this course. Honors chemistry is a prerequisite to AP Chemistry, and students will learn skills, techniques and information that will provide a foundation for deeper study.

Conceptual Physics

College Prep

Course Length is 1 year

Offered alternate years

Conceptual Physics is an introductory course for the college bound student who wishes to undertake a hands-on science course. In this course, real world physics concepts will be presented while utilizing mathematics to find relationships between conceptual variables. During laboratory activities students will develop critical thinking, problem solving and reasoning skills. Upon completion, students should be able to describe examples and applications of topics including motion, forces, work, energy, power, waves, sound, light, electricity and magnetism. Demonstrations, projects, experiential learning activities, laboratory work, and direct instruction will combine to help develop the student's fundamental understanding of physics. Students will perform a lab practical with each test to further reinforce basic concepts.

Environmental Science

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: Biology

Environmental Science is designed to expose students to a higher level of knowledge, while building on concepts covered in physical science, biology & chemistry. Environmental Science is the study of interrelationships between living (biotic) and non-living things (abiotic). Students will study not just the "natural" world, but also the "man-made" world of cities and infrastructure. This course will involve observation and critical thinking, challenging students to evaluate the use of resources from a

Christian perspective. Special emphasis will be placed on real world situations and concepts. This program, as with all the science classes at ACA, is designed to develop in students a Biblical understanding of the nature, content, and limitations of science; to prepare them for responsible service; and to nurture a vision for the direction God intends for the scientific endeavor. (offered every other year)

Advanced Placement Biology

Advanced Placement / Dual Enrollment option

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisites: 93% in Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors (*or concurrently enrolled in Chemistry Honors*)

Advanced Placement Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course. Advanced Placement Biology is presented using a molecular approach and follows the College Board's AP course outline in preparation for the required Advanced Placement exam. Advanced Placement Biology differs significantly from a traditional high school biology course due to text content, depth of material covered, lab work, and time and effort required to achieve mastery in the subject area. Extensive laboratory investigations are used to further students' understandings of the principles studied.

Advanced Placement Chemistry

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% in Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors

Advanced Placement Chemistry is intended to be the equivalent of a first-year college course in general chemistry. The course utilizes a college level textbook and requires students to master material and skills at a higher level than a secondary school chemistry course. An essential part of the class is involvement in college-level laboratory work. For these reasons, a prerequisite of this course is successful completion of an Honors Chemistry course. Advanced Placement Chemistry will build on the knowledge and skills learned in that required course. The class is fast moving and demanding; hard work and application are essential. The emphasis on theoretical topics as well as high level problem solving make this class

SCIENCE (continued)

challenging. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Chemistry exam in May.

Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: Concurrently enrolled in or completed AP Calculus, or with permission of instructor

The AP Physics C: Mechanics course is equivalent to a one-semester, calculus-based, college-level physics course. It is especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in physical science or engineering. The course explores topics such as kinematics; Newton's laws of motion; work, energy and power; systems of particles and linear momentum; circular motion and rotation; and oscillations and gravitation. Introductory differential and integral calculus is used throughout the course. At the end of the course, students will be required to take the Advanced Placement Physics C: Mechanics exam which, upon successful completion, may make them eligible for college credit in physics.

SOCIAL STUDIES / HISTORY

World History I

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

World History I is a one-year course that examines world history from the earliest civilizations in Mesopotamia (3300 B.C.) to the Reformation (1520 A.D.). World History I will be studied from a chronological perspective. We will examine the impact of different periods, civilizations, and individuals and explore these contributions in the fields of religion, art, government, economics, and science. Primary sources, including Scripture, will be frequently used along with class discussions to enlighten and elucidate the topics. Honors students will take tests that require further thought and undertake an extra project each quarter.

World History II

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

World History II covers the history of the world from 1500 A.D. to the present. This class provides students with an understanding of the chronological development of the nations of the world. We will study the Age of Exploration, the French Revolution, the Rise of the Nation State, Imperialism, WWI, WWII, Postwar changes, and the Contemporary Western World. Students will explain the causes and consequences of military, political, and economic developments in the modern world. Primary sources, including Scripture, will be frequently used along with class discussions. Honors students will take tests that require further thought and undertake an extra project each quarter.

United States History

College Prep / Honors

Course Length 1 year

This class will cover American History from the time of exploration and colonization to the present. For those who know the immensity of this task, it will come as no surprise that we will skim some time periods and topics in order to go into more depth in others. By the end of the first semester, we will have completed the Civil War and Reconstruction. A Christian perspective is assumed on the part of the teacher. Latitude is

granted for a great deal of discussion by the fact that, though the Christian interpretation exists, we do not know it fully in this life, and must therefore be tolerant of our brothers and sisters with whom we differ.

Advanced Placement United States History

Course Length is 1 year

There is room for humans to have a variety of interpretations of history given the limits on both intellect and resources in the classroom. Because of this, lively discussion will be encouraged in the class. The goal of debate (both written and oral) is that facts will be used and supported correctly and that an open mind will be maintained to hear and critique the opinions of others in a fair manner. The goal of this class is to equip the students with a general knowledge of the history of our country so that they will be prepared to take their role as citizens of the nation and the world in which they live. To accomplish this, students need to learn: certain core facts, how to access facts, how to read various sorts of historical and extra-historical writing with a critical attitude, and to evaluate the facts of history to draw conclusions of their own as they write and carry on discussions.

The work in the Advanced Placement class is designed to aid students in preparation for the required Advanced Placement Exam administered by the College Board in May.

Government / Economics

College Prep / Honors

Course Length is 1 year

The course will begin with a general overview of the foundations of government, both as natural man sees it and as it is presented biblically. The majority of the course will then examine American government with some time spent at the end of the class making comparisons with other governmental systems man has tried and continues to use. The curriculum includes a field trip to the nation's capital in the fall semester. The focus of the course will be in study of the U. S. Constitution, including why it was written, what it meant to the founders and how its meaning has changed in the minds of many over the years through amendment, laws and interpretations,

SOCIAL STUDIES / HISTORY (continued)

especially in Supreme Court decisions. Honors students will take tests that require further thought and undertake an extra project each quarter.

As with the study of History, latitude is granted for a great deal of discussion by the fact that, though the perfect economic system exists in the mind of God, our understanding is affected by sin. The class will be centered around the study of personal finance with inclusion of fundamental terms and concepts of Economic theory. We will look at the free enterprise system in depth and will become familiar with other systems that have competed with this over the ages. Honors students will take tests that require further thought and undertake an extra project each quarter.

WORLD LANGUAGE

French I

Course Length is 1 year

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. This course will assist students in acquiring a basic vocabulary and develop listening, reading, and speaking skills through the use of various communicative methods and authentic materials. Basic grammatical concepts are introduced to help the students to communicate more on their own, both orally and in writing. Emphasis is placed on speaking, comprehension, writing and the ability to read a variety of level-appropriate and authentic French materials while being exposed to technology and a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will be developed as the class engages in situations in which non-native speakers demonstrate common cultural misconceptions.

French II

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 70% or higher in French I

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. The second-year course will begin with a review of introductory grammar and vocabulary and continue with more fundamental concepts in the grammatical study of the language. Most instruction will be provided in French with clarification of grammatical concepts in English. Emphasis will be on greater communication through practical language use and critical thinking skills. Speaking skills are stressed, as well as written skills, including grammar and tense formation. Emphasis is placed on speaking, comprehension, writing and the ability to read a variety of level-appropriate and authentic French materials while being exposed to technology and a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will continue to be developed as the class engages in authentic and realistic situations.

French III Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% or higher in French II

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. French III is designed to develop a greater sense of facility in everyday language skills and to deepen students' understanding of more complex grammar structures. Class instruction is provided primarily in French, with some clarification given in English. Increasing their cultural understanding of the Francophone world, this course also strengthens the student's ability to read, write, speak, and think in the target language. Students will also be introduced to samples of French literature.

French IV Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 83% or higher in French III H

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. French IV students will increase their communication skills, widen their understanding of increasingly complex language structure and strengthen their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Class instruction is provided in French, with only a few clarifications given in English. Students will continue to put understanding into application and will read and discuss short stories of traditional French literature and be exposed to authentic materials from the French-speaking world. By the end of this course students will be able to test out of the first semesters of a college course.

Advanced Placement French Language and Culture

Course length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% or higher in French IV H

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. The AP French Language and Culture class is taught in French to help students improve their proficiency across the three modes of communication: Interpretative, Interpersonal and Presentational. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies and cultural awareness. This class builds upon the skills developed within intermediate and advanced class by applying each skill to a specific, contemporary context (health, education, careers, literature, history, family, relationships and environment). Students strive to

WORLD LANGUAGE (continued)

refine their skills in writing, reading, speaking and understanding spoken French, concentrating on development of proficiency in such skills specifically in preparation for the AP French Language exam. This class focuses on the integration of authentic resources as well as traditional print resources that include literature, essays, magazine and newspaper articles, with the goal of providing a rich, diverse learning experience. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement French exam in May.

Spanish I

Course Length is 1 year

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. This course will assist students in acquiring a basic vocabulary and develop listening, reading, and speaking skills through the use of various communicative methods and authentic materials. Basic grammatical concepts are introduced to help the students to communicate more on their own, both orally and in writing. Emphasis is placed on speaking, comprehension, writing and the ability to read a variety of level-appropriate and authentic Spanish materials while being exposed to technology and a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will be developed as the class engages in situations in which non-native speakers demonstrate common cultural misconceptions.

Spanish II

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 70% or higher in Spanish 1

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. The second-year course will begin with a review of introductory grammar and vocabulary and continue with more fundamental concepts in the grammatical study of the language. Most instruction will be provided in Spanish with clarification of grammatical concepts in English. Emphasis will be on greater communication through practical language use and critical thinking skills. Speaking skills are stressed, as well as written skills, including

grammar and tense formation. Emphasis is placed on speaking, comprehension, writing and the ability to read a variety of level-appropriate and authentic Spanish materials while being exposed to technology and a great deal of real-world language in realistic situations. Cultural awareness will continue to be developed as the class engages in authentic and realistic situations.

Spanish III Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% or higher in Spanish II

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. Spanish III is designed to develop a greater sense of facility in everyday language skills and to deepen students' understanding of more complex grammar structures. Class instruction is provided primarily in Spanish, with some clarification given in English. Increasing their cultural understanding of the Hispanic world, this course also strengthens the student's ability to read, write, speak, and think in the target language. Students will also be introduced to samples of Spanish literature.

Spanish IV Honors

Course Length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 83% or higher in Spanish III H

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. Spanish IV students will increase their communication skills, widen their understanding of increasingly complex language structure and strengthen their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills. Class instruction is provided in Spanish, with only a few clarifications given in English. Students will continue to put understanding into application and will read and discuss short stories of traditional Spanish literature and be exposed to authentic materials from the Spanish speaking world. By the end of this course students will be able to test out of the first semesters of a college course.

Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture

Course length is 1 year

Prerequisite: 93% or higher in Spanish IV H or permission of the instructor

WORLD LANGUAGE (continued)

Students will understand that they are created in God's image and endowed with the ability to learn language to God's glory. The AP Spanish Language and Culture class is taught in

Spanish to help students improve their proficiency across the three modes of communication: Interpretative, Interpersonal and Presentational. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies and cultural awareness. This class builds upon the skills developed within intermediate and advanced class by applying each skill to a specific, contemporary context (health, education, careers, literature, history, family, relationships, and environment).

Students strive to refine their skills in writing, reading, speaking, and understanding spoken Spanish, concentrating on development of proficiency in such skills specifically in preparation for the AP Spanish Language exam. This class focuses on the integration of authentic resources, as well as traditional print resources that include literature, essays, magazine, and newspaper articles, with the goal of providing a rich, diverse learning experience. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Spanish exam in May.