

**Trinity Christian School
160 Changebridge Road
Montville, NJ 07045**



**Secondary Curriculum Guide
2014-2015**

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Secondary Curriculum Guide 2014-2015

INTRODUCTION

Trinity Christian School seeks to honor God by providing a Biblically based, academically excellent, classical education in partnership with Christian parents. In order for students to gain the most from their TCS secondary experience we urge students and parents to work together as they plan an appropriate course of study, seeking guidance from teachers and counselors when questions arise.

As you examine the course selections in this guide please consider not only short-term needs and desires but also long term goals. Please bear in mind that high school course selection and performance in those courses is extremely important when applying to college. This includes electives and extra-curricular activities. While students will want to match their ability level to the correct course, it is also important to note that students who are applying to competitive colleges and/or are hoping to earn scholarships will need to demonstrate that they took full advantage of what their high school had to offer. Merely taking the minimum requirements, even if a student does well, will not necessarily impress those who make admission and scholarship decisions. So please consider the following information carefully.

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- 20 credits of English
- 10 credits of United States History
- 10 credits of Western Thought
- 20 credits of Mathematics
- 18 credits of Lab Science
- 10 credits of Foreign Language
- 10 credits of Bible
- 8 credits of Fine Arts (select from Art, Chorus, Orchestra, or Shakespearean Drama)
- 6 credits of Classics (Logic and Rhetoric)
- Physical Education each year of enrollment

WEIGHTED GRADE SCALE

WEIGHTED GRADE SCALE					
		CP	H	AP	
A+	97-100	4.3	4.8	5.3	P Pass (Pass/Fail)
A	93-96	4.0	4.5	5.0	F Failure(Pass/Fail)
A-	90-92	3.7	4.2	4.7	
B+	87-89	3.3	3.8	4.3	I Incomplete
B	83-86	3.0	3.5	4.0	W Withdrawn
B-	80-82	2.7	3.2	3.7	WF Withdrawn Failure
C+	77-79	2.3	2.8	3.3	
C	73-76	2.0	2.5	3.0	
C-	70-72	1.7	2.2	2.7	
D+	67-69	1.3	1.3	1.3	CP = College Prep
D	63-66	1.0	1.0	1.0	H = Honors
D-	60-62	0.7	0.7	0.7	AP = Advanced Placement
F	0-59	0.0	0.0	0.0	

HONOR ROLL

A student must attain a grade point average of 4.0 or higher to be on the high honor roll. A grade point average of 3.5 to 3.99 will place a student on the honor roll.

A grade of “D”, “F” or Incomplete in any course automatically excludes a student from consideration for both honor rolls.

SECONDARY COURSE SELECTION SUMMARY

Grade	Course Name	Credits	Grade	Course Name	Credits	Grade	Course Name	Credits
7	English 7 Honors	5	9	American Literature Honors	5	11	Great Books I Honors	5
	Earth & Life Science	5		Biology with Lab (Honors Option)	6		Physics with Lab (Honors Option)	6
	Pre-Algebra	5		Geometry Honors	5		Pre-Calculus Honors	5
	World History I	5		OR Geometry			OR Advanced Math	
	Latin 7	4		US History I (Honors Option)	5		Western Thought I Honors	5
	Bible - Ethics	2		Spanish I	5		Spanish III OR Fine Arts Elective	2-5
	Typing	1		Bible - New Testament	2		OR Independent Study	
	Study Skills	2		Writing Lab	2		Bible – Comparative Worldviews I (Honors Option)	3
	Chorus	2		Physical Education	1		Logic II	2
	Physical Education	1		Chapel	1		Physical Education	1
	Chapel	1					Chapel	1
			Fine Arts Req'd Elective (see below)	2		Fine Arts Req'd Elective (see below)	2	
	TOTAL CREDITS	33		TOTAL CREDITS	34		TOTAL CREDITS	32-35
8	English 8 Honors	5	10	British Literature Honors	5	12	Great Books II Honors	5
	Physical Science	5		Chemistry with Lab (Honors Option)	6		Calculus Honors (AP Option)	5
	Algebra I Honors	5		Algebra II Honors	5		OR Pre-Calculus	
	OR Algebra 1			OR Algebra II			Western Thought II Honors	5
	World History II	5		US History II (Honors Option)	5		Bible – Comparative Worldviews II (Honors Option)	3
	Latin 8	4		Spanish II	5		Rhetoric II - Senior Thesis	2
	Bible - Old Testament	2		Bible - Church History	2		Physical Education	1
	MS Office - Intro	1		Rhetoric I	2		Chapel	1
	Logic I	2		Physical Education	1			
	Chorus	2		Chapel	1			
	Physical Education	1					Fine Arts Req'd Elective (see below)	2
			Fine Arts Req'd Elective (see below)	2		Fine Arts Req'd Elective (see below)	2	
	TOTAL CREDITS	35		TOTAL CREDITS	34		TOTAL CREDITS	24

High School Fine Arts Electives

Art (2 credits)
Chorus (2 credits)
Orchestra (2 credits)
Shakespearean Drama (2 credits)

High School Independent Study

Independent Studies are optional and the number of credits vary depending on the course.

Junior High Optional Electives

Art (1 credit)
Orchestra (2 credits)

Junior Specific Elective

Spanish III Honors (5 credits)

Senior Specific Elective

AP Spanish (5 credits)
Human Anatomy & Physiology
with Lab (6 credits)

Junior High Clubs

Book Club
Chess Club
Handbells

High School Clubs

Chess Club
Flute Choir
Handbells
Newspaper
Yearbook

NOTE: Clubs meet during lunch periods.

COURSE DESIGNATIONS

Honors Option

All high school courses at TCS are considered college preparatory courses, however, an Honors Option is available for some courses. Students who have achieved a final grade of 87 or higher in the previous non-honors course within the discipline, or who are recommended by their teacher, may choose the Honors Option. Students must receive a final average of 80 or higher in their Honors Option course, or be recommended by their teacher in order to take advantage of this option in subsequent years. Honors Option students should expect more work outside the classroom as well as additional requirements on tests.

Honors

Some courses are designated Honors courses. Students should expect content and a workload commensurate with such a designation.

Advanced Placement

AP classes are designed to be the equivalent of a freshman level college course. There are no homework limits and homework relief does not apply to these classes. Students taking these classes should be eager to learn and ready to work hard both in and out of the classroom. The prerequisite for an AP course is a grade of 87 or higher in the previous course within that discipline or a related subject and instructor approval. AP students will be required to take an AP exam in May; the cost of each exam is about \$90.

Independent Study

Independent study courses pursued in addition to the curriculum at TCS must have administrative approval. Supervision of such courses is the responsibility of parents and students are expected to focus any unscheduled time at TCS upon their independent study. Costs for these courses are the responsibility of parents. TCS has an 'affiliate school' relationship with *NorthStar Academy* and *Sevenstar Academy*. Only grades from these institutions are approved for placement on the TCS transcript. Any other independent study courses are reported separately and are not calculated into the overall TCS student GPA.

SUGGESTED COURSE OF STUDY FOR COMPETITIVE COLLEGES

Grade 9

American Literature Honors and Writing Lab
US History I (Honors Option)
Geometry Honors
Introductory Biology with Lab (Honors Option)
Spanish I
New Testament
Physical Education and Fine Arts Requirements
Additional Elective(s) or Independent Study

Grade 10

British Literature Honors
US History II (Honors Option)
Algebra II Honors
Introductory Chemistry with Lab (Honors Option)
Spanish II
Rhetoric I
Church History
Physical Education and Fine Arts Requirements
Additional Elective(s) or Independent Study

Grade 11

Great Books I Honors
Western Thought I Honors
Pre-Calculus Honors
Physics with Lab (Honors Option)
Spanish III Honors
Logic II
Comparative Worldviews I (Honors Option)
Physical Education and Fine Arts Requirements
Additional Elective(s) or Independent Study

Grade 12

Great Books II Honors
Western Thought II Honors
Calculus Honors or AP
Human Anatomy & Physiology with Lab Honors
AP Spanish
Rhetoric II
Comparative Worldviews II (Honors Option)
Physical Education and Fine Arts Requirements
Additional Elective(s) or Independent Study

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BIBLE

Ethics

2 credits – Grade 7

This course is an introduction to Ethics, the study of standards of moral conduct and moral judgment. These standards must be based on the word of God, not worldly or human wisdom, therefore class time is spent immersed in the Scriptures. Special attention is given to the first chapters of Genesis, where God establishes ethical “norms” such as marriage and work, and on the Ten Commandments. Students also learn the vital place of Jesus Christ in Ethics—that He is Judge, Redeemer, Example and Strength, apart from whom even the simplest of God’s commandments cannot be kept.

Old Testament Survey

2 credits – Grade 8

This is a survey course that seeks to demonstrate the relevance of each of the thirty-nine books of the Old Testament to redemptive history. Lectures will emphasize the covenantal structure of Old Testament history and its relationship to the New Testament, as well as its practical wisdom for godly living. Students will read large portions of the Old Testament, memorizing theme verses and applications for each book. Students will begin to develop critical thinking and composition skills as they write a brief paper during each quarter.

New Testament Survey

2 credits – Grade 9

This course guides students through all 27 of the New Testament books, covering aspects such as authorship, historical context, and key doctrines and teachings. Material will be covered by reading the entirety of the New Testament, with lectures and discussions to cover key people and themes. Students will also memorize theme verses associated with each book and develop critical thinking and composition skills by writing a brief paper each quarter.

Church History

2 credits – Grade 10

This course is a one year study of the founding and development of the Christian Church. It will begin with a look at the background and inception of the Apostolic Church. Other topics covered will be the Church Fathers, early challenges and heresies that confronted the Church, The Church in the Middle Ages, and the Protestant Reformation.

Comparative Worldviews I and II (Honors Option)

3 credits – Grades 11-12

This is a two year course designed to present the Biblical Christian worldview in contrast to the humanist worldviews of Secular Humanism, Marxism/Leninism, Cosmic Humanism and Post-modernism and the theistic worldview of Islam. Using a curriculum comprised of recorded lectures called *Understanding the Times*, the course surveys ten essential areas of study: theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history. The intent of this course is to provide the tools with which students can shape their own worldview biblically. The supremacy of Christ and the Christian worldview is presented as the point of integration for all areas of knowledge (Col. 2:3-4). Students will become increasingly aware of the lost condition of those without Christ and be better equipped not only to communicate God's truth, but to recognize and evaluate the many deceptive voices they hear in the world around them.

Honors students taking this course will have additional lectures to watch and articles to read. They will also have additional assignments associated with those materials as well as additional questions on the tests for each section. Honors students may choose to earn two or three credits for this course from Bryan College.

ENGLISH

English 7

5 credits – Grade 7

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of different marks, modes, and forms of literature. Students will learn to analyze the important elements of literature. Students will also learn to respond to the literature biblically and thoughtfully through regular classroom discussions and writing assignments. These assignments will also hone essential writing skills. (*See Study Skills for introduction to research and more on writing skills.*) As a supplement, students will continue to develop English grammar skills through daily exercises. There will be weekly spelling and vocabulary assignments to give each student a greater grasp of our language. In addition, students will memorize and recite several selections of poetry each marking period in order to foster an appreciation for the beauty of language and develop their public speaking skills.

English 8

5 credits – Grade 8

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of different basic aspects of literature. Students will learn to analyze how these fundamentals work together to form a work of literature and will be encouraged to respond to the literature biblically and thoughtfully through regular classroom discussions and writing assignments. These assignments will continue to hone essential writing skills. In addition, students will continue to practice their research skills. There will be regular vocabulary assignments to give students a greater grasp of our language as well as begin to prepare him for the SAT. The students will memorize and recite several selections of poetry each marking period in order to further foster an appreciation for the beauty of language and exercise their public speaking skills.

American Literature Honors

5 credits – Grade 9

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of American literature. The student will learn to analyze the works of literature individually and in their historical context. Students will be encouraged to respond to the literature biblically and thoughtfully through regular classroom discussion and response papers. These papers will continue to hone essential writing skills, and research papers on significant authors will polish research skills. In addition to response papers and brief research papers, each student will give an oral presentation on an assigned author, which will require additional research. Through regular vocabulary assignments students will improve their use of and confidence in our language. These exercises will continue to prepare them for the SAT. Students will continue to memorize several selections of poetry each marking period, further developing their appreciation for the beauty of language.

Writing Lab

2 credits – Grade 9

This course will start with a unit on research skills. Students will learn how to do research using online database services available to Trinity Christian School. This will enable them to find and use quality, academic sources for writing papers throughout their secondary careers. Students will then proceed to learn the elements of well-written paragraphs through peer review and teacher assistance. By the end of the year, they will have expanded this knowledge to a full 2-3 page paper. Ten minute writing prompts at the beginning of each class will encourage creative thinking and develop writing within a set time limit.

British Literature Honors

5 credits – Grade 10

This course is an overview of British literature from the Renaissance through the Modern periods. Students will learn to analyze works of literature individually and in their historical context. They will be encouraged to respond to the literature biblically and thoughtfully through regular classroom discussion and essay writing. Students will continue to develop their writing skills as they are guided through the writing process and offered regular feedback. They will also continue to exercise their research skills as they complete a full length research paper. Particular attention will be given to grammar through the revision phase in writing. Through regular vocabulary exercises students will improve their use of and confidence in our language. These exercises will also provide vital preparation for the SAT. Additionally, students will memorize important pieces of poetry throughout the year.

Great Books I Honors

5 credits – Grade 11

This course is designed to introduce students to some great works of the Classical, Medieval, and Renaissance periods. Literary texts will be discussed in their historical and cultural contexts to better illuminate their meanings, and yet will be shown to transcend those contexts with a timeless relevance. Important aspects of structure and generic convention will be studied, yet notice will be taken of those moments of genius and innovation which go far beyond the conventional. Students will begin to develop discernment when approaching texts, as their meanings and messages are judged in the light of the Scriptures. The vast majority of studied texts will be either epic poetry or dramatic poetry. A large portion of the year will be spent on Homer and Shakespeare because of their unique and incomparable contributions to the Western Literary Tradition. Students will be asked to interact with and evaluate texts through frequent reading, thinking, discussion, and regular writing. They will also continue vocabulary study in preparation for the SAT.

Great Books II Honors

5 credits – Grade 12

This course is designed to continue the students' exposure to some of the great works of the Western Literary Tradition. In Great Books II students will continue their study of Shakespeare and end the year with a close look at 20th century dystopian literature. Texts will be discussed in their historical and cultural contexts to better illuminate their meanings, and yet will be shown to transcend those contexts with a timeless relevance. Important aspects of structure and generic convention will be studied, yet notice will be taken of those moments of genius and innovation which go far beyond the conventional. Students will develop a greater sophistication and discernment when approaching texts, as their meanings and messages are judged in the light of the Scriptures. As the novel made its debut in the 18th century and profoundly impacted the literary landscape from that time forward, most of the texts studied this year are British, American, and Russian novels. Students will be asked to interact with and evaluate texts through frequent reading, thinking, discussion, and regular writing.

FINE ARTS

Middle School Art

1 credit – Grades 7-8

This is an Art course for all students seeking an outlet for creative expression through the Visual Arts. Students will be exposed to a variety of artistic tools, techniques, and materials, as well as historical background and the use of the elements of Art.

High School Art

2 credits – Grades 9-12

The drawing segment of this course explores the techniques and design elements used in drawing in greater depth. Still life and landscapes are utilized, along with a variety of tools and materials. On opposite years, the human form and portraits are utilized to put new skills into practice, along with developing an architectural project. The painting segment of this course explores advanced watercolor and acrylic techniques.

Chorus

2 credits – Grades 7-12

Secondary chorus will combine the voices of students from grades 9 to 12 with students from grades 7 and 8 to sing *a Capella* harmonies: i.e. songs using voices only, without instrumental accompaniment. The class goal will be to respond to the call of God in Colossians 3:16 to use singing as a gift of praise to Him in heart-felt Christian music, "*singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*" The biblical injunction to sing songs of worship and praise is widespread in Scripture and this class is a purposeful training to that end.

Orchestra

2 credits – Grades 7-12

This course focuses on the group performance of small ensemble, orchestral music with the goal of testifying to the beauty of God through music. Students will use class time to rehearse for two concerts during the school year. In addition, students will be challenged to individual improvement through skills exercises, basic music theory, and listening to orchestral performances.

Shakespearean Drama

2 credits – Grades 9-12

This class focuses on the performance of a selection from Shakespeare's plays. If possible, student input will be considered in the selection choice. Casting decisions will be made within the first marking period and the remainder of the year will be spent producing the play. Students will be involved in all aspects of the production and will have a voice in most production decisions. The course will culminate with a performance at *Shakesperience* in May and/or an evening performance at TCS. The course involves a good deal of line memorization and will include two or three mandatory after school rehearsals during April and May. Grades will be based on meeting memorization deadlines, active class participation, coachability, and attendance at designated after school rehearsals.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Latin 7

4 credits – Grade 7

This is the second year in a course of Latin Grammar following the Cambridge Latin Course curriculum. Students learn Latin vocabulary and grammar, English derivatives from Latin, and Roman history and culture as they follow the daily lives of several Roman families. Students learn primarily through reading Latin in the classroom and on their own, but continue to engage in regular memorization as well.

Latin 8

4 credits – Grade 8

Eighth grade Latin meets four times per week and begins with a thorough review of Wheelock chapters 1-16. Students will then work through chapters 17-27, augmenting their understanding of verb tenses, nouns, adjectives, and other grammatical structures. Students will learn a new set of vocabulary words during each chapter studied. In addition to the grammar, vocabulary, and translation covered in these chapters, students will translate from Groton & May's *38 Latin Stories*. In preparation for the National Latin Exam in March students will engage in a study of Latin history, geography, culture and literature during the month of February.

Spanish I

5 credits – Grade 9

This course is an introductory study of Spanish grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation. The chapters are organized into themes that enable the student to learn and interpret the written and spoken language through interaction with a variety of topics. Each chapter contains an average of forty new vocabulary words and introduces new grammatical structures. The course seeks to develop reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through short readings, written reports, listening activities, oral presentations, and daily conversations outside the classroom. A study of the culture is woven into the curriculum through selections from *el mundo hispano* (Hispanic world) and *fundo cultural* (cultural background).

Spanish II

5 credits – Grade 10

Prerequisite: Spanish I

Spanish II begins with a review of the vocabulary and grammar covered in Spanish I and yet simultaneously introduces and integrates new material into the coursework. Each chapter presents an average of forty-five new vocabulary words and increasingly complex grammatical structures. Students continue to develop reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills through select articles, written reports, oral presentations, and listening activities. A study of the culture is also incorporated into the course through readings on *perspectivas del mundo hispano* (perspectives from the Hispanic world) and *la cultura en vivo* (cultural life).

Spanish III Honors

5 credits – Grade 11

Prerequisite: B+ in Spanish II or permission from the Language Department.

Spanish III continues the grammatical studies of Spanish I and II and furthers the development of the four basic skills: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Students memorize an average of sixty-five vocabulary words per chapter and learn and utilize more complex grammatical structures. They also engage with selections from authentic literature, construct several three to four-paragraph essays, present multiple oral reports, converse daily with fellow students outside the classroom, and listen to the language in varying comprehension activities. A study of the culture is also integrated into the coursework through cultural notes and extended readings.

Advanced Placement Spanish

5 credits – Grade 12

Prerequisite: Spanish III

This course is designed to further develop student proficiency in all four language skills so as to meet the challenge of the Advanced Placement Examination given in May. The course will be conducted entirely in Spanish from day one and students will develop their proficiency in the language through the use of contemporary textbooks available for use in AP Spanish courses. They will be required to read, analyze, and discuss essays, short stories, newspaper articles, internet articles, novels, plays and poetry in Spanish. Students will also enhance their conversational and composition skills by composing oral presentations and written themes on both literary and nonliterary topics. Listening proficiency will be developed through the use of recorded media, films, and videos. This course will be taught as a third year university level course and will provide a valuable preparation for those students who wish to continue study in Spanish at the university level.

GENERAL STUDENT SKILLS

Study & Communication Skills

2 credits – Grade 7

The first quarter of the course is designed to teach students the skills and techniques that will enable them to be successful in their courses both this year and in years to come. The second quarter is designed to teach students to expand their writing skills from three paragraph essays to five. They will also continue to learn how to polish their essays and use language to its best effect. The third quarter is designed to help students as they prepare for the Speech Contest. They will choose how they are going to participate in the contest and then practice their pieces. Over the course of the marking period, students will learn how to dramatize a speech appropriately. The fourth quarter is designed to teach students the skills and techniques needed for doing research, both for papers and for oral presentations.

Typing

1 credit – Grade 7

The goal of this course is to teach students to touch type at least 40 words per minute. The *EduTyping* web-based keyboarding software is used and includes individual lessons, key drills, and tests. A review of proper computer ergonomics is also covered.

MS Office – Intro

1 credit – Grade 8

This class will teach students computer skills that are necessary to be successful in school, in the workplace, and in life. Topics include word processing, spreadsheets, presentation software, databases, desktop publishing, email management, and personal information management. Obtaining these skills will give students confidence to create professional written reports, oral reports, and graphics. It will also teach them how to organize and manage information in a way that is useful and relevant.

HISTORY

World History I

5 credits – Grade 7

This course will survey the history of the world from Creation through the Middle Ages. Students will examine the major civilizations, leaders, events, and ideas which have shaped history and identify each civilization's contributions to philosophy, theology, government, literature, and the arts. Students will be expected to complete nightly reading assignments and write short essays. These assignments will introduce students to historical research methods, encourage critical reasoning, and foster good communication skills. Classroom study will be enriched by an annual field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

World History II

5 credits – Grade 8

A sequel to World History I, this course will survey the history of the world from the Renaissance to the present. Students will examine the major leaders, events, and ideas which have shaped world history paying special attention to industrialization, globalization, and modern political movements. Students will use the research skills they develop in English class to write a major research paper. Students will also complete nightly reading assignments and write short essays. These assignments will improve students' research skills, encourage critical reasoning, and foster good communication skills. Classroom study will be enriched by an annual field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

US History I (Honors Option)

5 credits – Grade 9

This course will survey United States history from the Age of Exploration to the Civil War. Heavy emphasis will be placed on the development of the Thirteen Colonies, the War for Independence, the Constitution, the Civil War, and Christianity's role in shaping the nation. This course will encourage critical reasoning, written and verbal communication skills, and good citizenship through written essays, an annual research paper, an in-class speech, and regular discussions and debates. Students will benefit from an annual field trip to a relevant historic site.

Advanced students have the option of taking Honors US History I. Both courses meet in the same classroom but honors students will have extra writing assignments, including a significant paper each marking period and more challenging tests and quizzes.

US History II (Honors Option)

5 credits – Grade 10

A sequel to US History I, this course will survey United States history from the Reconstruction Era to the present. Emphasis will be placed on the economic growth and increasing global influence of the nation as well as the major social and political changes of the twentieth century. This course will encourage critical reasoning, written and verbal communication skills, and good citizenship through essays, an annual research paper, an end-of-year group project, an in-class speech, and regular discussions and debates. Students will benefit from an annual field trip to a relevant historic site.

Advanced students have the option of taking Honors US History II. Both courses meet in the same classroom but honors students will have extra writing assignments, including a significant paper each marking period and more challenging tests and quizzes.

Western Thought I Honors

5 credits – Grade 11

This course is an overview of the history of Western thought with a particular focus on the development of philosophy and science and their impacts on theology, culture, and various aspects of society. Students examine the great questions of man's existence and purpose that have been pondered since the beginning of history, evaluating the answers offered by philosophers, scientists, and other thinkers from ancient times up through the post-modern era. Students will interact with a variety of texts, both expository and argumentative, that represent a variety of modern discourses while learning to evaluate the conclusions of those texts with biblical accuracy. Students will learn to communicate their evaluations with precision and clarity through frequent class discussion and regular essay writing. They will begin to develop philosophical, theological, scientific, and historical literacy through regular memory material that includes important names, dates, ideas, and terms in these disciplines. With their developing literacy students will be able enter into the "Great Conversation" with more understanding and enjoyment.

Western Thought II Honors

5 credits – Grade 12

This course is primarily about the history and development of thought in Western civilization. Throughout the year students will interact with a variety of texts from different disciplines. Building on the historical overview supplied in Western Thought I, this course examines a number of themes, including the place and power of science; the ideas of Freud and Darwin; Modernism and Postmodernism; the rise of freedom and capitalism; and various other issues related to politics and culture.

LOGIC

Logic I

2 credits – Grade 8

This course is an introduction to logic as a set of tools for various reasoning tasks. Students are introduced to the basic concepts of statement and argument, and are given rules for assessing the strength of various kinds of arguments. They are also taught a system of symbolic logic and how to test arguments in ordinary language using that system.

Logic II

2 credits – Grade 11

Building on the foundations of Logic I, this classical distinctive course takes a deeper look into key topics such as deductive reasoning, inductive reasoning, and categorical statements. Students will also branch into logical fallacies and Christian apologetics. Through this course, students will develop the skills necessary to analyze arguments and critically think through challenging questions.

MATHEMATICS

Pre-Algebra

5 credits – Grade 7

This course serves as the transition from concrete math at an elementary level to the abstract Algebra-Geometry sequence of the secondary program. Pre-Algebra introduces the logical order inherent in the natural laws of God's universe through the use of symbolic math language. Students move from the manipulation of numerical expressions to the manipulation of algebraic expression, becoming increasingly familiar with sequential thinking, generalizations, and abstract concepts. Specifically, the concept of a variable is carefully introduced, together with definitions, properties and operations that will be used in first year Algebra. The Pre-Algebra course also emphasizes logical reasoning in the procedures for simplifying algebraic expressions, solving algebraic equations, and constructing solutions to word problems. Topics covered include arithmetic, graphs, number sets, measurement, ratio, proportion, percent, rate, exponents, roots, statistics, probability, expressions, equations, algebraic skills, trigonometry, and geometry.

Algebra I

5 credits – Grade 8

Prerequisite: Pre-Algebra or permission from the Math Department.

Through the study of Algebra, students develop an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and the sciences. Algebraic skills and concepts are developed and used in a wide variety of problem-solving situations. Topics covered include solving equations, polynomials, factoring, fractions with variables, ratio and proportion, functions, linear equations, systems of equations, inequalities, and quadratic functions.

Algebra I Honors

5 credits – Grade 8

Prerequisite: B+ in Pre-Algebra or permission from the Math Department.

Through the study of Algebra, students develop an understanding of the symbolic language of mathematics and the sciences. Algebraic skills and concepts are developed and used in a wide variety of problem-solving situations. Topics covered include solving equations, polynomials, factoring, fractions with variables, ratio and proportion, functions, linear equations, systems of equations, inequalities, and quadratic functions.

Geometry

5 credits – Grade 9

Prerequisite: Algebra I or permission from the Math Department.

This class is designed to introduce students to the language of geometry. Students will develop good reasoning skills in order to write quality proofs. Topics covered include basic geometric concepts and proofs, congruent triangles, parallel lines and related figures, lines and planes in space, polygons, similar polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem, circles, areas, surface areas and volume, coordinate geometry, locus, and constructions.

Geometry Honors

5 credits – Grade 9

Prerequisite: B⁺ in Algebra I or permission from the Math Department.

This class is designed to introduce students to the language of geometry. Students will develop good reasoning skills in order to write quality proofs. Topics covered include basic geometric concepts and proofs, congruent triangles, parallel lines and related figures, lines and planes in space, polygons, similar polygons, the Pythagorean Theorem, circles, areas, surface areas and volume, coordinate geometry, locus, and constructions.

Algebra II

5 credits – Grade 10

Prerequisite: Geometry or permission from the Math Department.

Algebra II and trigonometry are presented as a study of special classes of functions. In the process, relationships between theory and real-world applications are thoroughly explored, bringing the material to life. The topics covered in this course include inequalities, quadratic functions and relations, higher degree polynomials, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational algebraic functions, irrational algebraic functions, sequence and series, probability, data analysis, and an introduction to trigonometry.

Algebra II Honors

5 credits – Grade 10

Prerequisite: B⁺ in Geometry Honors or permission from the Math Department.

Algebra II and trigonometry are presented as a study of special classes of functions. In the process, relationships between theory and real-world applications are thoroughly explored, bringing the material to life. The topics covered in this course include inequalities, quadratic functions and relations, higher degree polynomials, complex numbers, exponential and logarithmic functions, rational algebraic functions, irrational algebraic functions, sequence and series, probability, data analysis, and an introduction to trigonometry.

Advanced Mathematics

5 credits – Grade 11

Prerequisite: Algebra II or permission from the Math Department.

Topics from algebra, geometry, trigonometry, discrete mathematics, and mathematical analysis are interwoven to form a fully integrated course. A rigorous treatment of Euclidean geometry is also presented. Word problems are developed throughout the problem sets and become progressively more elaborate. With this practice, students will be able to solve challenging problems such as rate problems and work problems involving abstract quantities. This course is organized into a series of lessons that gradually develop concepts. This approach gives students the time to develop a deeper understanding of concepts and how to apply them. Through continual review, previously presented concepts are practiced frequently and extensively throughout the year. The cumulative daily practice strengthens students' grasp of concepts and improves their long-term retention of concepts.

Pre-Calculus Honors

5 credits – Grade 11

Prerequisite: B⁺ in Algebra II Honors or permission from the Math Department.

This course begins with the study of functions and graphs then analyzes more closely different types of functions, such as polynomial, power, and rational functions, exponential, logistic, and logarithmic functions, and finally trigonometric functions. It then explores analytic trigonometry, applications of trigonometry, systems and matrices, analytic geometry in two and three dimensions, and finally discrete mathematics. At the end of the year, students will be introduced to calculus topics including limits, derivatives, and integrals.

Pre-Calculus

5 credits – Grade 12

Prerequisite: Advanced Mathematics or permission from the Math Department.

This course provides in-depth coverage of trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry, and upper-level algebraic concepts. Topics covered include permutations and combinations, trigonometric identities, inverse trigonometric functions, conic sections, graphs of sinusoids, rectangular and polar representation of complex numbers, De Moivre's theorem, matrices and determinants, the binomial theorem and the rational roots theorem. This course is organized into a series of lessons that gradually develop concepts. This approach gives students the time to develop a deeper understanding of concepts and how to apply them. Through continual review, previously presented concepts are practiced frequently and extensively throughout the year. The cumulative daily practice strengthens students' grasp of concepts and improves their long-term retention of concepts.

Calculus Honors (AP Option)

5 credits – Grade 12

Prerequisite: B⁺ in Pre-Calculus Honors or permission from the Math Department.

This course is a first year, single variable calculus course, covering functions, graphs and limits, as well as derivatives and integrals. It begins with limits and continuity then goes into a detailed study of derivatives and their applications, followed by a study of differential equations and mathematical modeling. Finally, it explores anti-derivatives and applications of definite integrals, including areas and volumes. This class is a college level course, for which students should be prepared to successfully complete the AP exam at the beginning of May. Homework assignments are more difficult than the honors level assignments, as are quizzes and tests. There is no final exam, as the students are required to take the AP exam.

Students who enroll in honors level calculus will have slightly easier tests and quizzes than AP level, and will have fewer homework problems to do in general. They will take a final exam unless exempted, as per school policy for seniors.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

1 credit – Grades 7-12

Physical Education is offered once a week. The purpose of the program is to build skills that will develop a balanced healthy lifestyle and glorify God in every way. The program is designed to increase competence, personal responsibility, and enjoyment of physical activity.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

All 7th and 8th graders are required to participate in the Speech Contest; high school participation is optional. All 9th and 10th graders are required to participate in the Poetry Out Loud Competition; 11th and 12th grade participation is optional. Over the course of the school year, all secondary students will be required to give at least four oral in-class presentations: one for English, one for history, one for science, and one for their language class. In addition, seniors are required to present their senior theses fourth marking period senior year.

RHETORIC

Rhetoric I

2 credits – Grade 10

This course is a classical distinctive centering on the history, theory, and practice of public speaking. From the likes of Aristotle and Cicero to more contemporary thinkers like Toulmin and Postman, students will learn guidelines for and approaches to effective public speaking by reading primary sources, examining and analyzing famous speeches, and giving speeches of their own. The course also features a section on debate to help develop effective argumentation skills, as well as a sampling of media ecology to survey how modern technologies have impacted the capacity and ability to give and receive effective speeches.

Rhetoric II (Senior Thesis)

2 credits – Grade 12

Through this course, students will originate a thesis paper based on an approved topic of their choice, then present and defend their research in front of a panel. Building on skills already obtained in their academic career, students will perform detailed research using academic databases, study effective methods of argumentation and claim support, and review important verbal presentation guidelines. Students will also connect their research to a Biblical worldview perspective.

SCIENCE

Earth & Life Science

5 credits – Grade 7

This course covers three areas of study: the universe around us, the Earth, and living things. It begins by considering the parts of the universe outside the earth's atmosphere and then moves to consider the structure of the earth, focusing on its surface processes. Transitioning from earth to life science, students will consider responsible Christian stewardship of our ecological resources. Finally, students will explore foundational concepts of biology, including characteristics of life, the origin of life, heredity, and a brief overview of living things.

Physical Science

5 credits – Grade 8

This course is an introduction to physics and chemistry. It provides an essential foundation for subsequent science courses, including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. Through practical Bible integration, students learn that a Christian worldview permeates true science. This course does not assume any prior knowledge in physics or chemistry, other than normal life experiences. It builds a foundation of basic information concerning matter and measurements early in the year, then furnishes the student with the key principles and scientific laws of classical physics: thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, sound, light, and optics.

Introductory Biology with Lab (Honors Option)

6 credits – Grade 9

This course is designed to provide students with a foundational understanding of the science of biology. With such an understanding, they will be better prepared for many practical aspects of life and the possibility of further study in medical or scientific fields. The course explores in depth the hierarchical levels of life, as well as different cell types, organelles, and the processes that go on within individual cells (cellular respiration, photosynthesis, cellular reproduction, etc.) Various aspects of genetics are covered, as is the origin of life. The course concludes by studying different topics in human anatomy and physiology. Students will engage in regular labs to reinforce their understanding of the course material.

Advanced students have the option of taking Honors Biology. Both courses meet in the same classroom, but honors students will have more challenging tests and quizzes, as well as projects to complete. They will also have some formal lab reports to write, and may also have periodic short essays to write for homework.

Introductory Chemistry with Lab (Honors Option)

6 credits – Grade 10

In this course, students will learn about the makeup of matter, the design of atoms, the periodic table of the elements, bonding, formulas, reactions, solutions, acids, bases, and several specialized branches of chemistry. Mathematical skills such as graphing, unit conversions, and analysis of numerical data will be taught and practiced. The ultimate goal is for the student to develop an increased appreciation of God's creation. The examination of the complexity and design of God's creation at the molecular level provides a strong foundation for countering naturalistic philosophies. Students will grow in their understanding that the effects of chemistry reach far beyond schools and laboratories and play a vital role in our daily lives and in the complex workings of our world. Students will engage in regular labs that reinforce the course material.

Advanced students have the option of taking Honors Chemistry. Both courses meet in the same classroom, but honors students will have more challenging tests, quizzes, and homework, as well as formal lab reports to write. They will also have periodic articles to read and present to the class.

Physics (Honors Option)

6 credits – Grade 11

This college preparatory course takes a liberal arts approach to conceptual and problem-solving studies in the realm of classical physics. Students will learn and gain mastery over topics including motion, Newton's Laws, force and work, waves, and electromagnetism, including their practical uses in contemporary contexts. This will be accomplished through lab experimentation, demonstration, lecture and discussion, problem solving, and the use of technology. Students will develop skills in writing by preparing lab reports, in addition to developing problem-solving strategies and computational aptitude.

Advanced students have the option of taking Honors Physics. Both courses meet in the same classroom, but honors students will have more challenging tests and quizzes as well as additional assignments, such as more complex, math-intensive homework problems, extra lab activities and reports, and research into physics applications in contemporary contexts. Students must be concurrently enrolled in honors math to participate. Honors level is strongly recommended for students pursuing math, science, or engineering degree programs in college.

Human Anatomy & Physiology with Lab Honors

6 credits – Grade 12

Prerequisite: Introductory Biology & Introductory Chemistry.

This course is a college preparatory course designed for the senior with a genuine interest in the biological sciences, or a strong interest in a possible health care field. The course will survey human systems, their functions, and mechanisms of action. Emphasis will be placed on integration of systems, homeostatic mechanisms, and failures of those mechanisms that lead to disease. Laboratory activities will be an integral part of the course, and will include dissections, the study of histological slides, mechanical and chemical activities, as well as cardiovascular and pulmonary activities related to exercise and fitness. Topics covered will include a review of cell biology, homeostasis, the integumentary system, digestive system, respiratory system, circulatory system, immune system, endocrine system, skeletal and muscular systems, nervous system, urinary system, and reproduction and embryonic development.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

ATHLETICS

The TCS sport's program recognizes that spiritual, academic, social, *and* physical development are essential to every student's growth. Training and competition in athletics can promote many important character qualities and health benefits. TCS teams strive not only to win, but to exemplify those traits that glorify God. Our coaches are to be servant leaders who develop the Christian character of our student athletes by emphasizing personal responsibility, self-denial, effort, and teamwork.

TCS fields separate mens' and womens' teams in soccer, basketball and track/field for high school students (9-12). TCS fields separate boys' and girls' teams in basketball and track/field for middle school students (6-8). The middle school soccer program is coed.

CLUBS

Book Club

Grades 7-8

Book Club is student-led book discussion that meets once a month on a date agreed upon by the members and the leader. Students participating in book club have the option of either purchasing the book of the month through the school or checking it out of their local library.

Chess Club

Grades 7-12

Chess Club is student-led. It entails playing chess with an assigned opponent once a week during lunch. Students participating in chess club may have the opportunity to compete in a regional chess tournament towards the end of the school year.

Flute Choir

Grades 9-12

This club meets once a week during lunch to practice flute selections for the Christmas and spring concerts. During Christmas and spring concert weeks, students are expected to have daily rehearsals.

Handbells

Grade 7-12

Handbells meets one morning per week before school starts to practice selections for the Christmas and spring concerts. Eight students can participate. Preference is given to returning members and upperclassmen with teacher approval. During Christmas and spring concert weeks, students are expected to have daily rehearsals.

Newspaper

Grades 9-12

This club meets once a week during lunch to discuss ideas, and also requires at least one additional period a week to complete the necessary work. Students will learn to use *Scribus* software to publish a 4-8 page paper once every five school weeks. As a rule, work toward the beginning of these five weeks is completed within one or two periods/week, but by the end, more time may be necessary to polish and format the paper.

Yearbook

Grades 9-12

Yearbook meets once a week at lunch. The workload is light in the beginning of the year and gradually increases during the second half. Early in the year students are assigned the different grades, clubs, and/or sports teams that they will be responsible for. They will work during some of their lunches or study halls as needed to finish assigned tasks. Some yearbook tasks include taking pictures at various events, speaking with teachers, students, or parents to acquire pictures, writing captions, conducting various polls, and collecting superlatives. There are greater responsibilities for the different editors who not only take pictures but also design spreads or get business letters out to the community to raise money.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Grades 8-12

The Student Council of TCS exists to glorify God, serve the school and local community, and foster school spirit, healthy discussion, and spiritual growth among the student body. Members sit on the Service, Social, School Life, Spiritual, and/or Fundraising committee from which activities are organized. Eligible students in grades 7 through 11 who are interested in giving back to the school may seek election for a position on the Student Council in May; student terms and activities run from June to June.