

EXCELLENCE — *in* — ACADEMICS

*Preparing students
for tomorrow's world*



SECONDARY PROGRAM

2021-2022

2021-2022 Secondary Program

Introduction

Northland Christian School is committed to preparing all students for the world of tomorrow and to offering each student directed academic planning, giving them the best opportunities for the future. In our continued pursuit of these goals, Northland continues to deliver “Excellence in Academics”.

“Excellence in Academics” is a culture. It is our strategic plan for immersing students in a culture of excellence – in a culture where achievement is valued and excellence is encouraged; or even better, where excellence is required. It is designed to move students to an understanding of their God-given gifts. We are intentional about our claim to be a college preparatory school. “Excellence in Academics” is our action plan to vault our graduates into their college choices, excited to embrace all that each university can offer them.

This Academic Program book is designed to help students plan an effective course of study for both their middle school and senior high school years. It is the responsibility of students and their parents to read and discuss this information in order to make appropriate, effective academic plans. Administrators and counselors are available for advisement.

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About Northland

Northland Christian School, a co-educational, college preparatory school, was founded in 1974. Northland currently enrolls approximately 500 students in PK3 - 12th grade. The faculty is composed of dedicated, degreed, Christian professionals. Many hold advanced degrees and are leaders in their fields of study.

Northland offers a traditional college preparatory curriculum and comprehensive co-curricular programs in Northwest Houston.

At Northland Christian School, our dedicated faculty instill in students a lifelong passion for learning as we prepare minds for leadership and hearts for service. It is our aim that each young person at Northland is equipped with the courage to act with conviction, live with integrity and compassion, and fearlessly pursue their dreams.

Accreditations

AdvancedED

Cognia

Texas Private School Accreditation Commission (TEPSAC)

Affiliations

Houston Area Independent Private Schools

National Association of Christian Schools

Texas Association of Non-Public Schools

Memberships

American Society for Training & Development

Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development

Houston Association of Independent School Counselors

International Society for Technology in Education

National Association of Secondary School Principals

Texas Association for College Admission Counseling

Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools

(TAPPS) conference (Northland is one of twenty-four 4A schools in the conference.)

Texas Computer Educators Association

Texas Private School Music Educators Association

Admissions Office

4363 Sylvanfield

Houston, TX 77014

281-440-1060

Fax 281-440-7572

NorthlandChristian.org

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Northland Christian School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin regarding her policies, educational offerings, financial assistance programs, athletic programs, or other school-sponsored activities.

Enrollment Requirements

Northland Christian School is a college preparatory school. Students wishing to make application to Northland Christian School must furnish evidence that they are physically and emotionally fit, of good moral character, and academically capable. All applicants must:

- Complete all of the Northland Application Procedures;
- Be eligible for re-enrollment in all schools previously attended;
- Have not been suspended or expelled from school within the past twelve months;
- Have acceptable conduct grades and work habits;
- Score at or above the 50th percentile on the language/reading and math sections of the entrance examination;
- Be free of severe learning or behavioral problems;
- Not be coming directly from any type of rehabilitation program (i.e., drug, alcohol, behavior, mental, etc.);
- Agree to comply with all policies in the Northland *Parent-Student Handbook*.

Testing Procedures

In order to maintain our high academic standards, prospective students will be required to complete and pass a battery of tests during the admissions process. These tests include the following:

Preliminary Assessments:

- TerraNova Achievement Test - Reading Comprehension, Math

Further Assessments:

- Math placement test;
- Learning Styles Inventory;
- Further diagnostic testing may be required.

Academic Policies for Middle School and High School

- All classes are offered based on sufficient enrollment, teacher availability, and consideration of circumstances which may warrant change.
- Enrollment in all Honors, Advanced Placement, and Dual Credit courses requires teacher recommendation in addition to other specific qualifying criteria.
- Middle School students who qualify and are eligible may choose to take Algebra I and/or Spanish I or Chinese I to earn high school credit. Grades earned in these courses will not be included in the student's cumulative high school GPA.
- Credit cannot be given, or accepted, for tutoring by an individual acting privately or a tutoring business offering credits not approved by Northland Christian School.
- Students are required to make up a failed course in a Northland approved summer, evening, or online program. All students needing to take a course during summer school must receive prior approval from the academic counselor. Middle school students who fail Math or English can be retained in grade unless an approved summer program is successfully completed with a grade of 70 or higher. Promotion standards shall be approved by the Northland Academic Committee.
- The Northland Summer Reading Program is required of all 6th - 12th grade students. Teaching units and/or assignments based on the summer reading will be a part of the beginning activities of the school year.
- Students will be counseled to take courses commensurate with their ability, interests, and future plans for post-secondary schooling.
- Due to the curricula and level of difficulty, Honors, Dual Credit and Advanced Placement courses receive an increase in grade points. The numerical grade is not changed on the transcript or the report card. The increase is reflected only in the calculated GPA.
- Transcripts will reflect a grade for each semester of every high school course a student completes. All grades earning high school credit will calculate into the student's high school Grade Point Average (GPA) with the exception of P.E./Athletics and courses taken in middle school which received high school credit. If a student repeats a course due to failure, both grades will be reflected on the transcript and calculated into the GPA. The student will receive credit for the repeated semester. If a student repeats a semester for any reason other than failure, both grades will be reflected on the transcript; however, credit will be earned and calculated into the GPA for the original semester only.
- Only those grades earned at Northland may be considered for the averaging of two semesters in order to receive a full year's credit in any course. For middle school students, passing is determined by averaging the two semesters. High school students must pass the second semester in order to earn credit by averaging.
- Classes may not be dropped mid-semester. A class dropped will be recorded as a Withdraw-Failing on the student's transcript, and the grade at the time of withdrawal recorded on the transcript, and calculated into the student's GPA.
- No core classes (Bible, English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Foreign Language) may be completed at any outside location.

Northland Middle School Plan of Study

Requirements for All Middle School Students

Fifteen service hours per year are required for all Northland Middle School students.

6th Grade Courses

1. Bible
2. English 6
3. Math 6
4. Science 6
5. Social Studies 6
6. P.E. or Athletics
7. Elective
8. Elective

Electives

- Choose two Year-Long Courses
- OR**
- Choose one Year-Long Course and two Semester Electives
- OR**
- Choose four Semester Electives

Year-Long Electives

- Choir
- Orchestra

Semester Electives

- Art
- Choir
- Technology 6
- Intro to Robotics
- Drama
- Intro to Debate

6th Grade P.E. or Athletics

All middle school students are required to take P.E. or athletics each year. Approval for off-campus P.E. will only be given on a **full semester** basis and for category I participation (minimum 15 hours per week).

(Try-out required)

Boys: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Track

Girls: Basketball, Cheerleading, Soccer, Softball, Track, Volleyball

7th Grade Courses

1. Bible
2. English 7/English 7 Advanced *
3. Math 7/PreAlgebra *
4. Life Science
5. Texas History
6. P.E. or Athletics
7. Elective
8. Elective

* *Must Qualify*

Electives

- Choose two Year-Long Courses
- OR**
- Choose one Year-Long Course and two Semester Electives
- OR**
- Choose four Semester Electives

Year-Long Electives

- Choir
- Orchestra
- Competitive Robotics (application required)
- Yearbook (application required)

Semester Electives

- Art
- Creative Writing
- Debate & Public Speaking
- Competitive Debate & Public Speaking (application required)
- MS Robotics
- Technology
- Drama
- Yearbook (1st semester only, application required)

7th Grade P.E. or Athletics

All middle school students are required to take P.E. or athletics each year. Approval for off-campus P.E. will only be given on a **full semester** basis and for category I participation (minimum 15 hours per week).

(Try-out required)

Boys: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Track

Girls: Basketball, Cheerleading, Soccer, Softball, Track, Volleyball

Northland Middle School Plan of Study

Requirements for All Middle School Students

Fifteen service hours per year are required for all Northland Middle School students.

8th Grade Courses

1. Bible
2. English 8/English 8 Advanced *
3. PreAlgebra /Algebra I * **
4. Integrated Physics and Chemistry (IPC)**
5. U.S. History
6. P.E. or Athletics
7. Elective
8. Elective

Electives

- Choose two Year-Long Courses
- OR**
- Choose one Year-Long Course and two Semester Electives
- OR**
- Choose four Semester Electives

Year-Long Electives

- Choir
- Orchestra
- Competitive Robotics (application required)
- Spanish I **
- Chinese I **
- Yearbook (application required)

Semester Electives

- Art
- Communication Applications**
- Creative Writing
- Debate & Public Speaking
- Competitive Debate & Public Speaking (application required)
- MS Robotics
- Technology
- Drama
- Yearbook (1st semester only application required)

* Must Qualify

** Will receive High School credit

8th Grade P.E. or Athletics

All middle school students are required to take P.E. or athletics each year. Approval for off-campus P.E. will only be given on a **full semester** basis and for category I participation (minimum 15 hours per week).

(Try-out required)

Boys: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Track

Girls: Basketball, Cheerleading, Soccer, Softball, Track, Volleyball

Northland Graduation Requirements

	FOUNDATION DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
Bible	4
English	4
Math	4
Science	4
History/Economics	4
Foreign Language	2
Speech	0.5
Fine Arts	1
P.E./Athletics	1
Electives	5.5
Total Credits	30

Foundation - Distinguished Level of Achievement

Northland Christian School requires that all students graduate with the Foundation - High School Program - Distinguished Level of Achievement in order to best prepare them for future success. All students will earn a multi-disciplinary endorsement as part of their regular coursework at Northland. In addition, students may earn other endorsements as well as performance acknowledgements. A student must earn the Distinguished Level of Achievement to be eligible for top 10% automatic admission. All endorsements and performance acknowledgements will be listed on the student's transcript.

Endorsements

Students will earn one or more endorsements as part of their graduation requirements. Endorsements consist of a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set. They provide students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area.

Students can choose from 4 endorsement areas:

- **Multi-Disciplinary** (All students at NCS will earn the Multi-Disciplinary Endorsement.)
- **Arts & Humanities**
- **STEM** - Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
- **Business & Industry**

***Endorsements (see page 8 for complete descriptions)*

Performance Acknowledgements

A student may earn a performance acknowledgement for outstanding performance in the following areas:

- **Bilingualism & Biliteracy** - demonstrate proficiency in two or more languages by completing all English Language requirements earning a grade of 80 or higher; AND

completing three or more credits in a language other than English earning a grade of 80 or higher; OR earning a score of 3 or higher on a College Board advanced placement (AP) exam for a language other than English.

- **Dual Credit** - earn 12 college credit hours with a grade of 80 or better
- **Advanced Placement (AP)** - earn a score of 3 or above on a College Board advanced placement exam
- **PSAT** - a score on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT) that qualified the student for recognition as a commended scholar or higher by the College Board and National Merit Scholarship Corporation or as part of the National Hispanic Recognition Program (NHRP) of the College Board
- **SAT** - earn an Evidenced Based Reading score of 410 earn a Mathematics score of 520
- **ACT** - earn a composite score of 28 (excluding the writing sub-score)

Requirements for All High School Students

- All students at Northland are required to take Bible each year. Students transferring into Northland are required to take Bible for only the semesters that they are enrolled in Northland.
- Students are expected to take 8 classes per semester.
- Two years of the same foreign language are required. Three years of the same foreign language is strongly recommended to enhance the student's college profile.
- A math course must be taken every year during grades 9-12 (must include Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra II). If Algebra 1 is taken during the 8th grade, the student will have 5 math credits upon completion of the senior year.
- Students are required to earn 4 credits in science (must include Biology, Chemistry and Physics). It is strongly recommended that students take a science course each year of high school to enhance the student's college profile.
- Speech requirements may be satisfied by taking ½ credit of Communication Applications or 1 credit of high school Debate, Academic Decathlon, or AP® Seminar.
- Twenty service hours per year are required for all Northland high school students. Service-hour year extends from April 1st to March 31st.
- All students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® exam. Students are responsible for the fee which is determined by the College Board. **The fee for 2021-2022 was \$95 per exam and \$143 for AP® Capstone (Seminar & Research) exams.**
- Dual credit courses require an additional fee which is determined by Lone Star College.

Northland Graduation Requirements

Endorsements

Students will earn one or more endorsements as part of their graduation requirements. Endorsements consist of a related series of courses that are grouped together by interest or skill set. They provide students with in-depth knowledge of a subject area.

Students can choose from 4 endorsement areas:

Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement*

A student may earn a Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement by completing Distinguished Level of Achievement and:

- **Option 1:** Four credits in each of the four foundation subject areas to include English IV and chemistry and physics, or
- **Options 2:** Four credits in advanced placement, or dual credit selected from English, mathematics, science, social studies, economics, language other than English, or fine arts.

** All Northland students will graduate with a Multidisciplinary Studies Endorsement.*

Arts & Humanities Endorsement

A student may earn an Arts and Humanities Endorsement by completing Distinguished Level of Achievement and:

- **Option 1:** A total of five social studies credits, or
- **Option 2:** Four levels of the same language other than English, or
- **Option 3:** A coherent sequence of four credits from one or two disciplines in Fine Arts

Business & Industry Endorsement

A student may earn a Business & Industry endorsement by completing Distinguished Level of Achievement and:

- **Option 1:** Four English elective credits by selecting three levels in one of the following areas:
 - Debate
 - Advanced Journalism: Yearbook
- **Option 2:** Four Technology Application elective credits, by selecting from the following:
 - Digital Design & Media Production
 - Digital Art & Animation
 - 3-D Modeling & Animation
 - Digital Video & Audio Design
- **Option 3:** A coherent sequence of four credits from a combination of items from (Option 1) and/or (Option 2).

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)

A student may earn a STEM endorsement by completing Distinguished Level of Achievement and:

- **Option 1:** A total of five credits in mathematics by successfully completing Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra II, and two additional mathematics courses for which Algebra II is a prerequisite, or
- **Option 2:** A total of five credits in science by successfully completing biology, chemistry, physics, and two additional science courses.

Criteria for Placement in Advanced/Online Classes

All courses taught at Northland meet a high academic standard and prepare students for college. However, all students are gifted in different ways and it is important that they be placed in the classes that best meet their needs. For interested students who are ready for the challenge, advanced courses are offered in most subject areas. **A parent/student signed contract will be required for all AP, Dual Credit, and online classes. Online classes require an additional fee.**

Honors, Pre-AP®, Dual Credit or AP®

For placement in an Honors, Dual Credit or AP® class, the selection committee will use the following criteria:

- Standardized test scores (TerraNova, PSAT, TSI, SAT, or ACT)
- Teacher recommendations
- Grade in the previous class of an 85 or higher

The following guidelines will help you decide whether your child is ready for the challenge:

1. Did your child score in the 85th percentile or above on standardized tests in the subject area in which they wish to advance?
 - Math – Math section
 - English – Reading and Verbal skills
 - Biology – Reading and Verbal skills
 - Chemistry/Physics – Math section
 - History – Reading and Verbal skills
2. If your child wishes to advance to a more difficult level, did he or she make a 90 or above in the previous course?
3. If your **high school** child is currently taking an advanced class, did he or she maintain a grade of at least an 85?

If your **middle school** child is currently taking an advanced class, did he or she maintain a grade of at least an 85? Middle school students who do not maintain an 85 may be rescheduled during the first semester or may be required to repeat the course the following year. Due to the importance of the foundation required to advance successfully in math and foreign language, 8th graders taking Algebra I and Spanish I must make an 85 to advance.

4. Has your child demonstrated that he or she possesses the discipline and work ethic necessary to succeed in an advanced class?

Dual Credit Classes

Students wishing to take dual credit classes for enrichment or classes necessary for completion of required high school course work, must demonstrate a willingness to learn and the self-discipline to work diligently.

Dual Credit classes allow students to earn concurrent high school and college credit. Therefore, placement in these courses is based on the entrance requirements for Lone Star College. The application and testing procedures can be obtained from the Academic Counseling Center. Student scores must meet Lone Star College standards on the TSI Assessment test unless exempt based on their PSAT, SAT or ACT score. Test scores must be approved and on file in the Counselor's Office prior to May 25th of the application school year or the student will not be enrolled in the course when the school year begins in August. Additional fees are required by Lone Star College and is the responsibility of the student and parents.

* Classes taken off-campus will not be reported on the Northland Christian School transcript, unless approved by the Academic Committee.

**All summer school classes will be calculated on the 5.0 GPA scale.

Northland High School Plan of Study

(Sample Preliminary Plan)

Each student, in consultation with his/her parents, should draw up his/her plan for the next school year. Please note this is a preliminary plan to be considered for consultation and approval by your counselor/administrator. Complete your schedule for each year, both previous and future school years. Please refer to previous page as a guide for requirements.

Name _____

Freshman ____ - ____

1. Bible: _____

2. English: _____

3. Math: _____

4. Biology: _____

5. World Geography: _____

6. Foreign Language: _____

7. _____

8. _____

Sophomore ____ - ____

1. Bible: _____

2. English: _____

3. Math: _____

4. Chemistry: _____

5. World History: _____

6. Foreign Language: _____

7. _____

8. _____

Junior ____ - ____

1. Bible: _____

2. English: _____

3. Math: _____

4. Physics: _____

5. U.S. History: _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Senior ____ - ____

1. Bible: _____

2. English: _____

3. Math: _____

4. Science: _____

5. Economics/Government: _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

Advanced and Honors Courses: See page 8 of Course Catalog for Selection Criteria.
Courses offered based on availability.

What Classes Should I Take?

All students will be required to follow the Academic (College Preparatory) Path. These courses will prepare students for college level work and give them a solid foundation in all academic subjects. Students who wish to accelerate learning in their areas of interest may choose one of the other available paths. Students who qualify and wish to take advanced level classes may do so during any high school year.

Math – Northland students are required to take math every year including Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2. Students who are preparing for college need to take PreCalculus to be prepared for college level math and to bolster their college application. College Algebra will help prepare students for the college math required for Liberal Arts majors.

Level:	Honors Level (STEM majors)	Honors Level (non-math majors)	College Preparatory Path
Possible College Majors:	Math, Engineering, Science	Business, Social Studies	Liberal Arts, Business, Fine Arts
8th/9th	Algebra I	Algebra I	Algebra I
9th/10th	Geometry Honors	Geometry Honors	Geometry
10th/11th	Algebra II Honors	Algebra II Honors	Algebra II
11th/12th	PreCalculus Honors	PreCalculus or PreCalculus Honors	PreCalculus or College Algebra DC (online) or College Algebra
12th (If Alg. I taken in 8th grade)	AP [®] Calculus AB or BC, or AP [®] Statistics	Calculus Honors or AP [®] Statistics	College Algebra DC (online) or College Algebra or PreCalculus

Science – Northland students are required to take four years of science, including Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, to meet graduation requirements. Students who take IPC in eighth grade may choose to take a science or non-science elective their senior year. It is strongly recommended that a science course be taken each year of high school to enhance the student's college profile.

Level:	Honors Level (STEM majors)	Honors Level (non-math majors)	College Preparatory Path
Possible College Majors:	Math, Engineering, Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry	Biology, Pre-Med	Liberal Arts, Business, Fine Arts
9th	Biology Honors	Biology Honors	Biology
10th	Chemistry Honors	Chemistry Honors	Chemistry
11th	Physics Honors or Chemistry AP [®]	Physics Honors, Biology AP [®] , or Chemistry AP [®]	Physics
12th	Physics AP [®] or Chemistry AP [®]	Physics Honors, Biology AP [®] , Chemistry AP [®] , or Physics AP [®]	Science Elective

English – Northland students are required to take four years of English at the high school level.

Level:	AP [®]	Honors Level (non-English majors)	College Preparatory Path
Possible College Majors:	English, Liberal Arts, Pre-Law, History	Liberal Arts, Pre-Law, Business, History	Liberal Arts, Business, Fine Arts
9th	English I Honors	English I Honors	English I
10th	English II Honors	English II Honors	English II
11th	Language & Composition AP [®]	Language & Composition AP [®] or English III Honors	English III
12th	Literature & Composition AP [®]	Literature & Composition AP [®] or English IV Honors	English IV

What Classes Should I Take? *continued*

Social Studies – Northland students are required to take four years of Social Studies at the high school level.

Level:	AP®	College Preparatory Path
Possible College Majors:	English, Liberal Arts, Pre-Law, History	Liberal Arts, Business, Fine Arts
9th	World Geography	World Geography
10th	World History AP®	World History
11th	Dual Credit U.S. History	U.S. History
12th	U.S. Government & Politics AP® Macroeconomics AP®	U.S. Government Economics

GRADE POINT SCALE

Numerical Grade	Academic Classes	Honors/Pre-AP® Classes	AP® /Dual Credit Classes
A100	5.0	6.0	6.5
A99	4.9	5.9	6.4
A98	4.8	5.8	6.3
A97	4.7	5.7	6.2
A96	4.6	5.6	6.1
A95	4.5	5.5	6.0
A94	4.4	5.4	5.9
A93	4.3	5.3	5.8
A92	4.2	5.2	5.7
A91	4.1	5.1	5.6
A90	4.0	5.0	5.5
B89	3.9	4.9	5.4
B88	3.8	4.8	5.3
B87	3.7	4.7	5.2
B86	3.6	4.6	5.1
B85	3.5	4.5	5.0
B84	3.4	4.4	4.9
B83	3.3	4.3	4.8
B82	3.2	4.2	4.7
B81	3.1	4.1	4.6
B80	3.0	4.0	4.5
C79	2.8	3.8	4.3
C78	2.6	3.6	4.1
C77	2.4	3.4	3.9
C76	2.2	3.2	3.7
C75	2.0	3.0	3.5
D74	1.8	1.8	1.8
D73	1.6	1.6	1.6
D72	1.4	1.4	1.4
D71	1.2	1.2	1.2
D70	1.0	1.0	1.0
F69 and below	0.0	0.0	0.0

Northland Christian School Secondary Course Selection

BIBLE

SECONDARY CAMPUS BIBLE OVERVIEW

The Northland Secondary Bible Program is designed to teach the Bible with the goal of life transformation through faith in Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit. Through our curriculum and enrichment, students will learn Biblical truths and have the opportunity to experience the power of God's word through community outreach, real world applications, and through an interactive and challenging classroom environment. Our Bible curriculum is intentionally designed to fulfill our mission that students grow spiritually, intellectually, physically, and socially for the glory of God.

BIBLE *continued*

6th Grade

The Birth and Early History of the Church - The books of Luke and Acts

2 Semesters

The purpose and goal is to study and understand the connections of the work of Christ to the birth, early growth, and persecution of the Church. The spreading of the gospel from Jerusalem to Judea, Samaria and the ends of the earth will be examined. The life of Paul and his impact on the early church will also be discussed, including his arrest, trial, and journey to Rome.

7th Grade

Route 66: Old Testament and New Testament Survey

2 Semesters

This study provides a basic introduction to the structure and themes of the Word of God. "Route 66" is a survey course with an emphasis on understanding God's relationship with man throughout history. As students' journey through this fast-moving survey of the entire Bible, they will discover truths and applications that God placed in each book of the Bible. God's gracious work is clear—from creation to the cross to the consummation of time.

8th Grade

The Life of Christ

2 Semesters

Students will journey through the Gospel of John, and develop not only a stronger knowledge of Christ, but also a deeper relationship with Him. This study explores the identity and purpose of God's Son, as revealed through His earthly ministry. Featuring an interactive study of biblical landmarks, the "Life of Christ" examines the ministry and work of God's Son within Israel's historical and geographical context. By exploring Christ's work from His preexistence to His ascension, students will learn how to apply spiritual truths to their own lives as they choose to allow God to shape them into the image of His Son, Jesus.

9th Grade

New Testament Foundations - "Behold Your God"

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This study has one purpose—to encourage students to know the attributes and character of God. By presenting the Bible as God's self-revelation, "Behold Your God" magnifies the character and work of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As students know and love their incomprehensible God, they'll discover a grace they can reflect to others as they learn how to live a life that is grounded and dependent on God's love and truth.

10th Grade

Old Testament Survey and Understanding the Faith

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This course will provide an in-depth, detailed study of the Old Testament with attention paid to the language, culture, literature, and overall context of this immense portion of Scripture. The goal of this class is to improve biblical literacy, to show continuity in God's activity from creation on through Jesus and into the Church today, and to teach students how to read the Bible well and apply it in their lives.

11th Grade

Christ and Culture

1 Credit

2 Semesters

The First Semester will be a comparative study of the 4 Gospels to empower students to understand the nature of scripture and character of Christ. The second semester will focus on Richard H. Niebuhr's book *Christ and Culture*, which explores how Christians interpret and understand the culture that we live in as a foundation for their senior course work "Understanding the Culture."

12th Grade

Understanding the Culture/Times

1 Credit

2 Semesters

In a time when more than half of all Christian students walk away from their faith in college, no other curriculum is more urgently needed. This series transforms students' learning and faith. During the first semester students will engage with "Understanding the Culture", which outlines the key social issues of our time and shows students how to engage their biblical worldview and transform our post-Christian culture.

The second semester, students will study "Understanding the Times", which surveys today's major worldviews and teaches students how to identify and counter the negative ideology so many young adults have unwittingly adopted. Attention will be given to equip students to develop a biblically sound worldview based on the accurate Word of God, wherein all social, moral, economic, and political views, molded by Christian principles, will prepare them to know what they believe and why they believe, with an eye towards sharing those beliefs with others.

ENGLISH

English 6th Grade - Academic

This course is designed to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student's understanding and the use of language in its various forms—with a particular focus on grammar rules and constructs. Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and collaborative strategies are used purposefully to build knowledge and skills and to help students become independent readers, writers, and thinkers as they continue to progressively build the skills necessary for academic success in middle school. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, practice close reading strategies and develop academic habits of mind. Outside and summer reading are required.

English 7th Grade - Academic

This course is designed to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student's understanding and the use of language in its various forms. Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and collaborative strategies are used purposefully to build knowledge and skills and to help students become independent readers, writers, and thinkers as they continue to progressively build the skills necessary for academic success in middle school and high school. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, explore various genres, and develop academic habits of mind. Outside and summer reading are required.

English 7th Grade - Advanced

Prerequisite and Limitations: Previous levels of English and selection criteria, page 8.

This course is designed with all the fundamentals of the Academic level class following the same scope and sequence. Through increased rigor, deeper thinking, and the development of more advanced products, students will further refine their reading and writing skills. Outside and summer reading are required.

English 8th Grade - Academic

This course is designed to develop, strengthen, and broaden a student's understanding and the use of language in its various forms. Reading, writing, speaking, listening, and collaborative strategies are used purposefully to build knowledge and skills and to help students become independent readers, writers, and thinkers as they continue to progressively build the skills necessary for academic success in middle school and high school. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning, encourage in-depth exploration of the content, explore various genres, and develop academic habits of mind. Outside and summer reading are required.

English 8th Grade - Advanced

Prerequisite and Limitations: Previous levels of English and selection criteria, see page 8.

This course is designed with all the fundamentals of the Academic level class following the same scope and sequence. Through increased rigor, deeper thinking, alternate readings and assignments, and the development of more advanced products, students will further refine their reading and writing skills in preparation for their high school courses. Outside and summer reading are required.

Creative Writing 7th & 8th grade

1 Semester

The goals of this course include gaining a greater understanding of the components of various types of creative writing, fostering an understanding of and development of a personal writing process, and producing multiple types of creative writing to include essays, short stories, and poetry. Among the methods we'll use to achieve this will be the study of the diction, the imagery, and the tone of published writers. Having a better understanding of the choices writers make will help students understand how to communicate their own ideas of fiction. This course is for the student who wants to understand how writing happens, how to turn interesting thoughts into compelling words, and wants to create worlds with characters and dialog. Students will not be required to but will be strongly encouraged to share their work with the other students in the class.

Communication Applications 8th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Communication Applications is designed to teach the skills and strategies needed to become an effective communicator in a variety of "real life" situations. Students will build self-confidence while speaking in both formal and informal settings. Students are expected to identify, analyze, develop, and evaluate communication skills needed for professional and social success in interpersonal situations, interviews, group interactions, and professional or personal presentations. Assignments will focus on verbal and nonverbal messages, listening skills, and critical thinking. At the end of the semester, students will be able to communicate effectively and appropriately, which will allow them greater ease in expressing their thoughts and feelings.

English I - 9th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

High school freshmen will be led to develop analytical reading, academic writing, critical thinking and presentation skills. Course content includes myth, short stories, poetry, drama, and novels. Analytic reading instruction will extend understanding of literary elements and language. Writing instruction will extend development in various modes of writing including narrative, expository and argumentative. In addition, students will develop skills in critical thinking, effective discourse, collaboration and reflection. Outside and summer reading are required.

English I Honors - 9th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Previous levels of English and selection criteria, page 8.

Students will follow the scope and sequence for the Academic 9th grade course with the addition of particular and specific attention to Pre-AP® standards and rigor set forth by the College Board in preparation for the rigor of Advanced Placement classes in high school. Outside and summer reading are required.

**English II - 10th Grade
World Literature****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

High school sophomores will learn specific writing skills and demonstrate their academic writing competence in various course assessments and projects. Course content includes short stories, poetry, drama and novels as well as a number of non-fiction essays and writings. Analytical reading instruction will extend understanding of literary elements and language. Writing instruction will extend development in various modes of writing. In addition, students will develop skills in critical thinking, effective discourse, collaboration and reflection. Outside and summer reading are required.

**English II Honors - 10th Grade
World Literature****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Previous levels of English and selection criteria, page 8.

Students will follow the scope and sequence for the Academic 10th grade course with the addition of particular and specific attention to Pre-AP® standards and rigor set forth by the College Board in preparation for the rigor of Advanced Placement classes in high school. Outside and summer reading are required.

**English III - 11th Grade
American Literature and Composition****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

High school juniors will encounter the American literary heritage from its beginning to the present. They will become familiar with the traditions from different periods in literature while reading essays, poetry, short fiction and various historical speeches and essays. Analytical reading instruction will extend understanding of literary elements and language. Writing instruction will extend development in various modes of writing. In addition, students will develop skills in critical thinking, effective discourse, collaboration and reflection. Outside and summer reading are required.

**English III AP® - 11th Grade
Language and Composition****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Previous levels of English and selection criteria, page 8.

The rigor of this college level course requires students to write in persuasive and argumentative styles as well as a variety of modes and for various audiences. Course content emphasizes analysis of rhetorical techniques and their application to a variety of writing situations. Students will also develop skills in collaboration and communication. Outside and summer reading are required. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

**English IV - 12th Grade
British Literature and Composition****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

This course prepares students for the reading, thinking, writing, and research tasks encountered in college course-work. Students will read, analyze and synthesize complex literary works and non-fiction prose to formulate their own academic arguments. Analytical reading instruction will extend understanding of literary elements and language. Writing instruction will extend development in various modes of writing. In addition, students will develop skills in critical thinking, effective discourse, collaboration and reflection. SAT vocabulary continues to be a focus. Outside and summer reading are required.

**English IV AP® - 12th Grade
Literature and Composition****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Previous levels of English and selection criteria, page 8.

In this college level course, students explore literary works from different periods. Careful attention is given to close reading of literary texts and to their historical context. Students are expected to read complex texts with understanding and to write complex prose that communicates effectively with mature readers. In addition, students will develop skills in critical thinking, effective discourse, collaboration and reflection. Summer and extensive outside reading are required. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

**Creative and Imaginative Writing
9th - 12th Grade****.5 or 1 Credit****1 or 2 Semesters**

This interesting and diverse study of creative and imaginative writing allows high school students to develop increased skill, creativity, and versatility as writers. In the class, students will be provided the time to write independently and to share and critique their writings with others. In their efforts to perfect selected pieces of work, students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of the reflective nature of the writing process, applying the conventions of usage and the mechanics of written English. Throughout the year, students will study and create from a variety of genres such as essays, short stories, poetry, and drama to stretch and improve their writing abilities. As a means of extending their knowledge of effective and creative techniques and forms of writing, students will be afforded the opportunity to create and publish the school's literary magazine using pieces of their own written work, art and photography.

ENGLISH *continued*

Film as Literature 9th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Film as Literature is a course designed to allow students to experience different types of films as works of literature. Drama, comedy, science fiction/fantasy, short films, documentaries and other films worthy of study will be included within the coursework. Students will be expected to write persuasive, analytical and compare/contrast essays. Class time will include film viewing, class discussions, lectures, reading, response writing, and group projects.

Journalism I 9th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This course is designed to provide opportunities for students to engage in an in-depth, hands-on experience in journalism and the news writing process. Students will learn various article formats and work towards developing their own voice using various writing styles. Students will be responsible for the planning, design, and publication of the online school newspaper. This production process will involve news, sports, and feature writing, page and graphic design, photography, and business management.

Journalism II 10th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Journalism I

This course will build on and expand the knowledge and techniques learned in Journalism I. Students will serve as mentors for Journalism I students, modelling interviewing and editing techniques, coaching them in writing, and provide guidance as needed. Journalism II students will serve as section editors for the school online newspaper, focusing on advanced layout techniques, photojournalism, and broadcast journalism.

Journalism III & IV - Honors 11th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Journalism I and II

Students will take the leadership roles for the online student newspaper and serve as Managing Editors. Along with continuing their own writing and column assignments, they will create assignments for the newspaper staff, brainstorm ideas for features and special pages, take the lead in assigning video news packages for broadcast news, and work to promote the news department to the student body of Northland. They will also work with the Broadcast News Editors to create a cohesive program. Students will also have the opportunity to compete at Journalism writing completions.

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES

Art 6 Fundamentals of Art

1 Semester

This course introduces 6th grade students to the Elements of art -- line, shape, color, value, form, texture, space. Students will create unique two and three-dimensional works of art using a variety of media and art styles. They will be exposed to artists and art history, and will critique their own work and the work of others. A field trip to the art museum is an important part of the course.

Middle School Art Exploration

1 Semester

In this semester course, 7th and 8th grade students have the opportunity for creative expression in two and three-dimensions. While exploring the Principles of Design -- balance, contrast, emphasis, movement, pattern, rhythm, and unity students will experiment with a variety of media as they create unique works of art in many different styles. Students will be exposed to famous and not so famous artists, art history, and critiquing skills. A trip to the art museum is an important part of the course.

Two-Dimensional Animation

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Digital Art I.

This class is for those students that want to turn their still images into moving, breathing creations. Programs such as Adobe Flash will be used to teach many different animation techniques from simple moving graphics to animating cartoons and voice.

Three-Dimensional Modeling

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Digital Art I.

This class explores the use of sculpting and 3D modeling tools to create digital sculptures. The students will develop skills in Google Sketch-Up and Blender to create digital models for presentations, animations, concept art, and architecture.

Art I

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Art I is for students without previous high school visual arts experience. It includes a general overview of art concepts and some art history, as well as a variety of studio experiences. Students will also spend a great deal of time learning human proportions and drawing techniques. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Art II

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Art I.

Art II provides the opportunity for students to experience a deeper exploration of traditional media and experimentation of new media. Students will also learn to talk and write about their own art and the art of others through critiques and studying historically important works. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Art III Honors

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Art II.

Art III delves deeper into the study of art as an expressive tool throughout history. Students will explore historical art styles and how they reflect and affect their respective societies. The purpose of art will also be questioned and the students will write their own philosophies on what they believe art to be and how it fits into their lives.

Art IV Honors

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Art III or Digital Art II.

Art IV provides an opportunity for serious art students to create works of art on a much larger scale. It also provides the opportunity for the creation of a portfolio that will be helpful when applying for future opportunities in the field of art. Art IV provides more freedom in the selection of mediums and subject matter.

Digital Photography I

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Digital Photography I emphasizes visualization and composition skills, as well as the technical aspects of photography. Students practice taking photographs and improving them in Lightroom and Photoshop. Group critiques enable them to think and talk about photography with an eye to improving their own work. Outstanding photographs will be displayed and entered in competitions.

Digital Photography II

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Digital Photography I.

A continuation and extension of Digital Photography I, Digital Photography II enables students to concentrate on expression and to explore photography concepts in more depth. Digital Photography II explores the advanced techniques of Lightroom and Adobe Photoshop.

Digital Photography III Honors

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Digital Photography I & II.

Students in their third year of Digital Photography choose an area of specialization and spend a semester creating a portfolio that demonstrates mastery and growth in that subject or technique. Completion of two different semester-long inquiries prepares students to tackle the Advanced Placement 2D Design Portfolio.

Digital Photography IV Honors

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Digital Photography I, II & III.

The student and teacher work out an individualized program of exploration and discovery in photography. A portfolio of work suitable for application to a university or art school photography program will be completed.

Digital Art I

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Art I.

Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and Flash, along with Corel Painter are used to explore graphic design and expressive content for a digital world. Students will explore how their art fits into a digital world and create works of art for the web and for live shows.

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES *continued*

Digital Art II

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Digital Art I.

Digital Art II gives students much more freedom to explore different digital media of their choice. Students will also study graphic design and digital painting more in depth.

Sculpture I

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Art I.

The goal of this class is for students to learn how to apply the principles and elements of art to a 3 dimensional space. This class offers students a different way of thinking about how to create artwork by exploring materials such as but not limited to clay, stone, plastic, cardboard, and tape. Sculpture will give students with an aversion to 2 dimensional art classes another option for a visual arts class in high school. This class is not to build a consistent body of work, but to build a knowledge of how to use the materials so that in the future, a body of work may develop.

AP® Studio Art

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

Students must submit an application and be approved by the teacher. For highly motivated students with at least two years of high school Art. AP® Studio Art offers the opportunity to earn college credit. By completing twenty-four high quality pieces, students advance to new levels of technical proficiency and expressive strength. Portfolios are graded by the College Board in a digital submission format. Students are responsible for the AP® Exam fee which is determined annually by the College Board.

6th Grade Drama

1 Semester

This course serves as an introduction to theatre and video performance, helping to develop an ability to perform in front of others. This course is project based and students will have the opportunity to act, direct, write scripts, edit video as well as create props, scenery and costumes. All students will participate in the production of either a play or short film at the end of the semester. The skills gained in this course help students gain stage presence, vocal and physical techniques, ability to work in an ensemble, and video editing skills.

7th & 8th Grade Theatre Arts

1 Semester

This course serves as an introduction to theatre and video performance, helping to develop and builds on the skills learned in 6th Grade Drama. This course is project based and students will have the opportunity to act, direct, write scripts, edit video as well as create props, scenery and costumes. All students will participate in the production of either a play or short film at the end of the semester. The skills gained in this course help students gain stage presence, vocal and physical techniques, ability to work in an ensemble, and video editing skills.

Theatre Arts High School Theatre I, II

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Theatre I is designed to introduce students to various aspects of theatre and performance. Students will gain knowledge of vocal and physical acting, improvisation, theatre and video production, as well as prop, costume and set design. There will be opportunities for students to participate in main stage productions in Northland Theatre's extra curricular program, compete in solo and duet acting events, enter design pieces in costume, prop and set design competitions, and create original short films for competition. Theatre II students will build on what they learned in Theatre I and select an area they would like to focus on and begin growing their skills in either acting, costume, make-up, prop, set design or video production. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Theatre Arts High School Theatre Honors III, IV

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite & Limitations: Theatre I and II

Theatre III and IV students will select an area of theatre to focus on: acting, costume and make-up design, prop and set design or video production. Students will have the opportunity to create projects in their chosen discipline for events on campus and for various competitions. By the end of Theatre IV seniors will have a complete portfolio to present for college admissions and scholarship opportunities.

Orchestra Middle School

2 Semesters

Incoming students may be required to pass a proficiency test for admittance into the class. If a student would like to join in August and has not previously played, students will be asked to take private lessons outside of school in order to have the basics of playing learned and be at a proficient level for this class.

The 6th grade class is designed to continue and expand upon the student's 3rd-5th grade experience, with emphasis on higher positions, vibrato and more complex rhythms and sightreading. The 7th/8th grade class will emphasize the art of ensemble playing for stringed instruments and expand on the student's previous learning experience. Emphasis will be placed on musicality, the ensemble setting, and performance practice. Example performance venues might include chapel, a Christmas concert, spring concert, etc. Qualified students may be invited to participate in quartets or small ensembles outside the overall group. If students are virtual and would like to participate in live concerts, they will be expected to participate in all dress rehearsals leading up to the concert.

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES *continued*

Orchestra I, II High School

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Students should have completed a minimum of two full years of study on their instrument. Incoming students may be required to pass a proficiency test for admittance into the class.

This class is designed to emphasize the art of ensemble playing for stringed instruments and expand on the student's previous learning experience. Emphasis will be placed on musicality, the ensemble setting, and performance practice. Example performance venues might include chapel, a Christmas concert, spring concert, etc. Qualified students may be invited to participate in quartets or small ensembles outside the overall group. If students are virtual and would like to participate in live concerts, they will be expected to participate in all dress rehearsals leading up to the concert. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Orchestra Honors III, IV High School

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Two years High School Orchestra.

The honors level is for students who are participating in Orchestra for the third or fourth year in high school. In addition to the expectations of Orchestra I and II, students are expected to serve as leaders and mentors to other students while advancing their own skills to a higher level. Students are expected to compete in TPSMEA competitions and to volunteer to perform (games, nursing homes/facilities, or gala events) outside of the normal concert schedule if requested.

Choir 6th Grade

1 or 2 Semesters

Students participating in 6th Grade Choir must display a positive attitude toward music and performing. Since the choir travels several times per year, students signing up for choir should be in good academic standing. Students will learn to read music and be instructed in group vocal technique. Students will be required to purchase and wear the required uniform for performances.

Choir 7th & 8th Grade

2 Semesters

Students participating in the Middle School Choir are 7th and 8th graders who must display a positive attitude toward music and performing. Since the choir travels several times per year, students signing up for choir should be in good academic standing. Students will learn to read music and be instructed in group vocal technique. Students will be required to pay a rental fee and wear the required uniform for performances.

Choir I, II High School

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Students enrolled in Choir will express themselves musically while developing healthy vocal technique through daily group vocal instruction. Choir students will perform music in several different languages and many different styles as they build music reading skills. Due to travel requirements for competitions and performances, students should be in good academic standing. Uniform purchase required. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Choir Honors III, IV High School

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Two years High School Choir.

Honors level Choir credit is available for students who are participating in High School Choir for a third or fourth year. Honors level students are expected to serve as leaders and mentors to other students while advancing their own skills to a higher level.

Performance Workshop I, II High School

.5 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Audition required. Concurrent enrollment in High School Choir required.

Performance Workshop (also known as "Vocal Point") is Northland's premiere vocal ensemble. The group selected will perform a broad spectrum of musical styles. Students will also benefit from group and individual voice instruction. Students enrolled in this class will participate in TPSMEA All-State Choir auditions and Solo & Ensemble competitions. Due to travel requirements for competitions and performances, students should be in good academic standing. Uniform purchase required.

Performance Workshop Honors III, IV High School

.5 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Audition required. Performance Workshop I and II, concurrent enrollment in High School Choir required.

Performance Workshop (also known as "Vocal Point"), is Northland's premiere vocal ensemble. The group selected will perform a broad spectrum of musical styles. Students will also benefit from group and individual voice instruction. Students enrolled in this class will participate in TPSMEA All-State Choir auditions and Solo & Ensemble competitions. Honors level credit is available for students who are participating for a third or fourth year. Honors level students are expected to serve as leaders and mentors to other students while advancing their own skills to a higher level. Due to travel requirements for competitions and performances, students should be in good academic standing. Uniform purchase required.

FINE ARTS ELECTIVES *continued*

Honors Music Theory High School

1 Credit

2 semesters

This full-year course is for 9-12 grade high school students seeking to go more in depth in their understanding of how music works. Students will learn how to read, write and analyze music. Students will also be able to compose music and understand guidelines used in music composed by others in the Western Civilization style of music. Students should possess some basic music theory foundational knowledge and although not required, it is preferred for students to be a member of a musical performing ensemble at Northland.

AP® Music Theory High School

1 Credit

2 semesters

Prerequisite: Music Theory AP Placement exam, at least 2 years prior participation in an upper-level performance ensemble and/or private music lessons. Basic knowledge of pitch and rhythm fundamentals.

This course is for the serious music student who is planning on pursuing a Music Major or Minor in college. Piano/keyboard experience is very beneficial, but not required. This class will cover music composition, analysis, melodic and harmonic dictation and basic keyboard skills, also incorporating sight reading using Kodaly solfege syllables. The last weeks of the course are dedicated toward the final preparation and practice for the AP® Music Theory examination. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students may receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by the College Board. Students may be required to purchase software for their laptops.

Offered every other year. Next offering will be in the 2020-2021 school year.

Middle School Yearbook 7th & 8th Grade

1 or 2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required. Student must provide their own camera.

This semester or year long course will introduce students to the complete process of creating the Middle School Yearbook. Students will incorporate the principles of design, basic photography skills, writing, editing, and time management skills while working collaboratively to capture and creatively display our NCS memories. (First semester only or yearlong).

Yearbook I, II High School

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

Yearbook staff members must submit an application and be approved by the faculty advisor. Working together to create an actual product, students get experience in writing, photography, editing, sales leadership and time management. Working on the yearbook staff provides experience that applies directly to the world of work. The staff attends a summer workshop on the campus of Texas A&M University. Incoming staff members should contact Mrs. Stork for workshop information.

Yearbook Honors III, IV High School

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Two years High School Yearbook. Application required.

Yearbook staff members must submit an application and be approved by the faculty advisor. Working together to create an actual product, students get experience in writing, photography, editing, sales leadership and time management. Working on the yearbook staff provides experience that applies directly to the world of work. The staff attends a summer workshop on the campus of Texas A&M University. Incoming staff members should contact Mrs. Stork for workshop information. Third and fourth year staff members are expected to serve as leaders and mentors to other students while advancing their own skills to a higher level.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Spanish I

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This course is an introduction to the Spanish language and assumes no previous knowledge or limited knowledge. The class will use Spanish in speaking, writing, reading and listening skills. The students will be given opportunities to use the language through games, drama, celebrations, and special projects.

Spanish II

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Spanish I or permission from the teacher.

This course is a continuation of Spanish I. The students will continue to use the language in speaking, writing, reading and listening skills – with a deeper exploration into the written language. The students will be given opportunities to use the language in holiday projects, role-plays, games, videos, and stories.

Spanish III - Honors

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Spanish II or permission from the teacher.

This course is a continuation of Spanish II. The students will delve deeper into the spoken language, literature and writing skills. The students will also study cultural similarities and differences as well as geography and history of Spanish speaking nations. The students will be given opportunities to display their skills using videos, audio materials, and student-centered projects to share with lower level students.

Spanish IV - Honors

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Spanish III and Selection criteria, page 8. Spanish IV is designed as a continuation of Spanish III. In-depth study of the language and grammar will be emphasized along with literature, history, customs, traditions and current events.

AP® Spanish

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Spanish III, Spanish IV, or by teacher recommendation and Selection criteria, page 8.

This advanced course focuses on Spanish for active communication — concentration is specifically on using and fine tuning verbal skills as well as writing expository compositions. Major emphasis is placed on reading, writing, and speaking using ‘real-life’ texts, interviews, and short stories. The varied accents, vocabulary and idiom usage from different Latin countries are discussed and used as well. The last weeks of the course are dedicated toward the final preparation and practice for the AP® Spanish Language examination. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

Mandarin Chinese I

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This course is an introduction to the Chinese language and culture in this course. The basic objectives are to help each student attain an acceptable degree of proficiency in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and to present the language within the context of contemporary Chinese culture. Chinese characters will be introduced systematically as they are related to the listening/speaking activities conducted throughout the course.

Mandarin Chinese II

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Mandarin Chinese I

Mandarin II is a continuation course of Mandarin I. This course will help students further develop proficiency in Mandarin and expand knowledge of Chinese culture across the five standards: communication, culture, connection, comparisons, and community. Students will refine their tones and pronunciation, increase their vocabulary, and produce sentences with various grammatical structures. Emphasis will be placed upon practical use of Chinese through exposure to authentic texts such as short narratives, signage, tickets, and brochures. Students are expected to be more expressive in daily conversation about broader topics, such as school life, daily schedule, shopping, likes and dislikes of various items, transportation, and be able to read short essays. Cultural activities including legend-related crafts and ethnic food origins will be introduced to enhance students’ cultural awareness.

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCES

Social Studies/Ancient World 6th Grade

Students are led through a survey that begins with the rise of civilization and ends with a study of Ancient Rome. The approach consists of a series of instructional practices that allow students of all abilities to experience key social studies concepts. The lessons incorporate the six types of multiple intelligence activities (verbal, logical, visual, kinesthetic, rhythmic, interpersonal, and intrapersonal) igniting each student's passion for learning. The use of cooperative group work promotes higher student achievement and increased student interaction. With this curriculum, what was once a dusty, dry area of learning is now fresh, exciting, and engaging.

Texas History 7th Grade

Texas History covers the history of the land and the peoples of Texas from the prehistoric era to the present. Major emphasis is on periods prior to the twentieth century. The contributions of various cultures and the interaction of these cultures are presented early and are major themes throughout the course. Map reading skills are a vital element of this course. The study of Texas history will incorporate lecture, reading skills, note-taking, map-making, videos, and a large variety of hands-on projects for most units covered. Multicultural heritage, geographical influences, technological advancement, democracy and civil rights, individual and family life, intellectual and religious development, free enterprise and economic development, conflict and cooperation are topics included in this study.

U.S. History 8th Grade

This course is an introductory study of United States history. The adventure will begin with Native Americans and will discuss the social and cultural development of the United States through the Civil War. The course attempts to create in students a spirit of love and appreciation for the people and events that shaped the United States. There is an optional field trip in the spring.

World Geography 9th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**
This survey course investigates the physical, cultural, religious, economic, and human geography of the world. Students see parallels in the physical, political and cultural development of nations and note the differences that make regions unique. Emphasis is made on the history of humankind from the development of early civilization to the Black Plague. The study is flexible to allow for reevaluation of past events in light of more current events. Students are exposed to various cultures from Eastern, African, and Western civilizations.

World History 10th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**
This survey course focuses on the history of humankind from the development of agriculture to the present time. Students see parallels in development across nations and note the differences that make nations unique. The study of World History is flexible to allow for reevaluation of past events in light of more current events. Students are exposed to cultures of Eastern, African, and Western nations. As the history of the world is taught, the cultural and physical aspects of geography are reviewed with relation to the countries involved.

AP® World History 10th, 11th, or 12th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**
This full-year course is for the high school student who wishes to earn college credit through a rigorous academic program. This class approaches history in a nontraditional way in that it looks at the common threads of humanity over time: trade, religion, politics, society and technology and it investigates how these things have changed and continued over time in different places. Five themes will be used as a frame of reference in the chronological study of world history. These themes are: Interaction between humans and the environment; development and interaction of cultures; state building, expansion and conflict; creation, expansion, and interaction of economic systems; and development and transformation of social structures. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

U.S. History - 11th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**
This course picks up where 8th Grade US History leaves off. In this survey of US History since 1877, students will demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the significant details and concepts of eras of this time, covering Westward Expansion, Industrialization, Progressivism, both World Wars, the Cold War, and the Civil Rights Movement, among other relevant topics. The vision of the class is to connect relevant concepts from our past to current issues and conversations we are still having today in our country.

U.S. History Dual Credit - 11th Grade HIST 1301 & HIST 1302

1 Credit **2 Semesters**
Prerequisite and Limitations: Selection criteria, page 8.
HIST 1301 (1st semester) is a survey of U.S. History from the Age of Discovery through the Civil War and Reconstruction. Special emphasis is placed on the emergence of the United States as a nation. Other topics will include westward expansion, slavery, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. The purpose of this course is to provide students with an interpretive analysis of the social, economic, political, and intellectual dynamics that shaped United States history before 1877.

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCES *continued*

HIST 1302 (second semester) is a survey of U.S. History from the end of Reconstruction to the present. Special emphasis is placed on the emergence of the United States as a world power and our subsequent assumption of international responsibilities. Other topics will include westward expansion, industrialization, immigration, World War I, World War II, the subsequent Cold War, Vietnam, and the collapse of the Soviet Empire. HIST 1301 and 1302 earn six college credit hours through Lone Star College. Dual Credit courses require an additional fee which is determined by Lone Star College.

Government 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

American Government will provide a foundation in the science of government to increase student knowledge and skills in all facets of government. Students will understand their right to exercise more control over government at all levels. The course will be comprised of the following: the basic principles on which American government is based; insight into the origins, history, and structure of government; issues of the American system; political groups and parties; the American system at local, state and national levels; the relationship among local, state and national levels; the interaction among the three branches of the national government; and, the rights, freedoms and responsibilities of American citizens. Prominence will be given to the Constitution of the United States. American Government will seek to help students understand these course elements and to recognize how each applies to them personally to enable each to exercise his or her franchise thoughtfully and effectively.

AP® U.S. Government and Politics 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

AP® Government will provide students with an increased understanding of the American political system, its framework, institutions, groups, traditions, beliefs, values, and ideas. Students will examine in detail the major processes and institutions through which the political system functions, as well as some of the public policies that are established and how these policies are implemented. Completing the required readings, taking detailed notes, and being prepared to take weekly reading quizzes is necessary for success in this course. Students will also be expected to answer free response essays on a weekly basis. The goal is for the student to complete college level work in a college level environment. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

Economics 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Economics emphasizes the free enterprise system. The focus is on the basic principles concerning production, consumption, and distribution of goods and services in the United States and a comparison with those in other countries around the world. Students examine the rights and responsibilities of consumers and businesses. Students analyze the interaction of supply, demand, and price and study the role of financial institutions in a free enterprise system. Types of business ownership and market structures are discussed, as are basic concepts of consumer economics.

AP® Macroeconomics 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

AP® Economics will enable students to gain an understanding of how the United States economy works and how it relates to the economies of other countries. Students will examine economic concepts including production possibilities, supply and demand, comparative advantage, foreign exchange, GDP, unemployment, loanable funds, fiscal policy, monetary policy and taxes. Practicing graphs, taking detailed notes, and being prepared to take comprehensive unit exams are necessary behaviors for success in this course. The goal is for the student to complete college level work in a college level environment. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

Psychology I 10th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

This semester-long course will examine psychology as a scientific discipline. Students will be introduced to the beginnings of psychology and the biological origins of psychology by studying the mind and the developmental process. Sensations and perceptions will follow the biological origins of psychology. This course will help students relate psychology into everyday scenarios.

HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCES *continued*

Special Topics in Social Studies: Psychology II (*social and behavioral*) 10th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Prerequisite and Limitations: Psychology I

This semester-long course will build upon the biological foundation developed in Psychology I. Students learn about social psychology, emotions, drives, personality disorders, and therapy. This course will also focus on relating psychology to everyday situations and developing the ability to apply these psychological ideas to social situations and future careers.

Sociology 10th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

This semester long course is designed to help students understand basic sociological principles and to help them apply them to situations in everyday life. Contemporary topics will be chosen to help students enrich their learning beyond the textbook. Through the participation in different exercises and applications, students will gain an understanding of many different areas of sociology.

AP® Psychology 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

The AP® Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings. The class will spark the students interest in human behavior. Well known psychologists such as Freud, Skinner, Pavlov, Rogers, Maslow, and Hurlock will be introduced and discussed throughout the course in order to learn why humans behave the way they do. This course will combine both projects and research as well as exams in order to prepare each student for the AP® Exam. We will engage topics from development and biology to learning, personality, and disorders. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

MATH

Math - 6th Grade

The mathematics course for grade six is designed to not only teach mathematical concepts, but to also provide students with real-life situations in which their math skills can be utilized. Number patterns, decimals, fractions, ratios, proportions, percent, geometric concepts, and measurement are some of the topics covered. Algebra is also introduced through integers and solving equations. An Algebra readiness test will be given in the 6th grade.

Math - 7th Grade

Focus will be on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing whole numbers, fractions, decimals, percents, and integers in problem solving. Using numbers in geometry, measurement, statistics, and probability will be emphasized in applying proportional relationships. Describing and interpreting data will be included. Algebraic concepts are also explored through solving one-step equations and inequalities.

PreAlgebra - 7th Grade

Prerequisite and Limitations: Selection criteria, page 8.

In PreAlgebra, topics including numerical operations, estimation, algebraic functions, statistics, probability, geometry, measurement, problem solving, algebraic operations, solving basic equations, and graphing will be covered. Preparation for Algebra I is the main emphasis. Either a scientific calculator or a TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

PreAlgebra - 8th Grade

In PreAlgebra, topics including numerical operations, estimation, algebraic functions, statistics, probability, geometry, measurement, problem solving, algebraic operations, solving basic equations, and graphing will be covered. Preparation for Algebra I is the main emphasis. TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Algebra I - 8th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Selection criteria, page 8.

Algebra I reinforces concepts learned in PreAlgebra (such as solving multi-step equations and linear graphing) and expands into solving systems of equations and inequalities, factoring and simplifying polynomials, solving quadratic equations and working with exponents and radicals. Students are given a foundation for concepts that will be learned in Geometry, Algebra II and PreCalculus. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Algebra I - 9th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

Algebra I reinforces concepts learned in PreAlgebra (such as solving multi-step equations and linear graphing) and expands into solving systems of equations and inequalities, factoring and simplifying polynomials, solving quadratic equations and working with exponents and radicals. Students are given a foundation for concepts that will be learned in Geometry, Algebra II and PreCalculus. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Geometry - Academic 9th or 10th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

This course is classic Euclidean geometry, including parallel lines, triangles, congruence, similarity, quadrilaterals, polygons, circles and solids. Use of algebra is incorporated throughout the course. Formal proofs as well as trigonometry will be used in multiple units of study. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Geometry - Honors 9th or 10th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Selection criteria, page 8.

This course includes all of the concepts in Academic Geometry, but with greater depth and complexity. Additional topics will include formal logic, special segments in triangles, midsegments of trapezoids and kites. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Algebra II - Academic 10th or 11th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

Algebra II includes the concepts of solving open sentences with one or more variables, algebraic operations with polynomials and rational expressions, properties of functions, matrices and determinants, graphing, quadratic and higher degree functions, complex numbers, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, and probability. Technological applications of these topics will be integrated into the course. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Algebra II - Honors 10th or 11th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Selection criteria, page 8.

Algebra II Honors focuses on the algebraic concepts of solving open sentences of different degrees, polynomials and rational expressions, function analysis, matrices and determinants, graphing, complex numbers, conic sections, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, and probability. This course emphasizes higher-level thinking and problem solving. Applications and technology are integrated into this course. This course is designed as preparation for PreCalculus or PreCalculus Honors. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

PreCalculus - Academic 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit **2 Semesters**

Precalculus contains elements of trigonometry, analytic geometry, function analysis and graphing, sequences and series, and advanced algebraic topics. This course is designed as preparation for AP Calculus AB, Honors Calculus, or AP Statistics. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

MATH *continued*

PreCalculus - Honors 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Algebra II and selection criteria, page 8.

Precalculus Honors includes the study of trigonometry, analytic geometry, and function analysis. In-depth study of functions, graphs, advanced algebraic topics, proofs, and applications is emphasized in their relation to calculus. This course is designed as preparation for AP Calculus AB or BC or AP Statistics. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

Calculus - Honors 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: PreCalculus or PreCalculus Honors and Selection criteria, page 8.

This course is primarily intended for students intending to major in business or the social sciences in college. Calculus is the study of rates of change of various functions and their applications. In our development of the Calculus we will study applications to business, including the cost, revenue and profit functions as well as various social science applications such as rates of learning, population growth and equity of income distribution. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required.

AP[®] Calculus - AB 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: PreCalculus Honors and Selection criteria, page 8.

Calculus applies the study of limits, derivatives, integrals, and functions to various applications. Using calculus as a problem-solving tool and preparation for taking the Calculus AB exam is emphasized in this course. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required. The College Board AP[®] Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

AP[®] Calculus - BC 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: PreCalculus and Selection criteria, page 8.

The primary goal and intended audience for this course is the same as for Calculus AP[®] – AB; however this is a more intense course as it covers the additional topics of convergence and divergence of infinite series, applications of Calculus to both polar and parametric functions, logistic growth and additional methods of finding antiderivatives. A TI-84 graphing calculator is required. The College Board AP[®] Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board. *This course is subject to both teacher and scheduling availability and having sufficient students to make a viable class.*

College Algebra 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Selection criteria, page 8.

Students will review material covered on the TSI (Texas Success Initiative) math placement test, which covers four content areas: 1. Elementary Algebra and Functions (Algebra I), 2. Intermediate Algebra and Functions (Algebra II), 3. Geometry and Measurement, and 4. Data Analysis, Statistics and Probability. Students will also complete an in-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, absolute-value, piecewise defined, exponential and logarithmic functions, equations, inequalities, graphing skills and systems of equations using matrices.

Introduction to Dual Credit College Algebra 11th or 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Prerequisite and Limitations: Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II and Selection criteria, page 8.

The goal of this class is to prepare students to take College Algebra Dual Credit (online). In-depth study of prerequisite knowledge needed for College Algebra as well as an overview of topics covered in College Algebra.

College Algebra - Dual Credit (online)**MATH 1314****11th or 12th Grade****.5 Credit****1 Semester**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Introduction to Dual Credit College Algebra and Selection criteria, page 8.

Students who qualify for dual credit on the TSI math placement test will be taking this class (MATH 1314) online from Lone Star College. These students will be placed in the classroom with an instructor who will act as a facilitator. In-depth study and applications of polynomial, rational, radical, absolute-value, piecewise defined, exponential and logarithmic functions, equations, inequalities, graphing skills and systems of equations using matrices. Additional topics such as sequences, series, probability, conics and inverses may be included. Dual Credit courses require an additional fee which is determined by Lone Star College.

AP® Statistics**11th or 12th Grade****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Honors Algebra II with Teacher Recommendation or PreCalculus.

The AP® Statistics course is equivalent to a one-semester, introductory, non-calculus-based college course in statistics. The course introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. There are four themes in the AP® Statistics course: exploring data, sampling and experimentation, anticipating patterns, and statistical inference. Students use technology, investigations, problem solving, and writing as they build conceptual understanding. The College Board AP® Exam is required of students at the end of the year. Students will receive college credit based upon the advanced placement policy of the college they choose to attend. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by The College Board.

Math Support Lab**10th - 12th Grade****.5- 1 Credit****1-2 Semesters**

The Math Support Lab is designed to support struggling math students by providing daily pre-teaching experience focusing on the same essential math content they will encounter in their Geometry or Algebra 2 class. Students acquire transferable knowledge allowing them to draw on these experiences with confidence and persistence when in their math classroom. The course provides a Math elective credit towards graduation but does not replace the Math requirements for graduation and will not be calculated in the student's high school grade point average (GPA).

SCIENCE

Science - 6th Grade

Earth and Space Science focuses on the structure and development of the earth over time and concludes with an introduction to astronomy. This course includes units on mapping, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes, the rock cycle, weathering and erosion, the water cycle, atmosphere and climate, the oceans, our solar system, and the universe. The focus of this course is to allow students to explore these concepts in a practical manner that challenges them to think about the Earth's impact on them and their impact on it. Students will engage in an array of class activities that include weekly hands on labs, comprehensive tests, quizzes, class projects and watching video clips related to the material.

Life Science - 7th Grade

Life Science is the study of the functions and features of living things. The course covers the classification system, cells, heredity, bacteria, protists and fungi, plants, animals, the human body and ecology. Students will use internet-based activities, relevant articles and appropriate labs to discover similarities and differences within groups and species. Students will conduct five or more dissection labs including squid, earthworms, grasshoppers, and frogs. Students will conduct both independent and collaborative research at least once each semester. They will present this research to the class using a variety of presentation methods.

IPC (Integrated Physics and Chemistry) 8th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

The focus of IPC is to provide students with an introduction to Physics and Chemistry. The first semester will be focused on the basic concepts of chemistry, which include the structure of an atom, the periodic table, chemical bonds and reactions, mixtures, compounds and organic chemistry. In the second semester students will focus on introductory Physics. They will cover topics such as density, buoyancy, forces, motion, machines, energy, electricity, magnetism, sound and light. Students will participate in weekly hands on labs, group and individual projects and regular testing.

Biology - 9th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This is a college preparatory laboratory science course based on regular laboratory and field investigations that include a study of structure and function of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. Topics of study include biochemistry, microscopy, cell structure and function, cellular energetics, cellular reproduction, genetics and heredity, taxonomy and classification, bacteria, protists, fungi, plants, animals, ecology, and human body systems. A special emphasis is placed on laboratory investigations including microscopic techniques, entomology, data collection and analysis, and laboratory dissection techniques with an extensive pig dissection which culminates in a large scale lab practical exam.

Biology Honors - 9th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Selection criteria, page 8.

This is a college preparatory laboratory science course that prepares students to be successful in an AP® Biology course. The course is based on understanding science as a process to help students begin to develop a conceptual framework for modern biology. Students will perform regular laboratory and field investigations that include a study of structure and function of living organisms and their interactions with the environment. Topics of study include biochemistry, microscopy, cell structure and function, cellular energetics, cellular reproduction, genetics and heredity, taxonomy and classification, bacteria, protists, fungi, plants, animals, ecology, and human body systems. A special emphasis is placed on problem solving, written communication of concepts and observations, microscopic techniques, entomology, data collection and analysis, and laboratory dissection techniques with an extensive pig dissection which culminates in a large scale lab practical exam.

Biology AP® 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Biology, Chemistry and selection criteria, page 8.

The AP® Biology course is equivalent to a **two-semester college introductory biology** course designed to enable students to develop advanced inquiry and reasoning skills, such as designing a plan for collecting data, analyzing data, applying mathematical routines, and connecting concepts in and across domains. The key concepts and related content that define the AP® Biology course and exam are organized around a few underlying principles called the big ideas, which encompass the core scientific principles, theories and processes governing living organisms and biological systems. The four big ideas that will be studied in this class are: **Cellular Energy and Communication, Evolution, Genetics and Information Transfer, and Biological Interactions. Students will complete at least 10 multi-day lab investigations that reinforce the big ideas and encourage the development of scientific inquiry and reasoning skills.** Completion of this course will prepare students for the AP® Biology exam. AP® Biology is historically a challenging and difficult class; therefore, students selecting this course should be highly motivated, self-disciplined and inquisitive. Students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® exam. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by the College Board.

Chemistry 10th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

The academic level of chemistry is designed for the student who will have a non-science college major. The student needs a mastery of basic algebra concepts. The topics covered in this course are dimensional analysis and International System unit conversions, history of atomic theory, structure of the atom, bonding, naming compounds, balancing equations, stoichiometry, states of matter and energy changes, gases, solutions, and acid/base systems. When time allows, oxidation-reduction reactions and electrochemistry will be introduced. These topics are sufficiently introduced but not with the depth of honors chemistry.

**Chemistry - Honors
10th Grade****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Biology and selection criteria, page 8.

The honors chemistry course is geared for the student who will be majoring in engineering, pre-med, or a technology related field in college. Honors chemistry is math based and uses dimensional analysis throughout the course. Topics covered in this course are the International System of units, the periodic table, history of the atom, structure of the atom, bonding, naming compounds, balancing equations, stoichiometry, predicting, states of matter and energy changes, gases, solutions, and acid/base systems. An introduction of oxidations-reduction reaction and electrochemistry may also be covered. The honors chemistry student should be a self-motivated learner and have a strong math background.

**AP® Chemistry
11th or 12th Grade****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Biology, Chemistry and selection criteria, page 8.

AP® Chemistry is a course that deals with chemistry topics at a college level. The topics and laboratory work covered in AP® Chemistry are those specified by the College Board™. Students are expected to have previous knowledge of significant figures with measurements and calculations, scientific laws concerning matter, atomic theory, compounds and nomenclature, balancing equations, oxidation-reduction reactions, stoichiometry, states of matter, solutions, and acidic and basic systems. These topics will be reviewed during the first three weeks of the course. Other topics that are covered in more depth are quantum numbers, periodic relationships, geometry of molecules, intermolecular forces, predicting products and balancing equations, states of matter, spontaneity of reactions, kinetics, equilibrium (general, acid/base, and solution), and electrochemistry. There are sixteen experiments required by the College Board for the AP® chemistry student. Students must have one year of a laboratory based chemistry class before taking AP chemistry. Students entering NCS must have proof of 8-10 completed laboratory investigations. Students must be able to attend class 90% of the time in order to adequately participate in lab. The AP® Chemistry student should have very strong math skills and be self-directed, self-motivated, and willing to read and study independently. Students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® exam. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by the College Board.

**Physics
11th or 12th Grade****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: concurrent or previous enrollment in Algebra II, and selection criteria, page 8.

Physics is a physical science concerned with the relationships between matter and energy. The ultimate goal of physics is to explain physical processes in terms of simple interactions and simple particles. The four main subdivisions of physics are: mechanics and thermal energy; wave motion; electricity; and nuclear and particle physics. This course will involve a considerable amount of laboratory experience. Investigations will be both qualitative and quantitative in nature and will require manipulation

of apparatus, observation, gathering of data, processing data and interpreting the data to form conclusions. Topics of study include (but are not limited to) measurement, dimensional analysis and units, statics, vectors, calculational techniques, momentum, "Galilean" relativity, center of mass, Newton's Laws, conservation of energy, power, conservative forces, simple oscillator, mechanical waves, gravity, Newton's Law of Gravity, Inverse Square Law, static electricity, charge and electric fields, Coulomb's Law, electric energy, conductors and capacitors, basic circuit theory, magnetic fields, induction, light and optics, and select topics in modern physics. Students will learn to clearly communicate their scientific work, a critical skill for today's workplace, through work in small cooperative groups, presentations of projects, homework problem solutions, and writing lab reports. This course will include a variety of activities to reach students with varied learning styles, including several cooperative group activities to help students solidify their own physics knowledge by teaching their peers.

**Physics Honors
11th or 12th Grade****1 Credit****2 Semesters**

Prerequisite and Limitations: Concurrent or previous enrollment in PreCalculus and selection criteria, page 8.

Physics is a physical science concerned with the relationships between matter and energy. The ultimate goal of physics is to explain physical processes in terms of simple interactions and simple particles. The four main subdivisions of physics are: mechanics and thermal energy; wave motion; electricity; and nuclear and particle physics. This course will involve a considerable amount of laboratory experience. Investigations will be both qualitative and quantitative in nature and will require manipulation of apparatus, observation, gathering of data, processing data and interpreting the data to form conclusions. The Honors level involves a more mathematical treatment of the topics covered, which include measurement, dimensional analysis and units, statics, vectors, calculational techniques, momentum, "Galilean" relativity, center of mass, Newton's Laws, conservation of energy, power, conservative forces, simple oscillator, mechanical waves, gravity and impetus, Newton's Law of Gravity, Inverse Square Law, static electricity, charge and electric fields, Coulomb's Law, electric energy, conductors and capacitors, basic circuit theory, magnetic fields, induction, light and optics, and select topics in modern physics. Students will learn to clearly communicate their scientific work, a critical skill for today's workplace, through work in small cooperative groups, presentations of projects, homework problem solutions, and writing lab reports. This course will include a variety of activities to reach students with varied learning styles, including several cooperative group activities to help students solidify their own physics knowledge by teaching their peers. This course will serve as preparation for AP® Physics C Mechanics.

SCIENCE *continued*

AP® Physics C-Mechanics 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Successful completion of Physics Honors, concurrent or previous enrollment in Calculus and selection criteria, page 8.

AP® Physics C-Mechanics is a rigorous college level course designed to be equivalent to the first semester of a typical college Physics course. Major areas of study include kinematics, forces and motion, work and energy, systems of particles, rotational dynamics and statics, gravitation, and oscillations. Calculus is used throughout the course to unify concepts and develop the theoretical framework for the course. Students will develop their critical thinking and problem solving skills in a variety of ways. Understanding concepts and connections will be emphasized over memorizing equations. Homework and in-class activities will offer students opportunities to apply physics knowledge in new and meaningful ways. Students will utilize technology, from computer simulation and data analysis software to calculator and computer data collection equipment, in order to connect the physics they are studying to real-world situations. Students will learn to clearly communicate their scientific work, a critical skill for today's workplace, through work in small cooperative groups, presentations of projects, homework problem solutions, and writing lab reports. This course will include a variety of activities to reach students with varied learning styles, including several cooperative group activities to help students solidify their own physics knowledge by teaching their peers. This course follows all College Board guidelines and serves as preparation for the AP® Physics C-Mechanics exam. Students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® exam. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by the College Board.

Anatomy/Physiology 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This is a college preparatory laboratory science course which investigates the similarities and differences in the form and function of living organisms. This course will examine the gross anatomy of the systems of the human body, histology, fundamental concepts of physiology, and related terminology. This course concentrates on the body at a microscopic level and then moves on to the individual systems including integumentary, skeletal, muscular, nervous, cardiovascular, digestive, urinary, and reproductive systems. Along with these topics, students will explore current scientific issues so that they have direct access to new developments in the field of anatomy and physiology. A great deal of emphasis is placed on laboratory experiences including advanced microscopic techniques, chicken wing dissection, cow eye dissection, sheep brain dissection, sheep heart dissection, and an extensive feral cat dissection which culminates in a large scale lab practical exam.

Forensic Science 11th or 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Forensic Science is an upper level course that utilizes other science disciplines such as biology, chemistry, physical science and earth science to solve crime scenes. The course is rich in exploration and lab investigation. Students work in teams and individually to separate, isolate and identify physical and chemical materials and analyze biological evidence. Topics that are covered include: fingerprinting; DNA; blood analysis; casts and impressions; arson investigation; entomology and ballistics.

TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

Technology 6th Grade

1 Semester

This course reinforces students' current computer skills and allows them to explore new technologies. Topics include presentations, word processing, keyboarding, animation, internet safety, and digital citizenship. In addition, students are introduced to the Python programming language using the EasyCode Pillars curriculum. EasyCode Pillars uses interactive and game-based lessons to teach coding, computational thinking, and computer science skills. No prior coding experience is required.

Technology - Middle School 7th or 8th Grade

1 Semester

The primary focus of this course is to learn the Python programming language using the EasyCode Pillars curriculum. EasyCode Pillars uses interactive and game-based lessons to teach coding, computational thinking, and computer science skills. Lessons progress to real-world projects. No prior coding experience is required. Additional lessons cover Google applications, keyboarding, animation, internet safety, and digital citizenship.

Technology Applications High School

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Students will explore many software applications and learn to create products for personal, school, and business use. Topics covered will include: keyboarding skills practice, word processing and publication layout (both Apple Pages and Microsoft Word), multimedia presentations (both Apple Keynote and Microsoft Powerpoint), and spreadsheet functions (both Apple Numbers and Microsoft Excel), copyright awareness, ethics of technology use, and online research skills. Students will practice using other technology tools such as scanners, digital cameras, and video cameras.

Computer Science I - Honors 9th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

This course will introduce students to several programming languages; selections have included Scratch, Jeroo, Python and Java. Students will focus on problem solving skills in each of the languages explored. Topics will include computer history, programming basics, object-oriented programming and user interfaces. Through collaborative and individual projects, students will practice programming variables, data types, and control structures in an object-oriented style.

AP® Computer Science Principles 10th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Algebra I and teacher recommendation

This course is designed to be equivalent to a first-semester introductory college computing course. Students will develop computational thinking skills vital for success across all disciplines. Students are encouraged to apply creative processes when developing computational artifacts and to think creatively while using computer software and other technology to explore questions that interest them. They will also develop effective communication and collaboration skills, working individually and collaboratively to solve problems, and discussing and writing about the importance of these problems and the impacts to their community, society, and the world. This course follows all College Board guidelines and serves as preparation for the AP® Computer Science Principles exam. The AP® exam for this course includes 2 through-course project assessments in addition to a multiple choice exam. Students enrolled in AP® courses are required to take the AP® exam. Students are responsible for the exam fee which is determined by the College Board.

GenerationTECH (Student Technology Support Team) 9th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Students taking the GenerationTECH course will be in the program as both a student and a troubleshooter. Students will learn the technical and communication skills necessary to troubleshoot, fix, and maintain the technology used at Northland. At the same time, students will be part of the Northland technology support team to help students and teachers keep their computers running properly. All students will be exposed to troubleshooting, time management, peer mentoring, resource development, problem solving and will have the opportunity to develop competency with numerous computer programs and procedures.

GenTech Internship 10th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Generation Tech, instructor approval

The student in the GenerationTECH Internship course will work one-on-one with the Staff Tech Team as both a student and a troubleshooter. The student will learn the technical and communication skills necessary to troubleshoot, fix, and maintain the technology used at Northland. At the same time, the student will be part of the Northland technology support team, helping students and teachers keep their computers running properly. The student will be exposed to troubleshooting, time management, peer mentoring, resource development, problem solving and will have the opportunity to develop competency with numerous computer programs and procedures. This is a great opportunity for individual students to develop their technical skills.

TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES *continued*

Introductory Robotics 6th Grade

1 Semester

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required. Class size is limited to 10 students.

This elective course is for 6th grade students wishing to learn how to program and build LEGO Mindstorms robots. Students will learn using open-ended problem-solving activities. This elective will also prepare students for participation in Middle School Competitive Robotics.

MS Robotics 7th or 8th Grade

1 Semester

Prerequisite and Limitations: Class size is limited to 10 students.

This elective course is for 7th and 8th grade students wishing to learn how to program and build LEGO Mindstorms robots. This elective is also appropriate for students who enjoy robotics but do not wish to compete in the First LEGO League competition. Students will learn using open-ended problem-solving activities. This elective is a prerequisite for participation in Middle School Competitive Robotics.

Competitive Robotics 7th or 8th Grade

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application and teacher recommendation required. Class size is limited to 10 students.

This course is for middle school students wishing to compete in the First LEGO League robotics competition. This elective is appropriate for students who have knowledge of robotics or programming and are strong math and science students. Students will have the opportunity to build and learn to program robots to solve challenges. Students will also be required to complete a research project that solves a real-world problem. This elective may require some weekend and after school practice. It will also require attendance at a minimum of two weekend robotics competitions.

Robotics & Engineering Design I & II 9th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

Robotics and Engineering Design is a course designed for students interested in pursuing a career in engineering with special emphasis on robotics. Students will develop an understanding of how modern engineers use math and science, together with ingenuity, to design and build new technologies, be exposed to new and relevant applications of mathematics and science to solve engineering problems of the day, develop a deeper and broader set of computer skills, and be exposed to a variety of new and future career opportunities in engineering and technology. During the first semester students will design, program, and build a robot for competition in the First Tech Robotics competition. The second semester will focus on a series of engineering design projects intended to provide exposure to larger engineering disciplines. Students will be expected to attend competitions (generally held on Saturdays) and be responsible for an activity fee of \$50. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Robotics & Engineering Design III & IV Honors 11th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

Robotics and Engineering Design is a course designed for students interested in pursuing a career in engineering with special emphasis on robotics. Students will develop an understanding of how modern engineers use math and science, together with ingenuity, to design and build new technologies, be exposed to new and relevant applications of mathematics and science to solve engineering problems of the day, develop a deeper and broader set of computer skills, and be exposed to a variety of new and future career opportunities in engineering and technology. During the first semester student will design, program, and build a robot for competition in the First Tech Robotics competition. The second semester will focus on a series of engineering design projects intended to provide exposure to larger engineering disciplines. Students will be expected to attend competitions (generally held on Saturdays) and be responsible for an activity fee of \$50.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Athletic Training I, II, III, IV 9th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

This class is designed to introduce athletic training fundamentals to high school students in an environment built on teamwork and responsibility. The students will learn all forms of taping and wrapping, basic first aid techniques, will be certified in CPR (Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and the use of an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator). They will receive instructions in OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) standards for "blood-borne pathogens" as well as medical terminology and anatomy. On the field/court, students will assist in practice and game preparation. In the training room, students will utilize their skills in taping and first aid, preparing first aid kits, and assisting in different forms of rehabilitation as well as stocking supplies.

Intro to Debate & Public Speaking 6th Grade

1 Semester

This course will be an introductory course to public speaking and debate. The course will focus on increasing confidence in public speaking and debate through activities, speech writing and presentations. Students will research, create and present speech outlines, participate in group presentations and debates throughout the semester. After participating in the course, students will have improved their critical thinking and communication skills..

Debate & Public Speaking 7th & 8th Grade

1 Semester

This course will provide a fun learning environment for students to develop verbal, organizational, research and critical thinking skills through public speaking and debate. Students will write and present several speeches over the course of the semester and participate in a variety of group and individual debates. Speeches given will include informative speeches, persuasive speeches, Impromptu, Extemporaneous Speaking and Lincoln Douglas Debates. Students may take this course in seventh and eighth grade if desired. Class size is limited

Competitive Debate & Public Speaking 7th - 8th Grade

1 or 2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application and teacher recommendation required. Class size is limited to 16 students. Students must have 1 semester of debate experience.

This course is for middle school students wishing to compete in debate competitions and prepare for the high school debate program. Students will have the opportunity to focus on competition events such as Extemporaneous Speaking, World Schools, Lincoln Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate. This elective may require some after school practices and will also require attendance at a minimum of two weekend debate competitions.

Intro to Debate & Public Speaking 9th - 12th Grade

2 Semesters

This course is intended for students that wish to learn critical thinking skills through debate but do not have the availability or interest in competing at debate tournaments. Students will learn different formats of debates and speeches throughout the semester that will help foster critical thinking and argumentative skills which are crucial to success in college and beyond. Through public speaking practice in the classroom, students will develop the communication skills that they will utilize in academic, social, and workplace settings. Optional tournament participation may be offered to students throughout the semester.

Debate - Competitive & Public Speaking I, II 9th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

As a student in this class, you become a member of the nationally recognized Northland Christian School Debate Team. This class is intended to provide classroom focus for learning speech and debate skills for students that are in their first year of competitive debate. The course focuses exclusively on debate and public speaking events such as Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Extemporaneous Speaking, World Schools Debate, Original Oratory, Impromptu Speaking and Congressional Debate. The course is designed to foster critical thinking and argumentative skills which are crucial to success in college and beyond. Through public speaking practice in the classroom and in competition, students will develop the communication skills that they will utilize in academic, social, and workplace settings. Students are required to attend five tournaments during the school year. Class size is limited. Students may be eligible to receive honors credit in grades 9 & 10 if they meet established criteria as noted in syllabus.

Debate - Competitive & Public Speaking Honors III, IV 11th & 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: Debate I and II. Application required.

The honors level is for students who are participating in Debate for the third or fourth year in high school. Students are expected to serve as leaders and mentors to other students while advancing their own skills to a higher level.

Testing Strategies and Preparation 10th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

This course will present strategies and skills for improving standardized test scores. Basic verbal and mathematical skills assessed on the SAT/ACT tests will be reviewed, as well as general test-taking strategies and ways to reduce test anxiety. Students will complete practice tests, multiple-choice assessments, and essay prompts. Additional material will include samples with explanations and study resources.

GENERAL ELECTIVES *continued*

Academic Decathlon - Competitive & Public Speaking Honors I, II, III, IV 9th - 12th Grade

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Prerequisite and Limitations: Application required.

The course enrollment is by invitation only. Students must participate in the ACADEC program to enroll in the course. If for some reason the student quits or is dismissed from the program, he/she exits the class.

AP Capstone™ Program

2 Credits

4 Semesters

AP Capstone™ is an innovative diploma program from the College Board that equips students with independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills. AP Capstone is built on the foundation of two AP® courses, AP Seminar and AP Research, and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study experienced in other AP courses. These courses develop students' skills in research, analysis, evidence-based arguments, collaboration, writing, and presenting. Students who complete the two-year program can earn one of two different AP Capstone awards – AP Seminar & Research Certificate (3 or higher on AP Seminar & AP Research) or AP Capstone Diploma (certificate requirements + 3 or higher on four additional AP exams), which are valued by colleges across the United States and around the world.

AP® Seminar 10th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

AP® Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular investigations of real-world topics from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. *AP® Seminar is a prerequisite for AP® Research.*

AP® Research 11th - 12th Grade

1 Credit

2 Semesters

Prerequisite and Limitations: AP® Seminar

AP® Research prepares students to design, plan, and implement a yearlong, independent investigation to address a research question and cultivate the skills and discipline to establish their plan, document their processes, and produce a process and reflection portfolio which showcases their scholarly work. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000-5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product) and a presentation with an oral defense.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Athletics

2 Semesters

Year-long class focusing on strength and conditioning with team emphasis for individuals participating in team sports. Athletes that are not playing a sport at any particular time will be part of a rigorous training program focused on increasing strength, agility, endurance, explosiveness, and quickness.

Boys: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Track

Girls: Basketball, Cheerleading, Soccer, Softball, Track and Volleyball

Physical Education

2 Semesters

Middle school physical education is geared toward fostering a knowledge and pursuit of life-long fitness and health. It will focus on conditioning, sports, and games. All middle school students are required to take P.E. each year. Approval for off-campus PE will only be given on a full semester basis and for category 1 participation (minimum of 15 hours per week). Academic counselor approval required prior to participation.

HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS

Strength & Conditioning

.5 or 1 Credit

1 or 2 Semesters

Students will follow an individual program designed to improve their physical strength, muscle endurance, and cardiovascular endurance. The training will take place on the track, in the gym, and in the weight room.

Manager/Trainer

.5 Credit

1 Semester

Prerequisite and Limitations: Candidates are typically selected and approved by the head coach of applicable sport.

Student athletic trainers and student managers will gain knowledge and skills required in careers in the health care and management industry. Responsibilities of this job include but are not limited to the following: maintenance of the first aid kits, equipment checks, fill water bottles and ice chest, aid in the treatment of injuries, taping and updating supply lists. The Manager/Trainer will be required to attend all practices and games.

SERVICE HOURS REQUIREMENTS

Service Hours are required to enhance social and academic learning while developing character and citizenship skills.

Middle School Requirement

15 hours per year of attendance at Northland,
maximum of 5 hours per year service to Northland.**

Service Hour forms are available on our website,
www.northlandchristian.org, under Cougar Life.

All forms need to be submitted to the Student Services office.

The service hour year is April 1st to March 31st.

Awards are given according to this guideline.

Middle School Service Award

100 hours in one year

High School Requirement

20 hours per year of attendance at Northland,
maximum of 10 hours per year service to Northland.**

Service Hour forms are available on our website,
www.northlandchristian.org, under Cougar Life.

All forms need to be submitted to the Student Services office.

The service hour year is April 1st to March 31st.

Awards are given according to this guideline.

High School Service Award

100 hours in one year

Service Hours should be pre-planned activities such as National Charity Organizations, Mission Trips* and community service volunteer work. A parent signature can be substituted if the supervisor's signature is not available. Service hours should be limited to the actual hours serving, not travel and sleeping hours. All service hours are unpaid hours. In order to be eligible, hours must be at a non-profit organization or for a qualified individual*. An example of a qualified individual is a single parent, elderly individual or a child with disabilities. All service hours are subject to approval by a chaplain.

The required number of service hours for HS and MS are benchmarks only. Upon graduation from middle school or high school, the entire number of hours will be required (per number of years in attendance at Northland). If you are working toward the Middle School Service Award or the High School Service Award, which is 100 service hours in one school year, forms are due by the last school day in March. Diplomas may be withheld if minimum hour requirements are not met.

NOTES

EXCELLENCE — in — ACADEMICS

*Preparing students
for tomorrow's world*

NorthlandChristian.org

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5/3/2021