



AN EPISCOPAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS

Academic Curriculum 2013-2014

- > **CHRIST SCHOOL IS A COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL.** At the start and heart of our mission is our charge to prepare our students for success and achievement in college and life beyond academia. Our curriculum is driven, in large measure, by the relevant knowledge and skills students will need in college and the global 21st century workplace.
- > **CLASSES ARE SMALL BUT DEMANDING** and are built around critical thinking, thorough research, incisive analysis, and strong writing. Memorization is not a goal. We expect all students to become independent learners, to expand their intellectual curiosity, and to demonstrate improvement and mastery in the difficult material with which they are challenged.
- > **ALL STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO CHALLENGE** themselves by taking demanding classes which push them intellectually. We offer twenty-seven honor level courses and fifteen Advanced Placement courses, in all departments. A number of students each year earn college credit for their performances on their Advanced Placement exams.
- > **THE CURRICULUM CENTERS ON THOROUGH PREPARATION** in the areas of English, History, Foreign Language, Math, Science, Religion, Technology, and Arts. Each student, working closely with his advisor and the Academic Office, picks a course of study which will challenge him and which is consistent with his intellectual development, previous course work, and his interests.
- > **OUR EIGHTH-GRADE CURRICULUM** is built on the concept of “discovery.” Students follow a core of interdisciplinary programs in English, social studies, math, science, art, and experiential learning outside of the classroom that will challenge their leadership skills. There are opportunities to coordinate community service and academic classes with other area schools. Qualified eighth grade students may attend high school level classes and receive graduation credit for successful completion of courses in math, science, and foreign language.
- > **WHILE MUCH OF OUR STUDENTS’ ACADEMIC SUCCESS** can be attributed to very bright teachers who understand boys and know how to communicate, inspire and excite them, students are given a variety of additional resources and support to foster success. While structure and consistency are foundations, extra help sessions in the mornings or afternoons, access to teachers and tutors at night, study halls, learning specialists, and remarkably small classes contribute to our young men finding more success than they thought possible.
- > **STUDENTS ALSO TAKE THE ACT, PSAT, SAT I and II, and/or Advanced Placement Exams.**

Graduation requirements consist of 20 credits with specific unit requirements in certain content areas.

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---|
| English | 4 units | Required each year |
| Science | 3 units | Credits are required in Biology, Chemistry, and a third lab science. A fourth year of science is strongly recommended. |
| Mathematics | 4 units | Credits are required in Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II additional math. |
| Foreign Language | 2-3 units | 2 credits are required in the same language. |
| History | 3 units | Requirements include 1 credit of US History. Two other credits in a history or social studies course, or an elective, are required. |
| Fine Arts | 1 unit | .5 credit of your fine arts requirement must be in music. |
| Technology | .5 unit | One semester is required |
| Religious Studies | .5 unit | One semester is required |
| Electives | 2 units | |

| <u>Grading Scale</u> | <u>College Prep</u> | <u>Honors Weighting</u> | <u>AP Weighting</u> |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 98-100 A+ | 4.33 | 4.87 | 5.41 |
| 93-97 A | 4.00 | 4.50 | 5.00 |
| 90-92 A- | 3.67 | 4.13 | 4.58 |
| 88-89 B+ | 3.33 | 3.74 | 4.16 |
| 83-87 B | 3.00 | 3.37 | 3.75 |
| 80-82 B- | 2.67 | 3.00 | 3.33 |
| 78-79 C+ | 2.33 | 2.62 | 2.91 |
| 73-77 C | 2.00 | 2.25 | 2.50 |
| 70-72 C- | 1.67 | 1.88 | 2.08 |
| 68-69 D+ | 1.33 | 1.50 | 1.66 |
| 63-67 D | 1.00 | 1.12 | 1.25 |
| 60-62 D- | 0.67 | 0.75 | 0.83 |
| Below 60 F | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

NOTE: Grade Point Averages will be calculated on Christ School course work only. Courses and credits earned at other institutions will be shown on the transcript but will not be included in the Christ School GPA.

Sample Course of Study

Regular Track

Grade 8

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| English 8 | 0.0 |
| Math (Pre-Algebra or Algebra I) | 1.0/0.0 |
| Humanities 8 | 0.0 |
| Integrated Science | 0.0 |
| Foreign Language I or Fine Arts 8 | 1.0/0.0 |

2.0-0.0

Grade 9

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Intro to Genres | 1.0 |
| Algebra I/Geometry | 1.0 |
| Biology | 1.0 |
| Empires & Encounters | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language I - II | 1.0 |
| Fine Arts (Art or Music) | .5 |

5.5

Grade 10

| | |
|--|-----|
| World Literature | 1.0 |
| Geometry/ Algebra | 1.0 |
| Chemistry | 1.0 |
| 20 th Century World History | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language I, II, III | 1.0 |
| Computer | .5 |

5.5

Grade 11

| | |
|---|-----|
| American Literature | 1.0 |
| Algebra II, Statistics or Discrete Math | 1.0 |
| Environmental Science or Physics | 1.0 |
| U.S. History | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language II - III | 1.0 |
| Religion | .5 |

5.5

Grade 12

| | |
|---|-----|
| British Literature | 1.0 |
| Pre-Calculus, Statistics or Discrete Math | 1.0 |
| Environmental Science or Physics | 1.0 |
| History Elective | .5 |
| Fine Arts (Art or Music) | .5 |
| Electives | 1.0 |

5.0

Honors Track

Grade 9

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| Honors Intro to Genres | 1.0 |
| Honors Geometry | 1.0 |
| Honors Biology | 1.0 |
| Honors Empires & Encounters | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language I - II | 1.0 |
| Elective | .5 |

5.5

Grade 10

| | |
|---|-----|
| Honors World Literature | 1.0 |
| Honors Algebra II | 1.0 |
| Honors Chemistry | 1.0 |
| Honors 20 th Century World History | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language II - III | 1.0 |
| Fine Arts (Art or Music) | .5 |
| Computer | .5 |

6.0

Grade 11

| | |
|--|-----|
| Honors American Literature or AP English Language | 1.0 |
| Pre-Calculus/Honors Pre-Calculus | 1.0 |
| Honors Environmental Science or AP Physics or AP Biology | 1.0 |
| Honors or AP U.S. History | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language III - IV | 1.0 |
| Fine Arts (Art or Music) | .5 |
| Religion | .5 |

6.0

Grade 12

| | |
|--|-----|
| Honors British Literature AP English Literature | 1.0 |
| Pre-Calculus/Calculus/AP Calculus AB or BC | 1.0 |
| AP Environmental Science, AP Physics or AP Biology | 1.0 |
| Honors History Elective or AP European History or AP US Government | 1.0 |
| Foreign Language IV - V or AP Language | 1.0 |
| Electives | 1.0 |

6.0

Sample of Elective Course Offerings

(Not all electives are offered each year)

Term Courses

African-American History
American Law
Anatomy and Physiology
Anthropology
Choir
Computer Literacy
Contemporary Issues
Creative Writing
Drama I & II
Ethics & International Affairs
Graphic Design
Journalism
Macroeconomics
Marine Biology
Microeconomics
Modern Conflicts-1950's & 60's
Modern Conflicts-WWI
Modern Conflicts-Terrorism
Modern Conflicts-Middle East
Modern Conflicts Vietnam
Music Appreciation
Music Technology
Music Theory I & II
Music Practicum
New Testament
Old Testament
Programming
Psychology
Public Speaking, Rhetoric & Debate
Social Concerns\Service Learning
SAT Prep
Studio Art I, II, III, IV
Video Production
Web Programming
World Religions
Writing/Yearbook

Year Courses

Advanced Lab Techniques
AP Art History
AP Biology
AP Calculus AB & BC
AP Chemistry
AP Computer Science
AP English Language
AP English Literature
AP Environmental Science
AP European History
AP French
AP Latin
AP Music Theory
AP Physics B
AP Spanish Language
AP Statistics
AP U.S. History
AP U.S. Government & Politics
Arabic I
Calculus
Discrete Math
Environmental Science
Honors 20th Century World History
Honors Algebra I and II
Honors American Literature
Honors Biology
Honors British Literature
Honors Chemistry
Honors Choir
Honors Empires & Encounters
Honors French IV
Honors Geometry
Honors Intro to Genres
Honors Latin I, II, III and IV
Honors Physics
Honors Pre-Calculus
Honors Spanish I, II, III, and IV
Honors U.S. History
Spanish Language Culture & Conversation
Statistics

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

ENGLISH

English 8

This course serves as an introduction to genre: short stories, plays, poems, essays and novels. Literature is studied through an integration of English and history at the eighth grade level, offering the students a survey of literature which emphasizes the themes of journey and discovery. The study of written expression offers practice in writing clear sentences and organized, coherent paragraphs. The grammar component stresses mastery of the parts of speech and the parts of a sentence. Vocabulary is enhanced through an SAT based program. (*Students do not receive High School credit for this course*)

Intro to Genres

This course introduces the literary forms of the novel, short story, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. The study of grammar and composition emphasizes competency in mechanics, usage, paragraph writing, and vocabulary development. Reading comprehension skills for standardized tests are also taught. 9th grade

Honors Intro to Genres

The objectives are to introduce the novel, the short story, poetry, drama, and nonfiction. There is an emphasis on building good reading habits which leads to more challenging and long term reading assignments. Mastery of writing an effective five paragraph thematic essay, creative writing as well as poetry reading and writing are included. There is strong emphasis on aspects of grammar, punctuation, and diction rounded out with a systematic study and development of vocabulary. 9th grade

World Literature

This class introduces the students to the “Coming of Age” theme through selections of world literature which offer immediate application to the lives of adolescent students. Students are taught important elements of literary criticism, including character development, style, setting, mood, point of view, and major idea. The study of composition provides the student with expository writing skills. A systematic study of vocabulary and standardized test preparation in the form of reading comprehension and sentence completion skills complete this course. 10th grade

Honors World Literature

This section offers students the opportunity to keep a personal journal, write a short story, read and analyze four novels of their choice, and study the implications of existentialism and nihilism in modern literature. 10th grade

American Literature

This class is a survey of American literature from the early stages through the developments of the 1960s. Emphasis is placed on close reading, stressing comprehension, analysis, insight and written evaluation of the readings. Mechanics and proper word usage are emphasized as the student completes a challenging study of college level vocabulary. Sentence completion and writing skills for standardized test taking are taught, as well as skills in research in preparation for the Senior English paper. 11th grade

Honors American Literature

This survey course in American literature challenges the student with an in-depth study at a vigorous pace. 11th grade

British Literature

The objectives of this course are to expose students to great books, great authors, and great ideas. Particular attention is given to British literature and corresponding historical periods. There is an emphasis on close reading, interpretation, criticism, analysis, synthesis, and application. A literary research paper is required which emphasizes the use of secondary sources, as well as encourages creativity and imagination in writing. A working vocabulary is fostered within the context of assigned readings and compositions, and analogy strategies for the SAT are addressed. 12th grade

Honors British Literature

The objective of this course is to expose students to important works of literature through a survey of British Literature. Emphasis is placed on close reading, interpretation, criticism, analysis, synthesis and application. A literary research paper is required, which teaches a hands-on approach to drama by reading plays, attending performances, doing research, and making presentations. Individual public speaking methods will be part of the course as well. 12th grade

AP English Literature and Composition, AP Language and Composition

These Advanced Placement classes may be taken during the student's junior and/or senior year. Concentration is placed on reading and writing skills necessary for successful completion of the College Board's AP exam. Preparation is rigorous with the goal of developing intellectual curiosity and independence.

Prerequisites: Grade of A- or better in previous English class (B+ in honors) and at least a 55 Critical Reading or Writing score on the PSAT (550 SAT); serious interest in the subject and willingness to take on the additional challenges of an entry-level college course; approval of department chair.

Honors 20th Century Americana: The United States in the 20th Century

This course is an interdisciplinary approach to studying American society by examining the rise of the United States during the 20th century. Not only will students be presented with historical information and literary reflections from, arguably, the ten most influential decades in the history of the United States, they will also marinate in the spices of music, art, film, and personal accounts from each of these decades. *Credit is offered as either an English class or a history class.*

Creative Writing

In this semester-long creative writing course we will read personal essays and short stories by accomplished authors and examine the fundamental building blocks of each piece (syntax and word choice, as well as tone, setting, dialogue, character development, plot, voice and theme). Students will explore these elements in the writing they do in and out of class, and we will workshop drafts of assigned essays and short stories. In lieu of a final exam, each student will prepare and submit one essay or short story to a literary journal or magazine.

MATHEMATICS

Pre-Algebra

Pre-Algebra is taught as a preparatory course for Algebra I. It begins with an extensive review of the basic operations with fractions and decimals. Topics then travel through GCF, LCM, integer operations, signed numbers, equations, inequalities, basic geometric information, exponents, fractional expressions, ratio, proportion, percents, rational and irrational numbers, area, volume, polynomials and quadratics. Problem solving skills are introduced. *(Students do not receive High School credit for this course)*

Algebra I

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

Algebra II

Algebra II is the stepping stone to higher mathematics and sciences. Problems investigated require stronger and more complex thinking. Linking of concepts are investigated and exercised. Areas discussed include functions, polynomials, rational and irrational expressions and equations, systems, imaginary and complex numbers. Situational and word problems promote higher degrees of problem solving skills. Consequently, calculators are an essential part of Algebra II. This course usually follows Geometry in the Christ School Math Department sequence.

Geometry

Geometry is a comprehensive course of study in which logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills are developed through a variety of teaching and learning methods. The goal is to have students understand plane and solid geometry and become capable of performing formal geometrical proofs. Topics covered include basic geometric definitions, parallel lines and planes, congruent and similar polygons, circles, area, volume, coordinate geometry, and proofs. This course usually follows Algebra I in the Christ School Math Department curriculum.

Honors Math

Honors courses in Algebra I, Algebra II, and Geometry are designed to prepare a student for the AP Calculus AB and BC courses. These three honors math courses move at an accelerated rate challenging the able and motivated student.

Discrete Math

Discrete Math - Prerequisite Algebra II and Geometry This course is intended for students who require a broad-based general overview of mathematics, especially those who may major in the liberal arts, education, social sciences, or business. Topics covered include algebra, geometry, systems of enumeration, sets and logic, mathematical systems, consumer mathematics, probability and statistics, graph theory, voting and apportionment.

Statistics

This is a survey that will give a student a very broad background of how data is collected and then used to make predictions or observations. Students travel through Mean, Median, and Mode problems through Causation and Probability through to tests of accepting or rejecting. Statistics is an alternative course to Pre-calculus and Finite. Using TI-83 calculators is a must.

Advanced Functions and Modeling

Advanced Functions and Modeling provides students an in-depth study of modeling and applying functions. Home, work, recreation, consumer issues, public policy, and scientific investigations are just a few of the areas from which applications should originate. (*Prerequisites: Algebra II and Geometry*) After taking the course, the student will be able to:

1. Describe graphically, algebraically and verbally phenomena as functions; identify independent and dependent quantities, domain, and range, and input/output.
2. Translate among graphic, algebraic, numeric, and verbal representations of relations.
3. Define and use linear, quadratic, cubic, and exponential to model and solve problems.
4. Use systems of two or more equations or inequalities to solve problems.
5. Use the trigonometric ratios to model and solve problems.
6. Use logic and deductive reasoning to draw conclusions and solve problems.

Pre-Calculus and Honors Pre-Calculus

Pre-calculus reviews and extends concepts from Algebra and Geometry. It integrates them through intensive graphical analysis. Trigonometric topics are covered in depth with applications as the primary focus. Other areas studied include conic sections, sequence and series, statistics and limits. Functional notation is emphasized throughout the course. The honors level of this course is fundamental preparation for studying Calculus.

Calculus

This class is offered to those students who wish to learn Calculus but are not prepared for the Advanced Placement exam in the subject. Students learn to differentiate and to integrate various elementary functions, to evaluate limits, and to apply those skills in solving a variety of mathematical problems.

AP Calculus: AB and BC

This Calculus class covers the material intended for a typical two-semester college freshman course. The approach used encourages visualization, and every effort is made to integrate current technology into the mainstream of the course. The emphasis is on presenting the calculus as a tool for the student in his later academic and professional life. Two calculus courses prepare students for the College Board's AP Calculus AB level or BC level exam. *Prerequisite: Approval of instructor based on recommendation of previous year's math instructor.*

AP Statistics

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four broad conceptual themes:

- Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns
- Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study
- Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation
- Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses

Students who successfully complete the course and examination may receive credit and/or advanced placement for a one-semester introductory college statistics course.

AP Computer Science

This full-year course is designed to prepare students for taking the AP Computer Programming exam; emphasis focuses on C++ and Java Script language, syntax and rules. Course projects include creating programs to understand all aspects of programming for Windows based programs. *Prerequisite: Approval of instructor based on recommendation of previous year's math instructor.*

SCIENCE

Integrated Sciences

This is a one year course offered to eighth grade students only. It is designed to expose students to physical, life, and earth science while deepening their curiosity for science and strengthening their basic scientific process skills. Through hands-on activities, labs, field trips, and research, students will explore local and global weather, environmental science, human biology, botany, entomology, and ornithology throughout the year. *(Students do not receive High School credit for this course)*

Biology

Biology is a laboratory oriented course and uses a hands-on approach to learning about biological processes. It emphasizes the interrelationships between “abiotic” and “biotic” parameters that organisms must regulate. Specifically, cell structure and function, the chemical nature of organisms, biochemistry, genetics, behavior, ecological relationships, plant and animal structures, and energy mechanisms in organisms are highlighted. *Usually taken in 9th or 10th grade.*

Honors Biology

The Honors Biology course is an intensive year long introduction to the principles and patterns that govern life. Students participate in weekly laboratory activities and daily class preparation including independent reading and note-taking. The class progresses swiftly and covers the major topics of molecular and cellular biology, evolution, and anatomy and physiology. Students are required to conduct an independent research exercise in the second term. *The course is open to 9th and 10th graders.*

AP Biology

Advanced Placement Biology is presented using a molecular approach and follows the College Board's AP course outline in preparation for the AP exam. Initial considerations of cell processes are based upon mastering an understanding of their biochemical relationships. In addition, genetics, photosynthesis, cell respiration, protein synthesis, cell structure, enzyme-substrate reactions, plant and animal physiology, and nucleic acids are studied in depth. Extensive laboratory investigations are used to further students' understandings of the principles studied. *Prerequisites: B or higher in Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry (or an A in the regular course) plus teacher approval.*

Chemistry

This course emphasizes underlying and unifying concepts upon which chemistry is based. The major topics are atomic theory, chemical nomenclature, balancing equations, precipitation reactions, acid-base reactions, redox reactions, and practical (applied) chemistry. Laboratory investigations emphasize a hands-on approach with write-ups being an integral part of the course work. Developing analytical thought processes and independent study is strongly encouraged. *Prerequisite: Biology.*

Honors Chemistry

This course is designed to present to the introductory chemistry student essential topics concerning the actions and interactions of matter—both ionically and molecularly. Special emphasis is placed on chemical nomenclature, balancing equations, precipitation reactions, acid-base reactions, redox reactions, and on the practical application of chemistry. *Prerequisites: Honors Biology or Teacher approval.*

AP Chemistry

AP Chemistry is an advanced level chemistry class that will primarily cover topics that are presented on the AP exam. Students will be required to perform multiple techniques in laboratory sessions, debate and discuss current theories in chemistry, create an independent research project and take the AP exam at the end of the year. *Prerequisites: B+ or higher in Honors Biology and Honors Chemistry (or an A in the regular course) plus teacher approval.*

Introduction to Engineering Design and Principles

Students will focus on the design process and its application. Students will learn and apply engineering standards, using industry standard 3D modeling software (AutoCAD) to help them design solutions to solve proposed problems, document their work using an engineer's notebook, and communicate solutions to peers and members of the professional community. This course exposes students to major concepts they will encounter in a post-secondary engineering course of study. Topics include mechanisms, energy, statics, materials, and kinematics. They will develop problem-solving skills and apply their knowledge of research and design to create solutions to various challenges. *Prerequisite: Biology and Chemistry*

Physics

Physics uses a variety of methods and materials in order to strike a balance between understanding the concepts of physics and being able to solve problems using algebra, graphs, and trigonometry skills. The historical and sociological impacts of physics from Aristotle to Einstein are also incorporated into the course. Topics covered are Newtonian mechanics, vectors, forces, gravity, projectile motion, the conservation of energy, momentum and angular momentum, thermodynamics, engines, waves, sound, light, and electricity. *Prerequisite: Chemistry.*

AP Physics (B or C)

This course will build on the general physics course taken by students the previous year. It will involve a review as well as a more in depth study of Newtonian mechanics, vectors, Newton's laws of motion, work, energy, power, linear and angular momentum, rotational motion, gravity, heat, kinetic theory, and thermodynamics. The second semester will concentrate on electricity, magnetism, waves, optics, topics in modern physics, nuclear physics, and an introduction to special relativity. Independent reading and study on the historical development of physics will also be a part of this course. At the end of the course students will be required to take the AP Physics exam which, upon successful completion, will make them eligible for college credit in physics. *Prerequisites: B or higher in Honors Physics (or an A in the regular course) plus teacher approval.*

Environmental Geology

Environmental geology relates directly to how the physical environment and humans interact. In this course, students will examine how geologic processes and hazards influence the choices we make. Students will study the physical constraints imposed on human activities by the geologic processes that have shaped and continue to shape the natural environment. Students will have the opportunity to apply these ideas to the local and regional geology found in and around North Carolina, the Mid-Atlantic, and the Southeast. Students will participate in several field trips to explore and study these processes directly.

Environmental Science

Dealing with current and historical environmental issues, emphasis is placed upon teaching major ecological concepts and the natural mechanisms that drive them. Students increase their awareness of the environmental consequences of modern technology by investigating these technological systems and the continued population growth conflict with ecological principles. *Prerequisite: Chemistry.*

AP Environmental Science

AP Environmental Science integrates other scientific disciplines into a year-long study of the Christ School campus. Students prepare for the AP exam while collecting data on water, soil, biological diversity, waste, energy, land use, and human populations. Interpretation of the data and applying them to a global scale are essential parts of this rigorous college-level course. *Science teacher approval.*

Introduction to Geology

The study of geology is usually divided into two broad categories - physical and historical. In this course, students will have the opportunity to examine the concepts of physical geology while learning the types of rock found throughout North Carolina and the processes that shaped the state as well as the country. Through the study of historical geology, students will examine the processes responsible for the changes in the land and study the fossil remains of plants and animals. Students will participate in several field trips to explore and study these processes directly.

If a student does not meet a prerequisite and is admitted to the course at the discretion of the teacher, that student will be on "probation" for the first quarter and may be advised to change courses if he is failing to meet the course requirements.

HISTORY

Humanities 8

This course is one facet of Christ School's Eighth Grade Experience that is taught in conjunction with English 8 and Integrated Science emphasizing the theme of discovery. Humanities 8 draws from the subjects of history, psychology, religion, literature, health, and fine arts to provide students with an interdisciplinary curriculum of "Men's Studies" centered around the program's eight themes: Preparing for the Journey, Explorers and Discoveries, Our World Today, Building Healthy Relationships, Personal Wellness, Personal Spirituality, Developing Leadership, and Becoming a Gentleman. While the course's content focuses on the experience of entering manhood, it also emphasizes development of academic, social, and problem solving skills necessary for success in high school as well as in life. (*Students do not receive High School credit for this course*)

Empires & Encounters

Strongly recommended for all 9th grade students, this course begins with the histories of ancient Egypt, Israel, and Mesopotamia, and is followed by the Classical civilizations of Greece and Rome before culminating in a study of the Middle Ages. The course is designed to give students an awareness of their Classical and Judeo-Christian heritage and to inculcate a historical sense in which they come to appreciate opposing forces and clashing motives in societies.

Honors Empires & Encounters

All history is made up of evidence and interpretation. The evidence is in the form of recorded events, letters, newspapers, court records and so on. From this evidence a story is formed, but it is necessarily biased. In this course the student will be the historian and create his own story of ancient and medieval history using primary and secondary source materials. Class discussions, writing and research will broaden the perspectives on this period.

20th Century World History

This required class covers European history from 1453 to the present. It begins with analysis of the late Renaissance and Reformation, the emergence and importance of the nation-state, the Enlightenment, and the twilight of the Ancient Regime. The second semester focuses on the French Revolution and Napoleon, the nationalistic unification movements of the mid-19th-century, and the World Wars of the 20th century with their present-day ramifications.

Honors 20th Century World History

This class, a comprehensive study of the key developments of the 20th Century, will focus on the major events that define the contemporary world and modern culture. Incorporating European, American and World history, the class will build upon themes from Global Studies I using a chronological format. Doing research and analyzing primary sources, students will probe into the defining political, social, economic and military trends of the recent past

United States History

This required class surveys the major events in United States History from the Age of Discovery through Watergate. The course involves students in readings and discussion topics through political, economic, social, and diplomatic approaches to learning history. A thorough review of the mechanics of our governmental system of federal democracy is included. A research paper is required with full and complete use of primary as well as secondary source materials.

Honors United States History

This course uses a college-level text to explore American history in detail from 1400 A.D. to the present. It is designed for students who have high motivation and a strong interest in history, self-discipline, and a high level of reading ability. The topics covered represent a chronological survey of the major political, economic, and social themes throughout America's development. Essay writing, cumulative mastery of factual material and critical thinking skills are stressed.

AP U.S. History

This course, offered in both the 11th and 12th grades, examines the development of the history of the United States from colonial times through the present in preparation for the College Board's AP exam. Political, cultural, economic, diplomatic, and social factors related to American history are covered. The course includes training students to think analytically about major historical themes, and exposing students to a variety of interpretations of critical events. Extensive use of primary source documents is integral to the course, as is considerable writing.

Prerequisites: Grade of A- or better in previous history class (B+ in honors) and at least a 50 Critical Reading or Writing score on the PSAT (500 SAT); serious interest in the subject and willingness to take on the additional challenges of an entry-level college course; approval of department chair.

AP World History

The AP World History is a survey of the global past from 8000 BCE to the present. The curriculum is laid out by the College Board's Advanced Placement program to prepare students for the AP Exam in the spring. The course is structured around five themes, four historical thinking skills, and 19 key concepts over 6 chronological periods. Along with exploring 10,000 years of world history, the course will emphasize utilizing historical sources to craft arguments about the past, historical causation, continuity and change, comparative history, as well as analyzing, synthesizing, and interpreting the past. These skills will prepare students for success on the multiple choice, essays, and document-based question on the AP Exam. (11th & 12th Grade)

African American History

This is a one semester elective designed to explore the unique history and culture of Black America and its African roots. The course will examine the struggles and triumphs of Black Americans from the slave trade to the present day. The class will emphasize the Black leadership, social movements, philosophies, and approaches to attaining civil rights, as well as the distinct contributions Blacks have made to US culture in the fields of music, visual arts, literature, and sports. Significant readings will be required, as will regular analyses of these texts through formal papers and class discussions.

Ancient Western Civilizations

This elective for juniors and seniors is a survey of the ancient civilizations which contributed to the development of Western culture. While the course will touch on Mesopotamia, Egypt, Persia, and other Near Eastern peoples, the material will place a greater emphasis on Ancient Greek and Roman Civilizations. In addition, the course will focus on the application and analysis of primary sources to develop interpretations of the past. As a result, students will delve into the art, literature, religion, mythology, science, and technology of these ancient peoples and how they influenced the Western way of life in the medieval and modern periods.

Modern Conflicts- Middle East

This is a one semester team-taught course designed to give students a better understanding of the history, geography, economics, cultures, and peoples of the eastern Mediterranean area known as the "Middle East." The course surveys the three major religions of the region (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam) and their significance in culture and politics. Particular focus is given to Islam and its impact, both historic and contemporary, on the Middle East region and the world. Significant readings will be required, as will regular discussions of the readings and of current events from the region.

Ethics in International Affairs

This seminar is a course in "applied ethics" that will take the moral principles generally used by writers on international ethics and apply them to currently relevant political, economic, military and environmental topics. It is not a political theory course, although the conversation about ethics and international affairs dates back to the great political philosophers Thucydides, St. Augustine, Machiavelli, Hobbes, and others. This course will stress the process of moral reasoning to decide where a nation's obligations lie when moral principles conflict. Students will be encouraged to weigh the Realpolitik versus Moralpolitik throughout the course. That is, they will be pressed to analyze the "is" and the "ought" in current international affairs – the values that guide us versus those that ought to guide us – and to reason about ends, means and consequences.

Psychology

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the basic principals and theorists in psychology, as well as address certain adolescent issues and personal development. The class will be familiarized with major concepts and theories, helped to understand key terms, and compare and contrast major theories. In addition, we will apply valid information about mental and physical health in the time of adolescence so students can make decisions consistent with their value system. At the conclusion of the semester, students should have a general knowledge of the history, concepts, and theorists in the field of psychology, and more importantly, should have a better understanding of themselves and the decisions that they make.

Public Speaking, Rhetoric & Debate

This course will demonstrate the tradition, importance and power of public speaking and its many applications in today's world. We will examine great speeches in history, study the link between public speaking and critical thinking and focus on the importance of the ethical responsibility involved in the dissemination of information. Students will increase their fluency as speakers, and develop their self-confidence. The course also introduces oral interpretation of literature, and beginning argumentation and gives the student practical experience through participation. Students will begin by analyzing the rhetorical context of their discourse by asking themselves the following: Why are you speaking or writing? To whom? How will your message be delivered or received? What is your message about? Finally we will address confidence and nervousness, preparedness, delivery and public speaking in a multicultural world.

AP US Government and Politics

This course integrates history and current events to acquaint students with the systems and structures of the United States government. The course focuses on the historical foundations of US democracy, the Constitution, the three branches of government, civil liberties and rights, as well as the role of media, political parties and interests groups in today's electoral system. This course is designed to prepare students for the Advanced Placement examination to be given in May. Furthermore, the course gives students a greater appreciation of the system of government under which they live and the roles of US citizens.

Prerequisites: Grade of A- or better in previous history class (B+ in honors) and at least a 50 Critical Reading or Writing score on the PSAT (500 SAT); serious interest in the subject and willingness to take on the additional challenges of an entry-level college course; approval of department chair.

AP Art History

This course is a college-level survey of the history of art from prehistoric times through the 20th century. About half of the course will concentrate on art of western European culture, and the other half will be material concerning Ancient periods and non-European traditions (Asian, Islamic, African, pre-Columbian American, and Oceanic). The course will develop primarily chronologically, and will include discussion of political, economic, religious, social, philosophic, and military events; as these influence and are influenced by art.

RELIGION

Introduction to Old Testament

The Old Testament course at Christ School satisfies the Religion requirement for graduation. Students of any form are eligible, but it is most appropriate for forms V-VI (grades 11-12). The course is intended to provide a one-semester overview of the Hebrew Scriptures, including also a brief discussion of the Apocrypha. It is designed to provide the student with basic biblical literacy upon which to build. In no way is it exhaustive in scope; it should be seen a beginning, not an end. Our hope is that the course will also provide a forum in which students can explore their faith, ask questions openly, learn to respect different interpretations, see the connection between Bible and other academic disciplines, and most importantly, be led by the Holy Spirit to see how the Holy Bible might inform their lives.

Introduction to New Testament

This introductory course satisfies the Religion requirement for graduation. Students of any Form are eligible, but it is most appropriate for Forms IV-VI (grades 10-12). The course is intended to provide a one semester overview of the New Testament, building on themes of the Old Testament. Like its Introduction to the Old Testament counterpart, it is designed to provide the student with basic biblical literacy upon which to build. And like Old Testament, this course is intended to provide a forum in which students can explore their faith, ask questions openly, learn to respect different interpretations, see the connection between Bible and other academic disciplines.

TECHNOLOGY

Introduction to HTML Programming (Fall)

This course will be a mostly online course featuring basic html programming. Students will be learning the basic principles of HTML and HTML5 programming in order to create their own web sites. Basic computer knowledge is a plus.

Advanced HTML Programming (Spring)

This course will take the knowledge students have about HTML and expand using a web hosting L.A.M.P stack, which stands for Linux, Apache, MySQL, and PHP. Using a Rasberry PI device each student will set up his own L.A.M.P stack and learn to host their own web sites on the devices. Prerequisite: Intro to HTML; prior HTML knowledge

Digital Media

A look at the Adobe suite Photoshop, illustrator, and Premier Pro. In this course students will have an understanding of the different Adobe programs, and be able to edit photos, illustrate a logo/draw their own image, and shoot edit and produce their own video.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Arabic I, II, III & IV

This class introduces students to the basics of Modern Standard Arabic through the study of the Arabic alphabet, calligraphy, vocabulary and common words and phrases. There is also a strong cultural component to this class with emphasis on the geography, art and history of North Africa and the Middle East using supplementary tools such as film, literary fiction and non-fiction, internet and personal travelogues.

French III

French III is a course in advanced language usage, grammar, and vocabulary acquisition. Students will encounter readings from authentic French literature to write compositions.

Latin I

Latin I is designed to equip the beginning student with such basic skills as vocabulary recognition, understanding of inflected endings and simple grammatical constructions. The primary focus of this course is to introduce the student to the actual reading of Latin literature. Utilizing a reading-based approach, this course draws heavily upon Roman history and culture as well as Mediterranean geography. Latin I reinforces many of the concepts that students learn in the Ancient/Medieval History course. Latin I students are expected to take the National Latin Exam.

Latin II

Latin II requires the student to broaden his vocabulary recognition as well as to recognize and use more complex grammatical constructions. Understanding the physical layout of ancient Rome and identifying the significant buildings and areas of the city itself are central tenets of this course. Readings and cultural material converge upon the late Republican and early Imperial periods as students disentangle the political upheaval of the late Republic. Latin II students are expected to take the National Latin Exam.

Honors Latin III

Caesar, Cicero, Horace and Ovid are just a few of the authors whose works students read. In this course, the student has the opportunity both to examine the intricacies of the Roman political/military system during the Republic. Students at this level are encouraged to take the SAT II in Latin and are expected to take the National Latin Exam.

Honors Latin IV

Latin IV will consist of reading and translating original Latin authors (Cicero, Catullus, and perhaps Vergil) and analyzing their literature in greater detail than Latin III. There will be no new grammar and only idiomatic syntax to be learned.

Mandarin I (*Chinese*)

This is an introductory course in Mandarin Chinese Language and Culture. Students learn beginning listening, reading, speaking, and writing skills. They are introduced to basic Chinese syntax and vocabulary and are exposed to Chinese culture. This course is challenging and highly engaging for students interested in learning about Chinese language and culture.

Spanish I

Spanish I provides the student with an introduction to a wide range of grammar topics, cultural aspects, and common language structures. Emphasis is placed on speaking, comprehension, writing, and the ability to read a variety of level-appropriate Spanish materials.

Spanish II

Greater communication is placed on communication skills, reading, culture and customs, and grammatical structures. The goal of understanding native Spanish through the use of a variety of resources is emphasized. While grammar and tense formation are central topics, speaking skills are stressed.

Spanish III

Spanish III is designed to develop a greater sense of facility in everyday language skills and to deepen students' understanding of more complex grammar structures. Increasing their cultural understanding of the Hispanic world, this course also strengthens the student's ability to read and write.

Honors Spanish IV

While being prepared to take the College Board's AP exam, the Spanish IV student will increase his communication skills, widen his understanding of increasingly complex language structure, and strengthen his reading and writing skills.

AP Spanish Language

This course is designed to focus on advanced grammar, verbal and written communication skills in the focus language. The class will be conducted completely in Spanish to provide for a complete learning environment. The course will involve significant work outside the classroom and focused review during class. It is essential that each student makes a strong effort to participate as much as possible during every class. Each student will take the AP Exam at the completion of the course. *Approval of instructor based on recommendation of previous year's Spanish instructor.*

Spanish Language Culture and Conversation

This course will be offered to students who have completed the requirement of Spanish II. (The completion of Spanish III is strongly encouraged.) The course will focus on Latin American culture, history and politics through media. We will watch a series of films and read a wide variety of newspaper and magazine articles in addition to a sampling of short stories. We will discuss the major themes of class, race, discrimination and the Latin American politics that surrounds these issues. Also included in the topics of discussion will be immigration, music, art, and the importance of family. The course will be taught in English and Spanish and the films will be presented with subtitles. The assignments will consist of work both in English and Spanish. Student class participation in discussion, critique and analysis is vital to this course.

Honors Levels

Honors level classes are offered in all specific levels of French, Spanish and Latin, depending on student interest and qualification. Accelerated pace combined with advanced level readings, translations, rigorous dialogues, and writings are expected for those taking honors level foreign language.

FINE ARTS

Fine Arts 8th Grade

In the Fall an overview of studio art for eighth graders is offered in conjunction with the Humanities 8 program. In the Spring an overview of the music program for eighth graders is offered in conjunction with the Humanities 8 program. *(Students do not receive High School credit for this course)*

Studio Art I

Studio Art I is a semester elective for all students, regardless of previous experience or training, who are interested in exploring their artistic abilities. Students will work with basic media (drawing, printmaking, painting, sculpture, and ceramics) in a variety of studio projects. Emphasis is on individual planning and decision making within the framework of fundamental principles of design.

Advanced Art

Advanced Art is a semester elective for students who demonstrate interest in and commitment to the creation of art. The focus is on two-dimensional (drawing, painting, printmaking) and three-dimensional (ceramics, sculpture, metalworking) art. This course is designed for each student to work independently under the instructor's supervision in developing his individual course of study.

Music Appreciation

Students will learn the piano keyboard and elements of music notation in this term course. Scales and their structures, intervals, chords, rhythmic notation, sight reading and ear training are explored so that the students gain an understanding of how music is written and printed notation is translated into sound.

Music Practicum

Private music lessons are offered on campus. Meeting times will be determined by the student and instructor. There is an additional fee.

Choir

Previous experience is not required for participation in the Christ School Choir, but a decent voice, a reasonable ear, and a love and enthusiasm for music are important. The choir performs a spectrum of music, both sacred and secular, and sings daily.

Music Technology

Music Technology is an introduction to the recording studio and basic recording concepts. Topics include but are not limited to microphones, analog and digital recorders, sounds boards, signal processing, synthesizers, Podcasts and web radio.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

ESL Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced, Transition

Christ School is an ideal place for an international student to hone his English skills in preparation for attending a college or university in the United States. As the learning of a second language is a complex process, involving an infinite number of variables, students need adequate preparation if they are to be successful in academic classes. The ESL classroom is a safe-haven for risk-taking, and the curriculum is designed to ensure success at each level of achievement. And, the ESL Transition Course enables the international student to move successfully into regular classes in English or history. *This class has an additional fee per quarter.*

ESL United States History

LEARNING RESOURCES

Learning Skills

Learning Labs focus on organization, time management and study skills and strategies, as well as content area academic support. The intent in Learning Labs is for all students to become responsible, independent, diligent learners. Referral to the program originates from one of four sources; parent, student, school, or psychologist/ counselor/ physician. It is essential that a student enter the Program's environment with a willingness to enhance his academic success and to develop more responsible and intentional academic habits and skills. The Learning Resource Program's instructors communicate frequently with each student's teachers and his advisor to assess ongoing progress. A student may enter or exit the Learning Resource Program at any quarter. *(Students do not receive High School credit for this course)*

Evening Supervised Study Hall

Evening Tutorial Study Hall provides help for boys who need support in completing homework. The evening program is beneficial to students who have a difficulty staying focused and productive during the mandatory evening study period from 8:00 to 9:45 p.m., Sunday through Thursday nights. The boys are monitored each evening in small groups by a Christ School faculty member and several off-campus tutors. These adults oversee time-on-task and completion of homework assignments, as well as assist the students with material mastery and any course-specific questions they may have. This arrangement is different from Evening Supervised Study Hall and evening Room Study. *This class has an additional fee per quarter. (Students do not receive High School credit for this course)*

ELECTIVES

Journalism/Yearbook

Journalism produces the Christ School yearbook; *The Angelus*. The course involves instruction and hands-on experience in writing and editing skills, design, computer applications, photography, sales and public relations, and financial management. Writing skills are addressed in class, along with time management strategies and the establishment of deadlines.

Writing/Newspaper

Modern culture bombards its population with images. Television, magazines, video games, movies, and the internet are very rich in pictures and poor in text. Even print media such as USA Today and Time magazine have moved away from text rich structure to more visual formats. No wonder English teachers name writing as the weakest skill in high school, and increasingly, college students. This year-long class is an intensive writing course for grades 10, 11, and 12 that builds upon the strong visual skills developed by lifelong media exposure. Moving from strength to weakness, the course is designed to teach the student the steps involved in decoding textual information present in visual imagery. Strong emphasis is placed on the writing process. The more advanced students will be trained as peer tutors and staff a "Writing Room" to be open to the student body during extra help. In addition, the class will be responsible for writing a school newspaper to be published monthly. This course may be taken in addition to a regular English class.

SAT Prep

In the competitive world of college admissions, students should always be looking for ways to improve their application. One of the most effective ways to do so is by improving a student's test scores. In our SAT Prep class, students will have the opportunity to learn the techniques and strategies to raise their SAT scores, with the potential for dramatic improvement. The class will cover all areas of the SAT, involve in depth practice with real test questions, and give the opportunity to take full-length practice tests. Ultimately, students will be prepared with the knowledge and confidence necessary to attain their highest potential. *(Students do not receive High School credit for this course)*

Architecture of Leadership

The course will provide students with a better understanding of the nature of leadership, the leadership style of those who are effective in particular environments as well as a student's own leadership style. Biographies and films on leaders, past and present, guest speakers and discussions will form the basis for exploring the architecture of leadership.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

The Information and Media Center, St. Dunstan's Library

St. Dunstan Library supports the curriculum and mission of the school by providing access to information resources in a variety of formats. The present library, opened in 1993, is in lower Wetmore Hall beside the computer lab and works closely with the school's technology department in providing instruction in the use of educational and information technology.

The library collection includes approximately 9500 books and 600 films (VHS and DVD) as well as subscriptions to 45 periodicals and to online research databases. The ten computers for student use provide software tools and high speed Internet access. The library is also a wireless Internet access point for students with laptop computers. Study tables and carrels, a comfortable reading area, and a conference room offer places for students and faculty to read, work, hold seminars, and view films.

The library also offers assistance and instruction in the research process and on topics such as copyright and maintaining integrity in academic work. In addition, St. Dunstan Library seeks to promote the practice and love of reading by offering a wide variety of both leisure and reading materials and by sponsoring reading programs such as the annual 8th grade North Carolina Battle of the Books.

Nichol's Multi-media Classroom

Extensive multi-media technology is currently located in the computer lab. This classroom equipment includes a powerful multi-media computer, a digital projector, distance learning equipment, and a "soft-board" which allows the teacher's lecture notes to be recorded onto the school's server for later study and review.

Learning Resource Program

An added support service, the Learning Resource Program provides additional academic structure. Taking the place of a study hall and taught by professionals, Learning Resource time is used to assure that students understand what is expected of them in each of their core subjects. The Learning Resource teacher, working with a class of no more than four students, teaches time management skills, study and class preparation tactics, as well as assists with writing assignments or other course-specific needs. Learning Resource can be prescribed as a condition of admission or it can be chosen at the discretion of the student's family. In either case, a student is assigned to Learning Resource on a quarter-by-quarter basis and uses the service for only the period of time deemed necessary. Not a cure-all, Learning Resource is simply one way to increase the odds for academic success. There is an additional fee for this service; charges are billed as incurred.

College Counseling

Christ School graduates are accepted by some of the finest colleges and universities in the region and the country. Formal planning for post-secondary studies begins during the freshman and sophomore years, but intensifies during the junior year when the student meets individually with the College Counselor to discuss both preparations for the standardized tests and college options which will best suit the student as an undergraduate.

Early in the senior year, students take the SAT I and/or the ACT for the second time and begin submitting their applications to selected colleges. The faculty supports each student's applications with extensive evaluations and written recommendations.

Every year college admissions officers visit our campus in the fall and winter to give 11th and 12th graders a chance to further familiarize themselves with colleges they may wish to consider through individual and small group discussions.