

8TH-GRADE CURRICULUM 2020-2021

ENGLISH/LATIN

This integrated course will focus on English grammar and vocabulary in conjunction with learning beginning Latin. Students will complete *Latina Christiana I* which includes Latin vocabulary, systemic grammar, simple translation exercises, and Latin sayings. In addition, they will build a strong vocabulary as they study the meaning and spelling of English words derived from Latin roots. Students will also continue to strengthen their writing skills through creative and expository projects that use the writing process.

LITERATURE

In class reading:

- *Johnny Tremain*
- *Animal Farm*
- *The Hiding Place*
- *Rifles for Watie*
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Students will analyze the texts and apply critical thinking skills as they read and discuss novels in their historical context. They will also create interactive notebooks that include literary elements.

Personal reading:

Students will read and complete reading logs for eight additional books of their choice throughout the year (two books per quarter). Books must meet the Reading Log guidelines in content and academic level to qualify.

US HISTORY:

This course provides an overview of US history from colonial days to WWII, focusing on the people and events that changed America. We will be using the *BJU American Republic* textbook, *Mystery of History Vol. 4*, primary source documents and other supplemental resources. In addition to participating in class lectures and completing daily readings, students will keep a detailed notebook of facts, people, events, and research notes. They will also participate in creative class projects including: the Colonial Trade Show, poetry memorization, famous speech recitation, and creative writing projects. Our study will culminate in the 8th-grade DC trip in the spring.

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

Our goal for Biblical Worldview is for students to be rooted and built up in Christ and established in the faith (Col. 2:7), being transformed by the renewing of their minds (Rom. 12:2) as we study God's Word which is our source for Truth (John 17:17). There are 10 areas in which our Biblical magnify glass will hover over: theology, philosophy, biology, psychology, ethics, sociology, law, politics, economics, & history. Students will discover what a Biblical Worldview is and critically compare Scripture to other worldviews.

MATH

Saxon Course 3 (**PreAlgebra**) helps students master the four operations working with whole numbers, fractions and decimals in order to be ready for the demands of Algebra I in high school. Most students take pre-algebra as 8th graders.

Saxon Algebra I Students who consistently maintained an 88% or higher during Course 2 (7th grade math) on the 7th grade math final may be placed in the algebra class. The focus of this class is to learn to think analytically, write and solve multi-step problems using traditional algebraic equations. Students must be willing to not only get the right answer but to prove their answer is right. Algebra I earns students high school math credits.

For both classes, problems should be done in pencil; self-corrections done with red pen. For students achieving 88% or higher on a test, problems are reduced. Otherwise students will do the daily requirement, usually 20-25 problems although this can vary depending on the lesson. Grading: 10 points per daily lesson, 100 points per test and per quarterly notebook check.

SCIENCE

This science course is designed for students to discover God's orderly world in which God created (Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:16). Students will do this by studying topics such as the Definition of Science, the relationship between Faith & Science, Scientific Method, Natural Resources, Outerspace, Engineering Bridges and other STEM related projects. We will pull material from "Choices" Science by Purposeful Design, "God's Orderly World" by Rod & Staff publishers along with other supplemental resources.

HEALTH

1 Timothy 4:7b-8 says, “Exercise yourself toward godliness. For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come” (NKJV). For this course, we will focus on nutrition and fitness for only one quarter because bodily exercise only profits a little. In order to exercise ourselves toward godliness, we will learn about purity, godly habits, and godly relationships along with various culturally relevant topics for the other three quarters.