

FCA High School Graduation Requirements

Courses

English

Social Studies

Math

Science

Bible

Foreign Language

Health

Art or Music

Art or Music History

Physical Education

Psychology

Credits

4

4

4

3

4

2

1/2

1

1

2 (4 years)

1

Course Offerings

English Language arts

Fundamentals of Literature-(1 Credit course) *Fundamentals of Literature* teaches the student to be a discerning reader by focusing on the fundamentals of literature—conflict, character, theme, structure, point of view, and moral tone. The student studies contemporary and classic American, British, and world authors in four genres: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and drama. Critical thinking skills are encouraged throughout the text through discussion questions. Concepts and literary works are analyzed using scriptural applications.

Elements of Literature- (1 Credit course) *Elements of Literature* broadens students' understanding of literature by teaching the method and importance of literary analysis. The literature selections and analysis questions promote critical thinking skills as key to understanding and appreciating literature.

American Literature- (1 Credit course) This course studies essays for each unit providing an overview of the cultural and historical events and ideas influencing each literary period. Students will study Early American Literature, American Romanticism, American Realism and Naturalism, Modern American Literature and Contemporary American Literature. The instruction for the literature selections is structured around the reading process approach. Students will improve close-reading skills with questions during reading that focus on the three strands of study: Analyze, Read, and Evaluate.

British Literature- (1 Credit course) *British Literature* prepares students for the rigors of reading and critical thinking at the college level. They will broaden their cultural literacy and sharpen their sensitivity to aesthetics within the God-given gifts of language and storytelling. Most importantly, this course challenges them to understand on a more personal level the problem of the human condition and recognize where humanistic and biblical solutions to that condition differ.

Social Studies

Cultural Geography-(1 Credit course) Cultural Geography helps students become informed citizens and empowered participants in society. The curriculum teaches cultural geography from a biblical perspective and will encourage your students to appreciate the diversity of people, cultures, and landforms. It also aims to develop critical-thinking skills and demonstrates how knowledge of cultural geography is essential to understanding people from different nations and cultures. During the two-semester course, students study the seven continents and the people who live on them.

World History- (1 Credit course) *World History* guides students through the story of history, starting with creation and continuing to the present. Students will analyze five key themes throughout history from a biblical perspective: justice, power, citizenship, environment, and world religions. They will also do specific studies on Africa, the East, Asia, pre-colonization Americas, and empires in Africa, India, and Asia. As they trace the major patterns in world history, they will see how those themes point more and more clearly to the triumph of the kingdom of God.

United States History- (1 Credit course) takes the student on a journey beginning with European contact with American Indians and ending with the inauguration of Donald Trump. Along the journey, the course highlights major historical events that have shaped American history, inviting students to discuss the ramifications of these events on society today.

American Government- (.5 Credit course) This course prepares students to be informed and empowered citizens who have a biblical perspective of government. It teaches students about our nation, its development over the last four centuries, and its system of government. Students will have the opportunity to examine primary sources that are foundational to understanding how the US government should operate.

Economics (.5 credit) *Economics* introduces and explores key principles of economics from household purchases to the stock market. Each chapter includes personal finance sections which explain important economic principles and provide practical information about budgeting, banking, debt, credit and interest. Students will also learn about issues related to national economic systems and policies.

Science

Physical science- (1 Credit course)- This science course meets the students where they are: in the cafeteria, on the sports field, on the roads, and in the music room. Through physical science, students will learn how everything they do relates to chemistry and physics. In the chemistry chapters they will see the wonder in how matter and energy interacts in the food we eat, the drinks we drink, and the matter that makes up our world. In physics chapters, they will see how things move, why things move, and why objects behave as they do.

Physical Science Lab- The lab gets students exploring God's world through a variety of lab activities. The lab hours help students solidify their understanding by connecting the content with real world problems. Students develop critical science, engineering, and problem solving skills through observing, recording, and analyzing samples and data to make models. They then test those models to understand their workability. Students will have opportunities to complete both STEM lab activities and inquiry-based labs.

Biology- (1 Credit course) *Biology* shows your student God's power and glory in creation as he learns about cellular biology, genetics, taxonomy, microbiology, botany, zoology, and human anatomy. When studying topics such as creation and evolution, human cloning, abortion, and stem cell research, students are pointed to Scripture as the ultimate authority and are encouraged to develop a biblical perspective about these topics.

Biology Lab- The *Biology* Lab hours allow students to explore God's world both in the lab and in the field. This course help students learn about life not just through dissections but also through observing, recording, and analyzing samples and data from the living world to make models, predictions, and graphs.

Chemistry- (1 Credit course) moves the student from the definition of matter to how matter interacts in chemical reactions, solutions, acids and bases, organic chemistry, biochemistry, and nuclear changes. It helps students understand the macroscopic effects of chemical changes that they can see, but also the unseen microscopic changes that are the actual chemistry. Through this course the student will learn an appreciation of the modeling nature of chemistry. All of this study is part of a quest to understand the world that God created. Clear, accurate scientific images help them picture the structures they study. Case studies, webquests, mini-lab activities, ethics boxes, and review questions help students think like scientists and view chemistry from a biblical perspective.

Chemistry Lab-Through this lab course students solidify their understanding by connecting the content with real-world problems. Students develop critical science, engineering, and problem-solving skills through observing, recording, and analyzing samples and data to make models. They then test those models to evaluate their workability. Within this curriculum students will see ethics boxes, mini labs, and inquiry labs.

Math

Algebra 1- (1 Credit course) *Algebra 1* develops an understanding of algebra by justifying methods and by explaining how to solve problems. Concepts discussed include graphing, solving systems of equations, operations with polynomials and radicals, factoring polynomials, solving rational equations, and graphing quadratic functions.

Geometry- (1 Credit course) The geometry program is traditional in nature, requiring students to prove theorems and calculate with formulas. Each lesson reinforces geometry concepts and helps develop critical thinking skills. The text also presents geometry as a means of exercising dominion over the earth, loving our neighbors, and manifesting the orderliness and design of the world God created.

Algebra 2- (1 Credit course) *Algebra 2* focuses on developing reasoning skills through the discussions of advanced algebra concepts such as quadratic equations, polynomials, complex numbers, logarithms and trigonometry. Students will learn to solve algebraic functions and graph them.

Pre Calc-(1 Credit course) This course presents a balanced study of the foundations of calculus and practical real-world applications. Students will review key families of functions before studying trigonometry and its applications. The study of matrices, analytic geometry, sequences and series complete the foundation for higher math courses. Concluding chapters introduce descriptive and inferential statistics and differential and integral calculus. Special features present biblical perspectives of mathematics and its history.

Biblical Studies

Systematic Theology - Behold Your God-1 credit course) This is a foundational Christian theology course. Through this course students will explore the attributes of God, as revealed in Scripture.

The Inner Man-(1 credit course) This one-year, 35-lesson study challenges high schoolers to focus on inward development, not just outward conformity. Students should learn that righteousness grows from God's work in us—that godly leadership flows from inner grace and strong character.

Biblical Worldview-1 & 2 (1 credit course) This course was created to appeal to student interest and develop understanding. Application examples taken from history and recent events resonate with students, motivating them to apply Scripture to issues that are crucial to their spiritual growth. Apologetics is interwoven throughout the textbook, equipping students to defend the foundational teachings of the Bible against competing worldviews. At the same time, the framework of Creation, Fall, Redemption enables students to make distinctively Christian contributions to their culture.

Bible- The Life of Christ (1 Credit course) This course takes students on a journey through the Gospel of John and allows them to develop not only a deeper knowledge of Christ, but also a deeper relationship with Him. *The Life of Christ* examines the ministry and work of God's Son within Israel's historical and geographical context.

Foreign Languages

Spanish- (1 credit) *Spanish 1* takes an innovative and engaging approach to helping students not only learn about Spanish, but learn to communicate at a novice-high level. All chapters present vocabulary and grammar within the context of the theme. Students will develop basic Spanish communication skills, learn to share the gospel, and study Spanish speaking countries around the world.

Spanish 2- (1 credit) *Spanish 2* takes students on a cultural adventure and strengthens their foundations in Spanish communication. They will explore the Spanish language thematically as they follow the journey of eight characters from Spanish-speaking countries who are learning about their culture and history. The program offers regular opportunities for practice and application as well as opportunities to use the language in conversation and in written responses to biblical worldview shaping themes.

ASL 1 (1 credit) introduces students to the language and culture of Deaf people in the United States. The course will focus on specific language and cultural behaviors, as well as introduce students to the grammar of ASL

ASL 2-(1 credit)- is a continuation of ASL 1. This course is designed to continue development of American Sign Language expressive and receptive skills, grammar, vocabulary, cultural awareness, and related terminology. Prerequisites: "American Sign Language 1" or permission from the instructor.

Psychology- (1 credit course) This course will help students to understand how naturalism, behaviorism, humanism, evolutionism, moral relativism and reductionism are used within psychological theories. It will cover the history of psychology, as well as current theories on motivation, emotion, development, memory, sensation, abnormal psychology, social psychology, and treatment.

Physical Education (.5 credit) Physical Education classes are designed to practice and develop skills in activities that will help students maintain fitness throughout their life. During the year, students will set and monitor personal fitness goals that will aid in the development of a personal fitness plan. Periodically, throughout the year, fitness levels will be assessed in the following areas: cardiovascular endurance, flexibility, muscular strength and muscular endurance. Through these assessments we will develop a baseline in which we will use to set personal fitness goals. Students will explore fitness activities designed to improve all areas of fitness. Our goal is that by the end of the year students will be able to calculate target heart rate and design workouts to maintain personal fitness levels that meet your specific fitness goals.

Health- (.5 credit) Health is a comprehensive health program, provided in a flexible format, designed to improve health and wellness among high school students. Real-life application of health skills helps students apply what they learn in health class toward practicing good health behavior in the real world. Hands-on features are integrated with technology, assessment, and up-to-date health content.

The Arts

Studio Art- (.5 credit course) Throughout the course, students will work with a variety of traditional and modern materials and techniques including drawing, painting, digital art, collage, printmaking, and sculpture to find new ways of giving expression and meaning to ideas.

Chorus/Orchestra (.5 credit) The high school concert choir class is designed for students to apply musical skills as they continue to create and experience music as a musical ensemble. Students will continue developing mastery of solfege, major and minor scales, and 4 part harmonies. Students will convey musical interpretation with the use of dynamics and phrasing, while incorporating facial expression and movement for refined presentation. Students will understand how a musical composition is structured through listening and analysis. Students will be able to aurally and visually identify repetition in musical scores. Students will continue to develop an understanding and appreciation of the differences in music from other cultures and the connections music brings to people, places and time. The topics in this class will provide a strong basis for the continuation of their music skills as the high school age child continues on their path to becoming a life-long participant of music.

Photography & Video- (.5 credit course) The Photography & video course is a beginner photography course designed to help you master your digital camera and basic video creation.

Music Theory Harmony & Ear Training (.5 credit) In this course, musical aspects such as rhythm, harmony, form, ear training and meter are heavily studied. The ultimate goal of the course is to develop a student's ability to recognize, understand, and describe the basic materials and processes of music

that are heard or presented in a score. These concepts are addressed through listening to a wide variety of western music. Students will be required to read, notate, write, sing, and listen to music.

Music History- (.5 Credit course) covers the time period from about 600–1750. It begins with an introduction to ancient music and continues through the periods of the Middle Ages, Renaissance and Baroque. The course addresses the musical characteristics, instruments and theory of each period as well as the cultural and historical contexts including philosophy, religion, politics, art, architecture, and daily life. Connections are made to music from other cultures as well as contemporary musical styles.

Improv (.5 credit) This course introduces students to the boundless world of improvisational theatre, allowing them to explore and expand their creativity through sight, sound and movement.